

Diana Garlytska

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Location: Vilnius, Lithuania

Professional Summary

Ukrainian environmental finance expert and climate diplomacy professional with expertise in EU policies, financial instruments for environmental protection, and international conservation efforts as well as extensive teaching and academic background. Founder of an NGO supporting young professionals in nature conservation and an active contributor to climate and environmental diplomacy initiatives.

Education

PhD Candidate in Finance (Expected 2027) | Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania

Research: Financial Instruments for Environment Protection in the Context of the EU Green Deal

Master's Degree in International Financial Management | Kyiv National Economic University, 2010

Bachelor's Degree in International Economics and Management | Kyiv National Economic University, 2009

Professional Experience

Founder & Director | Sustainability Narrative Institute | 2023 – Present

- Leading initiatives to support young professionals in conservation through mentorship programs and grant opportunities.
- Secured funding and partnerships to drive youth-centered and environmental activities in Eastern Europe.

Self-employed, consultancy in applied research, teaching and training etc. | 2024–Present

Head of Science & Research Division, other multiple roles | SMK University of Applied Social Sciences | 2013-2022

- Scientific and applied research through project management and R&D solutions for business and society:
 - proposal writing end-to-end Horizon2020 (RIA, CSA), Erasmus+, Creative Europe;
 - project management end-to-end;
 - partner search, coordination & communication;
 - budgeting and reporting for projects etc.

- Additionally, I have developed storytelling direction at SMK that grew into a full fledged field of SMK competence under my direct supervision. Numerous local and international S2B and public activities, events and projects were implemented as a result of that over the past 5 years along with strong connections of SMK to storytelling experts and organizations network.

Business analyst trainee | DHL Regional HQ | 2011-2013

- Performance management analysis

Assistant to General Director | UkrEuroConsultig | March-May 2011

- General support, JI project under Kyoto Protocol documentation review, basic bookkeeping etc.

Trainee| Ministry of Industrial Policy of Ukraine | January–May 2010

- General support to the department, work on Master thesis.

Key Skills

- Environmental finance & EU Green Deal policies
- Climate diplomacy & international negotiations
- Fundraising & grant management
- Strategic leadership & stakeholder engagement

Languages

- Ukrainian – native
- English – fluent
- Lithuanian – full professional working proficiency
- Russian – fluent
- Spanish – professional working proficiency
- German – limited proficiency

Roles & Recognitions

- IUCN Youth Advisory Committee Chair.
- UN MGCY SCP Youth Platform Coordination Team, Regional Facilitator for Europe (2022-2023).
- COP 27, COP 28, SB 58, SB60, NATO Public Forum 2023 delegate.
- RCOY Eastern Europe co-organizer (2023) under YOUNGO, UNFCCC.
- Advisory Board member at CoalitionWILD.
- Regional Vice Chair for West Europe at IUCN Commission on Education and Communication.