

Nikos C. Stefanis MD, PhD, FRANZCP

Short CV

Nikos C. Stefanis MD, PhD, FRANZCP, is the Chairman of the First Dep/ment of Psychiatry of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens Medical School (NKUA-MS) at Eginition Teaching Hospital since September 2021. He is the Deputy Director of the University Mental Health Research Institute (UMHRI) in Greece, since 2018 and the Chairman of the First Episode Psychosis Working Group of the World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry (WFSBP) and of the Early Intervention in Psychosis Section of the Hellenic Psychiatric Association. He has been an elected member of EGRIS (European Group for Research in Schizophrenia) since 2022 and an elected member of the Schizophrenia Network of the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP) since 2023.

He trained in Psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital /Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London, UK between 1991 -1996. He joined the faculty of the Dep/ment of Psychiatry at the NKUA-MS in 1999 as a lecturer, receiving tenure in 2008 (Athens Medical Association Registration No 034918). In 2011 he was elected Professor of Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Western Australia Medical School and awarded membership of the Royal College of Psychiatrists of Australia and New Zealand (FRANZCP - Registration No 8567). Upon returning to NKUA-MS he was elected Professor of Psychiatry in 2015.

He has received grants from the Greek Ministry of Research and Technology, the European Regional Development Fund (INTEREG III), the National Institute of Mental Health USA (NIMH) under Professor D. Avramopoulos (RO1 - MH085018-01A2) and the Metropolitan Region of the Department of Health of Western Australia. He served as the country's principal investigator for the European Collaborative Programs: European Long-acting Antipsychotics in Schizophrenia Trial (EULAST, NCT02146547, 2014-2021) and European Network of National Schizophrenia Networks Studying Gene-Environment Interactions (EU-GEI, ID: 241909, 2010-2015) as well as for the national program of Arts on Prescription funded by the Ministry of Culture of Greece (2023-2026).

He has held positions of responsibility in the administrative bodies of the First Dep/ment of Psychiatry NKUA-MS including chairman of the Ethics and Deontology Committee of the Eginition University Hospital (since 2016) and as chairman of the examination committee for the acquisition of the Specialty in Psychiatry in Greece (2018-2021). He was chairman of the Working Group of the Ministry of Health for the development of an institutional framework for the operation of Early Intervention services for Psychosis in Greece (2018-2019).

He considers his most important social contribution to be the advocacy that led to the legislation and government based funding of eight novel community-oriented early intervention services for psychosis that have been operating nationwide since 2023. He is the scientific director of the two-year postgraduate program Early Intervention in Psychosis

of the NKUA since 2022. He was the co-president of the thematic conference Early Intervention in Psychiatry of the World Psychiatric Association held in Athens in June 2022 (<https://www.wpathematic.org/>) and the president of the first Hellenic Congress on Early intervention in Psychosis held in Nafplion, Greece in 2024,

His main research interests have gravitated towards better understanding of the complex interaction between genetic and environmental risk factors that shape vulnerability to major Psychiatric Disorders and their outcome.

He has contributed as an author to more than 110 scientific publications in prestigious international journals including Molecular Psychiatry (IF 16), Schizophrenia Bulletin (IF 9), Psychological Medicine (IF 5), Nature Genetics (IF 38), Cell (IF 41), American Journal of Psychiatry (IF 18), Lancet (IF 168), World Psychiatry (IF 73), etc. In approximately half of his publications, he is mentioned as the first or senior author. According to Google Scholar, his scientific writing output is reflected with an h-index = 42 and with more than 10,000 bibliographic references (2025).