



## Summary :

Prominent Greek politician born in Smyrna. He served as a minister in various Greek governments from 1908 onwards. He was Foreign Minister during the last phase of the Campaign in Asia Minor, and was among those considered responsible for the defeat. He was sentenced to death in the so-called 'Trial of the Six' and was executed in November 1922.

## Date and Place of Birth

1868 - Smyrna

## Date and Place of Death

15.11.1922 - Athens

## Main Role

Politician

## 1. Family life

Georgios Baltatzis was born in [Smyrna](#) in 1868. He was the son of the merchant-banker Periklis Baltatzis and Artemisia Moraitini, a descendant of a merchant family of Greece. In 1884, after completing his studies in the "[Evangeliki](#)" School of Smyrna, he moved on to the University of Athens, where he studied Law. He complemented his studies in France, specializing in diplomacy. He married Chariklia [Mavrokordatos](#), a member of a distinguished family of merchants and diplomats originating from [Chios](#). This was the second marriage between the [Baltatzis family](#) and that of the Mavrokordatos since the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. Two boys were born of this marriage: Periklis and Nikolaos Emmanouil – the latter followed his father vocation and became a politician in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## 2. Political career

In 1902, Georgios Baltatzis embarked upon his political career in Greece. He was elected Member of Parliament for the electoral district of Almyros in Thessaly. On June 21, 1908 he was appointed first Foreign Minister in the government of G. Theotokis. In 1915, he received the Ministry of Communications in the government of D. Gounaris and in 1920 the Ministry of Agriculture and Marine in the government of N. Kalogeropoulos. In 1921, he was appointed Foreign Minister in the government of D. Gounaris. On October 3, 1921 he accompanied Prime Minister Gounaris to Paris and London in order to conduct negotiations with the governments of the Entente to find a solution in the military impasse in Asia Minor. In the new government Gounaris formed on March 5, 1922,<sup>1</sup> Georgios Baltatzis again received the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Gounaris and Baltatzis travelled again to London, but, due to the failure of the negotiations, the prime minister resigned. On May 9, 1922, P. Protopapadakis, the new Prime Minister, formed a coalition government with the participation of all the antivenizelist parties and appointed Georgios Baltatzis to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On August 26 the government resigned. During the 'Trial of the Six', the extraordinary court-martial that was convened after the military defeat at the [Campaign of Asia Minor](#), Georgios Baltatzis was sentenced to death along with five more politicians and military officers. The convicted were executed on November 15, 1922.




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1. Following the negotiations in London and Paris, the Greeks accepted the English proposal to entrust their national interests in the hands of the Entente. On his return voyage from London, Gounaris reviewed what had transpired. In the voting that ensued his government were defeated. Yet Gounaris received a new mandate again.

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Bibliography :

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	<b>Μπενάκης Α.Μ.</b> , "Οι Μπαλτατζήδες. Βιογραφικά σημειώματα Συμυρναϊκών Οικογενειών", <i>Μικρασιατικά Χρονικά</i> , 4, 1948, 325-339
	<b>Llewellyn-Smith M.</b> , <i>Ionian Vision. Greece in Asia Minor (1919-1922)</i> , University of Michigan Press, Michigan 1973

Webliography :

	Trial of the Six
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