

Dr. Elena Spasovska
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Education

PhD International Relations, University of South Australia 2017

- Dissertation Title: The Role of Women's Non-Government Organizations in Building Sustainable Peace in the Republic of Macedonia

MA in the Study of Women, Gender and Citizenship, University of Barcelona 2011

(SPECIALISATION IN WORK, PUBLIC POLICY AND FEMINIST RESEARCH)

- Dissertation title: Estrategias de Igualdad de Género en la República de Macedonia: el Caso de las Unidades de Autogobierno Local/ Gender Equality Strategies in the Republic of Macedonia: the Case of Local Self-Government Units

BA in Philology, University of Saints Cyril and Methodius 2008

- Final Research Project Title: Rappresentazione dell'Olocausto attraverso le Testimonianze di Primo Levi /Representations of the Holocaust through the testimony of Primo Levi

Work Experience

Course Instructor, University of South Australia Current

- Courses: The Social World and Sociology of Gender and Intimacy

Founding President and Head of Research, International Balkan Alliance for Peace and Development 2018-current

- Conduct and coordinate research projects to inform advocacy efforts to advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the Western Balkans
- Liaise with different stakeholders to promote the goals and mission of the organization
- Oversee grant application processes
- Coordinate and expand international network of members, partners and supporters

Consultant, Nexus Law Group July- Nov 2017

- Advised on inclusiveness and equal representation
- Initiated collaboration with members of the corporate, government, non-for-profit, and educational sector to secure secondment placements

Research Assistant, University of South Australia May 2017

- Assisted senior researchers with literature search and literature reviews

Member of the Organizing Committee, ECR Conference 'Intersections' Feb-Oct 2016

- Participated in creating the concept, thematic areas, CfP and abstracts review
- Was engaged with various event management tasks e.g organizing key speakers, venue and catering

Tutor, Freelance

Nov 2014-June 2017

- Supported university students in social sciences and linguistic in essay writing and preparation for exams

Research Consultant, University of Saint Cyril and Methodius

Mar-Oct 2014

Research Project: Maternal and neonatal mortality in Macedonia: social determinants

- Participated in drafting the grant proposal and designing the research methodology
- Advised on gendered aspects of the researched problem from a social science perspective

Market Researcher, Australasian Property & Asset Investments (APAI)

Mar 2013- Jan 2014

- Assisted in creating market and competitor research strategy and completed reports

Course Instructor and Research Assistant, University of Saint Cyril and Methodius,

Oct 2010-Feb 2013

- Courses: Introduction to Gender Studies, Peace Studies and Gender, Gender politics in the XXI century, Anthropology, Women's Anthropology,
- Was engaged with drafting grant proposals and conducting research projects

Translator and Foreign Language Teacher

2005-2010

Translation of written texts, simultaneous and consecutive translation and language tutoring (Italian, Spanish and English)

Current Research Projects

- **'Women's agency and the use of nonviolent strategies to promote peace and justice in the Republic of Macedonia'**, a research project supported by a research grant from the International Peace Studies Association Foundation (IPRAF)
- **'Women, Peace and Security and the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the Western Balkans'**, a research project conducted by the International Balkan Alliance to inform advocacy efforts to advance the WPS and 2030 Agendas in the region

Publications:

- **Kotevska, Biljana and Spasovska, Elena (2019)** 'Feminist Activism against the Restriction of Reproductive Rights in Macedonia: the Campaign against the New Law on Abortion', *Women's Studies International Forum*, (forthcoming)
- **Spasovska, Elena (2017)** *The Role of Women's Non-Government Organizations in Building Sustainable Peace in the Republic of Macedonia*, PhD Dissertation, Adelaide: University of South Australia.
- **Spasovska, Elena (2014)** Masculine Empire: How Men Use Violence to Keep Women in Line by Peter Adams (book review), *Feminism & Psychology* 24(4): 562-566.

- **Spasovska, Elena (2014)** Women, Peace and Security in the Republic of Macedonia: Advances and Challenges, *International Journal of Rule of Law, Transitional Justice and Human Rights*, 4(4): 97-111.
- **Spasovska, Elena (2012)** Family Transformations Caused by Globalization and International Female Migration: Introducing Gender Perspective, *The Sociological Review* 1(9): 43-64.
- **Spasovska, Elena (2011)** *Estrategias de igualdad en la República de Macedonia: el caso de las unidades de autogobierno local*, MA thesis, Barcelona: The University of Barcelona.
- **Simonovska, Suzana and Spasovska, Elena (2011)** The Different Social Dimensions of the Terms ‘Work’ and ‘Time”, *Annuaire*, Faculty of Philosophy-Skopje.

Conferences (selection)

- **‘Legal and institutional response to gender-based violence in Macedonia’**, Co-authored paper presented at the 6th European Safe Communities Conference Achieving Sustainable Development Goals- Towards Violence Free Communities, 3-5 October 2018, Skopje, Macedonia
- **‘Nationalism, authoritarianism and patriarchy under VMRO-DPMNE’s rule’**, Paper presented at the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) European Conference ‘Nationalism in times of uncertainty’, the University of Graz, 4-6 July 2018, Graz, Austria
- **‘Gender representations within the project ‘Skopje 2014’**, Paper presented at the 3rd Annual Postgraduate and ECR Gender and Sexuality Studies Conference ‘Intersections’, 19-20 September 2016, Adelaide, Australia.
- **‘Bonding and bridging in times of ethnic hostilities: women’s inter-ethnic alliances in the Republic of Macedonia’**, Paper presented at the Higher Degree by Research Forum, 16 September 2016, Adelaide, Australia.
- **‘The potential and limitation of the European Union to promote gender equality and sustainable peace within EU candidate states’**, Paper presented at the European Studies Workshop ‘Researching the EU: Critical Perspectives for Critical Times’, held on 28-29 May 2015 at the Australian National University, Canberra, Australia.
- **‘Family relations and projections for the future’**, Panellist at ‘Nights of Women’s Rights’, event organized by UN Women, 8 March 2014, Skopje, Macedonia.
- **‘Women, Men or Human: Gender Equality and Human Rights’**, Speaker at an event part of the project ‘Bridging divided communities by youth work’, 12 April 2012.

Awards and scholarships

- University of South Australia, **President and Vice-Chancellor’s Graduate Scholarship**.
- Italian Embassy, **Talented student award**.
- Ministry of Education – Macedonia, **Scholarship for high achieving university students**.

Courses and other forms of training (selection)

- **Australian Technology Network**, Certificates in Leadership and Communication, and Project Management
- **Singidunum University, Serbia**, International Summer School in Comparative Conflict Studies: ‘Rethinking

- transitional justice: lessons from the Balkans and beyond’.
- **The Fletcher School of Diplomacy/Tufts University, Boston MA, USA**, Summer Institute on the Advanced Study of Nonviolent Conflict (Fletcher Summer Institute).
- **Inter-University Centre –Dubrovnik, Croatia**, Graduate course ‘Divided Societies: War and Peace in the 21st Century’.
- **Stanford University, Stanford CA, USA**, International Women’s Health & Human Rights Certificate.
- **Association ‘Pravnik’ and Konard Adenauer Stiftung, Sarajevo, BiH**, International Summer School in Rule of Law, Transitional Justice and Human Rights ‘Tailoring Transitional Justice’.
- **Georgetown University, Washington DC., USA**, Certificates in English professional and business writing.
- **University for Foreigners of Perugia, Italy**, Advanced Diploma in Italian Language and Culture.

Language Proficiency

	Reading	Writing	Listening	Speaking
English	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent
Spanish	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent
Italian	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent
Macedonian	Fluent (Native language)	Fluent (Native language)	Fluent (Native language)	Fluent (Native language)
Portuguese	Intermediate	Beginner	Intermediate	Pre-intermediate
French	Intermediate	Pre-intermediate	Pre-intermediate	Beginner
Serbian	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent	Intermediate
Croatian	Fluent	Fluent	Fluent	Intermediate
Bulgarian	Pre-intermediate	Pre-intermediate	Intermediate	Beginner

Volunteer work and memberships (selected)

- Amnesty International (Community organizer/Support the development of Women’s Rights Action Groups in South Australia)
- Australian Civil Society Coalition on Women, Peace and Security
- Women in International Security (WIIS)
- UN Women National Committee Australia
- Australian Women’s and Gender Studies Association (AGWSA)
- Association for Women’s Rights in Development (AWID)