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In the first half of 2003, he was seconded from the IMF to work as Special Advisor to the Greek Presidency of the EU, where he covered, among other topics, EU relations with Russia and the Western Balkans. He was one of the contributors to the *Thessaloniki Agenda for the Western Balkans* of June 2003 and, on behalf of the Greek Presidency, to the development of the EU's Wider Europe policy.

He holds a Ph.D. in economics from Columbia University in New York and a B.A. from the University of Athens. For a curriculum vitae and a list of publications, visit [www.demekas.com](http://www.demekas.com).