

CRISTINA ANAMARIA COSTESCU (POP)

PERSONAL

Name
Cristina Anamaria Costescu
(Pop)

Adresss
Strada Sindicatelor, nr 7, et.3,
camera 22
Cluj-Napoca, România

E-mail
christina.costescu@gmail.com

Birthdate
31-05-1987

Gender
Female

Nationality
Romanian

Site
<http://psihoped.psiedu.ubbcluj.ro>

Languages

English ★★★★★
German ★★★★★
Spanish ★★★★★



Work experience

- 2024 - Present **Associate Professor**
[Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai](http://www.ubbcluj.ro), Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1, www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca
Special Education Department, *Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences*
- 2012 - Present **Clinical Psychologist and Psychotherapist**
Private Practice
Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy
Certified by National Committee of Psychologists in Romania
- 2018 - 2024 **Lecturer**
[Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai](http://www.ubbcluj.ro), strada Kogălniceanu, nr 1, www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca
Special Education Department, *Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences*
- 2023 - Present **Project Coordinator**
[Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai](http://www.ubbcluj.ro), Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1, www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca
PN-IV-P8-8.1-PRE-HE-ORG-2023-0133 Grant susținere implementarea proiecte tip Orizont, 2023-2025 - National Project
- 2022 - 2026 **Researcher**
[Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai](http://www.ubbcluj.ro), Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1, www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca
"Design and evaluation of technological support tools to empower stakeholders in digital education", HORIZON-EUROPE, EMPOWER-101060918, 2022-2025 - European Project
- 2022 - 2024 **Project Coordinator**
[Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai](http://www.ubbcluj.ro), Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1, www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca
"Executive functions and emotion regulation in social context" UEFISCDI PNIII PN-III-P1-1.1-TE-2021-0355 - National Project
- Nov 2020 - Oct 2022 **Mentor**
[Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai](http://www.ubbcluj.ro), Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1, www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca
„SMART Student for Future! Complex Internship Program for Students from the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Aimed at Labor Market Integration
POCU/626/6/13/130584 – National Project

Dec 2019 - May 2020 **Researcher**

Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai, Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1,
www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca

Early Intervention services for families with children with vision impairment and additional disabilities, Erasmus +, Parteneriate Strategice, 2019-2022, 2019-1-EL01-KA201-062886,

May 2014 - Oct 2017 **Research assistant**

Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai, Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1,
www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca

Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy

DREAM Development of Robot-Enhanced therapy for children with Autism spectrum disorders, FP7 CAPACITIES-611391, 2014-2018 European Project

May 2015 - Oct 2016 **Research assistant**

Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai, Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1,
www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca

Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy

REThink: Evidence-based therapeutic online game for child and adolescent mental health, 2014, CNCS

PN-II-PT-PCCA-2013-4-1937 www.rethink.ro

National Project

Oct 2011 - Oct 2014 **Research assistant**

Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai, Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1,
www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca

Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy

Exploring Robot Assisted Therapy for Children with ASD, CNCS

PCE-2011-3-0484, 381964 EURO, 2011 - 2015

National Grant

Oct 2015 - Oct 2016 **Project Coordinator**

Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai, Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1,
www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca

Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy

Investigation of Executive Functions and Emotion Regulation Strategies in Atypical Development GTC 2015-2016 National Project

Oct 2014 - Oct 2015 **Director proiect**

Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai, Kogălniceanu Street, nr 1,
www.ubbcluj.ro, Cluj-Napoca

Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy

Improving Socio-Emotional Skills in Children with ASD through Robot-Assisted Therapy GTC 2014-2015 National Project

Aug 2015 - Aug 2016 **Researcher**

Autism Baia Mare Association, 22 Decembrie Street, Nr. 23
www.autismbaiamare.ro

Development and Validation of an Assessment Platform for Specialists Working with Children with ASD

Vodafone Foundation - National Project

Oct 2011 - Jul 2016 **Clinical Psychologist and Psychotherapist**
University Psychology Clinic
Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy
Psychological Assessment, Counseling, and Psychotherapy

Nov 2008 - Aug 2011 **Clinical Psychologist and Psychotherapist**
Asociația Autism Transilvania, Cluj-Napoca, Str. Almașului nr. 1/56,
www.autismtransilvania.ro,



EDUCATION

- Oct 2011 - Jul 2014 **PhD in Psychology**
Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Babeș Bolyai University,
Cluj-Napoca
Doctoral School "Psychodiagnosis and Scientifically Validated
Psychological Interventions"
Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy
- Oct 2009 - Jun 2011 **Master Degree in Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy**
Master Degree in Health Psychology
Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Babeș Bolyai University,
Cluj-Napoca
- Oct 2006 - Jun 2009 **Bachelor in Psychology**
Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Babeș Bolyai
University, Cluj-Napoca



PUBLICATIONS

- Chezan, L. C., Liu, J., **Costescu, C. A.**, & Rosan, A. (2026). Cultural adaptation and psychometric evaluation of the quality of life for children with autism spectrum disorder scale. *Advances in Autism*, 12(1), 99-115. (autor corespondent)
- **Costescu**, et al. (2026) Functionality, safety and usability of digital platform supporting executive functions in children with specific educational support needs. *Journal of Enabling Technologic*
- David, D., Baxter, P., Belpaeme, T., Billing, E., Cai, H., Cao, H. L., ... **Costescu**. (2025). Efficacy and effectiveness of robot-assisted therapy for autism spectrum disorder: From lab to reality. *Science Robotics*, 10(109), ead12266.
- David, C., **Costescu, C.**, & Roșan, A. (2025). A preliminary study of a Math digital based intervention in children with intellectual disabilities. *Research in Developmental Disabilities*, 159, 104947. (autor corespondent)
- **Costescu C.**, Rosan A., Thill S., & Herrera G. (2025) Digitally mediated social stories perform on par with traditional means of delivery in teaching social norms to adolescents with ASD. *Advances in Autism*, 15 (2).
- Ferreira, P., David, C., **Costescu, C.**, Vera, L., Herrera, G., Lopes, S., ... & Trindade, F. (2025). Neurodevelopmental disorders: assessing and training working memory. *BMC psychology*, 13(1), 1163.
- **Costescu**, & **Opre C.** (2024). AWAKE School Intervention Program: Improving Executive Functions and Reducing Social and Emotional Difficulties in School-Aged Children. *BRAIN. Broad Research in Artificial Intelligence and Neuroscience*, 15(2), 94-112
- David, C., **Costescu, C.**, Frandea, A., & Roșan, A. (2024). Cognitive Regulation Strategies Used by Children with Reading Difficulties. *Children*, 11(3), 288.
- **Costescu, C.**, Roșan, R., & Carmen, D. (2023). Executive functions and emotion regulation in children with autism spectrum disorders. *European Journal of Special Needs Education*, 1-10.
- **Costescu, C.**, Roșan, A., David, C., Cozma, L., & Calota, A. (2023). The Relation between Cognitive and Emotional Processes in Children and Adolescents with Neurodevelopmental Disorders—A Meta-Analysis. *European Journal of Investigation in Health, Psychology and Education*, 13(12), 2811-2826.
- David, C. V., **Costescu, C. A.**, & Roșan, A. M. (2023). Factors That Support Technology Integration Practices in the Math Education of Children with Intellectual Disabilities. *Children*, 10(6), 918.
- **Costescu, C.**, Podina, I. R., & Voinescu, A. (2022). Digital mental health: Interventions and assessment. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 13.

- **Costescu, C., Pitariu, D., David, C., & Rosan, A. (2022).** Social Communication Predictors in Autism Spectrum Disorder. Theoretical Review. *Journal of Experimental Psychopathology*, 13(3), 20438087221106955.
- **Costescu, C., Şogor, M., Thill, S., & Roşan, A. (2021).** Emotional Dysregulation in Preschoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder—A Sample of Romanian Children. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18(20), 10683.
- **Costescu, C., Chelba, I., Roşan, A., Kovari, A., & Katona, J. (2021).** Cognitive Patterns and Coping Mechanisms in the Context of Internet Use. *Applied Sciences*, 11(3), 1302.
- David, O. A., Cîmpean, A., **Costescu, C.**, DiGiuseppe, R., Doyle, K., Hickey, M., & David, D. (2021). Effectiveness of Outpatient Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy Over One Decade. *American Journal of Psychotherapy*, appi-psychotherapy.
 - David, O. A., **Costescu, C.**, Cardos, R., & Mogoşe, C. (2020, July). How effective are serious games for promoting mental health and health behavioral change in children and adolescents? A systematic review and meta-analysis. In *Child & Youth Care Forum*(pp. 1-22). Springer US.
 - Billing, E., Belpaeme, T., Cai, H., Cao, H. L., Ciocan, A., **Costescu, C.**, ... & Ziemke, T. (2020). The DREAM Dataset: Supporting a data-driven study of autism spectrum disorder and robot enhanced therapy. *PloS one*, 15(8), e0236939.
 - Katona, J., & **Costescu, C.** (2020). Quantitative Analysis of Relationship Between Visual Attention and Eye-Hand Coordination. *Acta Polytechnica Hungarica*, 17(2).
 - Predescu, E., Sipos, R., **Costescu, C. A.**, Ciocan, A., & Rus, D. I. (2020). Executive Functions and Emotion Regulation in Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder and Borderline Intellectual Disability. *Journal of Clinical Medicine*, 9(4), 986.
 - **Costescu, C.**, Rosan, A., Hathazi, A., Pădure, M., Brigitta, N., Kovari, A., & Heldal, I. (2020). Educational tool for testing emotion recognition abilities in adolescents. *Acta Polytechnica Hungarica*, 17(2).
 - Kovari, A., Katona, J., & **Costescu, C.** (2020). Evaluation of Eye-Movement Metrics in a Software DebuggingTask using GP3 Eye Tracker. *Acta Polytechnica Hungarica*, 17(2).
 - Bartlett, M. E., **Costescu, C.**, Baxter, P., & Thill, S. (2020). Requirements for Robotic Interpretation of Social Signals “in the Wild”: Insights from Diagnostic Criteria of Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Information*, 11(2), 81.
 - Balas-Baconschi, C., Pop, C., & **Costescu, C.** (2019). Social communication, executive functions and expressive language in children with ASD with ADHD symptoms-an exploratory study. *Transylvanian Journal of Psychology*, 20(1), 83-112.
 - **Costescu, C.**, & Rosan, A. (2019). Developing an assessment protocol to identify the characteristics of ASD using eye-tracking for educational purpose. *Journal of Applied Technical and Educational Sciences*, 9(4), 70-87.
 - Cao, H. L., Esteban, P., Bartlett, M., Baxter, P. E., Belpaeme, T., **Costescu, C.**, & David, D. (2019). Robot-enhanced therapy: development and validation of a supervised autonomous robotic system for autism spectrum disorders therapy. *IEEE Robotics and Automation Magazine*.
 - David, D. O., **Costescu, C. A.**, Matu, S., Szentagotai, A., & Dobrean, A. (2019). Effects of a Robot-Enhanced Intervention for Children With ASD on Teaching Turn-Taking Skills. *Journal of Educational Computing Research*, 0735633119830344.
 - Cai, H., Fang, Y., Ju, Z., **Costescu, C.**, David, D., Billing, E.& Vernon, D. (2018). Sensing-enhanced therapy system for assessing children with autism spectrum disorders: a feasibility study. *IEEE Sensors Journal*, 19(4), 1508-1518.
 - David, D. O., **Costescu, C. A.**, Matu, S., Szentagotai, A., & Dobrean, A. (2018). Developing Joint Attention for Children with Autism in Robot-Enhanced Therapy. *International Journal of Social Robotics*, 1-11.
 - **Costescu, C. A.**, Vanderborght, B., & David, D. O. (2017). Robot-Enhanced CBT for dysfunctional emotions in social situations for children with ASD. *Journal of Evidence-Based Psychotherapies*, 17(2), 119-132.
 - Esteban, P. G., Baxter, P., Belpaeme, T., Billing, E., Cai, H., **Costescu, C.**, ... & Fang, Y. (2017). How to build a supervised autonomous system for robot-enhanced therapy for children with autism spectrum disorder. *Paladyn, Journal of Behavioral Robotics* 8(1), 18-38.
 - Simut, R., Van de Perre, G., **Costescu, C.**, Saldien, J., Vanderfaeillie, J., David, D., Lebefer, D., & Vanderborght, B. (2016) Probogotchi: A novel edutainment device as a bridge for interaction between a child with ASD and the typically developed sibling, *Journal of Evidence-Based Psychotherapies*, 16 (1), 91-112.

- Peca, A., Coeckelbergh, M., Simut, R., **Costescu, C.**, Pinte, S., David, D., & Vanderborght, B. (2016). Robot enhanced therapy for children with autism disorders: Measuring ethical acceptability. *IEEE Technology and Society Magazine*, 35(2), 54-66.
- **Costescu, C. A.**, Vanderborght, B., & David, D. O. (2016). Beliefs, Emotions, and Behaviors Differences between Children with Asd and Typically Developing Children. a Robot Enhanced Task. *Journal of Evidence-Based Psychotherapies*, 16(2), 221.
- Coeckelbergh, M., **Pop, C.**, Simut, R., Peca, A., Pinte, S., David, D., & Vanderborght, B. (2016). A survey of expectations about the role of robots in robot-assisted therapy for children with ASD: Ethical acceptability, trust, sociability, appearance, and attachment. *Science and engineering ethics*, 22(1), 47-65.
- Simut, R., Vanderborght, B., **Pop, C.**, Vanderfaeillie, J., Van De Perre, G., Vanderborght, B. & Lefeber, D. (2016) "Can you cure me? Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders playing a doctor game with a social robot. *International Journal of School Health*. 3 (3)
- **Costescu, C.**, Vanderborght B., & David, D. (2014). The effects of robot-enhanced psychotherapy: A meta-analysis. *Review of General Psychology*, 18(2), 127-136.
- **Pop, C.**, Pinte, S., Vanderborght, B., & David, D. (2014). Enhancing play skills, engagement and social skills in a play task in ASD children by using robot-based interventions: A pilot study. *Interaction Studies*, 15(2), 292-320.
- **Costescu, C.**, & David, D. (2014). Attitudes toward using social robots in psychotherapy. *Transylvanian Journal of Psychology*, 15(1), 3-18.
- Butean, I., **Costescu, C.**, & Dobrea A. (2014) Differences between empathic responses in children with autism spectrum disorders and typically developing children. *Journal of Evidence-Based Psychotherapy*, 14(2), 197-211.
- Cao Hoang, L., Van De Perre, G., Simut, R., **Pop, C.**, Peca, A., Lefeber, D., Vanderborght, B. (2014) Enhancing My Keepon robot: A simple and low-cost solution for robot platform in Human-Robot Interaction studies, *Proceedings of the 2014 IEEE International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication (RO-MAN)*, pp.555 - 560.
- Peca, A., Simut, R., Pinte, S., **Costescu, C.**, & Vanderborght, B. (2014). How do typically developing children and children with autism perceive different social robots? *Computers in Human Behavior*, 41, 268-277.
- **Pop, C.**, Simut, R., Pinte, S., Saldien, J., Rusu, A.S., Vanderfaeillie, J., ... Vanderborght, B. (2013). Social robots vs. computer display: Does the way social stories are delivered make a difference for their effectiveness on ASD children? *Journal of Educational Computing Research*, 49(3), 381-401.
- Thill, S., **Pop, C. A.**, Belpaeme, T., Ziemke, T., & Vanderborght, B. (2013). Robot-assisted therapy for autism spectrum disorders with (partially) autonomous control: Challenges and outlook. *Paladyn. Journal of Behavioral Robotics*, 3(4), 209-217. doi:10.2478/s13230-013-0107-7
- **Pop, C.**, Petrule, A., Pinte, S., Peca, A., Simut, R., Vanderborght, B., & David, D. (2013). Imitation and social behaviors of children with ASD in interaction with Robonova. A series of single case experiments, *Transylvanian Journal of Psychology*, 14(1), 71-91.
- Predescu, E., Dobrea, A., **Pop C.**, Miclutia, I., & Sipos, R. (2013). Cognitive coping strategies and emotional distress in mothers of children with autism spectrum disorder. *Applied Medical Informatics*, 32(2), 14-21.
- **Pop, C. A.**, Simut, R., Pinte, S., Saldien, J., Rusu, A., David D., ... Vanderborght, B., (2013). Can the social robot Probo help children with autism to identify situation-based emotions? A series of single case experiments. *International Journal of Humanoid Robotics*, 10(3).
- Vanderborght, B., Simut, R., Saldien, J., **Pop, C.**, Rusu, A. S., Pinte, S., ... David, D. O. (2012). Using the social robot Probo as a social story telling agent for children with ASD. *Interaction Studies*, 13(3), 348-372.
- Vanderborght, B., Simut, R., Van De Perre, G., **Pop, C.**, David, D., Vanderfaeillie, J., Lefeber, D. (2013) The social robot Probo as interaction partner for autistic children, *IROS13 workshop: Towards Social Humanoid Robots: What makes interaction human-like?*, pp.1 - 4.
- Tapus, A., Peca, A., Aly, A., **Pop, C.**, Jisa, L., Pinte, S. & David, D. O. (2012). Children with autism social engagement in interaction with Nao, an imitative robot: A series of single case experiments. *Interaction Studies*, 13(3), 315-347.



PROJECTS

- o **2013 Project Coordinator** Investigating executive functions and emotion regulation strategies in atypical development, Young Researchers Grant, GTC_34061/01.11.2013.
- o **2016 Project Coordinator** Improving socio-emotional skills in children with ASD by using robot-enhanced therapy, Young Researchers Grant, GTC - 31785/01.04.2016.
- o **2015-2017 Researcher** TSA Search: Platform for screening and standardized evaluation of children with TSA, VODAFONE Foundation, 2015-2017 (www.searchtsa.ro)
- o **2014-2018 Assistant Researcher** DREAM Development of Robot-Enhanced therapy for children with Autism spectrum disorders, FP7 CAPACITIES-611391, 2014-2018. www.dream2020.com
- o **2014-2016 Assistant Researcher** RETHink: Evidence-based therapeutic online game for child and adolescent mental health, 2014 - 2016, CNCS PN-II-PT-PCCA-2013-4-1937 (www.rethink.ro), www.rethink.ro
- o **2019-2022 Assistant Researcher** Exploring Robot Assisted Therapy for Children with ASD, CNCS PCE-2011-3-0484, 2011 2015 www.robothrapy.ro
- o **2020-2022 Researcher** "E Attention, Perception, Concentration, Experience Learning according to Neuroscience" (AWAKE) Erasmus +, Strategi Partnership 2020-1-AT01-KA201-078143
- o **2020-2022 Project Coordinator** Innovative methods regarding the comprehension of socialstories Young Researcher Grant, 2020-2021, GTC35285/18.11.2020
- o **2022-2024 Project Coordinator** Executive functions and regulation in the social context PN-III-P1-1.1-TE-2021-0355
- o **2022-2025 Researcher** Design and evaluation of technological support tools to empower stakeholders in digital education HORIZON EUROPE
- o **2023-2025 Project coordinator** Institutional research and development grant to support the implementation of Horizon type projects PN-IV-P8-8.1-PRE-HE-ORG-2023-0133



MEMBERSHIP

- 2022-2026: member of the Methodological Commission - College of Psychologists from Romania..
- 2018 - present: member of LEARN-id, the Interdisciplinary Research Laboratory of Individual Differences in Learning, Department of Special Education, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania
- 2008 - present certified by the Romanian College of Psychologists.
- 2011-2017: member of the Robotics/Robotherapy Program and virtual reality assessment and psychotherapy; Department of Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania.
- 2011-2017: member of the research team on the PSYTECH-MATRIX Platform in Clinical Cognitive Sciences, Babeş-Bolyai University, Romania.



BOOKS

- Costescu C.**, (coordonator) (2024) *Digital Technologies for Learning and Psychological Interventions*. Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Costescu C.**, (coordonator) (2020) *Social Skills in Autism Spectrum Disorder. Evaluation and psycho-pedagogical intervention*. Iași, Polirom Publishing House..
- Costescu, C.**, Podina, I. R., & Voinescu, A. (Eds.). (2022). *Digital mental health: Interventions and assessment* (Vol. 16648714). Frontiers Media SA.
- Kovari & **Costescu** (2022) *Applied Cognitive Sciences*. MDPI. Basel



BOOK CHAPTERS

- Herrera Gutierrez, Perez-Fuster & **Costescu** (2024). Participation of autistic people in Research and Technology Design In *Digital Technologies for Learning and Psychological Interventions* (pp. 25-43). Springer Nature Switzerland. (coresponding author)
- Costescu** (2024). The use of Technological Tools for autistic children. In *Digital Technologies for Learning and Psychological Interventions*. (pp. 151-165). Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Costescu**, David, & Roșan, (2024). Shaping executive functions of neurodiverse children through digital technologies. In *Digital Technologies for Learning and Psychological Interventions*. (pp. 165-189). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Costescu**, & Roșan,(2024). Evidence-based interventions in executive functioning in children with neurodevelopmental disorders. In *Psychopedagogical Therapies and Interventions for people with special needs* (pp. 152-172). Iasi. Polirom
- Chezan, & **Costescu** (2024). Stimulating functional communication in children with neurodevelopmental disorders. In *Psychopedagogical therapies and interventions for people with special needs* (pp. 50-70). Iasi. Polirom
- David, Roșan,& **Costescu** (2024). Evidence-based interventions in conduct disorders. In *Psychopedagogical Therapies and Interventions for people with special needs* (pp. 29-50). Iasi. Polirom
- Costescu** (2024). Scientifically validated parenting programs for the treatment of developmental disorders in children. In *Psychopedagogical Therapies and Interventions for people with special needs* (pp. 303-316). Iasi. Polirom
- Costescu**, C., David, C., Roșan, A., Ferreira, P., Ferreira, A., Vera, L., & Herrera, G. (2023). Mushroom Hunters: A Digital Game for Assessing and Training Sustained Attention in Children with Neurodevelopmental Disorders. In *Methodologies and intelligent Systems for Techhnology Enhanced Learning* Cham. Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Costescu** & Roșan (2023) Inclusive practices for students with autism spectrum disorder and those with attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder In *Disability and inclusion in the university environment. Acceptance, understanding, communication*. Romanian Academy Publishing House
- Costescu** & Roșan (2023) Executive functions in neurodevelopmental disorders: integrative models of assessment and training. In *Inclusive Education. Realities and challenges*. "Lucian Blaga" University Publishing House from Sibiu.
- Costescu** & Roșan (2023) The use of technology to facilitate the learning process in children with neurodevelopmental disorders in inclusive education. *Realities and challenges*. "Lucian Blaga" University Publishing House from Sibiu.
- Costescu C.**, & Blaga C. (2020) *Social Skills in Autism Spectrum Disorder in Social Skills in Autism Spectrum Disorder. Evaluation and psycho-pedagogical interventions*. page 13-30. Iași, Polirom.
- Simion M.D. & **Costescu C.** (2020) Attitudes of professionals towards the use of social stories in *Social Skills in Autism Spectrum Disorder. Evaluation and psycho-pedagogical interventions*. page 87-103. Iași, Polirom.
- Costescu C.**, & Nagy (2020) Testing the effectiveness of social stories in *Social Skills in Autism Spectrum Disorder. Evaluation and psycho-pedagogical interventions*. page 109-128. Iași, Polirom
- Costescu C.** (2020) Social scenarios for developing social skills in *Social Skills in Autism Spectrum Disorder. Evaluation and psycho-pedagogical interventions*. page 153-159. Iași, Polirom
- Baconschi C., **Costescu C.**, & Anton A. (2019) Reducing disruptive behaviors in children with ASD through behavioral techniques. *Studies and research in the field of social and human sciences*. page 66-80, Vol. 32, Cluj Napoca, Limes & Argonaut.
- Matu S., **Costescu C.**, Szentagotai A., Dobrean A., & David D (2016) The use of robots in psychotherapy: theoretical foundations and clinical applications. *Research in Psychology and Educational Sciences*. page 101-126, Vol 3, Cluj Napoca, Argonaut.
- Simut, R. Vanderborght, B., **Pop, C.**, David, D., Vanderfaeillie, J. & Vanderborght, B. (2015) Social robots as mediators for social story intervention: can the robot Probo encourage children with ASD to ask questions during playtime. In S. Douglas & L. Stirling (Eds.), *Children's play, pretense, and story: Studies in culture, context, and ASD* (pp. 96-115). Routledge



CONFERENCES

- International Conference and Workshop in Obuda on Electrical and Power Engineering, Costescu, Șogor, Pălimariu, Tufar, Avram & Katona (2024) October 17-18, 2024, Use of Digital Platforms for Enhancing Academic Performance. Systematic Review
 - World Congress on Special Education, Oxford, November 4-6, 2024, Raluca Bradea, Cristina Costescu: Teaching Joint attention skills to autistic children - single case experiment.
 - Conferința SMART LearnID: Abordări inovative în cercetare și practică (2023, 7-8 decembrie) Costescu, C. Model integrative de evaluare și antrenare a funcțiilor executive la copiii cu tulburări de neurodezvoltare (comunicare științifică)
 - Conferința Națională Educația Incluzivă: Realități și Provocări (2023, 18 noiembrie) Costescu, C. Funcțiile executive în tulburările de neurodezvoltare: modele integrative de evaluare și antrenare (prezentare workshop)
 - Conferință Națională "Psihologia în era digitalizării" (2023 2-4 Iunie Constanța, Romania Simpozioane: EMPOWER - Design and evaluation of technological support tools to empower stakeholders in digital education
 - EMPOWER- platformă de educație digitală pentru evaluarea și exersarea funcțiilor executive la copii cu tulburări de neurodezvoltare. Autori: Adrian Roșan, Cristina Costescu, Carmen David, Savu
 - Utilizarea sarcinilor bazate pe tehnologie pentru măsurarea funcțiilor executive și reglarea emoțiilor la copii - o sinteză teoretică. Autori: Savu, Cristina Costescu, Carmen David, Adrian Roșan
 - Dezvoltarea de jocuri digitale pentru funcții executive și strategii de reglare emoțională: prezentarea rezultatelor cercetării pe baza metodei focus grupului. Autori: Cristina Costescu, Paula Alexandra Nunes Da Costa Ferreira, Carmen David, Adrian Roșan, Ana Margarida Veiga Simão, Diana Teixeira Stilwell and Diogo Ferreira Domingues
 - Spre validarea jocurilor digitale pentru copiii cu tulburări de neurodezvoltare. Autori: Carmen David, Cristina Costescu, Aristides Ferreira, Adrian Roșan, Beatriz R. Trigo, and Nádia Marques.
 - International Conference on Assessment Psychology, Assessment Process and Procedures: 6-7 martie, Roma. Costescu, David & Roșan, (2023 March 6-7). Emotion Regulation and Executive Functioning Scale for Children and Adolescents (REMEX): Scale Development [conference presentation]. 2023 ICAPAPP, Rome, Italy.
 - International Conference on "Theories of Change in Digital Wellbeing. Evidence based practices across the disciplines", Arad, April, 2022, Innovative perspectives of executive functions evaluation in the context of atypical development Authors: Adrian Rosan, Cristina Costescu.].
 - 2022 Autism-Europe Congress, Cracow, Poland. Costescu & Roșan, (2022 November 17-20). Funcțiile executive – perspective inovative în evaluare și intervenție [workshop presentation].
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- Symposia: Robot-based CBT for children with ASD: Results and protocols from the DREAM Project
 - *The use of social robots in evidence-based psychotherapy: Applications for individuals with ASD.* Authors: Cristina Costescu, Daniel David, Anca Dobrean, Aurora Szentagotai-Tătar, Silviu Matu, Radu Șoflău
 - *Improving turn-taking skills with robot-enhanced CBT for children with ASD.* Authors: Silviu Matu,

- *Efficacy of robot-enhanced CBT for joint attention in children with ASD.* Authors: Anamaria Ciocan, Daniel David, Anca Dobrean, Aurora Szentagotai-Tătar, Cristina Costescu, Silviu Matu, Radu Șoflău
- *Robotic and human mediators in developing imitation skills in children with ASD: Results from a series of single case experiments.* Authors: Antonia Oprean, Daniel David, Anca Dobrean, Aurora Szentagotai-Tătar, Cristina Costescu, Silviu Matu, Radu Șoflău
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AWARDS

- o 2023 Excellence Award organized by Babeş-Bolyai University Student Organization
- o 2022 Nomination Gala of Researchers from Romania organized by the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Development
- o 2020 1st Prize "Young Researchers in Science and Engineering", Cluj-Napoca City Hall
- o 2014 Diploma of Excellence: "Florian Stănescu-Goanga" best PhD student award
- o 2020 Publication Recognition Award in Top Journals. Granted by the Romanian Authority for Scientific Research CNCS-UEFISCDI
- o 2012 Diploma of Excellence: International Fair of Research, Innovation and Invention - Pro-Invent, Cluj-Napoca for the work "Robotherapy for TSA children", authors: David, Vanderborght, Pop, Vornicu, Dana, Butean, Soroiu.



EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

· 2020-present - Editor: The Black Sea Journal of Psychology
<https://www.bspsychology.ro/index.php/BSJoP>

· 2014 - 2016 Editor asistent: Journal of Evidence-Based Psychotherapies <http://jebp.psychotherapy.ro>

· Invited Editor - Special Issue: Applied Cognitive Sciences, MDPI Applied Sciences

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/applsci/special_issues/Cognitive_Sciences

· Invited Editor - Special Issue: Digital Mental Health: Interventions And Assessment , Frontiers in Psychology

<https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/17404/digital-mental-health-interventions-and-assessment>

· Invited Editor - Special Issue: Digital Transformation and Psychological Assessment, European Journal of Psychological Assessment

Invited Editor

- Journal of Educational Computing Research
- Journal of Rational-Emotive & Cognitive Therapy
- Frontiers Psychology
- Frontiers in Psychiatry
- Journal of Evidence Based Psychotherapies
- Journal of Psychiatric Research
- IEEE Transactions on Cognitive and Developmental Systems
- Systematic Reviews
- Sensors
- Digital Health
- Cognition, Creier, Comportament

Invited Editor for Conferences

- Affective Computing and Intelligent Interaction conference, ACII 2021, Online
- International Conference on Cognitive Infocommunications, 23-25 October 2019, Italy
- European Congress of Psychology, July 01-04 2025, Cyprus