

My academic journey has been underpinned by two prestigious bachelor's degrees, one from the European Humanities University (EHU) in Vilnius, Lithuania, and the other from the ArtEZ Institute of the Arts in Arnhem, Netherlands. The high calibre of education at EHU was recognized with a scholarship that funded my four-year tenure at ArtEZ (attached in the documents), further enriching my knowledge and expertise in graphic design, visual arts, and liberal arts.

Last summer marked a significant milestone with my graduation from ArtEZ. My graduation project, titled *You Don't Hate Mondays, You Hate Capitalism*, served as a critical exploration of capitalism's subtle influences on media and language. Not only did this project mirror EHU's mission of promoting critical thinking and societal betterment, but it also secured my position as a finalist for the international *NewOne* Award in the Data Visualization category (attached in the documents). The accolades received on this global platform resonate with EHU's strategic goals of fostering innovative, societally relevant research and effective dissemination of research findings.

Currently, my latest artistic endeavour *I Flowered It* (attached in the documents) is exhibited at Cultural Center Rozet in Arnhem. My fascination with organic shapes translated into the creation of a series of artworks representing visually complex structures filled with various elements and colors, depicting flowers at different levels of abstraction, accompanied by graphical elements. This series showcases my ability to translate personal inspiration into art (<https://katekonovalova.com/>), further attesting to my creative skills and dedication to visual exploration.

I consider myself a true embodiment of EHU's vision: an internationally-oriented individual with a wealth of professional experiences. The privilege of studying in Lithuania and the Netherlands, coupled with professional internships at the *Zair Azgur Memorial Studio* in Minsk and *Slavs and Tatars* in Berlin, has broadened my worldview and provided deep insights into the diverse sphere of visual arts.

Further enhancing my international reach, I established my own graphic design studio (<https://studiokonek.com/>) in the Netherlands last autumn. This has facilitated my operations on an international level, with recent projects executed in both the Netherlands and the United States. This global immersion has significantly boosted my understanding of the international creative industry, fostering a comprehensive perspective of design in multicultural societies. This insight and my varied experiences uniquely position me to contribute to EHU's rich and diverse academic community.

By securing the Scholarship, I am poised to contribute to EHU's community and strategic goals while fostering my personal academic and professional growth. My unwavering commitment to embody EHU's European values, academic excellence, and international orientation underlines my dedication to aligning my growth with the broader aspirations of the institution.