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September 05, 2022 | Webinar

# Investigating the relationship between mental health, resilience and self-compassion among Greek unemployed people

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Introduction: Unemployment is considered to be one of the most stressful life events that a person may experience. There is a plethora of studies that highlighted the negative effects of unemployment on people's overall mental health and well-being. Yet, psychological resilience and self-compassion contribute positively in coping with stressful situations and seem to be particularly supportive mechanisms when one is confronted with unemployment.

Aim: This study intended to investigate the relationships between resilience, self-compassion and mental health in Greek unemployed people and the contribution of specific socio demographic characteristics in this 'equation'.

Methods: The study followed a survey design whereby a sample of 345 Greek unemployed participants completed a battery of tests online, examining the variables under study. The following questionnaires were employed: a) The Neff Self Compassion Scale, b) The Conor-Davidson Resilience Scaleand c) The General Health Questionnaire-28.

Results: According to the findings, people who reported being unemployed for more than six months showed decreased evels of mental health. Also, the unemployed with higher levels of resilience and self-compassion reported statistically significant higher levels of mental health and vice versa. Finally, self-compassion and psychological resilience were found to be statistically positive related to each other and are predictive factors of mental health with which they are statistically negative related.

Conclusions: The results of this study may contribute to the implementation of interventions aimed at improving the mental health and overall well-being of people affected by long-term unemployment.

### **Biography**

Dr. Theodosios Paralikas was a Assistant Professor University of Thessaly- in Greece. He completed his Post graduation Studies in Mental Health in Greece.