

OLEKSANDR KHYZHNIAK



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Unit	Student & Educational Affairs / International Office / CIS
Position	Project Manager International Cooperation Projects

KEY QUALIFICATIONS/ FIELD OF EXPERTISE

- Project management
- Intercultural communication and international relations
- Qualitative and quantitative methods in Sociology
- Tolerance and culture of dialogue (focus on trust)
- Collective actions and mass protests movements
- Digital society and AI relations
- Sociology of Education and Higher education management

SUMMARY OF WORK EXPERIENCE

Dr. Oleksandr Khyzhniak has broad experience in international collaboration, management project education, and research. He prefers to use interdisciplinary approaches and is open to international relations that grounds on his two MA degrees in Sociology and International Economics at Karazin University (Ukraine). During his academic research career, he did his internships in 2009 at Warszawa University (Poland) for the PhD devoted to tolerance issues and at Ariel University (Israel) in 2016-2017 for the post-doc project devoted to collective actions and its determination.

During his work experience, he combined educational, research, and management activities. In 2010 he started lecturing at Applied Sociology and Social Communication Department and since 2017 at International Relations, International Information and Security Department till 2022. As an Associate professor (since 2015) he dealt with: syllabuses, lectures, practical classes and workshops development; giving lectures, and conducting practical classes and workshops. He taught a number of courses based on his research, capacity building, and management experience among which could be mentioned "Quality of Empirical Research", "Sociology: Basics of Theory", "Sociology of International Relations", "Digital Education: Sociological Perspective", "PR-Technologies in International Relations", "Sociology of Management" etc. As a researcher, he deals with theoretical and practically oriented

projects, obtaining positions of Vice-Head of the Sociological Research Team at “Regional Policy Institution”(Kharkiv, 2008-2011), Director for Research and Development at “Ukrainian Expert League” (2018-2022) and academic activity as an Associate Professor at Karazin University. The focus of interest: social and economic analysis in the field of innovation; theory and history of sociology; tolerance and culture of dialogue; collective social action; migration; collective memory; media literacy; artificial intelligence. He also obtained practical experience in management and implementation of empirical sociological surveys (both quantitative and qualitative methods). Managers, leadership, and intercultural skills he could fully implement become the Head of the newly emerged and co-designed by him International Relations Office at Karazin University (2018-2022) that focused on providing international mobility, projects (grants) implementation, and establishing international relations.

He is a member of the European Sociological Association since 2009 (RN10 - Sociology of Education; RN35 - Sociology of Migration) and since 2023 - Nederlandse Sociologische Vereniging (NSV).

As a project manager at CIS-VU, now he focuses on the implementation of international projects in Global South countries and developing new fields and opportunities in Central Asia and Eastern Neighbourhood countries.

PROJECTS

Multinational and international projects

- **Aurora 2030. [AURORA University Alliance](#). Co-leader of Task 7.3 “Implementation of Capacity Development Programme in CEE” and Task 7.4 “Creation of Karazin University Peace Education HUB”.**
- **[AI FORA \(artificial intelligence for assessment\). Member of Advisory Board and Case of Ukraine](#)**
2022-2023

ACP Region (Kenya, Ethiopia and South Africa)

- **Creating Postgraduate Collaborations (CPC)**
2020-2023
- **ODA 2.0. Oromia Dispute Alternatives: Enhancing & disseminating Customary Court principles and practices in Oromia and beyond (Ethiopia)**
2023-2024

Jordan

- **Qualitative Research Methodologies: Learning by Doing**
2023-2024

Central Asia

- **Erasmus+KA171 mobility grant with Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (Kazakhstan)**
2023-2026

Ukraine

- Erasmus+KA171 mobility grant with Karazin University
2023-2026
- [Multiplication Trainings for Higher Education Administrators in Ukraine project \(THEA Ukraine X \(Cohort 2\)\)](#) as tandem trainer.
2023

The Netherlands

- VU programme for Academic Freedom/Scholars at Risk
2022-ongoing
- VU programme “Hospitality grants for PhD students from Ukraine”

TEACHING

Guest lecture on “**Ukrainian Society during Russia`s War on Ukraine: the Digital Dimension**” in *Honours in International Development course* by Dr. Henk van den Heuvel and Dr. Denyse Snelder (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam).

Guest lecture on “**Mass Mobilization in War Times: Challenges and Scenarios for Ukrainian Society**” via *Politics from Below: Protests and Social Movements course* by Dr. Teodora Gaidyte (Universiteit Leiden)

PUBLICATIONS

View Oleksandr Khyzhniak 's publications at [VU Research Portal](#).