

BRIEF CV

Danai Papadatou, Ph.D.

Emeritus Professor of Clinical Psychology

Danai Papadatou is an Emeritus Professor of Clinical Psychology at the School of Health Sciences, Department of Nursing, of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, in Greece. Her clinical, research experience and publications focus mostly on issues related to pediatric palliative care, childhood and family bereavement, community trauma, the impact of caring for dying children upon health care professionals. The past 10 years she has also been actively involved in the training of field workers who support unaccompanied refugee minors, and conducted extensive research on the minors' mental health throughout the country. She is also the founder and chair of the Board of Directors of "Merimna", a non profit organization, which provides specialized pediatric palliative care home care services and operates two bereavement counseling centers for children, families and school communities in Greece. This organization celebrates in 2025, thirty years of community services, since its foundation.

Danai Papadatou has received several international awards for her teaching, research, publications and community service in pediatric palliative care, death education, and childhood bereavement support and community service, including awards from the Children Hospice International (1989), the Association for Death Education and Counseling (2001), the Robert Fulton Center for Death Education and Bioethics, University of Wisconsin La Crosse (2012), the International Center for the Study of Childhood Loss, Bereavement and Human Resilience, Israel (2019), the Vittorio Ventafridda Award (2024). She is a member and has served as chair of the Board of Directors of the International Work Group on Death, Dying and Bereavement, an association of leaders in thanatology across the world. In 2022 she was honored by its members with the "Herman Feifel Award in recognition of her outstanding achievement in thanatology".