

Alexia Katsanidou

Contact Details

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Education

- 2008: PhD in Politics in the Department of Government, University of Essex
Thesis Title: Ideology versus Valence in electoral politics: A comparative analysis of voting behaviour in Britain Sweden and the Netherlands from 1973 to 2005.
- 2003: MA in Comparative Democratization in the Department of Government of the University of Essex. Modules: Contemporary Political Theory, Comparative Democratization, Political Behaviour, Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods.
- 2002: Degree in International and European Economical and Political Studies (BA equivalent) of the University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece. Grade: 8.5 (Distinction)

Research Interests:

Western Europe, Political Behaviour, Quantitative Methods, Public Policy

Scholarships:

2002-2003 University of Essex, Department of Government Scholarship (£2,000)
Sept 2005- Feb 2006 Danish Government Scholarship for field research (30,000 DKK equivalent of £3,000)
2008 PSA conference grant (£300)

Other Knowledge

Languages: Greek (mother tongue), English (fluent), German (fluent), Italian, Spanish (working knowledge), Danish, French (elementary)

Computer Skills:

SPSS, STATA, MS Office

Relevant Seminars taken:

- University of Essex Summer School in Data Analysis, Course on Stata Programming, July 2007
- University of Essex Summer School in Data Analysis, Course on Logistic Regression, July 2005
- University of Essex Summer School in Data Analysis, Course on Voting Behavior Models and logistic Regression, August 2004
- University of Essex Summer School in Data Analysis, Course on Time Series August 2003.
- American Studies Seminar, "Discovering our new world", International relations, Demographics, Economics, Information technology, Culture, by the University of Macedonia and the U.S. Consulate General of Thessaloniki, April 2002
- Seminar on Computer Systems Security, University of Macedonia, May 1999.

Professional Experience

School of Social Sciences, University of Southampton

July 2008 – ongoing

Senior Research Officer

Research topic: Third sector trends; the resources and activities of voluntary and community sector organisations in NE England and Cumbria

- Assembling databases on voluntary and community organisations and link them to data on socioeconomic conditions
- Designing and implementing questionnaire surveys and analysing trends and patterns in resources and activities of VCS organisations
- Explore reasons for variations in distribution of voluntary sector resources, including local fieldwork
- Writing up and presenting findings
- Liaising with partners: Guidestar; National Council for Voluntary Organisations and voluntary organizations in NE England and Cumbria.

Birkbeck College, University of London

April 2007 – February 2008

Research Officer

Social Pacts in Western Europe: Explaining government's choice for welfare and labour market reforms through tripartite pacts using electoral and institutional gains.

- ESRC Project (Evaluated as “outstanding”)
- Research development and proposal writing
- Assembling of databases on electoral data and social pacts and combining them with socioeconomic data
- Statistical analysis of patterns and trends in Social Pact implementation and its electoral results

Department of Government, University of Essex

October 2004 - April 2007

Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Teaching second year course GV271 **West European Politics**: Introduces central debates in the comparative analysis of politics and government in Europe. Discusses comparative enquiry, (eg. Government institutions, party systems) as well as emerging fields of interest, such as multi-level governance and European integration.
- Teaching second year course GV102 **Introduction to European Politics**: Introduces the foundations of political institutions in western and eastern Europe, the development of political debates and the impact of historical backgrounds and events on current affairs.
- Supervising student essays

UK Data Archive

May 2004 - April 2007

Data Services Officer

- Acquiring, Validating, Converting, Enriching, and Preparing for preservation and secondary use, social science data
- Create appropriate Data Documentation
- Metadata processing
- Manipulation and linkage of large datasets mainly using SPSS

Other Professional Experience

- May-June 2008 Research Consultant in Freshminds Research Consultancy.
- March-April 2008 Research Consultant in CSV (National Volunteering Organization)
- October 2006: Facilitator for Initial Research Training for new PhD Students
- May 2004 until now, Amanuensis/Scribe at the University of Essex
- Oct 2004-Sept 2005 Organizer of the PhD Colloquium at the University of Essex
- Oct 2003-Sept 2004 PhD Students' Representative at the Department of Government of University of Essex.
- November 2001 to December 2001 Internship at the UNESCO Centre for women and peace in the Balkan countries
- December 2001 voluntary work at the secretariat (Computer work) of the 4th World Congress of the Abroad Hellenism
- August 2000 to December 2000 Internship at the office of the MP Stelios Papathemelis.
- Private German lessons to a group of three students September 2000- July 2002
- December 1999 voluntary work at the secretariat (Instant translation) of the 3th World Congress of the Abroad Hellenism
- Translation (written and instant) from German and English to Greek for the cultural society of the Municipality of Muzaki, Karditsa, Greece for the Summers of 1995-1998

Publications/Working Papers:**Internet Publications:**

Policy position change: Left and Right revisited; The reaction of the centre right parties of Western Europe to the policy position change of the centre left parties: some preliminary results.

Presented at the 13th PhD Summer School on Political parties and Party Systems 'Democracy in Europe: European Politics and Multi-level Governance', at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, 13-26 September 2004

Presented Papers

Measuring the Median Voter; Competing measures of Voter ideology, theoretical and empirical evaluation in the aggregate level of analysis. November 2005, Presented in the PhD Colloquium, Department of Government University of Essex.

Alexia Katsanidou and Peter Bloom 'Issue Framing, Elections, and Ideology: The Paradox of Rational Campaigning and Democratic Constraints on Ideological Change (UK, Netherlands, Sweden)' Presented at the Political Studies Association conference in Bath April 2007

Alexia Katsanidou 'Valence vs. Position: Driving forces of vote choice' Presented at the Election Public Opinion and Parties study group (EPOP) conference in Bristol September 2007.

Alexia Katsanidou 'History will return to haunt you: The application of the reward-punishment model on cabinet ministers for policy options a case of Greece' presented at the Political Studies Association conference in Swansea April 2008

Alexia Katsanidou 'Ιδεολογία ή ικανότητα: Τι είδους πρόσωπο προωθούν τα δεξιά πολιτικά κόμματα σε Μεγάλη Βρετανία και Ελλάδα στις εκλογές μετά το 2000' (Valence or Position: What face do right wing political parties promote in Britain and Greece after 2000) presented at University of Macedonia conference on Greek Political Parties, Thessaloniki April 2008

Kerstin Hamann, Alexia Katsanidou, John Kelly 'The Electoral Consequences of Social Pacts in Western Europe 1980-2006' to be presented at the Public Opinion and Parties study group (EPOP) conference in Manchester September 2008

Alexia Katsanidou 'Valence and Position: Structuring Party Competition' to be presented at the Public Opinion and Parties study group (EPOP) conference in Manchester September 2008