

## **SONJA AVLIJAŠ**

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### **EDUCATION**

**PhD Candidate in Political Economy of Europe** **since Sep 2011**  
**European Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science**  
Thesis title: Explaining variation in female labour force participation across Eastern Europe:  
Political economy of industrial upgrading and service transition  
Supervisors: Dr. Will Bartlett and Prof. Sarah Ashwin

**MSc Environment and Development** **2004 – 2005**  
**Department of Geography / International Development, LSE**  
Courses: Economic Development Policy, Global Civil Society, Complex Emergencies, Institutions of  
Environment and Development, Environmental Regulation.

**BSc Management and Systems, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours** **2001 – 2004**  
**Cass Business School, City University, London**  
Courses included: Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Accounting, Financial Maths and Statistics,  
Forecasting, Emerging Markets, International Relations, European Studies.

**International Baccalaureate (IB)** **1999 – 2001**  
**Red Cross Nordic United World College, Norway**

### **EMPLOYMENT**

**Assistant Editor** **since Mar 2014**  
**LEQS - 'LSE Europe in Question' Discussion Paper Series**  
**European Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science**

**Associate Tutor in Managerial Economics I** **Jan-Mar 2014**  
**Department of Management, Birkbeck, University of London**  
Delivering two seminars per week (each 1.5 hours long) to the total of 70 students. The seminars have  
focused on solving exercises in microeconomics (including utility maximisation and game theory).

**Research Associate** **since Dec 2009**  
**Foundation for the Advancement of Economics (FREN), University of Belgrade**  
Most recent work has included: i) econometric analysis of the gender pay gap in FYR Macedonia,  
Montenegro and Serbia (supported by the Western Balkans Regional Research Promotion Programme and the  
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation); ii) a gender impact analysis of government support  
measures for entrepreneurship in Serbia (supported by UN Women), and iii) development of a Serbian tax-  
and-benefit microsimulation model based on EUROMOD platform and a labour supply model and using them  
to estimate impact of welfare policy reforms (supported by the World Bank). I was also a regular columnist  
and member of the editorial team of FREN's publication *The Quarterly Monitor of Economic Trends and  
Policies in Serbia* between December 2006 and December 2011.

**Independent Consultant** **since Dec 2009**  
Recent consultancies:  
UN Women consultant for the development of publication "Men and Women in Serbia" which was published  
by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

Wrote two chapters on employment and social inclusion in the EU vs. Serbia for the publication “A guide through strategy Europe 2020”, published by the European Movement in Serbia.  
Developed a project concept “Equal Remuneration for Work of Equal Value in Western Balkans” for the ILO.

**Poverty Reduction Strategy Implementation Focal Point  
Deputy Prime Minister’s Office, Government of Serbia**

**Aug 2008 – Nov 2009**

**Economic Analyst.** Work included socio-economic data monitoring and analysis, as well as coordination and mainstreaming of PRS activities into line ministries (mostly the Ministry of Economy and Regional Development and the Ministry of Finance) and among civil society organisations. I focused on the labour market, local and regional development and the socio-economic impact of the global economic crisis.

**FREN**

**Aug 2006 – Aug 2008**

**Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade**

**Researcher.** I worked on policy oriented research projects for the Government of Serbia, UNDP, USAID and the World Bank in the spheres of poverty reduction and labour market policy.

**Winrock International, Salvador, Brazil**

**Jan – Jul 2006**

**Consultant.** Work involved monitoring of and reporting on CIRCLE project (Community-based Innovations to Reduce Child Labour Through Education) implemented by this NGO across 6 Latin American countries.

**EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

**Student co-ordinator of European Institute Lunch Seminar Series (EILS)**

**since Oct 2013**

**Student Representative**

**since Oct 2013**

**European Institute Staff Student Liaison Committee (SSLC)**

**LSE Research Students’ Consultative Forum (RSCF)**

**LSE Research Degrees Sub-committee**

**SELECTED NON-DEGREE COURSES**

**Programme Budgeting Training**, EIPA, Warsaw, Poland

**Sep 2008**

**Multivariate Calculus**, New York University, NY

**Jun-Aug 2007**

**Poverty Analysis Training**, World Bank, Washington, D.C.

**Jan 2007**

**SKILLS AND INTERESTS**

**Media experience:** TV and radio; written for mainstream press

**Languages:** Serbian - mother tongue, English – near native, excellent working knowledge of French, Portuguese and Spanish, Italian – intermediate

**IT:** experienced user of MS Office; intermediate knowledge of statistical package STATA, microsimulation platform EUROMOD and Moodle e-learning platform

**Hobbies:** creative writing (published four short stories), yoga, running, tennis, skiing

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

**Paper presentation** at the 16th Conference of the Association for Heterodox Economics, University of Greenwich, London

**2-4 July, 2014**

**Paper presentation** at IOS Summer Academy, Tuzing, Germany, 4-6 June

**4-6 June, 2014**

**Paper presentation** at Central European University Political Economy Research

**25 April, 2014**

Group Workshop, Budapest

**Paper presentation** at 6<sup>th</sup> Graduate Network Conference, in SciencesPo, Paris **27 Feb-1 Mar, 2014**

**Paper presentation** at International Association for Feminist Economics 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual **Jul 12-14, 2013**

Conference, in Stanford University, Palo Alto, California

**Workshop organiser and teacher** at 9<sup>th</sup> Central European Conference, Eger, **11-14 Mar, 2013**  
Hungary. Topic: 'Poverty and Inequality in Central and Eastern Europe in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century'.

**Book presentation** at international conference "Gender Pay Gap in the Western **Feb 22, 2013**  
Balkan countries: Evidence from Serbia, Montenegro and Macedonia", in Belgrade, Serbia

**Paper presentation** at the UN Women conference "Women's entrepreneurship in **Oct 19, 2012**  
Serbia - characteristics, obstacles and needed support measures" in Belgrade, Serbia

**Paper presentation** at "Synergizing Political Economy Researchers in Central and **30 May-1 Jun, 2011**  
Eastern Europe", Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

**Paper presentation** at the World Bank international conference "Poverty and Social **Dec 14-15, 2010**  
Inclusion in the Western Balkans" in Brussels, Belgium

**Paper presentation** at the joint French Institute of International Relations (IFRI) and **Dec 2, 2010**  
LSE Research on South Eastern Europe (LSEE) conference "South-East Europe: Regional Co-operation, Institutional Change and the Challenge of European Integration" in Brussels, Belgium

**Paper presentation** at the LSEE Research Conference on Decentralisation in Zagreb, **May 10-11, 2010**  
Croatia

**Invited presentation** at the World Bank Global Learning Forum "Three Waves of **Jun 15-18, 2009**  
Crisis: Finance, Food & Fuel" in Cairo, Egypt  
Topic: Government of Serbia's monitoring efforts on labour market and poverty

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Journal articles**

- 2011 "Decentralisation and Regional Policy in Serbia: Choices and Outcomes" (with W. Bartlett), Research Paper No. 3, LSEE Paper on Decentralisation and Regional Policy, London School of Economics (a version of the paper accepted with revisions in *Europe-Asia Studies*)
- 2011 "Political Economy of Local Level Public Sector Employment: Case Study of Serbia" (with M. Uvalic), *Southeastern Europe*, Vol. 35-2, pp. 209-228

### **Books**

- 2013 "Gender Pay Gap in the Western Balkan Countries: Evidence from Serbia, Montenegro and Macedonia", with N. Ivanovic, M. Vladislavljevic and S. Vujic, Foundation for Advancement of Economics, Belgrade, Serbia

### **Chapters in edited books**

- Forthcoming "Gender inequality in the Western Balkans" (with M. Vladislavljević and S. Vujić), in Perugini, C. & Pompei, F. (eds.): "Inequalities During and After Transition in Central and Eastern Europe", Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2013 "Regionalization and Regional Development in Serbia" (with C. Guglielmetti), Ch.8 in Palermo F. and Parolari S. (eds.) "Regional Dynamics in Central and Eastern Europe: New Approaches to

Decentralization". Brill, Leiden, Boston, ISBN: 9004242309. <http://www.brill.com/regional-dynamics-central-and-eastern-europe>

- 2013 "Simulating Policy Reform: Distributional and Poverty Outcomes of the New Social Welfare Law in Serbia", with M. Arandarenko et al, in Ruggeri Laderchi C. and Savastano S. (eds.), "Poverty and Exclusion in the Western Balkans – New Directions in Measurement and Policy", Springer, ISBN-13: 978-1461449447, <http://www.amazon.com/Poverty-Exclusion-Western-Balkans-Measurement/dp/1461449448>
- 2011 "Behind the veil of statistics: Bringing to light structural weaknesses in Serbia" (with M. Arandarenko), ch. 5 in Schmidt V. and Vaughan Whitehead D. (eds.), "The Impact of the Crisis on Wages in South-East Europe", International Labour Organisation (ILO), ISBN 978-92-2-1257844
- 2011 "Zapošljavanje; Socijalna inkluzija i smanjenje siromaštva" (*Employment, Social inclusion and poverty reduction*), Chs. 1 and 6 in Kronja J. (ed.), "Vodič kroz strategiju Evropa 2020" (*A guide through strategy Europe 2020*), European Movement, Belgrade, Serbia, ISBN 978-86-82391-61-6

### **Policy papers**

- 2012 "Gender Impact Analysis of Selected Support Measures for Entrepreneurship in Serbia", with S. Popovic-Pantic and M. Vladislavljevic, UN Women, <http://rs.one.un.org/organizations/18/Gender%20impact%20analysis%20of%20selected%20support%20measures.pdf>
- 2011 "Social Policy Reform: Inter-municipal Cooperation in Social Service Delivery. Lessons from Slovakia", Pontis Foundation, Slovakia
- 2009 "Study on the Quality of Gender Statistics on Labour, Employment and Wages", Gender Equality Directorate, Ministry of Labour and Social policy, Government of Serbia [supported by UNIFEM]
- 2009 "Cross-border cooperation and regional development: the case of Knjazevac municipality" (with I. Knezevic and V. Jeremic), Fund for an Open Society, Serbia
- 2006 "Defining Criteria for Underdeveloped Municipalities" (with G. Radosavljevic), Poverty Reduction Strategy Implementation Focal Point, Deputy Prime Minister's Office, Government of Serbia, November, 47 pp.