

KONSTANTINOS KOSMAS GAITIS

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Academic Profile

I have over 14 years' experience researching crime and justice issues. Research interests include: classic criminological and social deviance theories (Christie's ideal victim/offender, anomie, collective effervescence, critical criminology, zemiology, realism in criminology, moral panics, labelling theory, subcultural theories, rational choice theories and broken windows); human trafficking; immigration; asylum; smuggling; victimology, victims and vulnerabilities; human rights; culture wars; state policymaking; and conflict of rights. I have a strong interest in the interplay between Politics, Philosophy, International Relations, Social Work and Criminology. I have over 5 years' experience with conducting empirical research in Criminology and Criminal Justice using a range of qualitative and quantitative methods.

I have practiced Law as a lawyer in Greece for over 3 years. I am currently working as a University Tutor since 2018, tutoring undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Law, Criminology and Criminal Justice, Social Sciences, Politics and International Relations. Tutoring responsibilities include: designing reading lists and tutorial programmes, marking essays and exams, advising students regarding their written work and/or research projects and writing academic references for them. I am also employed as a Research Assistant for the Edinburgh Study of Youth Transitions and Crime between March and July 2021. I am accredited as Associate Fellow of the Advance Higher Education, acting as Mentor for Edinburgh Teaching Award candidates, certified by the UK's Medical Research Council (MRC) for successfully passing the MRC's Research, GDPR and Confidentiality Test, whilst I am also a member of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme of the Scottish Government.

Education

The University of Edinburgh:

Sep2017 - Mar2021

- Obtained my PhD in Law (Criminology Pathway). Supervised by Professor Lesley McAra CBE and Dr Steve Kirkwood SFHEA. Letter of award issued in March 2021.
- Full Scholarship for PhD studies provided by the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation.

- Title: ‘How is human trafficking regulated in the UK? A critical examination of the UK’s anti-trafficking response’.

The University of Edinburgh:

Sep2013 - Aug2014

- Master of Science (MSc) Criminology and Criminal Justice (obtained with Distinction)
- Dissertation Title: ‘Voting for prisoners: A human right in an era of punitiveness’.

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens:

Sep2007 - Aug2012

- Degree in Law (7,99/10, equivalent to Upper Second Class Honours 2:1)

Italian School of Athens (Scuola Italiana d’Atene)

Sep2001 - Jul2007

- High school diploma. Graduated with Honours. (19,7/20).
- Awarded monetary award by the Italian Embassy in Greece during my last year for achieving the highest degree in my school in the Greek University Entrance Exams and by the Greek Government for achieving a high entrance position in the Law School of Athens.

Work Experience

Research Assistant, The University of Edinburgh

Mar2021 - Jul2021

- Research Assistant for the Edinburgh Study of Youth Transitions and Crime. Responsible for tracking and contacting cohort members for interview, conducting and transcribing interviews, keeping study databases up to date and fulfilling all other relevant research tasks, such as preparing short research update papers.

Tutor at the University of Edinburgh

Sep2018 - ongoing

- Tutoring ‘Introduction to Criminology’, ‘Introduction to Criminal Justice’ and ‘EU Law’ at the School of Law, as well as ‘Social Policy and Society’, ‘Armed Force and Society’, ‘European Social Policy’ and ‘Comparative Politics in a Globalised World’ at the School of Social and Political Science to undergraduate students (1st year, 2nd year and Honours students) throughout the academic year. Tutoring responsibilities include marking essays and exam papers, advising students on their written work and writing academic references for them. Designed the tutorial programme for this year’s Social Policy and Society course.

Delivering seminars for the 'MSc in Criminology and Criminal Justice' at Edinburgh Law School for two courses: 'Criminological Research Methods' (helping MSc students with the methodology of their research projects) and 'Criminal Justice and Penal Process' (seminars on 'Restorative Justice' and 'Victims/Victimology'). Designed the reading lists for the latter course's seminars, whilst also responsible for marking students' essays for this course.

Attorney at Law before the Appeal Court, Greece

Jun2015 - ongoing

- Passed the Bar Exam of the Athens Bar Association and registered as Attorney at Law before the Appeal Court in June 2015. Freelance lawyer and external collaborator for Mr Konstantinos Kolokas' law firm between September 2015 and October 2016. Dealt with cases of Civil, Criminal and Immigration Law.

Associate Lawyer at Tsibanoulis & Partners Law Firm, member of Meritas Law Firms Worldwide, from October 2016 until August 2017. Dealt with cases of IP, Competition, Company, Commercial and Banking Law on a Greek, UK/EU and International level. Cooperated with a global network of colleagues on international cases (Europe, Americas, Asia). Strong experience with due diligence reports.

Trainee Lawyer at the Public Prosecutor's Office, Athens

Sep2012 - Sep2013

- Appointed as a trainee lawyer at the Criminal Records Department. Managed, issued and updated criminal records' cards. Promoted to the Department of Indictments. Managed case files, drew up indictments for cases, assisted the progress of the prosecution.

Military Experience

Jan2015 - Sep2015

- Completed the mandatory army service in Greece. Served in the Hellenic Infantry Corps and in the Military Legal Advisor's Office of the General Staff. Managed legal cases of military conscription.

Experience in Politics

Nov2014 - Apr2016

- Appointed as Head of the Department of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights for the Youth Organization of New Democracy (the Conservative party in Greece). Responsible for writing reports, organising conferences and delivering speeches related to justice and human rights issues in Greece and Europe.
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Achievements, Presentations and Skills

- Accredited as Associate Fellow of the Advance HE (formerly known as Higher Education Academy)
 - Edinburgh Teaching Award Mentor
 - Designed and delivering the 3-hour module ‘Human Trafficking, Globalisation and the Covid-19 Pandemic: Complexities, Lessons and Future Challenges’ at the 9th Law Schools Global League Summer School organised virtually by the National University of Singapore on 15th and 16th July 2021
 - Experienced with disseminating reports on research findings to law enforcement agencies and social work NGOs
 - Certificates in Data Protection Training, Data Protection for Research, Information Security Essentials and Challenging Unconscious Bias issued by the University of Edinburgh
 - Certified by the UK’s Medical Research Council (MRC) for successfully passing the MRC’s Research, GDPR and Confidentiality Test
 - Presented my paper entitled ‘Social constructions and gender roles in human trafficking: Questioning the gender gap’ to the 2nd annual conference of the Postgraduate Gender Research Network of Scotland (PGRNS) entitled ‘Prism: Investigating Gender Through An Interdisciplinary Approach’ on 15/06/2018 in Glasgow
 - Won the 2019 3-minute thesis competition at the School of Law, University of Edinburgh and participated at the 3-minute thesis competition at the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
 - Presented my PhD research at the ‘New Knowledge: Social Work Research Conference’ at the University of Edinburgh on 03/06/2019
 - Presented my PhD research at the ‘Roundtable on Immigration, Human Trafficking and Smuggling’ at the University of Edinburgh on 05/11/2019
 - Presented my PhD research methodology at the Empirical Legal Research Network Colloquium at the University of Edinburgh on 11/11/2019
 - Presented my paper entitled ‘Examining the Images of the Human Trafficking Victim and Perpetrator: A UK-based Analysis of Policy Documents and Qualitative Interviews with Practitioners’ at the Victimology Working Group of the EUROCRIM 2020 20th Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology on 11/09/2020
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Memberships and Associations

- Registered as Attorney at Law before the Appeal Court at the Athens Bar Association since June 2015
- Member of the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research (SCCJR)
- Member of the Scottish Government’s Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme since 25/03/2021 in respect of regulated work with adults
- Member of the Empirical Legal Research Network (ELRN) of the School of Law, University of Edinburgh

Languages

- **Modern Greek** (Fluent, written and spoken)
 - **English** (Fluent, written and spoken)
 - Certificate of Proficiency in English, University of Cambridge, Grade A (May 2008)
 - Certificate of Proficiency in English, University of Michigan (May 2008)
 - IELTS, Grade 8,5/9,0 (April 2017)
 - **Italian** (Proficient, written and spoken)
 - CELI 3, Grade C (2004)
 - Certificate in Italian Language and Literature, Italian School of Athens, Grade 20/20 (2007)
 - **German** (Elementary proficiency)
 - **Ancient Greek** (Fluent, written and spoken)
 - **Latin** (Basic working knowledge, written and spoken)
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Computer Skills

- Excellent user of Microsoft Office, Outlook, Teams and Stream, Blackboard Collaborate, NVivo, Zoom, Cisco Webex and Google Meet.
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Interests

- Playing volleyball. Captain of the Italian High School of Athens men's volleyball team (2004-2006).
- Playing bass guitar. Studied theory and practice with a private tutor for 4 years (2007-2011).
- Amateur long-distance runner (10km).
- Enjoy reading Greek and foreign literature.