

# Panagiota Kotsila, PhD

## Curriculum Vitae

Radas 20 (IZQ 4-4)  
08004 Barcelona, Spain  
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### EDUCATION

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- 2014 **Doctor of Philosophy, Development Studies**, Department of Philosophy, University of Bonn, Germany.  
*Socio-political and Cultural Determinants of Diarrheal Disease in the Mekong Delta. From Discourse to Incidence (Cum Laude)*
- 2010 **Master in Environmental Studies (JEMES)**, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain; Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal; Aalborg Universitet, Denmark; Technische Universität Hamburg-Harburg, Germany.  
*The socio-environmental history of water development and management in the Republic of Cyprus (9/10)*
- 2008 **Graduate in Biology** (4-year diploma), National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece.

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

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| 2014 | <b>Marie Curie post-doctoral fellow</b> , with the European Network of Political Ecology -ENTITLE (FP-7 project).            | 82.119 Euros |
| 2014 | <b>Best Doctoral Thesis Prize</b> , from the Friends of ZEF (Centre for Development Research), University of Bonn.           | 1.500 Euros  |
| 2011 | <b>Fieldwork research grant</b> of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), through the WISDOM project. | 2.865 Euros  |
| 2010 | <b>Doctoral Fellowship Award</b> at the United Nations University – Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS).  | 39.600 Euros |
| 2008 | <b>Scholarship Award</b> for JEMES Master Studies.   | 5.000 Euros  |

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- 2017 - **Post doctoral researcher, NATURVATION project**, ICTA, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB):
- Governance and participation in urban Nature-Based-Solutions
  - The role of place-making in environmentally friendly interventions
  - Conflicting uses, perceptions and reclamations of ‘nature’ in the city
- 2014 - **Post doctoral researcher, ENTITLE project**, ICTA, UAB:
- Vector-borne disease in the context of socio-economic crisis in Greece
  - Socio-ecological change and migration politics as push-factors of epidemics
  - Disease as a politico-moral tool and a potential ground for racist discourse
- 2010 - **Doctoral candidate**, Centre of Development Studies (ZEF), University of Bonn:
- Challenges and risks in current water & hygiene related development approaches, and diarrheal disease in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta
  - Health system assessment with regards to privatization and

- decentralization processes  
Health communication strategies, local perceptions of disease and (dis)empowerment through knowledge
- Mar –  
Sept  
2010 **Master’s thesis**, Univesitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB), in collaboration with the Cyprus Institute (CyI):
- History of water development and current water management in the Republic of Cyprus
  - Political ecology of conflictual water uses in the context of water-scarce environments and growth-oriented development agendas

## ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

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- 2017 -  
date **Co-supervision of Doctoral thesis:** Matthew Watts (ongoing) “Impacts of Climate Change on the spread of tropical vector-borne diseases in Europe, and the consequences for human health”
- 2017 -  
date **Co-supervision of Master thesis:** Carla Giraldo Malca (ongoing) “Stakeholder participation and Ecosystem Services values in urban green infrastructure: the case of Passeig Sant Joan, Barcelona”
- 2015 **Supervision of Master thesis:** Anna Rebekah Breeding (2015) “Vaccine hesitancy as an interface of biopolitics, immunity perceptions and beliefs of the natural: The case study of measles in California, USA”.
- 2016 **Teaching** course on Political Ecology, for the MSc *Interdisciplinary Studies in Environmental, Economic and Social Sustainability and Ecological Economics*
- 2014 -  
2016 **Project management and communication support** for the ENTITLE project:  
– Website output material, events, project deliverables
- 2015 **Organizer of the weekly seminars on** Ecological Economics and Ethno-Ecology Integrated Assessment at ICTA, UAB.
- 2014 -  
date **Co-editor** of the ENTITLE blog ([www.entitleblog.org](http://www.entitleblog.org)), an online platform of sharing opinions, research, commentaries and other material related to the field of political ecology.
- 2010 **Project assistant** for CLICO (Climate Change, Hydro-conflicts and Human Security) project:  
– Database compilation, events, website content, policy review
- 2012 –  
2013 **Organizer** of “Alternative Wednesdays”, weekly documentary screening sessions at ZEF, University of Bonn

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Monograph

Kotsila, P. (2014) “*Socio-political and Cultural Determinants of Diarrheal Disease in the Mekong Delta. From Discourse to Incidence*” (Vol. 28), Berlin, Münster, Wien, Zürich, London: Lit Verlag.

### Articles, peer-reviewed

Kotsila P. and V.S. Saravanan. (2017). Biopolitics gone to shit? State narratives versus everyday realities of water and sanitation in the Mekong Delta. *World Development*, 93: 374–388.

Kotsila P. (2017). Health dispossessions and the moralization of disease: the case of diarrhea in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam. *Journal of Political Ecology*, 24: 87-108. Online publication: <http://jpe.library.arizona.edu/>

Connolly C., Kotsila, P. D'Alisa G. (2017). Tracing Narratives and Perceptions in the Political Ecologies of Health and Disease. *Journal of Political Ecology*, 24: 1-10. Online publication: <http://jpe.library.arizona.edu/>

Huber, A., Gorostiza, S., Kotsila, P., Beltrán, M. J., & Armiero, M. (2016). Beyond “Socially Constructed” Disasters: Re-politicizing the Debate on Large Dams through a Political Ecology of Risk. *Capitalism Nature Socialism*, 1–21.

### **Other publications, non peer-reviewed**

Kotsila, P. (2016) *Small bugs, big issues: vector-borne disease in the age of mobility and climate change. Policy implications of findings on malaria and its socio-political drivers in Greece* (Policy Brief). Outcome of ENTITLE European Network of Political Ecology FP-7 project. Available: <http://www.politicaecology.eu/documents/courses/83-pb-kotsila-panagiota/file>

Kotsila, P. (2015) *Deconstructing public health, enabling health empowerment. A case from the Mekong Delta, Vietnam*, in “Political Ecology for Civil Society”, ENTITLE European Network of Political Ecology FP-7 project [Editor of *Democracy and Conclusions* chapters].

Kotsila, P. (2015) *Diarrhoea. More than medicine for fighting disease* (Action Brief). Outcome of ENTITLE European Network of Political Ecology FP-7 project. Available: [https://www.academia.edu/14283702/Action\\_Brief\\_on\\_Diarrhoea\\_More\\_than\\_medicine\\_or\\_fighting\\_disease](https://www.academia.edu/14283702/Action_Brief_on_Diarrhoea_More_than_medicine_or_fighting_disease)

Kotsila, P. et al. (2014) *Water in Urban Regions: Building Future Knowledge to Integrate Land Use, Ecosystem Services and Human Health*, German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, Brazilian Academy of Sciences, German Young Academy (Publishers). Halle/Saale, Rio de Janeiro, Berlin.

Kotsila, P. (2012) “Health is gold”: *Institutional structures and the realities of health access in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam*, in University of Bonn Center for Development Research (ed.), ZEF Working Paper Series (105; Bonn: University of Bonn).

Turhan E. and Kotsila P. (2010) “Up in Smoke”: *Political Ecology of Tobacco Production; Environmental Degradation and Societal Crisis; The cases of Turkey and Malawi*, Essay and research proposal for the Summer School on Environmental Conflicts and Justice, ICTA-UAB.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

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### **Conferences**

Kotsila, P. (2016, March). *Socio-political drivers of malaria and the biopolitical shift of the state's gaze towards migrant workers in Greece*. Presentation at the ‘Undisciplined Environments’ International Conference of the European Network of Political Ecology (ENTITLE), Stockholm, Sweden

Kotsila, P. (2015, February) *Moralizing disease, disempowered health behaviours. The case of diarrhoea in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam*. Presentation at the DOPE (Dimensions of Political Ecology) Conference, University of Kentucky, USA

Kotsila, P. (2015, July) *Health narratives and the urban-rural divide: discursive practices versus contaminated realities of water and diarrhoea*. Presentation at "Transformations", the 11th International Conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics (ESEE), at the University of Leeds, UK

Kotsila P. (2014, May) *Socialising medicine and breaking the myths in water and sanitation: Future needs for research in water and health*. Presentation at the Joint Symposium "Water Issues and Ecological Sustainability in Areas of Urbanization", of Leopoldina, Brazilian Academy of Sciences and Jungen Akademie, held in Sao Carlos/ Brasil

Kotsila P. (2013, May) *Healthy spaces and the urban-rural divide: the case of diarrheal disease in Can Tho City*. Presentation at the conference: 'Water in the Anthropocene: Challenges for Science & Governance' of the Global Water System Project, held in Bonn

Kotsila P. (2013, March) *Existing and assumed boundaries of healthy spaces on the basis of urban-rural limits in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta: the case of diarrheal disease*. Presentation at the 2nd Annual 'Southeast Asian Studies Symposium' of the Southeast Asia Project, at the University of Oxford, UK

Kotsila P. (2012, May) *Waterborne Diarrheal Disease in the Mekong Delta: determinant perceptions and strategies*. Presentation at the 3rd International Workshop on "Comparative Water Studies" of the International Consortium for Comparative Water and Development Studies (ICCWaDS), at Wageningen University, Netherlands

### **Posters**

Kotsila P. (2012, February) *What shapes disease? A cultural and socio-political enquiry on the case of diarrhea*. Poster presentation for the '6th WISDOM PhD Scientific Seminar', held in the United Nations University-EHS, Bonn

Kotsila P. (2010, July) *Development of water resources: a socio-political analysis of visions and decisions on water management*. Poster presentation for the Summer School on Environmental Conflicts and Justice at ICTA, UAB

### **Public lectures**

Kotsila, P., (2017, March) *Tracing narratives and perceptions in the political ecologies of health and disease*. Presentation at the Healthy Cities and Environmental Justice lab of the Epidemiology and Public Health Program, at IMIM Research Institute.

Kotsila P., (2015, April) *A political ecology of disease. The case of vector-borne epidemics in Greece*. Presentation at the Ecological economics, Ethno-ecology and integrated assessment seminars at ICTA, UAB

Kotsila P. (2013, May) *Challenges and opportunities in studying health from a social science perspective; Evidence from Vietnam*. Public lecture during the 'Dies Academicus' at the University of Bonn

Kotsila P. (2012, May) *Five years of water management research in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam*. Presentation of the WISDOM project to the UNESCO-IHE student group, at ZEF, University of Bonn

## RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

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- Political Ecology - focus on development, water and human health
- Critical Medical Anthropology
- The politics of risk communication
- Discourse and knowledge on health and disease
- Environmental (health) justice
- Combined methods research (qualitative / quantitative)

## ADDITIONAL SPECIALISATION COURSES

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June 2015	ENTITLE Summer-School on <b>Institutions, Justice and Democracy</b> , at Bogazici University, Istanbul
June 2015	Special Intensive Course on “ <b>Navigating Job Opportunities as Political Ecologists</b> ” at Humbolt-Universität, Berlin
Jan 2015	Special Intensive Course on “ <b>Project Management and Contribution to Policy</b> ” organized by ENT, Environment and Management, Barcelona
Dec 2015	Special Intensive Course on “ <b>Research for Civil Society</b> ”, organized by Centro di Documentazione sui Conflitti Ambientale, Rome
Jun - Jul 2014	Special Intensive Course on “ <b>Effective Communication Strategies</b> ” at ICTA, UAB, Barcelona
June 2013	<b>Public speaking</b> training at the UNU-EHS, Bonn
May 2012	<b>Qualitative Comparative Analysis for Water Studies</b> training at Wageningen University
Jun-Jul 2010	<b>Environmental Conflicts and Justice</b> Summer School at ICTA, UAB

## LANGUAGE COMPETENCIES

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<b>English</b>	Excellent	(Proficiency, University of Cambridge)
<b>Spanish</b>	Fluent	(Diploma Basico B2, Instituto Cervantes)
<b>Italian</b>	Very good	(CELI 5, Università per Stranieri di Perugia)
<b>Portuguese</b>	Conversational	
<b>French</b>	Basic	

## SOFTWARE SKILLS

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IBM SPSS (Statistics)

ATLAS.ti, NVivo (Qualitative Data Analysis)

EndNote, RefWorks, Mendeley (Reference Manager Software)

QGIS (Open Source Geographic Information system)