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He was born in Patras, Greece, in 1949. In 1972 he graduated in Classical Philology from the School of Philosophy of the University of Athens. From 1973 to 1975 he held a scholarship at the Greek Institute of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies in Venice, where he specialised in Greek and Latin Palaeography, in particular in the Greek manuscripts of the 15th and 16th centuries. In 1976, he continued his palaeographical studies at the *École Pratique* in Paris. He spent the years 1977-78 as an associate researcher at the Centre for Byzantine Studies of the National Research Foundation in Athens. Since 1980 he has been working for the

National Bank of Greece Cultural Foundation as founding director of its Centre for History and Palaeography. His chief concern has been the creation and development of a microfilm-archive of Greek manuscripts from libraries in Greece and the East. Up to the present he has completed 200 palaeographical missions during which 8.000 manuscripts have been microfilmed. In 1984 he organised a special seminar for the Palaeographical Centre, which has become a pillar of the Cultural Foundation, in which he teaches Greek Palaeography at three levels, beginners, intermediate, and advanced. He published catalogues of manuscripts of Greek Libraries (Patras, Chios, Cephalonia, Leros, Ikaria, the Benaki Museum in Athens) and of the Libraries of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchates of Jerusalem and Alexandria in Egypt. He is a member of the Committee of the International Society of Greek Palaeography, the Team of Study of the Antikythera Mechanism, the Team of Study of the Sinaitic and Jerusalem Palimpsests manuscripts and the Society of Studies on Ancient and Medieval Palaeography, Bibliology and History of Texts – Arethas. His recent studies and researches are on History of Post Byzantine Medicine and Pharmacology in Greece, and the Mediterranean Portolanos. For his work in the Patriarchate of Jerusalem he has been honoured with the Cross of the Holy Sepulchre, from the Patriarch of Alexandria with the Cross of Saint Marc, and for the edition of the Archives of the Greek Revolution from the Parliament of Greece.

The Antikythera Mechanism. Research Facilities and Heritage Dynamics between Humanities and Technologies

The secrets of the first surviving mechanical computer of humanity, of the Antikythera Mechanism, explained in 2006. The basic functions and all the inscriptions, large parts of which remained unknown to date worldwide were first published in late 2006.

It is an important contribution to the history of astronomy, science and technology, which has been completed by the "Group for the Study of the Antikythera Mechanism." It closes the first chapter of a story that began two thousand years ago, when a ship loaded with the booty from a wealthy Greek city sank off the island of Antikythera. In Easter 1900, sponge divers from the island of Symi, who dived into the depths of the sea of Antikythera, discovered the shipwreck and its treasures. A few years later began

the attempt to explain the mysterious finding that intrigued researchers.

The first comprehensive interpretation attempt dates back to 1974, when the British historian of science Derek Price's with the Greek physicists of the "Democritus Research Institute in Athens", Charalambos Karakalos, first saw the internal structure of the Mechanism. The international team recently established to re-study *ab initio* the Mechanism with spectacular results. My contribution is the reading of the inscriptions inside the mechanism with the aid of the tomographic scanner, especially the inscriptions of the Fragment G, with the instructions of calculating the movement of the planets.

