

Obituary- Prof Costas Stefanis

It is with great regret, we announce the passing away of Professor Costas Stefanis, former President of the World Psychiatric Association.

It is a tremendous loss. I convey condolences on behalf of WPA, its executive and my personal condolences to the family. Our thoughts are with them. ---Dinesh Bhugra, President, WPA

I am very sad to hear the news of our shared loss and hope you will convey my condolences also to Prof Costas' family. I have special memories of friendship and advice and as for all of us will miss very much his wisdom and generosity of spirit. ----Helen Herrman, President Elect, WPA

It is a tremendous loss. He is a man of integrity, charisma, humanistic, knowledgeable and a great scientist. I was in touch with him during his illness and he never lost his resilience and optimism. I remember his fight with UN for human rights of mental patients that managed a lot of changes of the UN convention of human rights.
---- Ahmed Okasha, Past President, WPA

Sad news indeed. I was indebted to him for the kind encouragement and guidance he offered concerning my initial work at WPA on diagnosis and classification and the organization of the corresponding Section. When as Secretary General I prepared the Informational Folder and first website of WPA, Costas' writings on the history of WPA proved crucial. His legacy will continuously stimulate us. ----- Juan Mezzich, Past President, WPA

Professor Stefanis has been a Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Athens and Director of the Psychiatric Department at Eginition Hospital (position to which I had the honour to succeed him). He was a member and former President of the Academy of Athens, served as Minister of Health of Greece and held many other distinguished positions in Greece and abroad. The heritage of Costas Stefanis is great and his contribution to world psychiatry immense. However, what matters more, the person behind the titles and distinctions was a wise, charismatic and whole-hearted human being who always developed warm interpersonal relationships with his family, his friends and his collaborators. He will be remembered fondly .---- George Christodoulou, Athens

We are all saddened to hear about the passing away of WPA Past President Professor Costas Stefanis. His contributions to World Psychiatry has been immense and his leadership has been inspirational. He will ever be remembered. Our heartfelt condolences!
----Roy Abraham Kallivayalil, Secretary General, WPA

Professor Stefanis was a great leader and friend. He will be sorely missed. Our sincere condolences to his family, colleagues and friends. ---- Michelle Riba, Secretary for Publications, WPA

It is really sad to know this news, a former president of the World Psychiatric Association and a professional remarkable; as well as an excellent person, with special human sensitivity.
-----Edgard Belfort, WPA Secretary for Education

Professor Costas Stefanis contributed significantly to World Psychiatry. And I still recall with pleasure the support I received as a young psychiatrist entering the World of WPA. **He will ever be remembered.**
--- Marianne Kastrup, Denmark