

Dr. DESPINA CHATZIVASSILIOU

SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
SINCE MARCH 2021

CONTACT

00 33 6 08 09 93 46

despina.chatzivassiliou@coe.int

PERSONAL DETAILS

Born in Athens, Greece,

on 28 February 1967

Two children: Ilia and Charles
Tsovilis

LANGUAGES

Greek: mother tongue

English: fluent

French: fluent

Italian: fluent

CAREER IN THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

- Head of Secretariat of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy (2010-2021)
- Secretary of the Ad hoc Committee on the role and mission of the Parliamentary Assembly (first half of 2018)
- Secretary and, as of January 2008, Acting Head of the Secretariat of the Monitoring Committee (2006-2009)
- Co-Secretary of different Assembly's Committees: Political Affairs and Democracy, Legal Affairs and Human Rights, and Monitoring Committee (1994-2000)

INTERGOVERNMENTAL SECTOR

Monitoring Department - Directorate of Strategic Planning

- Deputy Head and, as of April 2005, Acting Head, responsible for the monitoring procedure of the Committee of Ministers (2000-2006)
- Human Resources Correspondent for the Directorate

EUROPEAN COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

- Lawyer

PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE

- European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Italy: Research Assistant for Professor Antonio Cassese, former President of the Council of Europe anti-torture Committee (CPT) and of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (1992-1993)
- Law firm A. Chiotellis-I. Yannidis, Athens, Greece: trainee lawyer (1988-1989); as of 1994, member of the Athens Bar Association
- Criminal Law Review, Poenika Chronika, Athens, Greece: member of the editorial board (1986-1993)
- Apollonion Musical School: professor of classical guitar (1984-1988)

EDUCATION

DOCTOR JURIS

- EUI, Florence, Italy - PhD thesis on “Pre-trial Deprivation of Liberty under the European Convention on Human Rights: a critical analysis of the Strasbourg case-law”, under the supervision of Professor Antonio Cassese and Professor Stefan Trechsel, graduated with Honors (summa cum laude) in 1994 following four years of research fellowship

LAW DEGREE

- Law School, University of Athens, graduated with Honors (top of the year) in 1988

SECONDARY EDUCATION

- Scuola Italiana d’Atene and Anavrita, Athens, Greece

MAIN PUBLICATIONS

- Chatzivassiliou, D. (2024). « Droits humains, État de droit et démocratie » (Grand Entretien). In *Confrontations Europe*, (139)
- Together with Heinrich Klebes, « Problèmes d’ordre constitutionnel dans le processus d’adhésion d’États de l’Europe centrale et orientale au Conseil de l’Europe », in *Revue universelle des droits de l’homme* 1996, Vol. 8 N° 8-9, pp. 269-286
- L’adhésion de la Russie au Conseil de l’Europe, « Le Conseil de l’Europe acteur de la recomposition de l’Europe », in *Cahiers de l’Espace Europe* 1997, N° 10, pp. 27-60
- Effectiveness of judicial remedies: an analysis of the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights under Articles 5 and 6, ERA-Forum 4/2004, Academy of European Law (ERA), Trier