



I-House Alumni Spotlight: Markos Kounalakis, Ph.D.

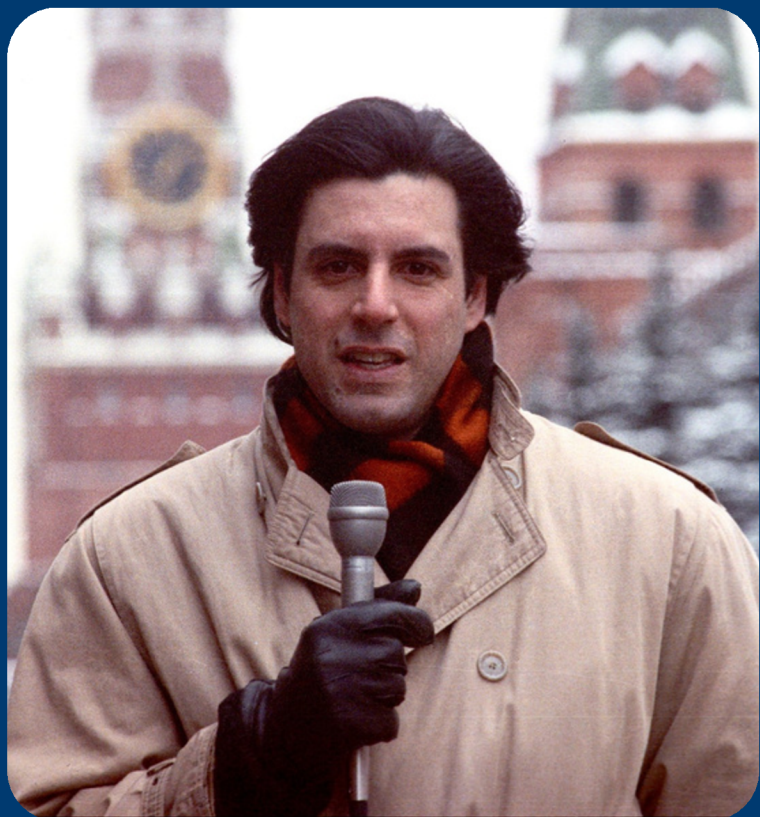
Author, journalist, scholar, and award-winning
syndicated foreign affairs columnist

2025 I-House Alumnus of the Year



Years at I-House: 1977-78

Country of Origin: United States



About Dr. Kounalakis:

Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area to Greek immigrants, Markos Kounalakis has spent the last 40 years as a foreign correspondent, author, and scholar. At the end of the 20th century, he covered political and military developments for Newsweek and NBC-Mutual News in Italy, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and the USSR. Dr. Kounalakis later became the president and publisher of the Washington Monthly magazine and the co-host of several radio programs on world affairs. For nearly a decade, Dr. Kounalakis wrote a weekly foreign affairs column for The Miami Herald McClatchy-Tribune News. In 2018, his work was recognized with a National Society of Newspaper Columnists award and in 2019, he won a SPJ Sunshine State Award for his foreign affairs commentary and criticism. Today, he is a frequent foreign affairs analyst for CBS News and CNN International. He is married to Eleni Kounalakis, the 50th Lieutenant Governor of California.

Education:

- Bachelor's of Science in Political Science, UC Berkeley
- Master's of Science in Journalism, Columbia University
- Ph.D. in Political Science, Central European University

Current Roles:

- Visiting Fellow at the Stanford University Hoover Institution
- Senior Fellow at the Center on Media, Data, and Society at Central European University in Budapest, Hungary
- President and publisher emeritus of the Washington Monthly



I-House 2025 Celebration & Awards Gala

Sunday, March 9th, 2025

ihouse.berkeley.edu/gala

Dr. Kounalakis will be honored at the 2025 I-House Gala as the Alumnus of the Year! Save the date and join us for a festive evening celebrating valued members of our global community.