

Gentian Elezi

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Instituti i Studimeve Evropiane, Rr. e Elbasanit, 1001, Tirana, Albania

EDUCATION

- 2015 **PhD in European Studies**
University of Sussex, United Kingdom
- 2007 **Master in European Politics**
University of Sussex, United Kingdom
- 2005 **Bachelor in Political Science / Applied Economics**
University of Milan, Italy

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2021 - present **Lecturer**
Institute of European Studies, University of Tirana
- 2016 - present **Consultant in EU affairs**
Freelance, International organisations
- 2016 - 2021 **Executive Director**
AGENDA Institute, Tirana, Albania
- 2018 - 2020 **Key Expert / Team leader**
ACIT Centre, Tirana, Albania
- 2017 - 2018 **Visiting Scholar**
University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
- 2017 - 2018 **National Consultant**
United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Albania
- 2013 - 2017 **Lecturer**
Department of Political Science, University of Tirana
- 2016 - 2017 **Senior Consultant - projects on EU integration and institution building**
Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF), Kosovo, www.kcsfoundation.org
- 2013 - 2016 **Vice Minister of European Integration**
Ministry of European Integration, Albanian Government
- 2009 - 2013 **Executive Director**
Albanian Centre for Competitiveness and International Trade, Albania, www.acit.al
- 2008 - 2011 **Lecturer of EU politics and Master program coordinator**
European University of Tirana, www.uet.edu.al
- 2005 - 2008 **Policy Analyst**
Institute of Contemporary Studies - USAID Albania, Economic and Trade project.

PERSONAL SKILLS

Languages English = Fluent (C2); Italian = Fluent (C2); Albanian = Native

Communication skills Very good communication skills gained through experiences as university lecturer, as think-tank director and institutional representative with third parties, and as participant in many public events (conferences, media interviews, trainings).

Organisational / managerial skills Very good organisational / managerial skills especially acquired and developed during experiences in high rank positions, such as Vice Minister, Executive Director, Team leader.

AWARDS AND BURSARIES

- Civil Society Scholar Award 2017 (OSI);
- Leadership Program Fellowship 2015 (The German Marshall Fund of the United States);
- Francois Duchene Award 2012 (European Movement, United Kingdom);
- Global Supplementary Fund Award 2012 (OSI);
- Alumni Award 2011-2013 (University of Sussex, UK);
- Chevening scholarship 2006-2007 (Foreign Commonwealth Office UK and OSI).

MAIN PUBLICATIONS

Elezi, G. (2019). [Western Balkans and the European Union](#). In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford University Press.

doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.1126>

Elezi, G. (2019). The Greater Europe: The European integration process of Albania and Kosovo (co-author), Policy paper, ACIT.

Elezi, G. and Toska, E. (2017) Rapping into power: The use of hip-hop in Albanian politics. In Miszcynski, M. and Helbig, A. (eds) *Hip Hop at Europe's Edge: Music, Agency, and Social Change*. Indiana University Press.

Elezi, G. (2017). Establishing the rule of law after communism: a comparative approach. *Polis*, No 16: 73-98.

Elezi, G. (2013) Weak Conditionality and Uncertain Membership Perspective: discussing EU integration of the Western Balkans. In F. Laursen (Eds). *EU Enlargement: Current Challenges and Strategic Choices*, P.I.E. Peter Lang, Brussels.

Elezi, G. (2012). Study on the impact of the Greek crisis in Albania, Policy paper, ACIT.

Elezi, G. (2012). The interaction between political parties and civil society organisations in Albania. *Polis*, No 11: 31-40.

Elezi, G. (2010) From Regional to European? Discussing the EU options and paths for trade liberalization and integration in the Balkans", *South East Europe Research*, Universum Institute for Economic and Social Studies.

Elezi, G. (2008). Post-communist democratization and the role of international actors, *International Journal Sociological Analysis*, Volume 2.

CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

"The new Enlargement methodology 2020: Failure of conditionality in the Western Balkans?". International conference on the European integration path of Albania, Institute of European Studies, University of Tirana, December 2020.

"The nationalisation of the EU enlargement policy", European governance and policy, open lecture, University of Sussex, UK, October 2017.

"The European Enlargement seen from Albania", seminar presentation held for the EU program at the University of Princeton, USA, May 2015.

"What goes wrong after *acquis* adoption? Explaining the implementation deficit of EU environment legislation in Albania." Paper presented in the workshop Environmental Governance in South East Europe and the Western Balkans: Reassessing the Transformative Power of Europe, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, February 2013.

"Transposition of EU directives: Mapping the implementation deficit in potential candidate countries", paper presented in the UACES Annual Conference, Passau, September 2012.

"Same regional model, different results: explaining integration differences between CEE and SEE", paper presented at the 4th ECPR Graduate Conference Jacobs University, Bremen, Germany, July 2012.

"Implementation without Coordination? The Role of Central Institutions of Non-member States in the EU Integration Process", paper presented at UACES 13th Annual Research Conference, Brussels, June 2012.

"The membership perspective in a troubled EU: discussing integration in the Western Balkans", paper presented at the 6th Annual European Union Centre of Excellence (EUCE) Conference, Dalhousie University, Canada, April 2012

"How to make your research 'visible' and influence the debate on public policy", presentation held at the GSGP conference, University of Cambridge, April 2012.

"The institutional dimension of European Integration: the case of Western Balkans" paper presented at the 'Albanosphere Forum II' in Prishtina, Kosovo, February 2012.

"The interaction between political parties and civil society organizations in Albania", Paper presented at the conference 'Albanian political parties: 20 years of pluralism', UET, Tirana, November 2011.

"The role of the European Union in the institution building process in Albania". Paper presented in the Conference 'EU and Albania: a political perspective', University of Tirana, 25 – 26 May, 2011.

"Complying with the EU from outside: the case of Albania". Paper presented at the Workshop '*Implementing EU External Policy in Non-Member States*', University of Bath, UK, 6 - 7 May 2011

"Discussing the deficiencies of the EU integration strategy in the Balkan region: the case of CEFTA", at the OSF Regional conference, Montenegro, March 2011.

"From Regional to European? Discussing the EU options and paths for trade liberalization and integration in the Balkans", *South East Europe Student Research Conference*, Universum Institute for Economic and Social Studies, Prishtina, May 2010.