

Vassiliki Katrivanou

Psychotherapist, Trainer and Facilitator in communication and conflict resolution, Coach, ex member of the Greek Parliament, ex member of the Council of Europe

Name: Vassiliki Katrivanou

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Since 2003, she works in Greece and internationally as a therapist, trainer, conflict facilitator, coach and organizational consultant (Greece, USA, Mexico, Cyprus, Palestine, Israel, Spain, India). She has a special interest on combining psychology and politics in order to find new pathways for the empowerment of people and groups.

Currently she is working as the Coordinator of the Social Unit of the Greek Council of Refugees). She also collaborated with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung-Greece as a trainer in a program for the empowerment of women who are involved in politics (2019-2023) and with Rosa Luxembourg Stiftung Greece (2022-2023); How to connect with their own vision and create their own way of leadership. Previous to that she was a special counselor of UNICEF, appointed to the Ministry of Education for the education of the refugee children (2017-2019).

She has been a Member of the Greek Parliament from June 2012 until May 2016, when she resigned. She was also a Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (June 2014-May 2016). Her main focus has been on human rights with emphasis on immigrants and refugees, the rights of women and LGBTQI community, mental health and the rights of people in prison. In this context, she had the opportunity to apply creatively the tools of Process Oriented Psychology and conflict resolution.

She directed together with Bushra Azzouz, the documentary *Women of Cyprus* on the Cypriot conflict and the effort for reunification through the eyes of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot women, during the period of the referendum for the Annan Plan (2004). The film has been screened in several countries like Cyprus, Greece, USA, Turkey, Palestine, Israel, Mexico, UK.

EDUCATION

2017-2021: Trained as a coach at the Global Coaching Institute, accredited by the International Coaching Federation (ICF).

2008: M.A in Conflict Resolution. Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, USA.

2005: M.A. in Process Work (Process Oriented Psychology), Process Work Institute of Portland, Portland, Oregon, USA.

2005: Diploma in Process Work (Process Oriented Psychology), Process Work Institute of Portland, Portland, Oregon, USA.

2003: B.A. in International Studies. Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, USA.

1989-1998: Training in group dynamics and system's theory. The Athenian Institute of Anthropolos (AKMA) Athens, Greece.

1991-1992: Training in Children's psychology and social development, National Nursery School (PEN), Athens, Greece.

1985-1994: Law School of Athens, (studies were not completed), Athens, Greece.

1979-1985: Pierce-The American College of Greece, High School, Athens, Greece.

WORK EXPERIENCE

2019- present: Coordinator of the social unit of the Greek Council for Refugees.

2017-2019: Special Consultant of UNICEF appointed to the Greek Ministry of Education. Member of the Working Group of the independent Department for the Monitoring and Coordination of the Refugee Education.

MEMBER OF THE GREEK PARLIAMENT (2012-2016)

V. Katrivanou was elected as Member of the Parliament (B' periphery of Athens) with SYRIZA in June 2012, in January 2015 and in September 2016 and she resigned in May 2016.

Main activities during the period of her service:

a) Parliament

*** President of the Special Permanent Committee for the Prison System and Other Structures of Detention** (February 2015-May 2016)

*** Secretary of the Committee of Public Administration, Public Order and Justice** (October 2015-May 2016)

*** Responsible for the domain of Human Rights of the Parliamentary Group of SYRIZA** (August 2012-May 2016)

* V. Katrivanou was **rapporteur** for several bills, including the **bill for drugs**, for **the prison system**, for **citizenship for second generation immigrant children**, and for **the civil union** for LGBT couples.

b) Council of Europe-PACE

* **Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe** (June 2014-May 2016)

* **Member of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons and of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination** (June 2014-May 2016).

* **Vice president of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development-SOC** (April-May 2016).

V. Katrivanou was **rapporteur** on behalf of the **Unified Left Group-GUE/UEL** for issues on immigration and refugees, tackling the rise of the extreme right, equality, gender and the rights of the LGBTQI community.

c) Political activity

For the period 2012-2016 the basic area of V. Katrivanou's intervention was human rights at parliamentary, social and grassroots-movement levels. More specifically: immigration and refugees, prison policy, the rights of detainees, tackling racism and the rise of the extreme right, the rights of people with special needs, freedom of expression and speech, police violence, the democratization of the police, mental health and addictions, the rights of women and the LGBTQI community. The Homosexual Lesbian Community of Greece-OLKE gave her the "Proud Faces" award for politicians in June 2013.

Her interventions in the above areas were carried out through questions in Parliament, articles and public interventions, contact with social organizations, participation in their events and mobilizations. Also through visits to prisons and police stations, detention centers for immigrants, reception centers for refugees, mental health and detox

centers, special schools. These visits and the intervention in the field were one of the main modes of action that she developed.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

a) 2003-today: Counseling, Therapy, Supervision and Coaching for individuals, groups, mental health practitioners and non-governmental organizations (Greece, USA, Palestine, Israel, Cyprus, Mexico, Spain, India).

b) Teaching and Training

2024: Faculty member in the program of the Processwork Hub: “Introduction to ProcessWork Basics.”

2023-present: Trainer in the program of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (EKPA) in collaboration with the Ministry of Immigration and Asylum for the “Development of skills and training of staff of long-term accommodation facilities for unaccompanied minors”.

2020-2023: Supervision and training of the staff of the NGO Human Right 360.

2019-2023: Trainer in the program “Women in Politics-Networking and Mentoring” organized by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Athens (FES). During the period 2022-2023 the program was coorganized by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Athens (FES) and the Rosa Luxembourg Stiftung -Greece.

2020-2021: Staff member of the Process Work Institute of India

2018: Training workshop for mental health practitioners, Child and Adolescent’s Center.

2017-2018: Empowerment and conflict resolution training program for teachers and students of the Intercultural Secondary School of Elliniko.

2017: Empowerment and conflict resolution training program for teachers working with refugee students, NGO Schedia

2009-2012: Teaching seminars/workshops on group facilitation, conflict resolution and community building, Process Work Greece, Athens, and The Athenian Institute of Anthropos (AKMA), Athens, Greece.

2006-2012: Faculty member in the Diploma and Masters Program in Process Work (www.processwork.org), Process Work Institute, Portland OR USA.

2008- 2012: Faculty member in the Masters in Conflict Facilitation and Organizational Change, Process Work Institute, (www.processwork.org), α

2002-2017: Faculty Member and group facilitator in Worldwork, International Seminar on Conflict Resolution, (Eretria 2002, Oregon 2004, Sydney 2006, 2008, Colorado 2011, Warsaw 2014, Porto Heli 2017)

c) Training and Workshops on communication and conflict resolution

2011-2012: communication and conflict resolution with teachers and students, Research Center and Action for Peace, KEDE, Athens, Greece.

2011: communication and conflict resolution with educators and group facilitators, Foundation of the Hellenic World, Athens, Greece.

2009: conflict resolution with students, Al-QudsUniversity, Abu-Dis, Palestine.

2009: conflict resolution with Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot youth, association for the youth, teenagers and kids of Cyprus (Soma Akriton), Future World Center και Jumpstart, Nikosia, Cyprus.

2007-2012: conflict resolution with Palestinians and Israelis, Process Work Center, Ramat Hasharon, Israel and Bet Jallah, Palestine.

2006: conflict resolution, Portland State University, Portland, OR, USA.

d) Workshops and group facilitation for empowerment of women and immigrants.

2004-2009: facilitation of meetings between Greek and Turkish Cypriot women for the creation of the documentary: *Women of Cyprus*, Nikosia, Cyprus.

2011-21012: empowerment of immigrants, Mosaic, KETHEA, Athens, Greece.

2011: empowerment of immigrant women, day center-Babel, Athens, Greece.

2010: Facilitating training of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot women, Mediation Association, Nikosia, Cyprus.

2008, 2009: empowerment of Palestinian women, Abu-Dis, House of Peace, Ramallah, Palestine.

2008-20115: women's group in Mexico, San Cristobal, Monterrey, Tepoztlan, Mexico.

e) Group facilitation on conflict resolution

2011: conflict resolution facilitation with the Human Library, Athens, Greece.

2011: conflict resolution facilitation with people with special needs, Theater of Deaf People of Greece, Athens, Greece.

2007: group facilitation between students from Morocco and USA, for the creation of the documentary *Crossing Borders*, (crossingbordersfilm.org), Casablanca, Marrakesh, Tangier, Fez, Morocco.

2009-212: facilitation of discussion and public dialogue after the screening of the documentary *Women of Cyprus*, Cyprus, Greece, USA, Palestine, Israel, Mexico, UK.

2000-20012: facilitation of open forums on issues of democracy, human rights, the war in Afghanistan and Iraq, LGBTQI rights, Portland, Or, USA, and on the Greek crisis, Athens, Greece.

f) Work with Children and Adolescents

2002-2004: Weekly support group teaching communication, conflict resolution and psychological coping skills to students. (Newberg High School, 2002-2004.)

1992-1998: workshops with children and teenagers using art, drama, video, photography, and radio and magazine production to help young people develop emotional, intellectual, and social skills. Athenian Institute of Athropos (AKMA.)

1996-1998: Training workshops with teachers and adolescents in the Primary Prevention Programs of KETHEA and of OKANA throughout Greece.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

2017- 2018: Board Member of the Organization Against Drugs –OKANA.

DOCUMENTARY

2004-2009: producer and director with Bushra Azzouz of the documentary *Women of Cyprus* on the Cypriot conflict through the eyes of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot women, during the period of the referendum for the Annan Plan (70 min.)

www.womenofcyprusfilm.com. The documentary has been screened in several countries like Cyprus, Greece, USA, Turkey, Palestine, Israel, Mexico, UK.

PHOTOGRAPHY

1991: Plateau Photographer for the movie “Quiet Days of August” directed by Pantelis Voulgaris

LANGUAGES

Greek (native speaker), **English** (excellent), **French** (well), **Spanish** (basic knowledge).