

- 2017 – 2019: **The styles of Ego Integrity in the life stories of older adults: narrative perspective**

Late adulthood and aging constitute the chief portion of the human lifespan. Following the work of Erik H. Erikson, who stressed the task of attaining ego integrity in the last stage of human life, the present study will examine various facets of ego integrity styles. We assume that ego integrity styles respect trait-like disposition of a person and the dynamics of growth and development in later life. We will focus on life review of our older adults (65+) and analyse their life stories in a “double grounded” narrative format (grounded in qualitative and quantitative data that indicates ego integrity). Narrative, thematic, interpretative and content analysis of life stories of integrated older adults (65+) will be carried out with the aim to broaden scientific understanding on ego integrity. Taking into account growing number and proportion of older persons in society it is a paradox that ego integrity is arguably the least studied of all Erikson’s psychosocial stages of development. The results should bring a new knowledge with respect to optimal development in the later life.