



George K. Zarifis

Lecturer of Continuing Education

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George K. Zarifis is a Lecturer of Continuing Education in the Department of Education (Faculty of Philosophy), of the [Aristotle University of Thessaloniki](http://www.auth.gr) in Greece. He received his first degree (specialised in education and pedagogy) from the Department of Philosophy, Education and Psychology in the same University (1993). After he was awarded a grant from the Greek State, he continued his studies in the [University of Warwick](http://www.warwick.ac.uk), Department of Continuing Education, where he received his MA in International and Comparative Studies in Continuing Education (1995) and his PhD in Continuing Education (2000).

His **area of expertise** is Continuing Education with specific interest in the study of learning theories and the development of educational methodologies for accommodating adult learning.

#### ▪ COURSES OFFERED<sup>(in Greek only)</sup>

1. Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning: Theory and Practice (code **1807**<sup>undergraduate</sup>)
2. Vocational Education and Training: Programme Design and Delivery (code **1808**<sup>undergraduate</sup>)
3. Continuing Education in the European Union: Policies and Practices in the Member States (code **1810**<sup>undergraduate</sup>)
4. The role of critical reflection in adult education and learning (code **1811**<sup>undergraduate</sup>)
5. **POSTGRADUATE MODULE I** <sup>1 year project</sup>
  - *Learning Environments: Issues of skill development in the workplace*
  - *Assessing learning in Continuing Education Programmes*
6. **POSTGRADUATE MODULE II** <sup>1 year project</sup>
  - *Access and participation in organised educational activities for adults*
  - *Theoretical and practical approaches of critical reflection in adult learning and education*

His **research interests** focus on the study of international and comparative experience in vocational education and training policies and practices for adults and particularly in South-Eastern Europe and the Balkans, and the development of research paradigms for the study of adult participation in educational and training activities.

#### ▪ EUROPEAN RESEARCH PROJECTS INVOLVED

1. [Developing Local Learning Centres and Learning Partnerships as part of Member States Targets for reaching the Lisbon Goals in the field of Education and Training](#)

(Research carried out on behalf of Research voor Beleid for the European Commission Directorate-General for Education and Culture).

2. [Trainers in Vocational Education and Training – key actors to make lifelong learning a reality in Europe](#)

(Research carried out on behalf of Research voor Beleid for the European Commission Directorate-General for Education and Culture. EAC/09/06-OJ Nr. 2006/S 105-111823).

### 3. **Adult Learning Professions In Europe - ALPINE**

(Research carried out on behalf of Research voor Beleid for the European Commission Directorate-General for Education and Culture. EAC/35/06-OJ Nr. 2006/S 133-141937).

Some of his work is published in Greek and international scientific journals.

#### ▪ **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**(in English)

1. 'The role of the university as a socio-political agent in defining and promoting social justice, freedom & peace: Reflecting on some voices from the Balkans', in the proceedings of the 5<sup>th</sup> ESREA Research Conference "Adult Learning and the Challenges of Social and Cultural Diversity: Diverse Lives, Cultures, Learnings and Literacies" (Seville, 20-23 Sep. 2007).
2. 'The role of education in promoting stability and democratization in the Balkans: A critical review of BASOPED's role and publications, 1997-2004', in 'European Journal of Education', Vol. 41, n. 2, 2006. pp. 323-340.
3. 'Motivation, reflection and transformative learning in Balkan languages learning programmes', in the proceedings of the 4<sup>th</sup> ESREA Research Conference "Between 'Old and 'New' Worlds of Adult Learning" (Wroclaw, 16-19 Sep. 2004). pp. 233-268.
4. 'Post-school vocational training initiatives for young adults in Greece: The case of IEKs (Vocational Training Institutes)', in 'Research in Post-Compulsory Education', vol.8, n.2, 2003. pp: 153-178.
5. Vocational Education and Training policy development for young adults in the European Union: A thematic analysis of the EU trend of convergence towards integration, drawn from the brief presentation of the VET policies adopted in three Member States', in 'Research in Post-Compulsory Education', vol.1, n.5, 2000, pp. 91-114.

#### **Contact Details:**

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