

## Filka Sekulova

### Education:

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- 2009 – 2013      PhD: *On the Economics of Climate Change and Happiness*, ICTA, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
- 2007 - 2008      Masters degree in Spatial, Transport, Regional and Environmental Economics, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2004 – 2007      Bachelor degree in Economics, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 1998 – 2002      Bachelor degree in Psychology, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Bulgaria

### Academic positions and affiliations:

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- 2013 – ongoing    Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Institute for Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA) - Senior researcher
- Researcher on the success factors of community-based initiatives in the field of sustainability, part of the European research project TESS
- Organizer of an academic summer school on degrowth and environmental justice
- 2013 - 2014      Greenpeace, Bulgaria - campaign adviser
- 2009 - 2013      Institute of Environmental Science and Technology (ICTA), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, PhD dissertation
- 2002 - 2008      ASEED Europe, Netherlands. Campaigner and initiator of World Bank Conditionality campaign with a focus on Dutch Parliament and Government
- 2000 – 2003      “Za Zemiata”, Bulgaria: Campaigner waste and protected territories; co-ordinator of “Public participation in the Balkan reconstruction process”, CEE Bankwatch”

### Books:

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Sekulova, F. Kallis, G, Schneider, F. 2017. Climate change, happiness and income from a degrowth perspective, in Victor, P. and Dolter, B. Handbook on Growth and Sustainability, Edward Elgar Publishing

Sekulova, F. 2014. Happiness, in D'Alisa G., Demaria F., Kallis G. Degrowth: A Vocabulary for a New Era. Routledge

### Peer-reviewed articles:

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Sekulova, F. and van den Bergh J.C.J.M. 2016. Floods and happiness in Bulgaria. Ecological economics, Vol. 126, pp: 51–57

Videira, N., Schneider, F., Sekulova F., Kallis, G. 2014. Improving understanding on degrowth pathways: An exploratory study using collaborative causal models. *Futures*. vol. 55, p. 58-77

Demaria, F., Schneider, F., Sekulova, F. and Martinez-Alier, J. 2013. What is Degrowth? From an Activist Slogan to a Social Movement, *Environmental values*, Vol. 22, pp. 191-215(25).

Sekulova, F. and van den Bergh, J. 2013. Income, Climate and Happiness: An Empirical Study for Barcelona. *Global Environmental Change*, Vol.3-5, pp.1467-1475.

Sekulova, F., Rodríguez-Labajos, B, Kallis, G. and Francois Schneider. 2012. Degrowth: from theory to practice. Editorial article. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, Vol. 38, pp:1-6.

### **Other publications:**

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Sekulova, F. 2016. The economics of sharing: an empirical study from Barcelona (Spain) and Bulgaria. Working paper – SCORAI.

Sekulova, F. 2015. Navidades, felicidad y decrecimiento. ¿Qué relación hay entre el consumo y la felicidad? *Ecologia Politica*

Schneider, F.Asara, V., Sekulova, F. Martinez-Alier, J.2015. Sustainable housing in a post-growth Europe, *Research and Degrowth Working paper*.

Sekulova, F. 2008. The Discourse of skiing: Kabul – Ezerata – Panichishte, a Social Cost Benefit Analysis, Master thesis.

Sekulova, F. 2008. On the Real Estate Cycles in Popular Resorts, working paper.

Sekulova, F 2008. The World Bank Conditionality: Poor Deal for Poor Countries, ASEED Europe

### **Other relevant experience:**

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2015 - on-going A representative of the European Society for Ecological Economics for Bulgaria

2010- present A member of an academic reading group on degrowth dealing with classic readings on the anthropological, bio/economic, political-ecology and psychological roots of degrowth (a joint initiative of ICTA/UAB and Research & Degrowth)

2010- present: Operating board member of Research & Degrowth ([www.degrowth.org](http://www.degrowth.org))

2010 A co-organizer of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Economic Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity, Barcelona 2010, ([www.degrowth.eu](http://www.degrowth.eu))

2006 - 2008 A member of XminY Foundation, Section East (Netherlands)

2006 - 2015 A member of the Advisory Board of Za Zemiata Environmental Association, Bulgaria

### **Teaching experience:**

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2016 An introductory course on environmental and ecological economics for specialists, Sofia, a project supported by the Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation

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| 2015 | “Climate change and happiness” – lecture and workshop, within Post-graduate course on climate change, FLACSO, Madrid, Spain |
| 2015 | Coordination of Summer school on degrowth and climate justice 2015, ICTA/UAB’ lecturing on “Degrowth – setting the scene”   |
| 2014 | Coordination of Summer school on degrowth and climate justice 2014, ICTA/UAB’ lecturing on “Happiness and degrowth”         |

#### **Participation in recent grants:**

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| 2016 – 2020   | NATURVATION (NATURE-based urban innoVATION)                                                                                                    |
| 2014 – 2017   | SINALECO (Social innovations for Alternative Ecological Economies)                                                                             |
| 2013 - 2016   | TESS (Towards European Societal Sustainability), EU FP7 project                                                                                |
| 2013 - 2014   | Adapting to the times of crisis: an advanced course on socially sustainable degrowth, Erasmus Intensive Program, DG Education and Training, EC |
| 2011 - 2014   | RESPONDER, Linking SCP and growth debates, European FP7 project                                                                                |
| CSO2011-28990 | BEGISUD (Beyond GDP growth: Investigating the socio-economic conditions for a Socially Sustainable Degrowth)                                   |

#### **Conference presentations:**

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| 2016 | International conference “Vulnerability and Gift in Economics and Business”. Paper session: <i>Degrowth and vulnerability</i> .                                                                                                                                    |
| 2016 | Fifth international conference on degrowth, Budapest. Paper sessions: <i>Trade and degrowth; Happiness through a degrowth lens</i> .                                                                                                                               |
| 2015 | Royal Geographical Society, Exeter, UK: Presentation: <i>On the economics of sharing</i>                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 2015 | Resource politics, Transforming Pathways to Sustainability, Brighton. Presentation: <i>Sustainable degrowth: Context, definitions and proposals</i>                                                                                                                |
| 2015 | 11 <sup>th</sup> international conference of the European Society of Ecological Economics, Leeds, UK. Presentation on “ <i>Income change and subjective well-being, some empirical insights</i> ”                                                                  |
| 2014 | Empatheast – Empathy driven social change and open education in eastern Europe Nov 2014, Key-note speech,: <i>Happiness and degrowth – implications for Bulgaria</i> ,                                                                                             |
| 2014 | 4 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity, Leipzig, Presentations: <i>Trade and degrowth: proposals and debates</i> and “ <i>Income, social capital, happiness and degrowth</i> ”                       |
| 2014 | International Stakeholder Dialogue Growth in Transition – Sustainable Economic and Social concepts, Brussels, Presentation <i>On the implications of degrowth for happiness</i>                                                                                    |
| 2013 | 10 <sup>th</sup> international conference of the European Society of Ecological Economics, Lille, France. Coordinator session “Macroeconomics and degrowth”, presentation on “ <i>Happiness and degrowth</i> ” and “ <i>Building coherent degrowth proposals</i> ” |
| 2013 | Happiness Economics and Interpersonal Relations, Public Happiness, Roma. Presentations: “ <i>Income decline, forest fires and happiness: an empirical study of Barcelona</i> , and <i>Floods and happiness: an empirical study of Bulgaria</i> ”                   |
| 2012 | 3 <sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity, Venezia, Italy. Chairing session on “Degrowth sources” and paper presentation “ <i>The implications of degrowth for happiness</i> ”                          |
| 2012 | Conferencia Internacional Alternativas de Desarrollo Sostenible, Quito, Ecuador. Paper presentation “ <i>What is Degrowth? From an Activist Slogan to a Social Movement</i> ”                                                                                      |

- 2012 RESPONDER, 1st multinational knowledge brokerage event in the area of Sustainable Housing, Barcelona, Spain. "*Urbanization in ex-communist states: a case study from Bulgaria*".
- 2011 10<sup>th</sup> international conference of the European Society of Ecological Economics, Istanbul, Turkey. Presentation "*Happiness and degrowth*" and coordination of four special sessions
- 2011 Beyond Growth?! Ecological Justice. Social Rights. Good Life. Berlin, Germany. "*Currencies and financial institutions from a degrowth perspective*"
- 2010 Workshop on Happiness and Environment, University of Stirling, UK. "*A happiness perspective on climate change and policy.*"
- 2010 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity, Barcelona, Spain "*Stirring papers for developing degrowth proposals*"

### **Scholarships and awards**

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- 2008 Master degree at STREE, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, marked as outstanding
- 2004 An academic course, Policy Analysis Instruments in Transition Economies, Institute for Social Studies, Den Haag, Netherlands
- 2004 An academic course "Fairness in a Globalized World", The Schumacher College, UK