# Dr Milena Kremakova - Sociologist, translator, educator

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Key skills and areas of expertise

Written and spoken translation (Bulgarian, Russian, English, German)

Writing and editing scientific and literary text

Research and analysis (sociology, ethnography)

Teaching (sociology, research methods in the social sciences)

Presentation, public speaking, science communication

Communication and teamwork

IT and office work

Education

Postgraduate

PhD Sociology, 2012, University of Warwick

MA Social and Political Thought (2.1), 2007, University of Warwick

MA European Studies (1st equivalent), 2006, Sofia University

Undergraduate

BA European Studies (1st equivalent), 2004, Sofia University

BA Sociology, 2004 (courses: 1st equivalent; final exam not taken due to commencing study at Warwick). Majors: English and German language and culture; Bulgarian and EU law. Third language: French

Secondary

English Language Gimnasia (Secondary School) (honours, GPA equivalent: A, 100%), 2000, Bourgas, Bulgaria 2000. Second language: German.

Language skills

Written translation and consequent interpreting

I worked as a freelance translator and interpreter between 2000 and 2018. My native languages are Bulgarian and Russian (fully bilingual in speech and writing). I have experience with written translation and consecutive interpreting in several language combinations:

* English to Bulgarian, Bulgarian to English
* Russian to Bulgarian, Bulgarian to Russian
* Russian to English, English to Russian
* German to English
* German to Russian, Russian to German (mainly spoken)

Key areas of expertise

the social sciences and humanities, health and wellness, tourism, refugees and immigration, and martial arts. Some experience translating law, literature, poetry and history of mathematics.

Languages

Russian and Bulgarian

* Fully bilingual. Native-standard understanding, writing and speaking. Raising a trilingual child.

English

* Near-native speaker;
* 15 years of experience as sociology/social anthropology researcher at universities in the UK and Germany, publications in academic journals, extensive experience as a writer, editor and proof-reader of academic publications;
* 7 years teaching experience as sociology lecturer and journal editor in the UK;
* 5 years of postgraduate study (MA and PhD) at a British university;
* TOEFL (2006, total score 115 of 120), CPE (Dec. 2005, grade A in all components, ref.

05CBG0018012).

German

* Advanced (C1): proficient reading/listening, intermediate writing and speaking;
* Interpreting and translation experience.

French:

* Beginner (A2-A3): good reading, basic writing and speaking.

Translation experience

Written translation

**German-Bulgarian desk translator,** GIATA, Berlin. Responsible for the Bulgarian section of a digital tourism database. (2017-2018)

**Freelance legal translator, Bulgarian to English**. Translated wills and other legal documents for a private British law firm. (2008–2010)

**Web content translator, English to Bulgarian** ([www.photoblog.com](http://www.photoblog.com), 2008)

**News desk journalist German to English** (2006)

Online news agency Aii Data Processing, Factiva/Dow Jones outsourcing service, Sofia

* Selected, translated and summarized German economic and businesses news into English;
* Worked in a team, to tight deadlines;
* Improved my translation, writing, and abstracting skills and speed;
* Mastered English and German vocabulary relating to economics and business;
* Gained speed and proficiency in the use of search engines and databases.

Literary and scientific translation

* **Russian to English (history of mathematics)**, 2019:
  + Norden, A.P., Zabotin, Y.I., Eskin, L.D., Grigoryev, S.V., Begovatov, E.A.: Al’bert Valentinovich Sul;din (on the occasion of his fiftieth birthday). Izv. Vyss. Ucebn. Zaved. Mat. 12, 3–5 (1978)
  + Zabotin, Y.I., Zamov, N.K., Aksent’ev, L.A., Zemtseva, T.N.: Al’bert Valentinovich Sul’din (obituary). Izv. Vyssh. Uchebn. Zaved. Mat. 2(84) (1996)
* **English to Bulgarian/Russian**, 2008–2010. Translated multiple articles about martial arts for online publications.
* **English to Bulgarian (sociology, poetry)** 2005:
  + Chapter 15 from Boehme G. (1984). Midwifery as Science: An Essay on the Relation Between Scientific and Everyday Knowledge., in Society and knowledge: contemporary perspectives in the sociology of knowledge, N. Stehr. and V. Meja (eds.), pp. 365–385. New Brunswick: Transaction Books. (for university library use).
  + Disparate voices: The magic show of sociology, by Barbara J. Peters. The American Sociologist/Fall/Winter 1991 – to Bulgarian, published in Department of Sociology Journal, Sofia University, 2005, pp.246-260.
  + ‘When you are old...’ by W. B. Yeats, 2nd award in translation contest, published in Hristov, P. and Shopova, M. (2005, editors) Presatvorenie: Poetry in Translation, vol. VI, p. 38, Veliko Tarnovo University Press (in Bulgarian), http://uni-vt. bg/pages/713/uplft/pressatv[1].VI.doc.
* **Russian to Bulgarian,** 2005: Андрей Фоменко, Петербургское исскуство глазами номиналиста (**Андрей Фоменко, Петербургското изкуство през очите на един номиналист)**

Spoken translation (consecutive interpreting & public speaking)

**Conference interpreter (English, Bulgarian, Russian)** at public lectures, conferences in the social sciences and at martial arts events (2000-2018).

**Legal Interpreter (Russian-German, Bulgarian-German)**, May 2017-December 2018.

* Employer: Arbeiter Wohlfahrt (AWO), Berlin, Germany;
* Assisted immigration advisors and social workers in their daily work with Russian-speaking refugees on location;
* Accompanied refugees at various German authorities (immigration and city institutions, hospitals, housing, police, education and training). Translated documents (legal, advisory, training materials, public announcements, emails, personal identification, witness statements, etc.);
* Work with vulnerable groups (refugees among whom children and youth, pregnant, disabled, elderly, LGBT, including ones suffering from complex health conditions and PTSD, Alzheimers, cancer, during emergency health conditions);
* In person and by phone;
* Provided psychological counselling, employment and education advice, facilitated small youth groups;
* Familiar with German refugee law;
* Obtained German equivalent of DBS (Fuerungszeugnis, July 2017).

**Volunteer interpreter/translator**, Berlin, Germany, 2016.

* Administrative assistance, explanation and translation of documents, facilitated a women’s group.

**Medical interpreter on location (Bulgarian-English),** Coventry (2007-2008).

* Employer: Applied Language Solutions (via University of Warwick UNITEMPS)

**Internship: Liaison officer (Bulgarian-Russian),** Sofia, 15 Nov–10 Dec 2004.

* Employer: Diplomatic Institute at the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
* Provided interpreting to the Russian Delegation at the 12th meeting of OSCE countries’ ministers of foreign affairs

Transcription/digitalisation and translation

**Research assistant, Russian** (2016)

* Transcribed handwritten 1930s archives to Russian, summarised into English

Other relevant experience

Academic research, writing, editing, publishing, presentation

* PhD sociology (2012), postdoctoral research and lecturing (2012-2020). Conducted over 200 life-story interviews in Bulgarian, Russian and German and translated parts into English. Presented at tens of international conferences. Organised and co-organised several international conferences. At present working on academic articles and a book.
* Founding co-editor, *The Sociological Imagination*, daily online magazine (2009-2017) which at one time became the most popular sociology online media with over 5000 daily hits.

Editing and proof-reading (Bulgarian and English)

* Founding co-editor and writer for the online sociology journal www.sociologicalimagination.org, 2010-2018.
* Editor and proof-reader of academic articles translated from Bulgarian to English

Language teaching

English as second language, Berlin, Germany (2018)

Music teaching

Beginners piano, children and adults, in German, Russian and English, Berlin, Germany (2016-2018).

Awards and prizes

* Leverhulme Fellowship, University of Warwick (2013-2016).
* Postdoctoral Fellowship, Humboldt University Berlin (2012-2013).
* Full PhD funding – Warwick University Postgraduate Fellowship (2007-2010)
* 2nd prize: Poetry translation contest organised by the Bulgarian National University Students’ Union and Bulgarian Translators’ Association. My Bulgarian translation of W. B. Yeats’ poem ‘When you are old...’) was published in the year book of Veliko Turnovo University. (2005)
* Undergraduate Excellence Award: Department of Sociology, Sofia University (2005)
* Talented Undergraduate Student Award by the Bulgarian-German Foundation for Support of Bulgarian Higher Education (2005)

Technical skills

* Operating systems: Mac, MS Windows, Linux Ubuntu;
* Word processing and spreadsheet software (MS Word, LibreOffice, LaTeX)
* Presentation software (Beamer, MS Powerpoint, Prezi) referencing (BibTeX, Refworks, Endnote);
* Visual-interface online publishing tools (WordPress, SiteBuilder, Blogger), basic digital photography and editing (GIMP, Adobe Photoshop);
* Competent user of qualitative and quantitative data analysis tools (NVIVO, SPSS, Ms Excel).

Interests

* Digital photography (events, street, portrait, travel, graphical)
* Child development and psychology
* Bilingualism and multilingualism in the family

References

Available on request.