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Dr. Maria Papageorgiou is a lecturer in Politics and International Relations at the University of Exeter. Prior to joining the University of Exeter, Dr. Papageorgiou was an associate lecturer at University College London. Her current research agenda focuses on China's engagement in the Middle East, Sino-Russian relations, the securitization of China, and China as a maritime power. She also serves as an external postgraduate supervisor at the University of Bradford and as an associate fellow of the UK Higher Education Academy.

She holds a PhD in Political Science and International Relations from the University of Minho in Portugal, a Master's degree in International Political Economy from Panteion University of Athens in Greece, and a Bachelor's degree in International and European Studies from the University of Piraeus, Greece.

Dr. Papageorgiou has not previously testified before the Commission.