



## TEMPUS IV PROGRAMME

### Leading and Managing Change in Higher Education (La MANCHE)

#### YOUNG LEADERS ACADEMY

8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014  
International University College, Bulgaria

#### TRAINERS PROFILES

**1. Violina Ratcheva, International University College, Bulgaria**  
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Dr. Violina Ratcheva has joined the IUC as an Associate Professor in 2013 and teaches at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in the areas of strategic management, entrepreneurship, international business management and general management. She holds a Master Degree in Business Studies from Loughborough University (UK) and a PhD in Strategic Management from The University of Sheffield (UK). Prior to this appointment, she has worked for over 15 years in the UK as a Research Fellow in European Business (Nottingham Trent University), Research Consultant (BDO Stoy Hayward), Lecturer in Entrepreneurship (The University of Nottingham) and Lecturer in Strategic Management (The University of Sheffield). Violina's research and consultancy interests include knowledge elicitation and transfer practices in distributed organisational settings, developing knowledge management strategies in the creative industries (specific focus on the UK Film Industry) and new forms of organisations. Violina has over 30 academic publications.

**2. Gergana Dimitrova, International University College, Bulgaria**

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Gergana Dimitrova holds a PhD degree in Political Science from the Central European University, Budapest and is a former International Policy Fellow at the Open Society Institute and the Centre for Policy Studies in Budapest. As one of the key members in the IUC International Projects team, she maintains IUC's long-term partnerships with education institutions and youth and development organizations from the EU, the Western Balkans, China, Nepal, and a number of African countries. She has developed and contributed to several international youth projects whose main concern has been to bolster students' and youth leaders' involvement with global developmental and environmental issues, including poverty, education, youth unemployment and climate change.

**3. Nedka Dimitrova, International University College, Bulgaria**

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Trinity TESOL Lecturer in Business Communication and Business English at International University College, Bulgaria and Head of the Foreign Languages Department at IUC. Main area of interest in Intercultural communication and business ethics, focusing on the influences of cultural differences and thinking styles in educational settings.

Considerable professional experience in instructing business students at undergraduate level to improve and develop their business knowledge, communication and career skills, as well as, English language skills for the globalizing world of business. International professional experience from various European educational institution and participation in EU projects under Erasmus, Leonardo da Vinci, Tempus, Comenius and other programmes as a coordinator, lecturer, trainer and interpreter.

Teaching ESOL in Golders Green College, London; HAN University of Applied science, the Netherlands – Business Ethics workshop; Tampere University of Applied Science, Finland – Digital, Social and Mobile Media in Marketing and Management; Polytechnic Institute of Bragança, Portugal – Communicating in Multicultural business environment; Seville, Spain – Innovation in tourist services and marketing in the light of the European trends, practical training, LLP; Cavala, Greece – Integration of physically disabled individuals to the labor market; other multilateral partnerships projects under the EU LLP – Italy, Turkey, Slovenia – Fostering Cultural awareness; Leading and Managing Change in Higher Education, Tempus LLP in IPB, Portugal; Ecotourism sustainability – Belgium; Language Teaching exchange in UCB, England; Communication in Multicultural Environment in Education and LLL Workshop - IUC, Bulgaria.

Keeping up with new ideas, methods and trends in the field of teaching Business Communication and Business English – through activities enhancing teaching and learning, including faculty development courses, exchanges, trips and practical trainings.

**4. Viktoria Gedinach, University College, Bulgaria**

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Assist. Prof. Viktoria Gedinach (PhD) is a lecturer at IUC (from September, 2013 till now) and teaches subjects in the following areas: Entrepreneurship, Project Management and Economics. She holds a PhD in Industrial Organization and Management from the University of Russe "Angel Kanchev" (Bulgaria). Viktoria's

scientific and research interests consists of Industrial Management, Research and Development Activities, Business Plans Creating etc. Viktoria has over 10 academic publications. The participation in the La MANCHE Young Leaders Academy is a great challenge for Viktoria and an incredible opportunity to fall among international company of young and ambitious students and to share new ideas about the Leadership.

**5. Prof. Pantoleon Skayannis, University of Thessaly, Greece**

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Dr. Skayannis is Professor of Infrastructure Policy and Director of the Research Unit of Infrastructure, Technology Policy and Development in the Department of Planning and Regional Development at the University of Thessaly (DPRD-UTH) He is a qualified architect (Thessaloniki, GR) and holds an MA and PhD in urban and regional studies (Sussex, UK). He has been awarded three Pan-Hellenic architectural prizes and two distinctions related to teaching of entrepreneurship. He has been chairman of DPRD-UTH for four years and member of the University senate for six years, as well as member of several University committees and international and national congress organisation committees. Until August 2013 he was the director of the "European Regional Development Studies" Master's Programme of DPRD (taught in English) and he is the director of the Unit of Innovation and Entrepreneurship of the University of Thessaly. He has extensive experience as a researcher in infrastructure development and as a regional analyst and planner (60 research projects). During 2009 he was a visiting professor at Newcastle University (CURDS), UK. He has published widely in his fields of research (more than 140 publications of all kinds) and is author/editor/co-editor of five books. Prof. Skayannis was until recently one of the two national representatives of Greece to the Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) and member of the Executive Committee of AESOP as well as and one of the two AESOP representatives to the Global Planning Education Association Network- GPEAN.

In 2011, Prof. Skayannis was appointed by the Mayor of Athens as the representative of the Athens Municipality to the executive board of the Organization for the Master Plan of Athens. In June 2011 he was elected Dean of the School of Engineering of the University of Thessaly and in 2013 was appointed as the external examiner of the Mega Infrastructure Planning, Appraisal and Delivery (MIPAD) MSc. course in the Bartlett School of Planning, UCL, UK.

**6. Joana Fernandes, Polytechnic Institute of Bragança, Portugal**

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Joana Fernandes graduated in Industrial Management and Production Engineering from the University of Beira Interior in 1998. She received the Master's degree in Industrial Engineering and the PhD in Engineering Economics, both from the University of Minho. She is an Assistant Professor at the Polytechnic Institute of Bragança, since 1999. Her main research work is in economic impact studies and human capital. She is currently involved in a project for the evaluation of the economic impact of Polytechnic Institutes in Portugal.

**7. Anita Shukla, Clevercherry, United Kingdom**

Email: anita@succeed.ac

Anita Shukla is an award-winning animation artist and multi-media professional. Over the years she has been actively involved with a number of creative projects and has collaborated with a network of global artists. Anita has spent several years teaching in Japan and has developed a passion for inspiring students to develop and manifest innovative ideas. She currently tutors for an award-winning design agency, preparing young apprentices for working life within the business and creative industries.

**8. Marie-Odile Nouvelot, AgroSup Dijon, France**

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Marie-Odile Nouvelot is an educational sociologist. She was the coordinator of two European Comenius 2 training-through-research projects:

1. 1996-2000. PPePee "Student personal project and the educational policy of an establishment" aimed at accompanying students in 10 agricultural schools from 5 EU countries (England, France, Italy, Ireland, and the Netherlands);
2. 2004-2008 EPIDORGE "Student empowerment in the daily school organization" dedicated to involving young people in decision-making processes relating to the improvement of their working conditions and high school life, in six countries in the EU (Belgium, France, Italy, Netherlands, Romania and Slovenia).

She has also conducted European training seminars in English and as the Vice President of the ENTER Network, she organized the "Implementing Staff training days for exchange in vocational education" held at AgroSup Dijon in May 2010.

In 2002, she created a bilingual website (French-English) [www.epic.educagri.fr](http://www.epic.educagri.fr) to capitalize all the work and publications carried out on her two research themes: "School empowerment" and "Student empowerment".

**9. Vicky Wynne, University College Birmingham, United Kingdom**

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"I work at University College Birmingham as a Senior Curriculum Leader where I lead the team in writing new programmes and periodically reviewing existing programmes. I also teach on both under and post graduate programmes and have a special interest in how Mentoring can be used to develop individuals and the work place as a whole. As part of my commitment to Mentoring Practice I co-chair a specialist interest group which looks at developing Mentoring Practice outside of the University."