

Nikolaos (Nikos) Dokalis

Head of Security Affairs & Visitor Services

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Nationality: German / Greek



Professional Summary

Security and cultural-heritage specialist with 20+ years of international experience in museum security, visitor services, and risk management. Proven leadership in high-profile cultural institutions, expertise in operational planning, emergency response, and strategic security development. Strong global professional network through collaboration with museums, insurers, and international security committees.

Professional Experience

2022 – Present | Head of Security Affairs & Visitor Services

Hasso Plattner Foundation Museums – Museum Barberini & DAS MINSK, Potsdam (DE)

- Lead security strategy, risk assessments, and visitor service operations for two major museums
- Develop emergency procedures, staff training programs, and compliance frameworks
- Coordinate international loan security and liaise with authorities, insurers, and partner museums
- Strengthen international cooperation through ICOM:SECURITY and SOMM working groups

2003 – 2022 | Senior Security Manager & Project Coordinator

Securitas GmbH, Berlin (DE)

- Principal coordinator for security and visitor operations at the Jewish Museum Berlin
- Oversaw high-risk exhibitions, security logistics, and operational planning
- Managed, trained, and supervised large security teams
- Cooperation with Securitas UK (Contractor at the National Gallery London)

1999 – 2001 | Exhibition & Event Coordination (Multiple Institutions)

Thessaloniki (GR) – State Museum of Contemporary Art, Film Festival Thessaloniki, Teloglou Institute, Vafopoulos Cultural Center

- Coordinated exhibitions, cultural programs, installation logistics, and public events

1995 – 2000 | Research Assistant (Archaeology)

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (GR)

Education & Certifications

- Certified Protection and Security Specialist (GSSK), 2018
- Operational, Object & Shift Management (VBG), 2019
- MA Archaeology & Art History, Aristotle University Thessaloniki, GR (*Distinction*)
- Erasmus Study Programme, Ludwig Maximilian University Munich, DE
- BA Archaeology & Art History, Aristotle University Thessaloniki, GR (*Distinction*)

Scholarships

- Guggenheim Foundation – Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice (IT)
- Hellenic State Scholarships Foundation (IKY), Greece

Skills

Languages: German (C2), English (C1), Greek (native), Italian (basic)

Technical: Microsoft Office, Adobe Photoshop, 10-finger typing

Competencies: Museum security, risk management, emergency planning, visitor experience, stakeholder communication, international coordination