

NINA ZHGHEINTI

PERSONAL DETAILS

Current Address: Via Muzio Attendolo Sforza 6
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E-mail: nzhgenti@gmail.com

Nationality: *Georgian*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Sociological theory/analysis, research methods, frame alignment, social anthropology, social movements, democratization, State-society relations, civil society role in developing countries.

KEY SKILLS

Research design, qualitative research methods/fieldwork/data analysis; practical and theoretical knowledge in methods such as structured/semi-structured interviews, focus groups, content analysis, participant observation, etc., writing and research skills, communication of research, research project management/administration, event management/organization, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, networking, ability to work with wide range of policy makers, academics and civil society representatives to influence policy and practice, IT skills: Software: MaxQda (qualitative data software), SPSS, MS Power Point, Excel, Word, etc.

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Russian (fluent), Georgian (mother tongue)

QUALIFICATIONS

- 10/2010-10/2013 University of Milan, Graduate School in Social, Economic and Political Sciences - Italy**
Phd Candidate in Sociology. Dissertation topic: *Democratization in the post-Soviet Countries*
 Courses: *Sociological Theories, Sociology of Culture and Communication, Qualitative Techniques for the Social Sciences, Applied Multivariate Analysis, Research Methods in Social And Political Sciences, etc.*
- 10/2007-09/2009 University of Oxford, St Hugh's College (Weidenfeld Scholarship awarded) - UK**
Msc in Sociology. Major: Social Movements
 Courses: *Methods of Social Research (Statistical Methods, Qualitative Methods, Research Design), Sociological Analysis, Social Movements*, Thesis: *Social Movements in Georgia: Why did People Mobilize on 2nd November, 2007?*
- 10/2000-06/2005 Educational Institute of Clinical, General and Applied Psychology - Tbilisi, Georgia**
 Diploma of Specialist (With Distinction). Thesis: *Formation of Gender Stereotypes of Professions in Children*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

05/2009-09/2010 UK-Georgia Professional Network – Tbilisi, Georgia

Position: **Civil Society Specialist**

Project: **Civil Society Enhancement in Public Finance Management** (supported by EC)

Duties: work with Georgian civil society and international organizations, *provide on-demand advocacy and research*, organize Platform for Debate events for the government and civil society (topic identification, workshops, research, report writing), design and deliver formal trainings, support conference on European Neighborhood Policy, research on the role of international organizations in developing countries, write project proposals, fundraising.

08/2008-11/2008 Crisis Action – London, UK

Position: **Intern: Advocacy and Research Assistant**

Duties: research – data collection, internet/background research and analysis, media analysis, supervision of meetings with international organizations (e.g. Amnesty International, Crisis Group, HRW, Oxfam, International Alert etc.), organization of conference call, note taking, support the coordination of leading international organizations in UK. Country expertise: Sudan, DRC, Rwanda and Ukraine.

09/2006-09/2007 Policy Research Center at Georgian Institute of Public Affairs – Tbilisi, Georgia

Position: **Researcher** (qualitative and quantitative research):

Projects: **Examining the Necessity for Affirmative Action for National Minorities in Georgia** (Eurasia Foundation), **Country Governance Analysis - Impact of Civil Service Reform** (DFID)

Duties: research design, archive and field research, analysis of qualitative/statistical data, liaison with the representatives of different Ministries/NGOs, coordination of interns'/volunteers' team, support final report (in English/Georgian)

10/2005-01/2007 ACT (Analysis and Consulting Team) - Tbilisi, Georgia

Position: **Project Coordinator**

Project: **Adolescent Reproductive Health Survey** (supported by Save the Children)

Duties: communication and collaboration with the client, coordination of project-related NGOs, coordination/supervision/evaluation of research team: labour division, recruitment of the interviewers for case study, etc., work with the team in research design, data collection, data processing, data analysis, write final research report (case study English/Georgian)

Position: **Analyst** (qualitative department)

Projects: **Examining the Necessity of Domestic Violence Law in Georgia** (supported by American Bar Association) and projects on Georgian/European Identity, Education, etc.

Duties: research design, data collection, data processing and analysis.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 02/2009 - to date Weidenfeld Alumni Network and Programme: Weidenfeld Alumni Newsletter (Eng.)**
Activities: editing newsletter, writing brief articles, providing on-demand research
- 10/2009 - to date Oxbridge Society in Georgia** - Tbilisi, Georgia
 Co-founder and Director. *Activities:* consulting, networking, development/practice debating skills in Georgian students, Organize/deliver lectures/trainings/seminars on the issues of local and international importance
- 09/2008-05/2009 Foreign Policy Centre** – London, UK
Activities: Preparing brief opinion articles on political and social issues in Georgia
- 12/2008-04/2009 EU/UNFPA co-funded project “Reproductive Health Initiative For Youth in the South Caucasus” (RHIYC)** – Tbilisi, Georgia. *Activities:* Preparing brief articles on the issue (in Eng)
- 12/2007-06/2008 University of Oxford** – Oxford
Sociological Puzzle Project: *Why American Sociology is more empirical than British Sociology?*. **Researcher** (worked in team as well as independently), *Work done:* research design/building dataset, read/analyze sociological articles, prepare final report
- 01/2008-05/2008 Institute for Strategic Dialogue – Weidenfeld Scholarship and Leadership Scheme**
Second Weidenfeld Speakers’ Series Discussion Panel: *Is the Future of Internet the Future of Knowledge?*. **Organizer.** *Work done:* topic identification, recruitment/communication of/with speakers, event promotion, management of invitations and catering services
- 10/2007-04/2008 Institute for Strategic Dialogue – Weidenfeld Scholarship and Leadership Scheme**
First Weidenfeld Speakers’ Series Discussion Panel: *Central and Eastern Europe: ‘Are Revolutions Contagious?’ ‘Successes and Failures of Civil Society in Democratic Transitions’*. Venue: European Studies Centre, St Antony’s College, University of Oxford. **Organizer.** *Work done:* topic identification, recruitment/communication of/with speakers, event promotion, management of invitations and catering services.
- 02/2008-04/2008 University of Oxford** - Oxford, UK
Research-based project about Sikhs’ religious group in Oxford
Researcher (independent work)
Work done: participant observation, in-depth interviews, write final report
- 04/2004-06/2004 Educational Institute of Clinical, General and Applied Psychology** - Tbilisi, Georgia
Charity Action: Group Therapy for Children
Assistant Psychologist (volunteer)
Duties: organization and conduct of psycho-diagnostic tests for children, arrangement of therapy groups according to age and psychological problems, assistance in group therapy.
- 04/2001-07/2003 Advice Centre for Women “Sakhli”** - Tbilisi, Georgia
Position: Assistant Psychologist (volunteer)
Duties: assistance in group therapies with domestic violence victims, support meetings and consultations with international/local organizations in the field of women violence, support proposals/reports, provide on-demand translations (from English to Georgian).

SHORT COURSES, WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS

- 2009** Series of Public Policy Workshops and Trainings by Curatio International Foundation. Tbilisi, Georgia
- 2009** Series of Policy Analysis and Advocacy Trainings-Seminars by Caucasus Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development. Tbilisi, Georgia
- 2009** Course on Europeanization of post-Soviet countries by Policy Research Centre. Tbilisi, Georgia
- 2008** Weidenfeld Scholarships Leaderships Seminar. Buxted Park Hotel in Buxted, East Sussex. UK
- 2008** “Sacred Buildings in the European City” course by Europium Summer School. Bonn, Germany
- 2008** M100 Sanssouci Colloquium: “Shifting Spheres of Influence and the future of Eurasia: Role of Media”. Potsdam, Germany
- 2008** “Conflict Resolution in Northern Ireland” Study Tour by Weidenfeld Institute/Northern Ireland Office: Peace Building Process. Belfast, NI
- 2007** Series of Research Methods Workshops and Trainings by Analysis and Consulting Team. Tbilisi, Georgia

PUBLICATIONS

- ‘Social Movements in Georgia’ (sole author. research paper in English) The Mobilization), needs to be revised and is expected to be published (TBC).
- ‘Safe Drive in Georgia’ (sole author. Policy Brief) CIPDD, January, 2010
- ‘To achieve wider Coverage on Youth Reproductive Health and Rights’ (sole author. article in Eng.) The Messenger, 05/2009
- ‘Georgia ...Pro-Western Country?’ (sole author. Blog article in Eng.), Foreign Policy Centre, March, 2009. UK
- ‘Repertory Grid Method’ (sole author), Marketing for Georgia, April, 2008 Tbilisi, Georgia
- ‘Prospects for Civil Service Reform: Ready, Willing and Able?’ (co-author. report in Eng.), Georgian Institute of Public Affairs for Eurasia Foundation, January, 2008, Tbilisi, Georgia
- ‘Examining the Necessity for Affirmative Action for National Minorities in Georgia’ (co-author. Research-based report in Eng.), Georgian Institute of Public Affairs for Eurasia Foundation, June, 2007, Tbilisi, Georgia
- ‘Formation of Gender Stereotypes of Professions in Children’ (co-author), Matsne, 03/2005, Tbilisi, Georgia