

## Curriculum Vitae

### Personal information

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Name Kostadin Karavasilev  
 E-mail address kostadin.karavasilev@uni-muenster.de

### Education

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08/2021 – present      **Postgraduate studies (PhD)**  
*Anthropology*  
 Universität Münster, Germany  
Project: *Global Rights, Local Applications: Employing Legal Plurality in Human Rights (Legal) Advocacy/Activism in Bulgaria*  
 Supervised by Prof. Dr. Dorothea Schulz

10/2018 - 03/2021      **Graduate studies (M.A.)**  
*Anthropology*  
 University of Leipzig, Germany  
Thesis project: *Worlding mental illness diagnoses: The emergence of mental illness diagnoses through care practices and the shaping of practices, bodies, and subjects through mental illness diagnoses in Bulgaria*  
 Supervised by Prof. Dr. Ursula Rao and PD Dr. Claudia Lang

09/2014 – 06/2018      **Undergraduate studies (M.A.)<sup>1</sup>**  
*Psychology with German (First-class diploma)*  
 University of Aberdeen, UK  
Thesis project: *More than a metaphor: The effect of textual and visual metaphors in health messages aimed at reducing mental illness stigma in the student population*  
 Supervised by Dr. Dannette Marie

10/2015 – 09/2016      **Erasmus + Exchange**  
 Institute of Cognitive Sciences (Institut für Kognitionswissenschaft)  
 University of Osnabrück, Germany  
Main foci: Social Psychology, Psychology of Language, Cognitive Psychology

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<sup>1</sup> Master of Arts (M.A.) degrees in humanities and social sciences are typically awarded to undergraduate students in Scottish universities considered ‘ancient’ such as the University of St Andrews and the University of Aberdeen.

## Academic Employment

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- 08/2021 – present      **Junior Research Fellow (Scholarship)**  
*Käte Hamburger Kolleg, “Einheit und Vielfalt im Recht“*  
 Universität Münster, Germany  
Project: *Global Rights, Local Applications: Employing Legal Plurality in Human Rights (Legal) Advocacy/Activism in Bulgaria*
- 09/2020 – 03/2021      **Research Assistant (Wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft)**  
*University of Leipzig, Germany, Institute of Anthropology*  
 Srividya Balasubramanian (M.A.)  
 Thematic analyses of fieldnotes, literature search, transcribing recordings, proof-reading texts and providing other relevant research assistance to a PhD student conducting research on e-governance in India
- 05/2020 – 08/2020      **Teaching Assistant (Wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft)**  
*University of Leipzig, Germany, Institute of Anthropology*  
 Dr. Arne Harms  
 Leading the English language seminar for the B.A. course *Körper, Verwandtschaft, Geschlecht* (Body, Kinship, Gender) at the Department of Anthropology, summer semester 2020
- 10/2019 – 12/2019      **Student Assistant (Wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft)**  
*University of Leipzig, Germany, Institute of Anthropology*  
 Prof. Dr. Ursula Rao  
 Assistance in archiving books, planning, and organising the renovation of the student room at the Institute of Anthropology
- 05/2019 – 08/2019      **Student Assistant (Wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft)**  
*University of Leipzig, Germany, Institute of Anthropology*  
 Dr. Arne Harms  
 Organisational and research-related assistance to a lecturer and researcher at the Institute of Anthropology
- 09/2016 – 03/2017      **Research assistant**  
*University of Aberdeen, UK, School of Psychology*  
 Dr. Rachel Swainson  
 Recruiting participants, carrying out measurements, data analysis, assistance in conceptualising the experiment and in editing the journal article written on the experiment

## Internships

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- 05/2017 – 07/2017      **Summer research internship**  
*University of Aberdeen, UK, School of Psychology*  
 Supervised by Dr Dannette Marie

## Publications

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- 08/2022 Karavasilev, K. (2023, August 1). Review of the book *Activist Affordances: How Disabled People Improvise More Habitable Worlds* by Arseli Dokumaci. *LSE Review of Books*.  
<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/lsereviewofbooks/2023/08/01/book-review-activist-affordances-how-disabled-people-improvise-more-habitable-worlds-arseli-dokumaci/>
- 06/2021 Karavasilev, K. (2021). Narrating Intersex Experiences: Breaking The Silence Surrounding Sex, Voicing and Eliciting Trauma, and (Re)Shaping Boundaries of Belonging. In D. Georgiev & D. Nencheva (Eds.), *Sex and Gender. Between the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Legal Studies* (pp. 164-190). Scribens Publishing House.
- 07/2020 Каравасилев, К. (2020). Как се представя семейство?: Ролята на естетиката за възприемането на семействата на еднополови двойки с деца (in Bulgarian) [Karavasilev, K. (2020). How to Display a Family?: The Role of Aesthetics in Perceiving Same-Sex Families with Children]. Online publication: [https://logos.uni-plovdiv.net/documents/35514/508268/2020\\_PU\\_Stud\\_sreshti\\_2019.pdf/8f238136-e3ef-4502-9824-348b7e1f514d](https://logos.uni-plovdiv.net/documents/35514/508268/2020_PU_Stud_sreshti_2019.pdf/8f238136-e3ef-4502-9824-348b7e1f514d)
- 10/2019 Swainson, R., Prosser, L., Karavasilev, K., & Romanczuk, A. (2019). The effect of performing versus preparing a task on the subsequent switch cost. *Psychological research*, 1-20.

## Conferences and presentations

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- 27-28/06/2024 (upcoming) Workshop: *Notes from the Margins: Human Rights-Related Activism, Advocacy, and Humanitarianism in Southeast Europe* (co-organiser with Prof Dorothea Schulz and Käte Hamburger Kolleg, Münster)
- 27-29/04/2023 *Caring about rights: Rights advocates challenging (socio-political) notions of care for people with disabilities in Bulgaria* (Paper presentation)  
 In the Frictions: Fragments of Care, Health and Wellbeing in the Balkans, University of Zadar, Croatia
- 01-02/09/2022 *Using Human Rights to Challenge Legal Incapacitation of People with Mental Illnesses and Intellectual Disabilities in Bulgaria* (Paper presentation)

- Narrating Europe’s Pluralities: Unity, Diversity, and Exceptionality (Workshop), Münster, Germany
- 22/01/2021 *Worlding mental illness diagnoses in Bulgaria* (Presentation of finished MA thesis)  
Biannual Anthropology Research Day  
Faculty of Anthropology, University of Leipzig, Germany
- 29/05/2020 *CareTurned-Exclusion?: How Medical Documents (Re-)Assemble Subjects With a Mental Illness Diagnosis in Bulgaria* (Paper presentation)  
Biannual Anthropology Research Day  
University of Leipzig, Faculty of Anthropology
- 29-30/11/2019 *Как се представя семейство?: Ролята на естетиката за възприемането на семействата на еднородни двойки с деца* [*How to Display a Family?: The Role of Aesthetics in Perceiving Same-Sex Families with Children*] (Paper presentation) (Студентски Етноложки Среци [Student Ethnographic Encounters], Пловдивски университет, България, Философско-исторически факултет [University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria, Faculty of Philosophy and History])

### Grants and Awards

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- 09/2019 – 03/2020 **Erasmus + Grant** for doing MA research-related activities in Bulgaria
- 06/2018 **Henry Prize-Philosophy award for high performance in the final year of studies** (highest GPA in cohort)  
University of Aberdeen, School of Psychology
- 05-07/2017 **Summer Studentship Award**  
University of Aberdeen, School of Psychology
- 10/2015-09/2016 **Erasmus + Grant** for an academic exchange year at the University of Osnabrück

### Extracurricular activities

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- 11/2018 – 09/2019 **Volunteering with Studenten Tutoren (Student Tutors)**  
Studentenwerk, University of Leipzig, Germany  
I took part in planning, organising, and attending different student events aimed to provide opportunities for new and international students to meet and socialise
- 08/2017 – 05/2018 **Volunteering at Momentum Skills**  
Aberdeen, UK

Working with young adults and adults with mental illness diagnoses and other related conditions towards developing skills needed for reintegration in the work environment

2016 - 2018

**Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) – PAL leader**

University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK

Helping first-year psychology students with questions they have regarding their course content, conceptualising, and organising events for the students

2014 - 2018

**German Drama Group**

University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK

Took part in staging German-language plays both as an actor and as part of the stage design and audio-visuals team

06- 08/2015

**Volunteer research assistant**

University of Aberdeen, UK, School of Psychology

Participant recruitment and data collection for a project on emotion recognition. Leader of the project – Dr Margaret Jackson.

06-08/2015

**Volunteer with Royal Voluntary Service**

Aberdeen, UK

Helping out at a weekly activities club for elderly people who have suffered a stroke.

**Other relevant employment**

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10/2016 – 07/2018

**Deputy Team Leader and Outreach support worker  
Grampian Autistic Society, Aberdeen, UK**

Providing care and individualised support to children and young people on the autistic spectrum and related conditions. Assisting the children and young people in the process of socialising with other service users and supporting them in developing life skills and pursuing their interests.

**Skills and qualifications**

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Languages

Bulgarian – mother tongue  
English – fluent (C2)  
German – advanced (B2/C1)  
Russian – intermediate (B1)

Communication

Intercultural training (8<sup>th</sup> December, 2018, Leipzig, Germany)

Other

Training ‘Social work and human rights’ („Социална работа и човешки права“, 10-12<sup>th</sup> October, 2022, Sofia, Bulgaria)