Meri Pietilä

Master of Social Sciences · Social Research · Social Psychology

Education

University of Helsinki *Helsinki, Finland*

MSocSci Social Research, Social Psychology *8/2021–4/2024*

- Exchange student at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences. February–June 2023.

University of Helsinki *Helsinki, Finland*

BSocSci Social Research, Social Psychology Study Track *8/2018–5/2021*

Professional Experience

University of Antwerp *5/2025- on-going*

PhD Researcher *Antwerp, Belgium*

- BI-RESPONS project led by Prof. Tijs Laenen.

EU ACER (Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators) *3/2024–5/2025*

Trainee (March – August 2024), Graduate (September 2024 – MAY 2025) *Ljubljana, Slovenia*

- Staff survey working group: facilitating implementation of the survey, contributing to the development of the questionnaire.
- Coordinating Graduate programme: communications and administration.
- Contribution to HR strategy and projects: liaising with internal and external stakeholders; preparation of notes, presentations and drafting documents.

Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University *10/2023–2/2024*

Coordination, Content Production and Pre-Testing *Tampere, Finland*

- Coordinating popularisation of research project's materials for website materials.
- Planning and writing content. Planning, organising and conducting pre-testing interviews.
- Part-time.

City of Helsinki *9/2023–12/2023*

University Intern, Migration Affairs Unit *Helsinki, Finland*

- Contributing to unit's work on improving integration, settling-in and employability of migrants in Helsinki area.
- Assisting the Settling-in Support Team in compiling reports, communication on social media and stakeholder events.
- Compiling a report on settling-in services for internationally recruited professionals. Conducting information-gathering interviews with international nurses in Germany.

University of Helsinki; Tampere University *12/2020–1/2023*

Research Assistant *Helsinki, Finland; Remote*

- Contributing to planning and conducting qualitative and quantitative research.
- Co-author in two research articles.
- Coordinating research seminar of Behavior Change Science Network Finland.
- Full-time during summer periods, part-time during study semesters.

Terveydenhuoltoalan Työttömyyskassa [Unemployment fund] *4/2020–12/2020*

Benefits Officer and Membership Secretary *Helsinki, Finland*

- Applying relevant legislation on processing and solving benefit applications.
- Advising fund members on the unemployment benefit application process.
- Full-time during summer, part-time during the study semester.

Publications

Published

Pietilä, M., Saurio, K., Martela, F., Silfver, M., & Hankonen, N. (2023). Basic psychological needs, quality of motivation, and protective behavior intentions: a nationally representative survey study. *Health Psychology and Behavioral Medicine*, *11*(1). https://doi.org/10.1080/21642850.2023.2257295

Presentations

Pietilä, M., Saurio, K., Martela, F., Hankonen, N. 2022. Does autonomous motivation matter in COVID-19 prevention? Predicting personal protective behavior with motivation quality. Oral presentation: 36th Annual Conference of the European Health Psychology Society, Bratislava, Slovakia.

Pietilä, M., Saurio, K., Martela, F., Ivanova, A., Kostamo, K., Hankonen, N. 2021. Finns' Motivation to Adhere to Protective Measures during COVID-19 Pandemic [in Finnish]. Oral presentation as part of a symposium. Terveyspsykologian päivät 2021 (Health Psychology Days), on-line conference.

Research Experience

University of Helsinki, Tampere University, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland *12/2020-1/2023*

Principal Investigators Prof. Nelli Hankonen (Uni. Tampere) and Ali Harlin (VTT) *Helsinki, Finland; Remote*

- Project: Citizen Shield - technological, behavioural and societal solutions for protective actions to tackle pandemics.