



Academic Personnel Short Profile / Short CV

University:	Neapolis University Pafos
Surname:	Aqra
Name:	Zakia
Rank/Position:	Lecturer
Faculty:	Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities
Department:	History, Politics and International Studies
Scientific Domain: *	International Relations and Foreign Policy

** Field of Specialization*

Academic qualifications (list by highest qualification)				
Qualification	Year	Awarding Institution	Department	Thesis title (Optional Entry)
PhD	2022	University of the Peloponnese, Corinth, Greece	Political Science and International Relations	
MSc in International Political Economy	2016	Panteion University, Athens, Greece	International and European Studies	
MSc in Middle East Politics	2015	School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London, UK	MSc in Middle East Politics	
BSc in International and European Studies	2012	Panteion University, Athens, Greece	International and European Studies	



Employment history in Academic Institutions/Research Centers – List by the three (3) most recent				
Period of employment		Employer	Location	Position
From	To			
2024	2025	Neapolis University Pafos	Pafos, Cyprus	Associate Educational Staff (AES)
2024	2025	University of Thessaly	Volos, Greece	Adjunct Lecturer
2020	2024	Institution for Islamic Strategic Affairs (IISA)	London, UK and Dubai, United Arab Emirates	Consultant/Middle East Expert

Key refereed journal papers, monographs, books, conference publications etc. List the five (5) more recent and other five (5) selected –(max total 10)

Ref. Number	Year	Title	Other authors	Journal and Publisher / Conference	Vol.	Pages
1.	2026	Tracing diversity in Security Studies: evidence and insights from Greece and Cyprus	Eleni Gavriil, Stavros Drakoularakos, and Marina Eleftheriadou	<i>Critical Studies on Security</i>		1-30
2.	2026	The Colonial Paradox of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. [translated title from Greek]	Editor, Nikos Christofis	<i>Imperial Legacies: Violence and Conflict in the Middle East and the Eastern Mediterranean, Patras: University of Patras Press</i>	Ch. 3 in Edited Volume	89-119
3.	2026	(Editor) Economic Trends and Policy Responses in Times of Conflict and Global Instability.	Gavriil, Eleni, and Georgios A. Deirmentzoglou	IGI Global Scientific Publishing, IGI Global		
4.	2025	The Third way of Political Islam: The Hybrid identity of Hamas and Hezbollah [translated title from Greek]	Editor, Sotiris Roussos	<i>If God Wills: Political Islam, Minorities and International politics in the Middle East Athens, Ekosis ton Sinadelfon (Book)</i>	Ch. 3 in Edited Volume	89-119
5.	2023	Ontological Insecurity Theory: Christian 'Existential Anxiety' in Egypt and Lebanon	Drakoularakos, S., Petrodaskalaki; Editor, Sotiris Roussos	<i>From Pluralism to Extinction? Perspectives and</i>	Ch. 3 in Edited	45-74



				<i>Challenges for Christians in the Middle East, London: Transnational Press (Book)</i>	Volum e	
6.	2020	Syria's Foreign Policy in the Regional Penumbra		<i>Syrian Studies Association Bulletin</i>	vol.24, no.1	

Research Projects. List the five (5) more recent and other five (5) selected (max total 10)				
Ref. Number	Date	Title	Funded by	Project Role*
1	2023-2024	Erasmus+ : Diversity and Inclusivity in Security Studies – SECURING INCLUSION	Erasmus+ KA220-HED Cooperation partnerships in higher education (Project 80757)	Research Associate
2	2020-2023	“Christian Communities and Religious Pluralism in the Middle East: International Politics and Religion at the turn of the 20th and 21st Centuries”	Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation 1 st Call for Research Projects to support Faculty members and Researchers and the procurement of high-cost research equipment grant” (Grant Agreement Number: 1422) (HFRI)	Research Associate
3	2018-2020	“International Relations and Foreign Policy in the Middle East: PLO, Hezbollah, KRG”	State Scholarship Foundation (IKY): Operational Programme “Human Resources Development, Education and Lifelong Learning” in the project “Reinforcement of Doctoral Researcher – 2 nd Cycle” (Grant Agreement Number: 5000432)	Primary Researcher- PhD Candidate
4	2015-2016	“Greece’s Financial Aid to the Palestinian Authority: Goals, Aims and Means”	Onassis Foundation: 3rd annual Programme of research grants and educational scholarships co-financed by the European Social	Primary Researcher /Master's student



ΦΟΡΕΑΣ ΔΙΑΣΦΑΛΙΣΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΙΣΤΟΠΟΙΗΣΗΣ ΤΗΣ ΠΟΙΟΤΗΤΑΣ ΤΗΣ ΑΝΩΤΕΡΗΣ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΣΗΣ
CYPRUS AGENCY OF QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION



			Fund (ESF) and Greek National Funds (NSRF)	
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**Project Role: i.e. Scientific/Project Coordinator, Research Team Member, Researcher, Assistant Researcher, other*



Academic Consulting Services and/or Participation in Councils / Boards/ Editorial Committees. List the five (5) more recent (Optional Entry)				
Ref. Number	Period	Organization	Title of Position or Service	Key Activities
1	2010-present	Centre for Mediterranean, Middle East and Islamic Studies (CEMMIS)	Editor-in-Chief	Academic supervision of research activities and publications
2	2024-present	Neapolis University Pafos, MSc in International Relations, Strategy and Security (Greek/English)	Member of Diploma Theses Evaluation Committees	Supervision and Evaluation of Diploma Theses
3	2024-2025	Neapolis University Pafos	Academic Counselling	Counselling and guiding students



**Awards / International Recognition (where applicable). List the five (5) more recent and other five (5) selected.
(max total 10) (Optional Entry)**

Ref. Number	Date	Title	Awarded by:
1	6/2024	Travel Grant	CEEISA-ISA Joint International Conference, Rijeka, Croatia
2	9/2022	Conference Participation Grant, 15 th Pan-European Conference on International Relations (EISA), Athens, Greece	Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
3	11/2021	Travel Grant, 14 th Annual Conference, Association for the Study of the Middle East (ASMEA), Washington D.C., US	ASMEA
4	2006-2011	Granted Scholarship for Bsc in Panteion University	Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Other Achievements. List the five (5) more recent and other five (5) selected. (max total 10) (Optional Entry)			
Ref. Number	Date	Title	Key Activities:
1	3-5/3/2024	"The Middle East in a transitional multipolar world"	Keynote speaker, Al-Rafidain Center for Dialogue. 5th RCD Forum , Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Baghdad, Iraq
2	24/1/2023	"30 years after Oslo: Prospects for a two-State solution for Israel and Palestine"	Keynote speaker, European Parliament , Brussels, Belgium
3	14/11/2022	"Palestine: Between Scylla and Charybdis"	Lecture in Lecture series, Department of Procedures and Education of the Asylum Service, Hellenic Ministry of Migration and Asylum , Athens, Greece
4	19/10/2022	"Iran, the Gulf States and the Palestinian Issue",	Keynote speaker, Middle East Institute , Washington D.C., US
5	16/6/2022	"Old Neighbours, New Relations: Power Shifts in the Middle East after a decade from the Arab uprisings"	Keynote speaker, Rosa Luxemburg Foundation , Metula, Israel
6	24/05/2025	One-day Conference: The Kurdish Issue and the Developments in the Middle East	Organizer-Chair
7	21/10/ 2022	International Workshop on Christianity in the Middle East, Christianity in the Middle East, Athens, Greece,	Organizer- Speaker-Chair
8	30-31/10/ 2017	Second International Conference on "Religious and Cultural Pluralism and Peaceful Coexistence in the Middle East"	Co-Organizer with Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Athens, Greece
9	2016-2018	Intercultural Mediator, Fixer and Translator/Interpreter	



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		Film/documentary production companies (Show of Force, (US); KEO films/BBC (UK)	
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