



# IOANNIS GKOURTZOUNIS

## PERSONAL DATA

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PLACE & DATE OF BIRTH: Thessaloniki, Greece | 2 November 1981  
ADDRESS: 56, Artemidos Street, 54644, Thessaloniki, Greece  
PHONE: +30 6945 806 510  
LINKEDIN: [linkedin.com/in/ioannisgko](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ioannisgko) EMAIL: [ioannisgk@live.com](mailto:ioannisgk@live.com)

## CERTIFICATIONS

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2020 - 2021 CERTIFIED KUBERNETES SECURITY SPECIALIST (CKS) »  
CERTIFIED KUBERNETES ADMINISTRATOR (CKA) »  
CERTIFIED KUBERNETES APPLICATION DEVELOPER (CKAD) »  
AWS CERTIFIED CLOUD PRACTITIONER (CLF-C01) »  
CERTIFIED JENKINS ENGINEER (CJE) »

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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2023 - TODAY	<b>Senior DevOps Engineer at ARHS GROUP</b> Setup, manage Highly Available Kubernetes clusters, and prepare for disaster recovery. Incorporate container image signing and vulnerability scanning in the SDLC. Develop CI/CD pipelines that build containers, use GitOps to automatically deploy the new versions of applications. Implement observability with monitoring, alerting for metrics and application logs. Execute CIS benchmarks on Linux hosts and perform risk mitigation.
2020 - 2022	<b>DevOps Engineer at ONELITY</b> Install Kubernetes on bare metal with Nginx Ingress Controller and a network Load Balancer implementation for on-premises clusters. Apply multi-container POD design patterns and follow best practices. Create an NFS Server for implementing persistence. Apply the GitOps principles for automated Continuous Delivery with Argo CD. Create pipelines that perform autoscaling on services based on specific metrics.
2018 - 2019	<b>QA Automation Engineer at ONELITY</b> Analysis, planning, creation and execution of manual and automated tests. Creation, development and maintenance of a test automation framework. Defect management and error analysis to support the development. Configure Jenkins jobs for dynamically creating customized environments in containers, and executing the test scenarios.

## EDUCATION

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2016 - 2018 UNDERGRADUATE BSC (HONS) DEGREE IN COMPUTING (HIGH FIRST)  
**University of Northampton**, Northampton, UK  
Graduated with High First-Class Honours A+ > [See Award](#) > [See Grades](#)  
Published paper at EUMAS 2018 Conference on Multi-Agent Systems > [Publication](#)

## PROJECTS

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2025 | DEVOPS TEAM LEAD | EU-LISA (6 months)

Lead a DevOps Team across **two high-profile EU projects**. Prepare and coach new members to successfully implement cloud native CI/CD pipelines and improve on **scalable** and **secure** infrastructure. Also, provide **advanced technical solutions**.

Tasks:

- Manage cluster resources on **IBM Cloud** and **AWS** for different projects
- Create and configure multiple **OpenShift clusters** according to specifications
- Install and configure **OpenShift Operators** for logging, monitoring and alerting
- Install the **IBM Cloud Pak for Data AI** platform in an OpenShift cluster
- Be the liaison between the **stakeholders** and the **DevOps Engineers**
- Manage **resource allocation** and **deliverables** according to priorities
- Lead the DevOps Team and showcase **technical solutions**
- Coach colleagues to create a self-sufficient and effective team
- Mentor engineers through upskilling initiatives and **ad hoc training**
- Promote **improvement** and **innovation** with a continuous learning culture

2023 | SENIOR DEVOPS ENGINEER | NEXI GROUP (24 months)

Build a **Multi-cloud** infrastructure of **Highly Available** Kubernetes clusters. A Management cluster handles the application deployments and provides monitoring and alerting of other Kubernetes clusters, that act as **isolated environments**.

Tasks:

- Create **automation scripts** to setup Kubernetes clusters for bare metal
- Explore **HA topologies** using an external or a stacked etcd cluster
- Setup HA Control Plane nodes with **HAProxy** and **keepalived**
- Explore **Multi-cloud** architectures for on-premises Kubernetes clusters
- Build **Active-Active** Multi-cloud clusters and configure **HA Load Balancers**
- Create a step by step plan for **disaster recovery** of the clusters
- Create automation scripts that configure **GitOps** with **Argo CD**
- Use NFS shares for Pod storage with **dynamic NFS Provisioner**
- Use **HashiCorp Vault** for secure secrets management in the clusters
- Deploy **Harbor Registry** and sign container images with **Cosign**
- Perform automated vulnerability scans with **Trivy** on container images
- Setup **Jenkins** with **dynamic Agents** for cluster optimized CI/CD pipelines
- Create pipelines that **build** applications and container images
- Create pipelines that **deploy** applications and **promote** them to Staging
- Get cluster metrics with **Prometheus** and display them in **Grafana** dashboards
- Collect logs from all workloads with **Promtail** and use **Loki** for log aggregation
- Install and configure **Falco** for security monitoring of containers **at runtime**
- Use **Wazuh** to get CIS benchmark results on hosts with **Ubuntu** and **RHEL**
- Deploy web servers in **AWS** public and private subnets with **Terraform**
- Define **AWS resources** to create a production-ready **EKS cluster**
- Use Terraform to build the **EKS cluster** with Internet and NAT Gateway
- Deploy Horizontal Pod Autoscaler and the **Cluster Autoscaler**
- Deploy an **Nginx Ingress Controller** with AWS Network Load Balancer

2021 | SYSTEM DEVOPS ENGINEER | EBF GMBH (24 months)

Implement CI/CD pipelines that build, test and **deploy microservices** into various **Docker Swarm** and **Kubernetes clusters**. Create customized container images that follow the best **security practices** from container creation to deployment. Manage the release process and implement scripts with Bash to automate manual activities, in order to increase the speed and reliability of the **release cycles**.

Tasks:

- Apply the least privilege practice to all phases of the release chain
- Implement **docker image signing** and allow only signed images to be used
- Implement container **runtime security scanning** and alerting
- Configure a **network Load Balancer** implementation
- Install and configure Argo CD to apply **GitOps principles**
- Create certificates to keep encrypted Secrets in the GitOps repository
- Create an **NFS server** for pulling/pushing images to the internal cloud registry
- Add **dynamic NFS provisioning** to the Kubernetes cluster
- Deploy applications with **Helm Charts** by creating Argo CD applications
- Automatically create and manage **TLS certificates** for all exposed services
- Implement **autoscaling Jenkins pipelines** based on RabbitMQ workers metrics
- Deploy Prometheus and Grafana, expose application metrics for **monitoring**
- Analyze application metrics and setup **Horizontal POD Autoscalers**

2020 | DEVOPS ENGINEER | ONELITY (12 months)

Build a **Kubernetes cloud** with a web application and a **Jenkins instance** for **CI/CD**. Create container images of test environments and show the benefits of a Kubernetes cloud: version control of the whole infrastructure, zero downtime with **rolling updates**, self-healing in case of failures, **easy scaling** of applications.

Tasks:

- Create custom containers and a **multi-container application** with Docker
- Install Kubernetes on Linux servers (1 control node, 3 worker nodes)
- Design the application architecture, configure the **Deployments** and **Services**
- Apply rolling updates and perform scale-up and scale-down activities
- Install and configure a Jenkins server, integrate it with Git, Maven and Docker
- Create **dynamic test environments** with Docker in the CI/CD pipelines
- Implement Build, Test and Deploy CI/CD pipelines

2018 | QA AUTOMATION ENGINEER & INSTRUCTOR | COMQUENT GMBH (16 months)

Analyze the existing Test Automation code and evaluate the framework based on maintainability and extensibility. Design, implement and present to other teams an improved **Test Automation framework** based on **Selenium**, **Cucumber** and **BDD**. Integrate the test code with Jenkins and apply isolated and dynamic test execution with **Docker** and **Selenium Grid**. Train testers from different teams.

Instructor of trainings:

- Preparation for **Professional Scrum Master** certification
- Preparation for **ISTQB Agile Tester Extension** certification
- Preparation for **ISTQB Foundation Level Software Testing** certification