

BLERTA ZILJA

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GENERATIES

- Birthday: April 1, 1984
- Birthplace: Vlore, Albania
- Living: Tirana

EDUCATION

- 2014: **Ph.D. in Economic Science**, Department of Accounting, Faculty of Economy, University of Tirana.
Research interests: good governance, Public Investments evaluation and decision making, Cost-Benefit Analysis of Public Investments, auditing.
- 2006 – 2008: **Master in Accounting and Auditing**, University of Tirana
Cumulative GPA A/A+
Master Thesis "Enterprise Resources Systems in Albania"
- 2002 - 2006: **Graduated in Finance-Accounting** as a *Finance Specialist*, Faculty of Economics, University of Tirana
Cumulative GPA 9.3/10
Thesis "Electricity Sector: Development Problems"

JOB EXPERIENCE

- February 2009 – Present: **Full time Lecturer** at the University of Tirana, Faculty of Economy, Department of Accounting in the subjects: "Cost Accounting", "Management Accounting", "Advanced Cost Management Accounting" – Bachelor and Master courses.
- January 2011 – Present: **Finance Expert** at Open Data Albania: collection and mining of data, indicators and writing research articles over different issues such as: State Budget, Education, Health, Insurance, etc.
- January 2011 – Present: **Associate Researcher** at the Albanian Institute of Science (AIS). Engaged in different research projects in the field of public finance data transparency.

- September 2011 – September 2014: **Expert** at the Open Society Foundation for Albania (OSFA), in the project “Public Finance Monitoring”.
- September 2011 – present: **Co-mastermind and creator** of the portal “financatransparente.al”, financed by Open Society Foundation for Albania. Project coordinator and expert in: taxes calculation paid from a family to State Budget; COFOG classification of Albanian Budget Expenditures; public finance glossary, etc.
- September 2006 – February 2009: **Budget Expert** at Public Investment Management Department, Ministry of Finance.
- September 2006 – February 2009: **Part time Lecturer** in “Financial Accounting” at the University of Tirana, Faculty of Economy.
- November 2009: **Lecturer** at the General Directorate of Auditing, in the program of Internal Auditors Certification.

CONFERENCES AND ARTICLES

- March, 2014: published the article “Governments Approach to Public Investments” in the scientific journal *Public Audit*, year 3, no.10.
- December, 2013: participation at II International Scientific Conference of ALSAI “Role of SAI-s in public management accountability” with the article “The approach of SAI to civic society to increase transparency and good governance”.
- July, 2013: presented the paper “Forensic Accounting, Let’s Start with some education Investment” at the III International Conference “On Luca Pacioli in Accounting History, III Balkans and Middle East Countries Conference on Accounting and Accounting History”, held Istanbul.
- May, 2013: published the article “A literature review on Cost-Benefit Analysis”, in the scientific journal *Public Audit*, year 2, no.5.
- May, 2013: published the article “The performance of Public Investment in Albania during Fiscal Consolidation”, in the scientific journal *The Romanian Economic Journal*, year XVI, no.48.
- December 2012: presented the paper “Public Investment Performance during Fiscal Consolidation in Albania” at the V International Conference of the Faculty of Economy, University of Tirana “Economic & Social Challenges 2012, Economy & Business Doctoral Students Conference”.
- November 2012: First Author of the case study for Albania on the “Fiscal Impact Assessment of Structural Reforms in Albania” financed by AIS and Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF), in Slovenia. The case was prepared for the seminar organized by CEF, SAFE Trust Fund and Ministry of Finance of Montenegro.

- October 2012: Referee in the seminar on “The connection of structural reforms and the budgeting process”, organized by CEF in Danilovgrad, Montenegro, with the case “Fiscal Impact Assessment of Structural Reforms in Albania”.
- June 2011: participated in the International Conference: “Information and Technologies System and their importance in the Economic Development”, Faculty of Economy, Tirana University, with a paper on “Information System of the Public Debt”
- December 2009: published the article “On Performance Measurement in Higher Education” in the scientific journal *Economy and Transition*, special edition, no 60.
- December 2009: presented the paper “On Performance Measurement in Higher Education” at the International Conference “Economies in Transition – during and after”.

REPORTS

- March, 2012, 2013, 2014: First Author in “Project-Budget and the Assambly”, a study as part of the Public Finance Monitoring project of OSFA.
- December 2013: First Author in “Project-Budget 2014”, for the part of the priority sectors financing analysis.
- December 2012: First Author of “The Priorities of the European Integration in the Project-Budget of 2013”, part the report “Project-Budget 2013”, published by OSFA.
- May 2012: Author of the report “On the State Budget of year 2011 and the performance of the year 2012 State Budget”, for the part on performance analysis during year 2011 of the State Supreme Audit Institution and the Public Procurement Agency, published by OSFA.
- November 2011: First Author of the report “European Integration priorities within the Project Budget of year 2012”, a study as part of the “Public Finance Monitoring” project of OSFA.
- January 2011 – present: publishing of several articles and short studies over the State’s Budget indicators, economic performance in the country, education, etc on the <http://open.data.al> portal website

WORKSHOPS AND OTHER ENGAGEMENTS

- December 2011-2014: Part of the organizing staff of Datathon Albania, a marathon of data finding and visualizing.
- November 2014: Part of the organizing staff of the Debate over Project-Budget 2015 from master students of FEUT.
- September - December 2014: Part of the organizing staff of the Faculty of Economy’s Conference, TU, “International Economy & Business Doctoral Students Conference”.
- March 2014: Participation in “Personal Democracy Forum – Poland, Central Eastearn Europe, 2014”, representative of Albania.

- June - December 2012: Part of the organizing staff of the Faculty of Economy's Conference, TU, "International Economy & Business Doctoral Students Conference.
- August 2008: Workshop on "Public Private Partnership System as a Modality for Financing Infrastructure Projects", IDB, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- November 2007: Workshop on "Presentation with the Public Administration" Institute of Public Administration Training (ITAP).
- April 2007: Workshop on "Budget Analysis", Center of Excellence in Finance, Slovenia
- February 2007: Workshop on "Development of functional and management skills" Institute of Public Administration Training (ITAP).
- April 2006: Part of the IV Students' Conference staff "A new vision for the Albanian Economy
- 2003 - 2005: Chief of the Students Concerns Department, Student's Government.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

- Italian: Fluent in speaking, writing, and reading
- English: Fluent in speaking, writing, and reading
- Albanian: Native

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Microsoft Office
- Certified by "Institute of Business Modeling" in "Alpha Accounting Software"

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Organizational skills, flexible
- Interests: Literature, writing, photography