## Access to Justice and Communication Challenges for Litigants in Person

| Researcher name and institution: | Dr Tatiana Tkacukova  
School of English  
Birmingham City University  
[http://www.bcu.ac.uk/research/our-people/t-z/tatiana-tkacukova](http://www.bcu.ac.uk/research/our-people/t-z/tatiana-tkacukova) |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding mode/funder:</td>
<td>August 2013 – 7July 2015 Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowship for Career Development, proposal number 329925 under the call FP7-PEOPLE-2012-IEF, Centre for Forensic Linguistics, Aston University, £231,000. Currently – ongoing research without external funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start and End date:</td>
<td>August 2013 - Ongoing research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1. Brief summary of what the research is about. | The research focuses on the below areas:  
- Communicative, cognitive, conceptual and procedural difficulties of litigants in person  
- Vulnerabilities of litigants in person  
- Communication challenges of judges in semi-represented and fully unrepresented cases  
- Professional ethics for solicitors/barristers in semi-represented cases  
- Institutional communication and the role of courts in access to justice for litigants in person |
# Current Research on Administrative Justice

**UK Administrative Justice Institute (UKAJI)**

## 2. What are the research questions?

The research questions are as follows:

- What communicative, cognitive, conceptual and procedural difficulties litigants in person experience and why
- How best to support litigants in person after cuts to legal aid
- How judges manage communication with litigants in person and mitigation between parties
- How to ensure litigants in person are treated ethically by legal representatives for opposing parties
- How to enhance institutional communication to support litigants in person as clients of the legal system

## 3. What, if any, outputs so far?

### Chapters


### Articles


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4. What outputs are planned?</th>
<th>Monograph on access to justice for litigants in person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. What is the anticipated impact?</td>
<td>Support network for litigants in person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Comments / additional information / requests for data or input from the broader administrative justice community</td>
<td>The study will benefit from gaining access to verbatim transcripts of court hearings and court files from cases with litigants in person.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>