

Nikos Economopoulos/Biography

He was born in Peloponnisos, Greece. He studied law in Parma, Italy, and worked as a journalist for Greek daily papers and magazines for many years. He began taking photographs in 1979, and until 1988 practiced photography as an amateur. He abandoned journalism in that year to devote him self to photography and for the next two years traveled through Greece and Turkey taking pictures.

In 1990 he joined Magnum, and his photographs began to appear in newspapers and magazines around the world. In the same year he started to take photographs in the rest of the Balkans (Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, former Yugoslavia), which led to his receiving the "Mother Jones Award" (San Francisco, CA) for work in progress.

The year 1994 brought full membership of Magnum Photos and the completion of his Balkan project. His book "In The Balkans" was published in 1995 in New York. (Abrams) and Athens (Libro). Other projects have included "Poverty and Exclusion in Europe", commissioned by "Les Petit Frères des Pauvres", for which he photographed the gypsies of Greece in 1994.

In 1995-96 he was commissioned to photograph the lignite miners and the Muslim minority in Greece, and the city of Tokyo. He also photographed in Israel, Moldavia, the Arab Emirates, Spain, and Serbia.

In 1997-98 he photographed the inhabitants of the "Green Line" in Cyprus, the illegal emigrants on the Greek-Albanian borderline, and the young people in the city of Tokyo. At the same time he worked in Mecedonia, Albania, Turkey, Corsica, and the Greek-Turkish borderline.

In 1999 – 2000 he covered the mass escape of the Albanians from Kosovo and photographed in the Czech Republic, France, Scotland and Istanbul. In 2000 he completed a book project commissioned by the University of the Aegean for which he photographed about 70 story tellers in 25 Aegean islands. He also started photographing again in Turkey for the purpose of completing a long-term personal project on the country which he is going on with for the last 15 years.

In 2001 he received the Abdi Ipektsi award, for peace and friendship between Greek and Turkish people. A retrospective book, based on selected images of his 20 years of work on photography, is published in 2002, commissioned by the Benaki Museum in Athens.

The last two years he travel and photograph in China, India, Ethiopia, South Africa, Zambia, Syria, Egypt, USA, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Holland, France, Turkey, Cabo Verde.

The photographs of Nikos Economopoulos have been published in newspapers and magazines which include *The New York Times*, *The Independent*, *Die Zeit*, *El Pais*, *Liberation*, *Le Monde*, *De Morgen*, *Il Giornale*, *The Guardian*, and *The Observer*, and have been exhibited in the United States, Britain, Mexico, Italy, France, Germany, Spain, Belgium, Turkey, Sweden, Denmark, Japan, Greece, etc.

Personal books

In the Balkans, Abrams, New York 1995

Balkans, Libro, Athens 1995

Anasa..., Polygram, Athens 1997

Lignite miners, Indiktos, Athens 1998

Dance ex machina, Difono, Athens 2000

About children, Metaixmio, Athens 2001.

Economopoulos, Photographer, Benaki Museum/Metaixmio, Athens 2002

Balkanlardar, Fotografevi, Istanbul 2007