

**KATE SMITH**  
Diplomat

Kate Smith CMG was appointed Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic in January 2017. Previously she was FCO Director, Americas. Before that she worked as Head of UK Government Relations for Shell. Kate served as Deputy Head of Mission in Tehran (2005–07), following roles in London focussing on Iraq during and in the aftermath of the 2003 conflict. Her FCO experience also includes multilateral work in arms control and disarmament, counter proliferation, and international peace and security. Kate began her diplomatic career overseas in Athens (1991–94), serving as 2nd Secretary Political and Press Attaché. Born near London, she graduated from Oxford University (Politics, Philosophy and Economics) in 1986.

**TONY BUCKBY**  
Director, British Council Greece

Tony Buckby is Director of the British Council in Greece, where he provides direction for the British Council's activities spanning the arts, English, examinations, education, science and society sectors. His previous cultural relations leadership roles with the British Council include Director British Council Bologna, Deputy Director British Council Italy, Deputy Director English Language at the British Council's headquarters in London, where he was engaged in the British Council's work in Europe, East Asia and China, and Director British Council Bulgaria. He graduated in English Language and Literature from Nottingham University and has an MA in Applied Linguistics from the University of Essex.



## **SPIROS SOULIS**

**Architect and TV Presenter**

**Alumni Awards 2017–18 Ambassador Greece**

Spiros Soulis completed his Bachelor's degree in Architecture at London Metropolitan University and went on to postgraduate studies in Advanced Architecture and Interior Design at the same institution. On successful completion of his studies, he joined Foster + Partners, one of the world's most prestigious architecture firms. On his return to Greece, Spiros established his own architecture firm and launched his own online magazine. He has launched and presented successful home makeover TV shows. In collaboration with leading Greek companies, he designs furniture and objects presented at some of the most prestigious international design fairs and available in many countries.



## **ANNA KALLIANI**

**President, British-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce**

**Partner & Financial Advisory Director, Critical Publics**

Anna Kalliani has over 15 years' experience in investment banking having started as a financial analyst at Citibank and subsequently holding various positions in the corporate finance arms of HSBC and Emporiki Bank in Greece, as well as in the corporate finance department of Deloitte & Touche. Anna is also a financial and strategy advisor to CEOs and entrepreneurs, consulting inter alia on the formulation and evaluation of business strategy issues, identification and evaluation of investment opportunities, M&As, capital raising, business and financial planning. Anna holds an MBA from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business and a BA in Economics from the Athens University of Economics and Business, which she entered and graduated from as the highest-ranking student in Greece. She has also been awarded various merit-based scholarships, including a Fulbright Scholarship.



**ANTONIS VORLOOU**  
**Special Secretary for Social and Solidarity**  
**Economy**  
**Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Social**  
**Solidarity**

Antonis Vorloou was born in Hampstead (London) in 1970. He has a degree in Biology from the University of Athens and holds an MSc and PhD in Environmental Engineering from the University of Ghent. He has also received an MBA from the Athens University of Economics and Business. His most recent work focussed on the development of the Social Entrepreneurship Sector in Greece. Previously he worked at the European Court of Auditors in Luxembourg and in the private sector, and for fourteen years he has served as an executive in the Management Authorities for Structural Funds in the Ministries of Agriculture, Development and Labour.



**MARIA TSAKALI**  
**Head Education, British Council Greece**

Maria Tsakali heads the work of the British Council in Greece in education and for several years has led the development of educational services, programmes, partnerships and relationships that support the educational connections between Greece and the UK. She has also served as Head of the Thessaloniki office since 2001 and Honorary Consul of the UK in Thessaloniki since 2007. She graduated in English Language and Literature from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and has an MBA in Strategic Management from the University of Kingston.