

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Thomas Farnell

 Ulica Antuna Nemčića 13, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

 +385 (0)91 5784900

 thomas.farnell@gmail.com

 <http://www.linkedin.com/in/TFarnell> | <https://independent.academia.edu/ThomasFarnell>

Sex Male | Date of birth 27/08/1980 | Nationality British / Croatian (dual citizen)

WORK EXPERIENCE

January 2018 – present

Higher Education Policy Expert

Institute for the Development of Education, Zagreb (Croatia), www.iro.hr/en

- Developed and currently managing EU-wide Erasmus+ project (Key Action 3) to develop policy tools for monitoring and measuring the community engagement of universities in Europe
- Providing policy analysis and advocating higher education reform in Croatia
- Developing grant proposals for EU funding and for other national and international donors

Business or sector NGO; sector: higher education

January – present

Consultant (education and training policy; higher education)

Independent, Zagreb (Croatia)

- Wrote three projects for EU funds in the area of education and training policy. Topics: enhancing quality and labour-market relevance of study programmes in line with national qualifications framework; developing policy tools for fostering community engagement of universities in the EU.
- Wrote country report for CEDEFOP on upskilling policies for unemployed youth and the long-term unemployed in Croatia.
- Moderated two international conferences on researcher mobility (for Croatian Ministry of Science) and facilitated international workshop entrepreneurial learning policy in South East Europe and Turkey (for European Training Foundation).

Business or sector Various (state institutions, international organisations and NGOs)

November 2014 –
December 2016

Entrepreneurial Learning Expert

South East European Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning, Zagreb (Croatia), www.seecel.eu

- Worked with governments of the Western Balkans and Turkey to assess their education policies in the area of entrepreneurial learning (in cooperation with the EC, the OECD, the EBRD and the ETF).
- Managed a project gathering 15 universities in eight countries to develop entrepreneurial competences among students enrolled in non-business studies.
- Supported EU-level developments in entrepreneurial learning: appointed as member of the EC/OECD HEInnovate advisory team for innovative and entrepreneurial universities; developed and presented policy analysis on entrepreneurial learning in Europe to the EU's SME Envoy Network; member of the team leading the European Entrepreneurship Education Network.
- Developed project proposals for EU funding and for other international donors (up to 3 million EUR)

Business or sector International organisation

September 2008
– October 2014

Programme Manager

Institute for the Development of Education, Zagreb (Croatia), www.iro.hr/en

- Worked as a consultant and expert on national and international projects:
 - Wrote section of Croatia's national education strategy on the social dimension of higher education.
 - Led team of international experts to develop policy recommendations for a more socially equitable higher education funding/student financial aid system for Croatia (which impacted policy).
 - Acted as international consultant for KfW (German Development Bank) to prepare a feasibility study for a regional student loan programme for South East Europe.
 - Appointed as member of international expert groups: Bologna Follow-Up Group (Social Dimension Working Group) and Network of Experts on the Social Aspects of Education and Training (NESET).

Business or sector NGO; sector: higher education

September 2004 –
September 2008

Educational Programmes Coordinator

Institute for the Development of Education, Zagreb (Croatia), www.iro.hr/en

- Developed and implemented four European Commission-funded projects and four national projects related to higher education development in Croatia. Annual budget: 120,000 EUR.
- Administered 7 grant programmes for U.S. State Department and Open Society Foundation for the international academic mobility of 160 university students and staff. Annual budget: 35,000 EUR.

Business or sector NGO; sector: higher education

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

September 2002 –
September 2003

Master of Arts (EQF level 7)

University of Sussex, Brighton (United Kingdom)

- Twentieth Century Literature in English (*main focus: critical theory; literature and society*)

September 1999 – July 2002

Bachelor of Arts (EQF level 6)

University of Sussex, Brighton (United Kingdom)

- English (*main focus: critical theory; literature and society*)

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s)

English

Other language(s)

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
Croatian/Bosnian/Serbian	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
French	C2	C2	C2	C2	C1
German	A2	A2	A2	A2	A1

Levels: A1/2: Basic user - B1/2: Independent user - C1/2 Proficient user
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Communication skills

- **Public speaking:** Delivered over 100 presentations and media interviews; experienced moderator.
- **Team work:** Accustomed to working in project teams and national/international working groups.

Organisational / managerial skills

- **Project management:** Extensive experience of managing medium to large international projects.
- **Strategic planning:** Trained in strategic and organisational planning; led policy assessment seminars.
- **Leadership:** Successfully led team of four project managers and three assistants.

Digital competence

SELF-ASSESSMENT				
Information processing	Communication	Content creation	Safety	Problem solving
Proficient	Proficient	Independent	Independent	Independent

Levels: Basic user - Independent user - Proficient user
Digital competences - Self-assessment grid

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Other professional experience

- External evaluator of Erasmus+ grant proposals (Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes, Croatia)

Publications (latest)

- List of publications: <https://independent.academia.edu/ThomasFarnell>

References

- Efka Heder, Director, SEECEL, efka.heder@seecel.hr
- Ninoslav Scukanec, Director, Institute for the Development of Education, nscukanec@iro.hr
- Jon File, Director: Development and Consultancy, Centre for Higher Education Policy Studies, University of Twente, Enschede (The Netherlands), j.m.file@utwente.nl