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Nicholas ARGYRIS

Born 22 March 1943 in London.

Educated at St. Paul's School, London, and Cambridge University, where he obtained a BA (Honours) in Economics.

Since the beginning of 1969 has worked in public administration.

1969-1973 UK Government Economic Service, initially Economic Assistant and from 1970 Economic Adviser in a number of Government departments (Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Technology, Department of Trade and Industry).

November 1973 joined Commission of the European Communities

1973-1984 Principal Administrator in the Directorate General for Competition, responsible in particular for Community policy on State aids to the Steel industry. Prepared two codes on aids to this industry and led a small team of officials responsible for supervising the observance of the rules.

1985-1986 Principal Administrator in the Directorate General for Development, with particular responsibility for questions concerning trade with ACP states and private investment in ACP states.

1987-present Head of Division in the Directorate General for competition, responsible for competition in the transport and tourist industries. In this role has devoted special attention to air transport, participating in the Council negotiations on the civil aviation package, negotiating with the airlines during 1987 in the context of the proceedings under Article 89 and, this year, responsible, inter alia, for examination of the British Airways-British Caledonian merger case.