

# IRENA FIKET

PhD | Senior Research Fellow

Laboratory for Active Citizenship and Democratic Innovations

Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade

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## Academic CV (academic experience and publications only)

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### RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Deliberative democracy · Participatory democracy · Democratic innovations · Citizen participation · Social movements · Gender equality · Western Balkans ·

### EDUCATION

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#### PhD in Political Science and Sociology

*Faculty of Political Science and Sociology, University of Rome, La Sapienza, Italy*

#### BA/MA in Political Science

*Faculty of Political Science, University of Bologna, Italy*

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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#### Senior Research Fellow

Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory (IFDT), University of Belgrade, Serbia

*Current*

#### Academic Coordinator, Laboratory for Active Citizenship and Democratic Innovations (ActiveLab)

Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory (IFDT), University of Belgrade, Serbia

*2020–2025*

#### Research Fellow

Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory (IFDT), University of Belgrade, Serbia

*2017–2025*

#### Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Centre for the Study of Political Change (CIRCaP), University of Siena, Italy

*2014–2016*

#### Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Lecturer

Department of Political Science and Sociology, University of Florence, Italy

*2012–2014*

#### Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Department of Political Science (DSP), University of Bologna, Italy

*2011–2012*

#### Visiting Postdoctoral Researcher

ARENA – Centre for European Studies, University of Oslo, Norway

*2010–2011*

#### Pre-doctoral Researcher

Centre for the Study of Political Change (CIRCaP), University of Siena, Italy

*2007–2010*

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

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**Nets4Dem – Network of Networks for Democracy**, Horizon Europe Framework Programme, 2023–ongoing. Role: Senior Researcher.

**EnTrust – Enlightened Trust: An Examination of Trust and Distrust in Governance**, Horizon 2020 Framework Programme, February 2020 – 2024. Role: Principal Investigator, Serbian Team (University of Belgrade).

**ACTWB – Active Citizenship: Promoting and Advancing Innovative Democratic Practices in the Western Balkans**, Erasmus+ Programme, Jean Monnet Network, 2018–2022. Role: Academic Coordinator.

**CURE – Cultures of Rejection: Conditions of Acceptability in Socio-Spatial and Digital Environments in Contemporary Europe**, Volkswagen Foundation, 2018–2022. Role: Principal Investigator, Serbian Team (University of Belgrade).

**Gender in Academic Communities: Researching Inequalities in Early Career Stages from a Comparative Perspective**, Ministry of Science (Serbia) & Public Agency for Research (Slovenia), 2020–2021. Role: Principal investigator (2020) and Senior Researcher (2021)

**Harmonization of Family and Professional Obligations of Academic Workers**, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), University of Fribourg, PERFORM, HELVETAS Swiss Cooperation, 2017. Role: Researcher.

**Citizens' Participation and Public Policies (Master Programme)**, University of Florence, 2012–2013. Role: Master Programme Coordinator.

**Deliberative Citizens Arenas in Europe: Questions of Democratic Legitimacy**, Research Council of Norway, 2011–2012. Role: Researcher (Individual Grant).

**Public Deliberation and Institutional Learning**, University of Bologna (in collaboration with the Tuscany Region), 2011–2012. Role: Lead Researcher (evaluation of participatory processes under Tuscany Law No. 69).

**EuroPolis: A Deliberative Polity-Making Project**, 7th Framework Programme (FP7), European Commission, CIRCaP, University of Siena, 2008–2009. Role: Researcher; Member of Scientific Committee.

**Deliberative Poll Turin & European Citizens' Consultations (ECC)**, CIRCaP, University of Siena, 2007. Role: Junior Researcher (organisation and supervision of deliberative processes; experimental design, data collection, analysis).

**INTUNE – Integrated and United? A Quest for Citizenship in an Ever Closer Europe**, 7th Framework Programme (FP7), European Commission, CIRCaP, University of Siena, 2007–2009. Role: Junior Researcher.

**PUBLICATIONS** (full list of publications: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3939-4089>)

### Peer-reviewed journal articles

Draško, G. P., & Fiket, I. (2026). Institutionalization of participatory democratic innovations: Understanding the roles of established and emerging actors. *Politics and Governance*, 14. <https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.10740>

Fiket, I., Pudar Draško, G., & Allegretti, G. (2026). Towards an innovative democracy: Institutionalizing participation in challenging times. *Politics and Governance*, 14. <https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.11861>

- Vasiljević, J., Fiket, I., Đorđević, A., & Štěpánková, L. (2025). The role of bureaucratic procedures and 'caring professionals' in fostering user trust: Evidence from Serbia and the Czech Republic. *Social Policy and Society*, 24(4), 656–668. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1474746425100808>
- Fiket, I., Pudar Draško, G., & Ilić, V. (2023). The pandemic in illiberal democracies: Challenges and opportunities for social movements in Serbia. *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, 24(1), 79–100. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14683857.2023.2170720>
- Fiket, I., Draško, G. P., & Urošević, M. (2022). Anti-politics as 'culture of rejection': The case of Serbia. *Patterns of Prejudice*, 56(4–5), 279–296. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0031322X.2023.2228575>
- Fiket, I., Ilić, V., & Pudar-Draško, G. (2022). Failed expectations: Can deliberative innovations produce democratic effects in hybrid regimes? *Filozofija i društvo*, 33(1), 50–71. <https://doi.org/10.2298/fid2201050f>
- Fiket, I., & Đorđević, B. (2022). Promises and challenges of deliberative and participatory innovations in hybrid regimes: The case of two citizens' assemblies in Serbia. *Filozofija i društvo*, 33(1), 3–25. <https://doi.org/10.2298/fid2201003f>
- Opratko, B., Bojadžijev, M., Bojanić, S. M., Fiket, I., Harder, A., Jonsson, S., Nećak, M., Neegaard, A., Ortega Soto, C., Pudar Draško, G., Sauer, B., & Stojanović Čehajić, K. (2021). Cultures of rejection in the Covid-19 crisis. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, 44(5), 893–905. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2020.1859575>
- Fiket, I., & Pudar Draško, G. (2021). Possibility of non-institutional political participation within the non-responsive system of Serbia: The impact of (dis)trust and internal political efficiency. *Sociologija*, 63(2), 400–418. <https://doi.org/10.2298/SOC2102400F>
- Pudar Draško, G., Fiket, I., & Vasiljević, J. (2019). Big dreams and small steps: Comparative perspectives on the social movement struggle for democracy in Serbia and North Macedonia. *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14683857.2019.1654317>
- Fiket, I., Ivković, M., Pudar Draško, G., & Vasiljević, J. (2019). The discourse of anti-instrumentalism: Exploring a conceptual model through the case study of the We Won't Let Belgrade D(r)own initiative. *Partecipazione e Conflitto*, 12(3), 898–. <https://doi.org/10.1285/i20356609v12i3p898>
- Di Mauro, D., & Fiket, I. (2017). Debating Europe, transforming identities: assessing the impact of deliberative poll treatment on identity. *Italian Political Science Review/Rivista Italiana Di Scienza Politica*, 47(3), 267–289. <https://doi.org/10.1017/ipo.2016.26>.
- Fiket, I., Olsen, E. D. H., & Trenz, H. J. (2014). Confronting European Diversity: Deliberation in a Transnational and Pluri-Lingual Setting. *Javnost - The Public*, 21(2), 57–73. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13183222.2014.11009145>
- Gerber, M., Bächtiger, A., Fiket, I., Steenbergen, M., & Steiner, J. (2014). Deliberative and non-deliberative persuasion: Mechanisms of opinion formation in EuroPolis. *European Union Politics*, 15(3), 410–429. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1465116514528757>
- Fiket, I., & Braghiroli, S. (2012). Financing of political parties in Western Balkans: Closer to Europe, further from corruption? *La revue Transitions special issue: Le financement des partis politiques dans l'espace post-communiste*, 52(1), 109–126. ISSN: 0779-3812.
- Fiket, I., & Memoli, V. (2012). Supporting democracy in Austria and Europe: Improving democracy through popular deliberation. *Innovative Democracy – Working Paper Series*, Vol. 1 (Institutions), Issue 1 (pp. 1–24). Ur. R. Heinisch. Salzburg. <https://phaidra.univie.ac.at/o:106873>
- Isernia, P., Bobbio, L., Fiket, I., Manca, A. R., & Podestà, N. (2008). Democracy in a hostile environment: a deliberative quasi-experiment, on "Stato e mercato, Rivista quadrimestrale" 3/2008, pp. 443-474, <https://www.rivisteweb.it/doi/10.1425/28363>

## Book Chapters

Fiket, I., Draško, G. P., & Vasiljević, J. (2026). Navigating institutional (dis)trust. In *Political Trust and Distrust in Governance* (pp. 106–128). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003584537-7>

Fiket, I., Draško, G. P., & Vasiljević, J. (2024). Norming participatory practices of movement parties in Southeast Europe. In I. Fiket, Č. Markov, V. Ilić, & G. P. Draško (Eds.), *Participatory democratic innovations in Southeast Europe* (pp. 195–213). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003426103-13>

Fiket, I., Ilić, V., Markov, Č., & Pudar Draško, G. (2024). Why do we need participatory democratic innovations in Southeast Europe? In I. Fiket, Č. Markov, V. Ilić, & G. P. Draško (Eds.), *Participatory democratic innovations in Southeast Europe* (pp. 1–7). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003426103-1>

Fiket, I. (2023). Citizens' assemblies at supranational level: Addressing the EU and global democratic deficit. In M. Reuchamps, J. Vrydagh, & Y. Welp (Eds.), *De Gruyter Handbook of Citizens' Assemblies* (pp. 197–210). De Gruyter. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110758269-017>

Fiket, I., & Spasojevic, D. (2023). Opposition in Serbia: oppression, delegitimization and extra-institutional engagement, in *The legal and political conditions of opposition parties in Central and Eastern Europe. An overview*, edited by Baldin, Serena, and Angela Di Gregorio. Trieste: Edizioni Università di Trieste, 205–226, 217. ISBN: 978-88-5511-441-7 <https://www.openstarts.units.it/handle/10077/35391>

Fiket I. and Ceriman J. (2020). *Intra-family Engagement? A Study of Female Academic Staff at the University of Belgrade*, NAUČNICE U DRUŠTVU, Urednice: Lada Stevanović, Mladena Prelić, Miroslava Lukić Krstanović, Etnografski institut SANU, Beograd 2020. ISBN 978-86-7587-106-4

Fiket I. and Ceriman J. (2019), *Razumevanje koncepta rodne ravnopravnosti u normativnom okviru visokog obrazovanja u Srbiji u Rodna ravnopravnost u visokom obrazovanju: Koncepti, prakse i izazovi* (ur. Dragica Vujadinović i Zorana Antonijević), Akademska knjiga, ISBN: 978-86-6263-279-1

Fiket, I. (2018). (I dalje) dupli teret na leđima (akademske) radnice? In J. Čeriman, I. Fiket, & K. Rácz (Eds.), *Žongliranje između patrijarshata i prekarijata. Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju / Centar za etiku, pravo i primenjenu filozofiju*. ISBN: 978-86-80484-21-1

Fiket I., B. Delibašić and Pudar Draško G., (2018), “Preko granica rodne neravnopravnosti u akademiji”, u *Univerziteti između meritokratije i patrijarhata: žene i moć delanja* sa Balša Delibašić, Gazela Pudar Draško, Beograd: Univerzitet, Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju (IFDT), ISBN: 978-86-80484-30-3

Fiket I. and B. Delibašić, (2018), “Rodna ravnopravnost u oblasti akademskog rada: normativni okvir”, u *Univerziteti između meritokratije i patrijarhata: žene i moć delanja* sa Balša Delibašić, Gazela Pudar Draško, Beograd: Univerzitet, Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju (IFDT), ISBN: 978-86-80484-30-3

Fiket I and Trajković Dj., (2018), “Nema veze, mogu sve sama: usklađivanje poslovnih i porodičnih obaveza akademskih radnica i radnika i raspodela poslova u njihovim domaćinstvima”, u *Univerziteti između meritokratije i patrijarhata: žene i moć delanja* sa Balša Delibašić, Gazela Pudar Draško, Beograd : Univerzitet, Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju (IFDT), ISBN: 978-86-80484-30-3

Fiket, I., Bojanić, P., Hrnjez, S., & Scalmani, D. (2018). Introduction. In I. Fiket, P. Bojanić, S. Hrnjez, & D. Scalmani (Eds.), *Culture in traduzione / Cultures in translation: A paradigm for Europe*. Mimesis International. ISBN: 978-88-5755-434-1.

Fiket, I. (2017). Formiranje aktivnog i tolerantnog građanstva: Potencijal i ograničenja deliberativnog modela demokratije. In *Angažman: uvod u studije angažovanosti* (pp. 84–92). Akademska knjiga.

Fiket, I., & Di Mauro, D. (2014). Discovering Europe? Identity of the migrants in the EU. In I. Tarrósy, Á. Tuka, Z. Vörös, & A. Schmidt (Eds.), *European Integration: Perspectives and Challenges. How 'Borderless' is Europe?* ISBN: 978-615-5457-24-1.

Fiket, I., Čurković, V., & Mijačić, D. (2014). Application of the participatory model of democracy in public land management: Advantages and challenges. In B. Lukić, Z. Radosavljević, A. Đorđević, & M. Marić (Eds.), *Local self-government in spatial and settlement planning* (pp. 475–483). Belgrade: Association of Spatial Planners of Serbia; Faculty of Geography. ISBN: 978-86-6283-013-5

Fiket, I., Olmastroni, F., & Isernia, P. (2013). Qualità della deliberazione e capacità deliberativa: un'analisi comparata delle esperienze italiane. In L. Bobbio (Ed.), *Le qualità della deliberazione* (pp. 323–363). Carocci. ISBN: 978-88-430-6824-1.

Fiket, I., & Memoli, V. (2013). Improving the quality of democracy: The case of deliberative poll held in 2007 in Turin. In B. Geißel & M. Joas (Eds.), *Participatory Democratic Innovations in Europe: Improving the Quality of Democracy?* (pp. 123–142). Barbara Budrich Publishers.

Isernia, P., Fiket, I., Serricchio, F., & Westle, B. (2012). But still it does not move: Functional and identity-based determinants of European identity. In *Citizens and the European Polity* (pp. 110–133). Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199602339.003.0006>

## Books

Fiket, I. (2019). *Deliberativno građanstvo [Deliberative Citizenship]*. Akademski knjiga / Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju. ISBN: 978-86-80484-46-4.

Fiket, I., & Pavlović, Z., & Pudar Draško, G. (2017). *Političke orijentacije građana Srbije: Kartografija nemoći*. Friedrich Ebert Stiftung.

## Edited volumes (books and special issues)

Fiket, I., Allegretti, G., & Pudar Draško, G. (Eds.). (2006). *Towards an innovative democracy: Institutionalizing participation in challenging times. Politics and Governance*. <https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.i479>

Fiket, I., Markov, Č., Ilić, V., & Pudar Draško, G. (Eds.). (2024). *Participatory democratic innovations in Southeast Europe*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003426103>

Fiket, I. (Ed.). (2022). *Participatory innovations in hybrid regimes. Filozofija i društvo / Philosophy and Society*, 33(1), [doi.org/10.2298/FID2201003F](https://doi.org/10.2298/FID2201003F)

Fiket, I., Čeriman, J., & Rácz, K. (Eds.). (2018). *Žongliranje između patrijarshata i prekarijata: Usklađivanje porodičnih i profesionalnih obaveza akademskih radnica*. Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju / Centar za etiku, pravo i primenjenu filozofiju. ISBN: 978-86-80484-21-1

Fiket, I., Bojanić, P., Hrnjez, S., & Scalmani, D. (Eds.). (2018). *Culture in traduzione / Cultures in translation: A paradigm for Europe*. Mimesis International. ISBN: 978-88-5755-434-1.

Fiket I., B. Delibašić and Pudar Draško G., (Eds.). (2018), "Univerziteti između meritokratije i patrijarhata : žene i moć delanja", uređivanje zbornika radova, Beograd: Univerzitet, Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju, ISBN: 978-86-80484-30-3

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Doctoral-level teaching

PhD Research Design Seminar, Faculty of Political Science, University of Belgrade, Serbia  
2024–ongoing

Practices of Democratic Deliberation: From Experiment to Institutionalization, Doctoral Programme in Political and Sociological Research, Faculty of Political Science, University of Belgrade, Serbia  
2024–ongoing

### Master 's-Level Teaching

Practices of Democracy (Concepts that Matter: Debating Democracy), University of Oslo, Norway — Erasmus+ Teaching Mobility  
2024–ongoing

Deliberative Processes, Master Programme Design and Management of Participatory Processes (joint programme of Tuscan Universities in collaboration with the Tuscany Region), Italy  
2012–2013

### Advanced Programmes

Summer School of Social Engagement and Democracy (ANDEM), University of Belgrade, Serbia

## MEMBERSHIPS

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- Founder and member of the Open Society University Network (OSUN) Working Group on Participatory Democratic Innovations and Sortition
- Governance council Member, Democracy R&D international network, <https://democracyrd.org/our-team/#governance>
- ECPR Standing group on Democratic Innovation <http://democraticinnovations.net/organisation>
- Member of Italian Political Science Association (SISP) <http://www.sisp.it/>

### Awards

The Giovanni Sartori Prize for the best scientific paper in the Italian Political Science Review, Cambridge Journals, paper "Debating Europe, Transforming Identities: Assessing the impact of Deliberative Poll treatment on identity" (with Danilo Di Mauro)  
[www.cambridge.org/core/journals/italian-political-science-review-rivista-italiana-di-scienzapolitica/ipsr-giovanni-sartori-prize](http://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/italian-political-science-review-rivista-italiana-di-scienzapolitica/ipsr-giovanni-sartori-prize)

## LANGUAGES

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Serbian (native) | Italian (fluent) | English (fluent)