
Mrs. Irena NIKAJ, PhD

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ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Professor in Social Sciences, University of Tirana, 2021

Associated Professor of Social Sciences, University of Tirana, 2004

PhD in Social Sciences, University of Tirana, 1997

M.Sc. in Political Sciences & Philosophy, University of Tirana, 1990

Diploma in Political Sciences & Philosophy, (9.3/10) University of Tirana, 1987

KEY SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Over 20 years of experience in teaching in bachelor and MSc level.
- Experience with supervisions of PHD students.
- Highly experienced and knowledgeable academic researcher at the national and international level.
- Author of several scientific monographs, books and textbooks
- Collaborative approach to work, working in teams towards delivering a research objective.
- Strong desire and ability to continuously learn new technologies and methodologies and keep up with the evolving field of Social Sciences.
- Strong in problem-solving, combining both a logical and innovative approach.
- Self-starter mentality, able to plan my workload based on the overall objectives.
- Strong time management skills and ability to plan and prioritize over multiple requests.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Sep 2000 – present Full time Lecturer University Fan S. Noli KORCA

Some of my main Subjects taught & Responsibilities are:

- Introduction to Sociology
- Philosophy & Sociology of Education
- History of Arts and Heritage
- Social Culture of Conscious and Education
- Research in the Sciences of Education
- Head of Education Department (2016-2020)

EDUCATION

- **1990-1997 PhD in Social Sciences**, Philosophy & Sociology Department, Faculty of Social Sciences UT (*Thesis Title: **Albanian social and philosophical thinking of 30^s Neo - Albanianism**. Thesis supervisor: **Prof. Zyhdi Dervishi**, Professor of Sociology, Philosophy & Sociology Department, Faculty of Social Sciences UT).*)
- **1988-1990, M.Sc. in Political Sciences & Philosophy**, Faculty of Social Sciences UT (*History of Philosophy, Modern Philosophy etc.*)
- **1983-1987, Political Sciences & Philosophy**, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Tirana (*History of Philosophy, Esthetics, Ethics, Empirical Sociology, Logic etc.*)

AFFILIATIONS & Awards

Most important affiliations:

Editorial member & Editor-In-Chief of Socrates Journal (2020 -now)

Member of Human Environment Culture Foundation based in Kastoria, Greece (2020-now)
Editorial member of Scientific Bulletin of University Fan S. Noli (2016 -now)
Editorial member of Sociological Lens (2011-now)
Member of the British Sociological Association (BSA) (2011-2023)
Editorial member of Sociological Analysis, UET Tirana (2009-2013)
Editorial member of Design Principals and Practices Journal (2009)
Member, Regional Head, Vice-President & President of Albanian Sociological Association (2007-now)
Member of organizing committee for international scientific conferences of Albanian Sociological Association (2007-now).

Awards:

Albania Excellence Price December - 2017 (Albania Excellence Organization)
Silver Medal October -2017 (University Fan s. Noli)
Honorable Teacher May – 1990 (Ministry of Education of Albania)

PUBLICATIONS

➤ **Scientific Papers**

Nikaj, I., Titili, D. (2024). Gender Pay Gap in Albania: Social and Cultural Aspects, *Balkan Social Science Review* Vol.23.

Nikaj, I. (2023). Social Theory and Modern Society in Social Networks, *Sociological Lens* 4 (No: 1), pp. 178-190.

Nikaj, I., Titili, D. (2023). Cultural and socio-economic sources of the gender pay gap in Albania, *Demographic Studies* 1, 68-85.

Nikaj, I, with co-author. (2023). Between rurality and urbanity: Indicators of social integration of Albanian rural to urban migrants. *European Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies*, 8(2), 30–41. Retrieved from <https://revistia.com/index.php/ejms/article/view/69481>.

Nikaj, I, with co-author. (2023). Cultural and socio-economic sources of the gender gap in Albania. *Demographic Studies Journal* (in Albanian), 2023/1, ISSN: ISSN:2308-6491

Nikaj, I. (2022). Comments on Greek ancient philosophy, the development of science and philological studies. UNIKO, ISBN: 978-9928-4568-8-5

Nikaj, I. (2021). The Sociological study of concept of generations: *Journal Demography*, Journal article, ISSN: ISSN:2308-6491

Nikaj, I. (2020). Principle of relevant knowledges in new century-International Scientific 1st Conference Early Childhood Education and care: Challenges and Perspectives, UNIKO June, ISBN 978-9928-4568-3-0.

Nikaj, I. (2020). Ideology, State and Law in Albania (1945-1990). Political Science Institute (ISP). Tirana, EMAL ISBN: 978-9928-4592-8-2.

Nikaj, I. (2020). Early Childhood Education in Albania: The Outcomes and New Perspectives in Korça's Region, *Proceedings of the 4th International Conference Education Across Borders*, Florina, Greece 2020, ISSN: 2241-8881.

Nikaj, I. (2019) Social Dimensions of Scientific Knowledge in the monograph "Sociology of Science 1" by Prof. Dr. Zyhdi Dervishi. *Nature and Culture III UNIKO*, ISSN: 2078-7111.

Nikaj, I. (2019). Expectations from Future Technologies and E-Learning in Higher Education in Albania. *Handbook of Mobile Teaching and Learning* (Zhang Y., Cristol D. (editors)). Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg. DOI https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-642-41981-2_43-2

Nikaj, I. (2019). Building the city (village) of the future with school, young children and families. *JOURNAL OF AWARENESS*, 4(3), 359-366. <https://doi.org/10.26809/joa.4.027>.

Nikaj, I with co-author. (2018) Remittances and Development: A local perspective on the impact of remittances in developing of sending communities. *International Journal of Scientific & Engineering Research* Volume 9, Issue 11, November-2018.

Nikaj, I with co-author. (2017). Challenges and transformations in higher Education in Albania, "Education and Cultural Heritage", Brussels.

Nikaj, I with co-author. (2016). Migration of population and urban development in the district of Korça after 1990-s. Scientific Bulletin of the University of Korca-Series of social sciences. Year XXI of Publication, No.31.

Nikaj, I. (2015). Expectations from Future Technologies and E-Learning in Higher Education in Albania. Handbook of Mobile Teaching and Learning. (Yu (Aimee) Zhang editors), Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg, ISBN: 978-3-642-41981-2 8.

Nikaj, I. (2012). Individual and Social Changes through Biographical Trajectories Article published in the scientific journal "Sociological Lens".

Nikaj, I with co-author. (2012). Migration and Culture: The Impact of Internal and International Migration on Women- Men Relationship. Journal of Educational and Social Research Volume 2(5), 251. <http://www.richtmann.org/journal/index.php/jesr/article/view/11957>.

Nikaj, I. with co-author. (2012). The Albanian Cultural and Social Welfare. Journal of Educational and Social Research, 2(6), 39. <http://www.richtmann.org/journal/index.php/jesr/article/view/12031>

Nikaj, I. (2011). Practical Issues of the Development of Research in Social Sciences in Albania to "The research in the social sciences and social policies in Albania", UET Press and Ombra GVG, Tirana.

Nikaj, I. with co-author. (2011). Progress and economic Performance (GDP), AKTET - Journal of Institute AlbShkenca, Volume 4, Issue 4, Social Science.

Nikaj, I. (2009). Education with Principles of Pluralism and the Albanian Tradition of Political Thinking. Design Collection: Design Principles and Practices: An International Journal, Volume 3, Issue 2, pp.355-366.

Nikaj, I. (2007). Albanian tradition of pluralism and political opinion-Journal of Social Studies. Institute of Sociology, Volume 1, No. 2.

Nikaj, I. (2005). The world of contradictions in the Neo-albanianism's vision, Journal Reconciliation, No. 1.

Nikaj, I with co-author. (2005). The economic and social diagnosis of highland. Bulletin No. 11 of University "Fan S. Noli", Series of applied sciences.

Nikaj, I with co-author. (2005). Some definitions of the relationship between quality of life and social environment in the local community. Bulletin No. 9 University "Fan S. Noli" Series of Applied Sciences.

➤ **Monography & Books**

Nikaj, I. (2023). Sociology of Education, Promo Print Publishing House 1, 220, 2nd Edition

Nikaj, I. (2023). Sociology. Tirana: Alb Paper Publishing House, ISBN: 99927-37-49-5, 4th Edition

Nikaj, I. (2013). Albanian Social and Philosophical Thinking of `30s-Neoalbanianism, Author House, Bloomington, IN 47403, and ISBN: 978-1-4772-8183-3, Library of Congress Control Number: 2012919701.

Nikaj, I. (2011). Social and Philosophical Thinking in Albanian of 1930-s-Neoalbanianism, 2nd Edition, Tirana: Alb Paper, ISBN: 978-9928-05-045-8.