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## **TEACHER-STUDENT COMMUNICATION AS A MOTIVATING FACTOR IN SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION**

**Msc. Armanda Xhani Baça**  
**aarmi98@gmail.com**

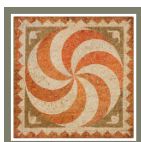
### **Abstract**

This study aims at assessing communication as a motivating factor. This study aims to present theories about teacher-student communication and motivation; it will analyze the interdependence between teachers and students.

A naturalistic case study was adopted as the research methodology. There are three reasons for the use of case study in this study. Firstly, as the nature of realities is complicated and contextually constructed, a naturalistic case study provides room for more value-bound inquiry. Secondly, case study allows a variety of means of data collection, both quantitative and qualitative; it is not confined to any one source. Thirdly, this study aims at providing a source of evidences to support existing theory, motivation theory and the role of teacher in motivating students.

This study was undertaken “Gjergj Kastrioti” high school in Durres, Albania. There were interviewed 10 teachers and 30 students. Students were interviewed at random, according to their level, or grade. To realize the study is used a semi-structured interview with teachers and students. Through it emerged that there are differences between status and interdependence of teachers and students, and such communication. Lastly, we will give recommendations in improving teacher student communication in order to increase student motivation to learn.

**Keywords:** Factor, motivation, teacher, student, communication



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ALBANIAN STUDIES DAYS  
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## **A MOTHER (IN-LAW) LAND APPROACH TO THE SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN KOSOVO DURING 1997**

**Dr. Anjeza Xhaferaj**

**Department of Applied Social Sciences**

**European University of Tirana**

**Anjeza.xhaferaj@uet.edu.al**

**Dr. Irena Myzeqari**

**Department of Human Sciences and Communication**

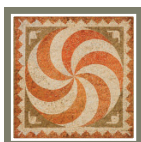
**European University of Tirana**

**Irena.myzeqari@uet.edu.al**

### **Abstract**

The aim of this paper is to explore how the student demonstrations of 1997 were portrayed in the Albanian national press of the time. By using Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) the authors examine how the 1997 demonstrations were represented in the front pages, headlines and articles of the few independent newspapers of the time and in the party press. We explore the process of news making under the influence of EU and regional relationships with Albania's neighboring countries. The news reports are analyzed linguistically in terms of frame work, transitivity, sourcing and lexical choices to evaluate whether there are consistent themes, how discourse is connected with the domestic, regional and international context and whether demonstrations are described under the veil of an extreme nationalism. The contention here is that the Albanian EU integration objective, the collapse of the pyramid investments schemes in 1997, domestic politics and journals' political affiliation defined the boundaries of how student protests in Kosovo were represented in the Albanian press. Rather than covering the students' protests, the party press and the 'independent' newspapers affiliated with one or the other party, served as the space where the political parties and the political actors attempted to establish themselves as a source of stability in the region and to attack the opponents for failures in the country's foreign policy and the national question.

**Key words:** media, nationalism, foreign policy, domestic politics, protests



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## THE ROLE OF JOURNALISTS IN THE INTERPLAY WITH POLITICIANS IN ALBANIA

**Prof. Ass. Dr. Belina Budini**  
**Department of human Sciences and Communication**  
**European University of Tirana**  
**Belina.budini@uet.edu.al**

### Abstract

The relationships between journalists and politicians are multifold and not easily grasped in societies undergoing transformations in the transition process towards democracy. This paper discusses the role of journalists in the interplay with politicians in Albania, including the journalism's role in holding power to account. Media and democracy studies are the theoretical background for the study of both players through identification of the most important elements of journalism for the functioning of a democratic society. This paper shall further elaborate the journalism performative role in terms of power balances, professional and democratic risks as unfolded in public displays and the media rituals. The methodology of the study is based on systematic empirical analysis and builds on structured and semi-structured interviews with prominent Albanian journalists. The paper draws on critical professionalism thesis and how such roles have developed during the democratic transition period in Albania about the political context and the degree of political conflict, as well as developments of the media. Finally, this paper shall draw comparisons to other transitional democracies in the region of the Western Balkans.



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## **INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION: TEACHER PERSPECTIVE**

**MSc. Dritan Idrizi**

**Department of Human Sciences and Communication**

**European University of Tirana**

**dritan.idrizi@uet.edu.al**

### **Abstract**

This paper will reveal how ICT is used for planning lessons and organizing the study process from the teacher's perspective. Information Communication Technologies are a set of digital approaches and tools which make possible the creation, collection, conversion, reproduction, procession and diffusion of the information. Teachers' professional development for ICT integration in education has evolved since the time ICT was introduced in education. The development of technical skills and technological knowledge has been a real challenge.

Teachers have the tendency to use both ICT and traditional teaching methods. Blended learning has spread a lot during the last years. This is another process that requires the needed attention and will be part of this research paper.

It is important to mention that the purpose of Information and Communication Technologies is: defining, communicating, sharing information, and this all is assured by various ICT devices although the class setting has other challenges as well.

The digital era has nearly transformed every way of life. Young people use these tools to communicate, network, study and access information which nowadays can be found in different languages and translated through ICT tools.

Teachers are the mentors and at the same time, in charge to approach students with the same channels they use to communicate and acquire knowledge. The findings of the research will give a better perspective of the new approach of the application of this new teaching methods and also the blend between traditional teaching and modern teaching. The results and figures that will come out of this study will be analyzed and will be compared with similar studies in order to see the change in time of the use of ICT in the classroom.



## **PERSONALITY TRAITS AND HEALTH-RELATED LOCUS OF CONTROL AMONG ALBANIAN TEACHERS**

**Dr. Elsida Sinaj**

**Department of Psychology, Education and Sports**

**European University of Education**

**Elsida.sinaj@uet.edu.al**

**Prof. Assoc. Dr. Erika Melonashi**

**Department of Psychology, Education and Sports**

**European University of Education**

**Erika.melonashi@uet.edu.al**

**MSc. Rovena Lika**

**Department of Psychology, Education and Sports**

**European University of Education**

**Rovena.lika@uet.edu.al**

### **Abstract**

**Background** The impact of personality traits on health behaviors has been widely investigated in Health Psychology research. In this context it has been proposed that traits influence behavior through their relationships with health related locus of control. For instance traits such as conscientiousness relate to internal locus of control, and ultimately to more healthy behaviors. **Aim of study** The present study aimed to investigate relationships between Big Five Personality Traits and Health Related Locus of Control among Albanian teachers. Teachers represent an important target group for investigation of health-related patterns particularly because of the impact they have on attitudes and behaviors of youth. **Methodology** The study sample consisted of 243 teachers, 195 women and 46 men, with a mean age  $M_{age}=42.8$  years,  $SD=9.5$  years. **Measuring instruments:** the Big Five Inventory (John & Srivastava, 1990) was used to measure personality traits while the MHCL scale (Wallston 2007) was used to measure Health Related Locus of Control. **Procedure:** Data collection was completed through standard paper-and-pencil procedures. **Results** External locus of control was positively correlated with extraversion,  $r=.41$ ,  $p<.01$  and neuroticism  $r=.38$ ,  $p<.01$  while negatively correlated with conscientiousness  $r=-.44$ ,  $p<.01$ . Internal locus of control was positively correlated only with openness to experience,  $r=.24$ ,  $p<.05$ . No gender differences were found in terms of either personality traits or health-related locus of control. **Conclusions** Findings are in line with existing research, suggesting the relevance of personality dimensions such as conscientiousness and openness to experience for positive health-related behaviors, and also have practical implications in terms of suggesting directions for teacher training programs.



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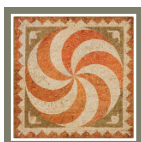
## **THE EFFECTS OF NEW COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES ON TEENAGERS: THE CASE STUDY OF COMPUTER GAMES**

**Msc. Erisela Marko**  
**Department of Human Sciences and Communication**  
**European University of Tirana**  
**erisela.marko@uet.edu.al**

### **ABSTRACT**

This study investigates the effects of computer games on teenagers in Famagusta. Most games are inspired from other media as books, TV, films, etc. For this kind of media entertainment, the term 'passive entertainment' is used. However, computer games and video games are considered as 'interactive entertainment'. Computer games are interactive because they make people to feel that they are inside the story. 400 teenagers, 200 boys and 200 girls participated in this research from four different schools in Famagusta, Turkish Republic of North Cyprus. Two of the schools are high schools and two others are secondary schools. Each participant completed a questionnaire with 35 closed-ended questions. The data were collected and analyzed by using SPSS 10.00 program. Using the data gathered with the questionnaire, whether playing computer games affects the children's school performance; whether decreases their participation on social activities; whether evokes aggressive behavior; and whether causes the feeling of loneliness is discussed.

Key words: computer games, behavior, new communication technologies, media



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ALBANIAN STUDIES DAYS  
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## **EU-INTEGRATION DEMOCRATIZATION AND MINORITY CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION POST-MODERNIST MUSEOLOGY PERSPECTIVES FROM ALBANIA**

**Assoc. Prof. Konstantinos Giakoumis**  
**Department of Applied Arts**  
**European University of Tirana**  
**Konstantinos.giakoumis@uet.edu.al**

### Abstract

Using a case-study of Albania, as a country in transition towards European integration, with a control case of Sweden and Ireland, two EU member-state, the paper aspires to demonstrate that minority cultural heritage protection and promotion goes hand-by-hand with democratic consolidation in the context of the European Union integration process, thereby contributing to our understanding of how international forces affect matters of the sort. The paper builds on my work on “The Policy of Non-Discrimination and the Protection of Minority Cultural Heritage in Albania” published in the International Journal of Cultural Policy. At this stage, I am juxtaposing my findings with the stock of European integration and democratization literature to identify its successes and/or failures vis-à-vis minority cultural heritage protection, as well as compare and contrast minority cultural heritage mediation and promotion museological strategies and tactics in EU member-countries with cultural heritage mediation and promotion strategies in Albania. In a nutshell, the paper demonstrates:

- 1.1. What the stock of the European integration literature provisions for the protection and promotion of minority cultural heritage.
- 1.2. How international forces affect Albania’s cultural politics in reference to minority cultures and heritage.
- 1.3. What best museological practices EU-members countries apply in the direction of minority cultural heritage protection and promotion.
- 1.4. How these practices compare with current Albanian museological reality.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHERS AFFECTS THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF CHILDREN.**

**Msc. Klotilda Jaupi**

**European University of Tirana  
klotilda.jaupi@yahoo.com**

### **ABSTRACT**

The object of this study is the identification of the difficulties that the teachers and headmasters face during the exercise of their profession in the three last years.

The method used is: Structured questionnaire that supply us with quantity and qualitative data on teaching methodology, administration, planning, and the legal framework. The participants in the questionnaire include 50 headmasters and 100 teachers from the rural and urban areas in the city of Fier, Albania.

The results: A high percentage of the teachers and the headmasters display difficulties in planning a lesson and annual lesson planning, teachers exhibit difficulty in implementing the curriculum-based in competences in their subjects. They exhibit difficulty in applying the curriculum to their classes because it requires didactic base to be realized. Problems also appear in formulation of concrete situations relating to the topic, based on the learning results of the topic. Also an immediate need for professional development is seen in the area of evaluation of pupils, in formulation of core competences and key competences. Teachers use the same lesson plan for different classes even if they aren't use based in the needs and interests of students and the way how they learn better. 35% of the teachers present difficulties in the interpretation of the laws and regulations. 60% appear with difficulties in the assessment of the pupils according to the standards of the pupils evaluation of learning. 65 % of the teachers break the principals of the ethic code. 23% of them display difficulties in the management of the class.

Conclusion: Headmasters and teacher knowledge in planning lessons are higher in urban areas compared to rural areas. Teachers in rural areas still implement the traditional teaching and learning methodologies and have a lot of difficulties in using the new standards of curricula, learning through competences. Almost all the participant in the questionnaire assert the necessity of training for the improvement of the quality of teaching, especially in designing individual plans for gifted students and those with special learning disabilities, too.

Key words: professional development, teaching and learning methodology, administration, planning, legal framework.





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## **POLITICAL CONFLICT AS A SOLUTION**

**Klementin Mile, PhD**

**Department of Human Sciences and Communication**

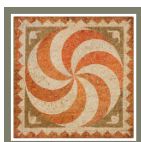
**European University of Tirana**

**[klementin.mile@uet.edu.al](mailto:klementin.mile@uet.edu.al)**

### Abstract

Albanian politics is customarily characterised as producing tension and conflict to serious degrees. There is also the critique that part of this conflict is entirely artificial (i.e. not occasioned by objective reasons that one can find in the reality of society) and could have, therefore, not been generated at all in the first place. This description of politics certainly has its merits, since it directs our attention to a problem that seems to bring along other problems for the society. However, one can also view the production of tension and conflict as solution to a problem, even though this might only be a political problem. Then, this problem runs the risk of not receiving any attention, for all attention is focused on the solution; it remains latent and, because of this, highly productive in undesirable consequences. Here we will use another viewpoint in order to elucidate the phenomenon of political conflict as well as to provide guidelines for solution.

Keywords: conflict, semantics, Luhmann, power, democracy



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## COMPOSITIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF TRADITIONAL DRESS IN ALBANIA

**Dr. Silvana Nini**

**European University of Tirana**

**silva\_nini@yahoo.com**

### Abstract

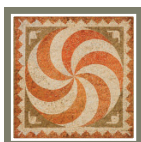
The history of the Albanian traditional dress cannot be seen as a history disconnected from the civilizations of the time, or from the developments in the Balkans, in Europe, in the Byzantine and in the Ottoman Empire. Looking back on the traditional dress history of Albania, the main influences that made this dress, we will see step by step how this outfit has been shaped over time, how this process has been done, and we will understand it.

The dress forms that took place in the Mediterranean area during the period of early Christianity were based on the “dalmatika” tunic, which remained in the popular costume as a shirt.

During the fifteenth century, although the Byzantine influence vanished, its color elements, embroideries, ornaments and even the elements of form will leave their marks in later popular costumes. In the 17th century the oriental features of Ottoman fashion became quite noticeable.

As a result of numerous traders, economic and cultural exchanges, there was also a spread of the oriental fashion in Albanian cities. In the rural population, the influence of oriental fashion was more limited, due to their distance from the city centers, and due to the taste of the local inhabitants, their lifestyle and economic level. The traditional dress was a harmonious part of the environment where it was used and it has been highly preferred throughout the nineteenth century. At the end of the nineteenth and early twentieth century major changes took place in the Albanian society. The Industrial development, the growth of production in the capitalist society, respectively in the Western world, made possible the circulation of quite a number of manufactured items in our country. Over time, the distances between the various areas were reduced and they were no longer isolated. It was a time of lifestyle changes and clothing as well.

**Key words:** traditional dress, compositional development of traditional dress, city traditional dress, rural traditional dress, elements of traditional dress



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## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION THROUGH COMMUNICATION

**Msc. Vahidije Kadiu**  
**Department of Human Sciences and Communication**  
**European University of Tirana**  
**vahidije.kadiu@uet.edu.al**

### Abstract

Teaching is considered as one of the most important profession in that life. Of all jobs or careers in that world none of them would be possible without teachers. Teaching is a profession that can yield something amazing when the right ideas and beliefs are implemented in the class. The purpose of teaching is not to teach students how to memorize facts, or how to know all the correct answers. The purpose of teaching lies in getting students to truly understand the concepts being examined. All students are capable of learning and all have something to contribute. Schools are places where student's behavior and future educational success is shaped. Teachers are people of either positive or negative behavior toward students. The overall purpose of teaching is to guide students in their direction for the future. If a teacher shows a student that learning is fun, then hopefully this student will see the importance of learning. The key for a good education begins with the teacher. What is important is the fact that teaching is an art based on techniques and strategies. The aim of this paper is to study the appropriate techniques and strategies on foreign language acquisition. To achieve this aim, I made a survey at the "European University of Tirana". The sample was 100 students of the BA Degree and two English Lectures. The instrument used was questionnaire for student and semi-structure interview for Lecturers. The results are based on Descriptive analyses. Lecturers say that based on their practice the best way of a foreign language acquisition is through communication. They also stressed the fact that they should co-relate four skills for an effective class.