

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Dr ALEXANDRA PENTARAKI

King's College London
University of Essex

Alexandra Pentaraki is an international clinical psychologist and expert witness in courts in Greece. Her work includes the detection of child abuse and neglect, and the treatment of people suffering from psychological disorders. She has conducted research on human memory, Theory of Mind and other cognitive functions. She has published her research in international academic journals and has written two books on personality and mental health. She is the founder and director of the Brain Matters Institute, an institute dedicated to the practice, learning and promotion of psychological science for the benefit of society. She has received prestigious awards for her work, she is a Chartered Psychologist, an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society and has taught in several universities in the UK. Alexandra is now taking her skills and expertise to European courts, Greek courts and to the International Criminal Court, The Hague, to assist courts, prosecution and justice procedures while providing psychological therapy for mental health difficulties. Alexandra believes that her high-quality education in the UK provided her with a work ethic and skills vital to her development as a clinician, researcher, lecturer and expert witness. Alexandra holds a Master of Science in Psychology from the University of Essex and a PhD in Psychological Medicine from King's College London.



Dr MARIA SARTZETAKI

Cranfield University

Dr Maria Sartzetaki specialises in transportation planning, management and economics, focusing on research and management. She is a Scientific Associate, Democritus University of Thrace, and an Advisor to Management at the Athens International Airport. She is elected Special Secretary to the Board of Directors of the Hellenic Institute of Transportation Engineers (HITE) and editor of the Institute's magazine for professionals. She is also Chair of the Institute's Committee of Experts on Air Transport Development with responsibilities over the promotion of women's role in transportation. Maria has published extensively, with more than 50 referred publications in scientific journals and conferences, and has been a reviewer in international journals and conferences. As the National Representative of Young Researchers in the EU/COST Action ATARD and through her other roles she has been a mentor in the area of women's role in the aviation business sector. She is now taking advantage of her UK education to promote business innovation and female leadership in competitive markets and international organisations. Maria recognises that studying in the UK equipped her with a strong international academic background and the values of integrity, fairness and human equality. Maria holds a Master of Science in Computational modelling for Evaluating the Economic Impact of Airports on Regional Economy from Cranfield University.



LEONIDAS SKERLETOPOULOS

University of Brighton
Kingston University

Leonidas Skerletopoulos is a Social Marketing expert, recipient of an award from the International Social Marketing Association (ISMA) for his long contribution. Since 2017 he has served as a National Representative in Greece for the European Social Marketing Association (ESMA). Leonida's efforts contributed to raising critical awareness of social marketing practice in Greece by introducing tools and frameworks to Greek experts, public and social organisations to deliver more efficient social programmes to tackle social challenges. His work also extends to the promotion of a growth mindset in hundreds of Greek entrepreneurs as an essential skill to scale their businesses. Leonidas actively contributes to the scientific community by mapping and publishing cases of best practices in citizen-oriented and behaviour change programmes in Greece and the wider Balkan area. Leonidas feels that pursuing a British education offered him a broad network of mentors and experts that have supported his professional career and development, along with practical skills and field expertise. He states that his UK education experience contributed to international recognition of his professional skills and equipped him with a practical growth mindset. Leonidas holds a Diploma in Management Studies and a Master's in Business Administration in Marketing from Kingston University and a Postgraduate Certificate in Social Marketing from the University of Brighton.

SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD



Dr SPIROS KITSINELIS

University of Sheffield

Dr Spiros Kitsinelis is a researcher, science communicator and writer, popularising science through hundreds of articles, public presentations, books, television and radio shows, as well as through a wide range of collaborations with other academics, professionals and artists reaching millions of people. He is Chief Communications Officer at the Association of Greek Chemists, having overseen the Association's publications and communications for many years. He delivers seminars and training courses in communication and public speaking for universities and companies around the world. His work has been recognised through awards and nominations for a range of prestigious science communication prizes. He has spearheaded efforts for more science in Greek society for many years, driven by his motto that 'a better society is a scientifically literate society'. Spiros believes that his UK education fuelled his passion for science and communication, it gave him inspiration for his scientific excellence and triggered his successful professional career in academia, communication and public speaking. Spiros holds a Master of Chemistry and a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Sheffield and besides the UK and Greece he has worked as a researcher and professor in other countries.

ANNA-MARIA KOUNTOURI

London Metropolitan University
University of Westminster



Anna-Maria Kountouri is the Legal Officer of the Home Project, a registered charity in Greece, representing and providing legal aid to unaccompanied minors who have been uprooted from their country of origin to escape war and enter Greece to seek international protection. In her spare time, she provides legal aid as a pro bono lawyer to vulnerable people who might be undocumented and lack access to basic services. The scale of her social impact springs from the contribution she makes to changing and saving the lives of unprotected youth, which brings her studies to life in an inspiring way. Anna-Maria feels grateful for the educational tools gained through her studies in the UK, as her legal expertise and professional impact on human rights derive from it. She believes that if she had studied elsewhere, she would not have found her true passion and real role in life. For her, UK universities constitute a social and inspirational hub of diversity and multiculturalism, which is reflected in her actual daily practice. Anna-Maria holds an LLB Bachelor of Laws from the University of Westminster and an LLM Master of Laws in European Law from London Metropolitan University.



DIONYSIOS SOURELIS

Middlesex University
The Open University
University of Essex

Dionysios Sourelis is a psychologist, existential psychotherapist, academic and researcher. In addition to his clinical work, he teaches counselling and psychology courses all over Greece in his role as an Associate Instructor of the Mental and Community Health Programmes of the University of the Aegean. He is the founder of Purpose of Existence (Logos Iparxis), a centre for counselling psychotherapy and special education that supports children and their families. Dionysios' ongoing doctoral academic research focuses on highly educated but unemployed young Greek professionals who search for meaning during the socio-financial crisis. Dionysios feels that through UK education he acquired quality skills that are vital for the provision of psychological and existential psychotherapeutic services to individuals and communities in need, as well as for the delivery of psychology, counselling and psychotherapy lessons as a university tutor. Dionysios completed Level 1 in Psychology at the University of Essex and holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and a Master of Science in Forensic Psychology and Criminology from The Open University. Currently he is pursuing a DCPsych (Doctorate) in Counselling Psychology and Psychotherapy at Middlesex University.