



**Full name:** *Dr Theofanis Exadaktylos*

**What subject did you study?** *Politics (PhD)*

**Year of Graduation:** *2010*

**Current Job Title:** *Senior Lecturer in European Politics*

**Current Employer/Organisation Name:** *University of Surrey*

You can find out more about Theofanis on his [University of Surrey staff profile](#) and [Twitter @EUforeginpolicy](#)

**Can you give us an overview of what you have done since you completed your research degree?**

*I have been an academic since 2011 at the University of Surrey, progressing now to Senior Lecturer since 2016*

**How did you become interested in the area that you work in?**

*It was my desire to be in academia, do research on European current political affairs and teach students the beauty of politics as a discipline. It is both these element that I enjoy the most in my career: seeing students come through and excelling in their chosen careers and seeing my research being recognized all around the world*

**What skills are involved in your work and how did your research degree help develop them?**

*Research methods have been the most useful - also presentations and public speaking for teaching purposes*

**What did you enjoy most about your research degree?**

*My supervisor, Claudio Radaelli was my biggest inspiration and a mentor for life*

**What advice would you give to a current PGR who wishes to pursue your career?**

*Do it if you can commit yourself to it. You have to have passion to become an academic*

**What are your plans for the future?**

*Continue on this trajectory, hopefully getting to Professor level soon*

**Do you have any tips or advice for beginning a career or working in your industry/sector?**

*Yes, resilience and coping with the rejection are necessary in academia*