



Name: Giorgos Gritzas

Position: Assistant Professor

Subject: Geography

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Studies

PhD in Geography (2004) (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)
Engineer (1992) (University of Patras)

Research Interests

Key words:

Geography, Diverse economies, Alternative economic and political spaces, Social and solidarity economy, Spatial development

Description:

Diverse economies. Performativity. Community economies. Alterity. Autonomous Geographies. Alternative spaces and the role of the: place, scale, circuits of value, social movements and state in their emergence, formulation, longevity. Alternative spaces and social innovation / creativity
Alternative approaches of development (degrowth, postdevelopment). Localization, globalization and local development. Eco-communities, eco-villages.
The role of social and solidarity economy in spatial development. Productive cooperatives, agriculture cooperatives, consumer cooperatives. Social enterprises. Community supported agriculture. Ethical trade. Alternative food networks. Alternative exchange networks, local – community – complementary currencies, time banks, the gift economy. Ethical banks, microfinance, credit unions. Community management of: waste, renewable sources of energy, water. Commons. Peer-to-peer production.

Teaching (Courses)

Graduate level

School of Spatial Planning and Development, Faculty of Engineering, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Greece:

- Geography and issues of development / planning
- Planning of spatial development
- Geography and alternative spaces / policies
- Geography and policy making

School of European Culture Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Hellenic Open University, Greece

- General Geography, Human Geography and Material Culture of Europe

Post-graduate level (till 2010)

Program: “Techniques and methods in analysis, planning and management of space”, Department of Surveying Engineers, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

- Space and Economy (as collaborative lecturer)

Supervision of graduate theses on: geography, degrowth, postdevelopment, alternative spaces, social and solidarity economy.

Collaborative Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University, Department of General Geography, Human Geography and Material Culture of Europe, School of European Culture Studies, Faculty of Humanities

Recent Publications

- Gritzas, G., Kavoulakos, K. I., (under review **commissioned paper**) “Diverse economies and alternative spaces. An overview of approaches and practices” state of the art paper, *European Urban and Regional Studies*, 00.
- Kavoulakos, K.I., Gritzas, G. (2013) “Alternative spaces and the role of academy” proceedings of the conference “Transformations of space and its meaning in Greece amid crisis” organized by school of Architecture of the Thessaly's University, Volos, 1-3 November Νοεμβρίου 2013 ISBN 978-960-9439-26-8 (University of Thessaly Publications)
- Gritzas, G., Kavoulakos, K.I., Amanatidou, E. (2013) “The alterity of alternative exchange networks and the role of localness” πρακτικά του International Conference on “Changing Cities: Spatial, morphological, formal & socio-economic dimensions”, pre-organised session chaired by Lecturers G. Gritzas, and K. Kavoulakos “Collective ventures, solidarity economy and the urban space”, Skiathos island, Greece, 18-21 June 2013, οργάνωση: Lab of Urban Morphology and Design, Dept. of Planning & Regional Development, Faculty of Engineering, University of Thessaly, ISBN 978-960-6865-65-7 (Grafima Publications)
- Kavoulakos, K.I., Gritzas, G., Amanatidou, E. (2013) “How alternative is the alternative exchange networks? The role of information and communication technologies (ICT)” πρακτικά του 14ου Mediterranean Research Meeting, 9ο workshop “Social Media, Urban Movements and Grass-Roots Creativity in the Mediterranean during the Crisis”, 20-23 Μαρτίου 2013 Mersin, Turkey, οργάνωση: Mediterranean Programme του Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies στο European University Institute στη Φλωρεντία, σε συνεργασία με το Mersin University
- Gritzas G., Kavoulakos, K.I., Amanatidou, E. (2012). “Alternative spaces in Greece in the era of crisis. Some principles for classification and evaluation of “alterity”” proceedings of ERSA (European Regional Science Association) conference, 1-2 July, 2012, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and University of Macedonia, Greece (in Greek)
(https://plandevel.web.auth.gr/ERSA_GR_CONF_2012/papers/Gritzas_et_al_paper.pdf)
- Lazoglou, M., Gritzas, G. (2012). “Interrogating the grade of “europeanisation” of the structure and philosophy of the local planning in Greece, through the case study of Interreg” proceedings of 3rd conference on spatial planning and development, Volos, University of Thessaly, School of Spatial Planning and Development (in Greek) ISBN 978-960-9439-13-8 (University of Thessaly Publications), 978-960-6865-52-7 (Grafima Publications)
- Alexandridis, T.K., Katagis, T., Gitas, I.Z., Silleos, N., Eskridge, K.M., Gritzas, G. (2010) "Investigation of aggregation effects in vegetation condition monitoring at a national scale." *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*: 507-521
- Gritzas G. (2008) “Population and Immigration from the 16th to 20th century: Population Geography of Europe in historical perspective” in Leontidou, L (ed)

“European Geographies. Technology and Culture” Patra: Hellenic Open University (in Greek)

- Tzoutzia, E., Katopi, M., Mpakola, N., Gialis, S., Gritzas, G. Mitzias, G. (2008). “The ambiguous contribution of alternative enterprises in removing the isolation of places in Epirus: the case of Konitsa and the Western Zagorion in Epirus” proceeding of the 10th National Conference of Cartography, 12-14 November, Ioannina, Greece (in Greek).

Recent research activity:

2013- “Alternative economic spaces in Greece at the era of crisis”. Financed by research committee of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Membership

Member of conferences’ scientific board and organizing committees
Member of the Greece Chamber of Engineers.