

# Barriers to Entrepreneurship for Women in Ukraine

## Dr. John Spencer Johnson Principal Investigator



**Education:** **Ph.D.** in Intercultural Education, with a focus on Organizational Leadership  
**M.A.** in Human Resource Leadership

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**Research interests:** Leadership and Entrepreneurship in Ukraine

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Dr. Johnson has conducted research on leadership issues in Ukraine for over 20 years. He was the first American Scholar to write a dissertation on leadership in Ukraine (1994-1996) and lived in Ukraine for 5 years during this time, teaching in local universities as well. He has continued this focus since returning to the USA with studies on barriers to Entrepreneurship for Women in Ukraine, which he has conducted in conjunction with Dr. Svitlana Buko, Natalia Buglak, Iryna Kalynychenko and other locally based researchers. Between 1999 and 2015 he has traveled to the Ukraine more than 20 times to stay in touch with local research issues there.

In the past five years, Dr. Johnson has presented at academic conferences in Kyiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Ternopil, Sumy, Odesa, Lviv, and Sevastopol. He has contributed significantly to Ukrainian academia as well with published articles on leadership, international business and on-line education. He feels passionate about supporting Ukrainian Academics and Researchers who are pursuing the same research interests that he is in their own country and hopes to see change brought about for good from the results of the research studies that are done.

In 2014 he received a grant to conduct a large scale quantitative study (1000 participants) on Barriers to Women in Entrepreneurship in Ukraine. The purpose of this research was to identify common barriers that female entrepreneurs face and develop guidelines to help overcome them. The research has been done and the results will soon be published in a peer reviewed Ukrainian Academic Journal as well as in the USA.

His previous research work, funded by Walden University was conducted in 2012-2013 and presented at numerous international conferences, webinars, shared in both Ukrainian and US online and printed in local media. The results of this first study on Entrepreneurship for Women in Ukraine, can be found at <http://www.management.com.ua/interview/int361.html#>. The second study (concluded this year) was a follow up study from this that attempted to determine the existence of the barriers identified in the original study in a larger population.