

Athina Raftopoulou

Nationality: Greek | Married, 1 child (born 2023)

Email: raftopoulou@kepe.gr, athraf@upatras.gr

Website: <https://athinaraftopoulou.wordpress.com>

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8704-4038>

Current Position

Research Fellow: Centre of Planning and Economic Research (KEPE), Athens, (2025-)

Education

- **PhD** in Economics, University of Barcelona, School of Economics (2019).
- **MSc** in Applied Economics and Data Analysis, University of Patras, Department of Economics (2011).
- **BSc** in Economics, University of Patras, Department of Economics (2010).

Research Work

Published Papers

- Davillas, A., de Oliveira, V. H. & **Raftopoulou, A.** (2025), Parental health, adolescents' mental distress and noncognitive skills, *Economics and Human Biology*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ehb.2025.101506>.
- **Raftopoulou, A.**, & Gil Trasfi, J. (2024). Income-related inequality in obesity and its determinants in Spain: What happens beyond the obesity threshold?. *International Journal of Health Economics and Management*, 24(1), 135-153.
- **Raftopoulou, A.**, & Giannakopoulos, N. (2023). Unemployment and health: a panel event study. *Applied Economics Letters*, 30(10), 1275-1278.
- **Raftopoulou, A.** (2017). Geographic determinants of individual obesity risk in Spain: a multilevel approach. *Economics & Human Biology*, 24, 185-193.
- Castelo Rueda, M. P., Zanon, A., Gilmozzi, V., Lavdas, A. A., **Raftopoulou, A.**, ...& Pichler, I. (2023). Molecular phenotypes of mitochondrial dysfunction in clinically non-manifesting heterozygous PRKN variant carriers. *npj Parkinson's Disease*, 9(1), 65.
- Vukovic, V., Hantikainen, E., **Raftopoulou, A.**, Gögele, M., Rainer, J., Domingues, F. S., ...& Pattaro, C. (2023). Association of dietary proteins with serum creatinine and estimated glomerular filtration rate in a general population sample: the CHRIS study. *Journal of Nephrology*, 36(1), 103-114.
- Castelo Rueda, M. P., **Raftopoulou, A.**, Gögele, M., Borsche, M., Emmert, D., Fuchsberger, C., ...& Hicks, A. A. (2021). Frequency of heterozygous Parkin (PRKN) variants and penetrance of Parkinson's disease risk markers in the population-based CHRIS cohort. *Frontiers in Neurology*, 12, 706145.
- Fazzini, F., Lamina, C., **Raftopoulou, A.**, Koller, A., Fuchsberger, C., Pattaro, C., ...& GCKD Investigators. (2021). Association of mitochondrial DNA copy number with metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes in 14,176 individuals. *Journal of Internal Medicine*, 290(1), 190-202.

Ongoing Work/Other Publications

- Mental Health in Greece Amid the COVID-19 Crisis: Exploring the Role of Labor Market Dynamics (with N. Giannakopoulos).

- Celebrities as Reference Points for Body Weight Perceptions and Behaviours in Egypt (*with Joan Costa i Font*, submitted).
- Social Norms, Lifestyle, and Gender Gaps in Obesity: Evidence from Egypt (*with Joan Costa i Font*).
- di Paolo, A., Gil Trasfi, J. & **Raftopoulou, A.**, What drives regional differences in Body Mass Index? Evidence from Spain. *AQR–Working Papers*, 2018, *AQR18/05*.
- **Raftopoulou, A.** (2020). Is it me, the region I live in, or the education I received? The mechanisms of obesity. *Economía y salud: boletín informativo*, (94), 12.

Greek Economic Outlook

- Raftopoulou A. (2025) *Health, subjective well-being and access to healthcare in Greece after the COVID-19 pandemic*, Greek Economic Outlook (KEPE), part A, issue 58 pp. 55-60.
- Raftopoulou A. (2025) *The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on self-perceived health in Greece*, Greek Economic Outlook (KEPE), part A, issue 57 (June), 55-63.

Funded Research Projects and Postdoctoral Research

- Postdoctoral Research: "Parental health, mortality, and social and behavioral outcomes of children," Department of Economics, University of Macedonia (2024).
- Researcher: "Detection and cultivation of the special characteristics of the student profile," CTI DIO-PHANTUS (2023-).
- Postdoctoral Research, "The effects of the Economic Crisis on the health status of Greeks during the life-cycle," Department of Economics, University of Patras (2020/2022).
- Researcher: Eurac Research, Institute for Biomedicine (Bolzano), Italy, (2019-2020).

Teaching Experience

- **Microeconomics I**, Department of Economics, University of Patras (2020-2022).
- **Managerial Economics**, Department of Economics, University of Patras (2022-2023).
- **Investment Appraisal**, Department of Economics, University of Patras (2020-2023).
- **Introduction to Economics for Engineers and Scientists**, Department of Economics, University of Patras (2020-2023).
- **Introduction to Economics II**, Department of Economics, University of Patras (2020-2023).

Awards and Scholarships

- Extraordinary PhD Award, University of Barcelona (2020).
- IKY Scholarship, Postdoctoral Researchers Support, Phase B (2020-2022).
- Wall of ALumni Scholarship, University of Barcelona, School of Economics (2015).

Selected Participation in International Conferences

- 66th Annual Conference of the Italian Economic Association, University of Naples Parthenope (2025)
- KEPE Conference on familiarizing economics students with research and empirical analysis, *on-line* (2025)
- 1st International Conference on Applied Economics and Financial Issues, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki University of Piraeus (2025)
- 14th Labour Economics Meeting , UNIR, Spanish Association of Labor Economics (2021)
- Reconciling immediacy and the future health, Health Economics Association (2021)
- Health Care Systems Under Stress, Italian Health Economics Association (2020)
- 5th EuHEA PhD Student-Supervisor and Early Career Researcher Conference, Department of Economics and Business, Catania, (2018)
- XXXVII Jornadas de Economía de la Salud, Universidad de las Palmas de Gran Canaria (2018)
- IV International PhD Conference in Economics, University of Leicester (2018)
- Research in Evaluation of Health Policies and Services, Escuela Andaluza de Salud Publica (2017)
- XREPP Doctoral Day, University of Barcelona (2015)

Peer Review for Scientific Journals

Applied Economics, Health Economics, Health Economics Review, PLOS ONE, PLOS Global Public Health, BMC Public Health, Discover Global Society, Health and Social Care in the Community, Frontiers in Public Health, International Journal of Public Health

Related Activities

- Summer School in Health Economics and Statistics: *Causal Inference in Health Research using Non-Randomized Data*. University of Gothenburg, Sweden (2017).
- Pre-doctoral Research: "Collaboration Grant", University of Barcelona, School of Economics, Economic Theory Department (2017). *In Spanish*
- Pre-doctoral Research: "Analysis of the effect of decentralisation of health competences on the prevalence of obesity at regional level in Spain," Fundacio Bosch i Gimpera (2016-2018).

Scientific Associations and Study Groups

- Spanish Health Economics Association
- European Health Economics Association
- Spanish Labor Economics Association