

THE MINAS NOMIKOS AWARD FOR SECURITY RESEARCH EXCELLENCE



In Memory of Minas Ioannis Nomikos, a European Visionary and Hellenic Humanist and Patriot

Born in 1924 on the Island of Thira (Santorini), Minas Ioannis Nomikos witnessed at first hand the darkest side of European history as Fascist and Nazi forces occupied his homeland and subjected Greece and the rest of Europe to years of misery, suffering and humiliation. As a young man he joined the Hellenic Army, fighting at the time to preserve democracy against external infiltration and political violence. The young Minas Nomikos was greatly disturbed by the notion of Hellenic people fighting their own brothers, and dedicated much of his life to supporting the promotion of Europeanism and humanism, coupled with a distinct pride in Greek tradition and values. Early on he saw the need for an independent, non-partisan research institute and think tank in Greece which would provide cutting edge research and policy advice on a wide range of security, intelligence and political issues. Minas Nomikos was the Founding Benefactor of the Research Institute for European and American Studies (RIEAS) and supported it wholeheartedly for many years. His vision was to provide the means for young researchers to materialize their potential and he placed great emphasis on the interaction between research and policy. Minas Nomikos passed away at the age of 85 on 25th November 2009. In his memory, the *Minas Nomikos Award for Security Research Excellence* was established at RIEAS to honor his life and work for security and intelligence in Greece and Europe.