

George Papandreou Quotes

*Country, Greek, People, Europe, Thinking, Government, Needs, Father,
Responsibility, Greece, Strong, Games, Growing Up, Commitment, Problem,
Would Be, Order, World, Reform, Political*

We have made major reforms in Greece. When I took over after a landslide victory we had a mandate for change and I knew my major focus would be re-organizing the state.

~George Papandreou

Unfortunately, corruption is widespread in government agencies and public enterprises.

~George Papandreou

I am proud of being a Greek of the diaspora.

~George Papandreou

The Greek people do not want to exit the euro, and I believe the Greek people already have shown that they have made major sacrifices to stay within the Eurozone.

~George Papandreou

Greece's history in the drachma was an up-and-down history, a roller coaster.

~George Papandreou

This is global governance in the making. But we must agree, and agree to a binding commitment.

~George Papandreou

Despite the deep reforms we are making, traders and speculators have forced interest rates on Greek bonds to record highs.

~George Papandreou

We in Europe have great capacities.

~George Papandreou

There are certain moments in the history of a nation when the choices made define the decades to come.

~George Papandreou

Countries are not like financial markets. Social change cannot be executed as swiftly as credit-default swaps. You cannot sell short on social commitments and practical responsibilities.

~George Papandreou

Everyone needs to carry out his own personal revolution.

~George Papandreou

I will always be upfront with the Greek people, so we can solve the country's problems together.

~George Papandreou

How can a parliamentarian or a leader in a country say, on the one hand, that we're going to support Greece but at the same time say that Greeks are lazy?

~George Papandreou

Europe is a strong market for the U.S. If it has problems, if there's a lack of consumer confidence, if there's a deeper recession, this will deeply affect jobs in the U.S.

~George Papandreou

I have always said I will be in politics to serve as best as I can and it will take me wherever it will take me.

~George Papandreou

We had about 60 regions in Greece and now there are only 13. It'd be like cutting down 50 states to 13 and making it more efficient.

~George Papandreou

The more there is a European solution to a theoretical, but possible, problem in the markets, the less we will have to talk about an I.M.F.

solution.

~George Papandreou

In ancient Greece, politics and the market were not decoupled.

~George Papandreou

The structures in Europe in a globalising economy need to be modernised, need to be more integrated, need to be stronger.

~George Papandreou

There is this concept of politics as a dirty game.

~George Papandreou

The real problem in Greece is not cutting taxes, it's making sure that we don't have tax evasion.

~George Papandreou

If you put all the European countries together, we are the biggest economy in the world.

~George Papandreou

Greece has great strengths, but much of this potential has been wasted. That's because of a wider political system, but also because of a lack of an institutional framework.

~George Papandreou

We stand united, facing the big responsibility to change our country into a nation of justice, solidarity, humanity and green development.

~George Papandreou

I would like to see Greece as a case study, an opportunity for Europe to strengthen its coordination of fiscal policy.

~George Papandreou

I have a deep sense of responsibility to my country and Greek people.

~George Papandreou

My hope is that we will turn Greece into maybe the most transparent country in the world with everything on the web.

~George Papandreou

An elected government making huge changes with the consent of its people, is being undermined by concentrated powers in unregulated markets-powers which go beyond those of any individual government.

~George Papandreou

Every leader wants to put his or her imprint on the work that they do, and grow up in specific eras.

~George Papandreou

You can theorise about the options you have but in reality they are very specific.

~George Papandreou

It is important that the Greek people make decisions on important developments.

~George Papandreou

When I was growing up in the United States and Sweden, I never thought about becoming a politician.

~George Papandreou

Politics also means educating people. It's important to speak openly with our fellow Greeks, to tell them what our problems are and that we have to change something.

~George Papandreou

I never thought of politics as a profession.

~George Papandreou

Today I want to send a message of optimism to all Greeks. Our road, our path, will be more stabilised. Our country will be in a better situation. We will be stronger.

~George Papandreou

This idea that you're a successful tough guy if you evade taxes and deceive the state has got to change.

~George Papandreou

Many people have been pontificating, and patronizing, and moralizing, and scapegoating, saying you Greeks, you are the problem. I would say we Greeks have a problem. We are not the problem.

~George Papandreou

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