

Name: Dr. Maria Hadjielia Drotarova

Job Title:

Head of Research

Assistant Professor in the field of Hospitality and Tourism

Studies:

Postdoc at Cyprus University of Technology (January 2019 – Jun 2020)

- Working on a qualitative research study on thanatourism, nostalgia and hope.

PhD (2017)

- PhD in Educational Research
- Lancaster University (UK)
 - Thesis: “A MULTIDIMENSIONAL PERSPECTIVE OF DOCTORAL STUDY EXPERIENCE: CONSTRUCTING DIVERSE ROUTES ACROSS PARALLEL REALITIES”

Master’s Degree (2006)

- Master’s Degree in Andragogy (Adult education)
- University of Prešov (Slovakia)
- Dissertation: “Quality of working life in the public sector workplace: Evidence from the Slovak Context”

Degree course (2004)

- Bachelor Degree in Andragogy (Adult education)
- University of Prešov (Slovakia)

Work experience:

Cyprus University of Technology

- Postdoctoral Researcher
- Department of Communication and Internet Studies
- RePast, Horizon 2020
- June 2020 – Dec 2020

Cyprus University of Technology

- Postdoctoral Researcher
- Department of Hotel and Tourism Management
- Coleco, Erasmus+ Project
- January 2020 – Jan 2021

Cyprus University of Technology

- Postdoctoral Researcher
- Department of Hotel and Tourism Management
- Dark Tourism: The Case of Mari
- January 2019 – June 2020

European University Cyprus, Cyprus

- Associate Lecturer in Higher Education (part-time)
- School of Humanities, Social & Education Sciences
- Teaching area & Specialization: Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods in Educational Research, Methodology in Social Science, Action Research, for bachelor and master students, face to face and distance learning
- September 2018 – Jan 2021

Research:

My current research interests focus on topics at the nexus of tourism management and education. There is much to gain from combining the two fields, especially in specialized forms of tourism such as dark tourism and thanatourism, which can offer possibilities for re-education on the importance of places of death and disaster. The field of education is a broad field, which can provide new theories and perspectives to the study of tourism and its specialized forms. As a short term target, I am working on a number of papers to submit to top-tier academic journals such as “Journal of Travel Research”, “Tourism Management”, Journal of Higher Education”, “Studies in Higher Education” and “Higher Education Review”. Beside my current research work alongside Dr Prokopis Christou, I am working on a number of articles with UK Professors Paul Ashwin and Gina Wisker.

My research is mostly qualitative, drawing on an inductive reasoning to build theories and create new concepts. I have experience in undertaking qualitative research drawing on different research designs such as ethnography and grounded theory, and in using a blend of data collection tools such as in-depth interviews, focus groups, and (participant and non-participant) observations.

Research profile

<http://www.ctleuro.ac.cy/en/research-development/1-research-office/dr-maria-hadjielia-drotarova>

Member in Councils:

Member of BERA – British Educational Research Association

International Recognition of Work & Awards:

PhD Studies at Lancaster University under an ESRC Scholarship, 2009 - 2016