Prof. Christina Zarafonitou

Short CV

October 2026



Christina Zarafonitou studied Law at the Law School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. She completed her postgraduate studies and received the D.E.A. diploma in Criminal Sciences-Criminology at the University of Law, Economics, and Social Sciences of Paris (Université Paris II, Panthéon-Sorbonne), where she also completed her Doctoral Thesis on "Violent crime in an urban context-In Athens, a product of rapid urbanization" and was awarded her doctorate in 1989.

Professor of Criminology in the Department of Sociology at the School of Social Sciences of Panteion University (she started as a Lecturer in 1993, was promoted to Full Professor in 2007, and retired in 2026) and Director of the Postgraduate Program "Criminology" at Panteion University (2009-2026). Founder and Director of the Urban Criminology Laboratory at Panteion University (2015-present). Vice President of the Hellenic Society of Criminology. Regular Member of the European Academy of Arts and Letters. Member of the Scientific Council of the Local Government Institute. Member of legislative and other committees. She served as Vice-Rector (2016), Chair of the Board of EPANODOS (2017-2023), National Representative in the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN) (2017-2026).

Editor-in-Chief of the scientific journal “Criminology”. Founder and director of the international open-access electronic journal Urban Crime-An International Journal. Editor-in-chief of the Newsletter “Crime and Punishment” of the Hellenic Criminology Society. Member of the editorial board of international scientific journals.

She has extensive teaching and research experience in Criminology and Crime Policy and has been scientifically responsible for major national and European research projects.

Author of numerous scientific books and articles in recognized Greek and international scientific journals. She has presented numerous papers at national and international conferences and has organized many scientific conferences, seminars, and workshops with international reach and participation.

TEDx Speaker, TEDxAUTH 26-4-2026, Thessaloniki.

Main scientific interests: empirical criminology, urban crime, crime mapping, victimization studies, fear of crime/insecurity, punitiveness, community-based prevention, participatory crime policy, social attitudes/representations of crime and criminal justice, public-police relations, prisons, and social reintegration.

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