

### **Angelidou Ioanna Antigoni**

She is a speech and language therapist (B.A.) and a Rehabilitation Scientist (M.A.), specializing in Gerontology and Hearing Impairment. She grew up bilingual in Athens, Greece, where she graduated from the German School of Athens (Deutsche Schule Athen, DSA) in 2013. Her native languages are Greek and German, and she is fluent in English. Her Master's thesis, *Elderly Deaf People with Dementia: The Experiences of Close Caregivers*, focused on improving care for deaf individuals with dementia. During her studies in Cologne, she also began learning German Sign Language (GSL), which she continues to study. From 2018 to 2022, Ioanna worked both full-time and part-time as a speech and language therapist, gaining valuable hands-on experience, particularly in conducting sign language-based sessions with Deaf children. Since 2022, she has been an active member of the research team at the Network Aging Research at the University of Heidelberg, where she is currently pursuing her PhD. As part of the German research team for the De-SIGN project, Ioanna collaborates with both Deaf and hearing colleagues to analyze findings, engage with Deaf institutions, and develop educational materials aimed at raising awareness about dementia within Germany's Deaf community.

