## Erjola Shaka

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

eriolas@gmail.com +355692162941 Tirana, Albania

#### **CERTIFIED FOR**

- First level trainer for Empowerment Self-Defence
- Trainer for Peer Educators
- Trainer for Trainers
- Violent Extremism in Albania

#### LANGUAGES

Albanian Native English

Full Professional Proficiency Italian

Full Professional Proficiency **Spanish** 

Limited Working Proficiency

## Translator/Interpreter

Since 2009 - Present

- 2022 Besteasy Language Technology Co., Ltd.: Corpus Project machine translation software development; (English to Albanian)
- **2018-Present** Fidel Softech PVT. LTD.: Translation of legal documents, educative, technical and medical information (English to Albanian);
- 2017-Present Delux Sfera Studios: Subtitling for TV series and movies;
- **2016-Present** Terre des Hommes: Volunteer for the translation of articles, manuals and other information regarding children and children's rights, ChildHub: Children Rights and Protection, (English to Albanian);
- August-September 2021 ESD Global: Translation of training materials and the training manual on social, emotional and physical empowerment and selfdefence (English-Albanian); Simultaneous translator during the trainings English-Albanian-English;
- **2017** Publishing House Albas: Translation of the book of M. Scott Peck, "Further Along the Road Less Travelled", (English to Albanian);
- September 2016-April 2017 SWAN-The Sex Workers' Rights Advocacy Network: Translator/Interpreter, Part of the international team for the writing of the "Report on the situation of sex workers in Albania, in particular of the transgender community";
- **June 2013** OSCE-ODIHR: Interpreter and part of the observing team for the 2013 parliamentary elections in Albania;
- 2011-2012 UNISON Agency Albania: TV Content, subtitling for featured films, documentaries, animations, etc.
- 2010-2011 Klik Ekspo Group Company, Tirana, Albania (Organizes international trade fairs, exhibitions, festivals and congresses) Translations English-Albanian/Albanian-English of documents and brochures for/of participating companies; Logistics, etc.
- 2009 2010 University of Prishtina: Translating from academic articles for the University of Prishtina, the Journal of Human Rights and Policy, (English to Albanian);

## First Level Instructor for ESD-Empowerment Self Defence, Researcher and Consultant for Gender Issues

ESD Aikido Albania and ESD Global, in collaboration with UN Women Albania and the Swedish Embassy

22/11/2020-Present, Tirana, Albania

- Researcher: Impact of piloting Empowerment Self-Defence in eight Albanian high school communities. This study will serve as input when evaluating a possible introduction of the methodology within the high school educational curricula.
- Peer Mentor Assistant for ESD graduates facilitating the mentoring process
- Teaching of Self-Defence techniques through psychological and physical empowerment for women/girls, young people and the community;

#### Consultant/Trainer

#### YMCA Tirana

10/2019 - Present, Tirana, Albania

- Management of a social enterprise, "TOK" Coffee Bar, supported by the "Y'Menette Club", Denmark within the framework of youth empowerment and employability;
- Capacity building of young people through training sessions on youth projects, youth participation and project implementation; Supervision of youth projects designed and implemented by young people;
- Psycho-social group discussions and informing sessions with older adults, within the framework of the National Plan on Aging; Drafting of a booklet on healthy ageing and intergenerational solidarity;
- Consultant and trainer on gender issues/equality and human rights; Drafting of training manuals and policy papers;
- Trainer on Violent Extremism and Young People;

#### **Network Coordinator**

## AFALC-Albanian Forum for the Alliance of Civilizations

01/2016 - 07/2017, Tirana, Albania

- Representation of the Albanian Network (Head of the Albanian Network of ANNA LINDH Foundation) during the ALF International Network Meetings and Forums:
- Coordination of the Albanian Network; Supervision of activities of the Network; Coordination of projects with and among Members of the Albanian Network;
- Research Assistant for "The teaching of the Civic Norms within the Religious

Educational Institutions in Albania – Madrasah";

## Researcher/Consulta nt

Associazione Rete Donne-Lavoro -

## Albanian branch Orkidea

03/2011 - 12/2013, Tirana, Albania

- Part of the working group for 'Evaluating services/policies/legislation on the rights of women and young girls and other gender issues in Albania; Drafting of the 'Manual on Gender Education in pre-University School Cycle and University Cycle';
- Training sessions with parents, teachers, educators, social worker and psychologists on gender issues/education;

#### Social Worker/Trainer and Peer Educator

#### **Action Plus**

11/2001 - 12/2007, Tirana, Albania

- Part of the working group for 'Evaluating services/policies/legislation on the rights of women and young girls and other gender issues in Albania;
- Drafting of the 'Manual on Gender Education in pre-University School Cycle and University Cycle';
- Training session with parents, teachers, educators, social worker and psychologists on gender issues/education;

## **SHORT-TERM JOBS**

## **Faculty Advisor**

YMCA Tirana in partnership with Cultural Connections for WIMUN Online Conference 2021

05/02/2021 - 14/02/2021

• Support for University Students during the WFUNA International Model of United Nations World Delegates members for the Health Assembly of the World Health Organization

## Staff Placement/Research Assistant

#### World YMCA

07/2019 - 09/2019, Geneva, Switzerland

 SDG Mapping within the YMCA's worldwide: Qualitative and quantitative research on the UN Sustainable Development Goals; collect and analyze data; Elaboration of the information into a database; working parallel with YMCA national movements on data collection:

## Country Research Leader for "One Million Voices", Albania World YMCA and YMCA Tirana

09/2018 - 01/2019, Oviedo, Spain

- One Million Voices, Country Report on Youth and Employment, Health, Environment, Spiritual Values and Civic Engagement (Research conducted by YMCA World Alliance); Part of the research team: "European Citizens - so Far, so Close!" Research on attitudes, expectations and perceptions of young people in Albania regarding the European Union and Albania's Candidate Status
- Drafting of a Training Manual: "Young Leaders Active Citizens" (supported by European Youth Foundation);
- Writing of Policy Papers ("Youth/Women Empowerment" and "Youth Education")

#### Freelance Researcher

#### **Action Plus**

02/2015 - 12/2015, Tirana, Albania

"The impact of treatment and needs for qualitative improvement of the services to drug use offenders in Probation Service." In collaboration with the Probation Services and the support of the European Commission.

#### **EDUCATION**

#### **GEMMA - MA in Women's and Gender Studies**

09/2017 — 09/2019

University of Bologna, Italy & University of Oviedo, Spain Master Thesis: "Women's Movements and Women's Involvement in the Process of Nation Building and Nationalism – The Case of Albania"

# **ERMA - MA in Human Rights and Democracy in South- East Europe**

10/2008 — 11/2009

University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina & University of Bologna, Italy

Master Thesis: "The Balkan Ghetto: Kosovo and its Struggle Toward Integration and Statehood"

#### **BA/MA Social Work**

Sep 1998 — Jul 2002

University of Tirana, Albania