



GULNARA GULUZADE

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ABOUT ME

As a food safety expert, I have worked on various aspects of the field, including the public health risks of animal-based food products, the effects of certain food product compounds on the Azerbaijani population, and the re-emergence risks of especially dangerous pathogens. Additionally, my responsibilities include developing test methods, implementing the ISO/IEC 17025:2020 standard in food safety practices, and providing feedback on laboratory quality audit results. I also make recommendations for improvements by identifying new methodologies and resources to enhance efficiency and optimize outcomes.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior specialist at Quality control

Azerbaijan Food Safety Institute (AFSI) [04/09/2020 – Current]

City: Baku | Country: Azerbaijan

Our team conducts internal audits in laboratories under AFSI, provides feedback on quality audit results, and makes recommendations for improvements. We identify new technologies and resources to enhance efficiency and improve outcomes, as well as strengthen the laboratory quality control system. Additionally, our department prepares reports related to laboratory operations and annual reports for the Quality Control Department. We also conduct research using foreign resources and compile scientific review papers.

Leading specialist at Risk Assessment and Scientific Research Department

Azerbaijan Food Safety Institute (AFSI) [19/09/2018 – 04/09/2020]

City: Baku | Country: Azerbaijan

Our department develops and coordinates research projects in food safety, as well as plant and animal health. The research group I work with primarily focuses on genomic studies, biosafety, and biosecurity, particularly concerning highly dangerous animal pathogens. Our goal is to prevent zoonotic diseases and illnesses originating from animal-based food products.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

PhD student in Animal Production and Food Safety at Veterinary Sciences

Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna [01/11/2023 – Current]

City: Bologna | Country: Italy | Website: <https://phd.unibo.it/scienzeveterinarie/en>

MSc in Ecology and Biology of Marine Environment

Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II [20/10/2015 – 21/03/2018]

City: Naples | Country: Italy

BSc in Ecology

Baku State University [15/09/2011 – 05/06/2015]

City: Baku | Country: Azerbaijan

3-module Certificate Program on the Writing and Publication of Academic Articles

HAJIYEVA Education and Consulting Company [09/02/2025 – 23/02/2025]

City: Baku | Country: Azerbaijan

Online Systematic Review Methods Training Workshop

CGIAR-Climate Impact Platform [03/12/2024 – 05/12/2024]

Module 3- Medium Risk Specific Safety Training

Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna [11/2024]

City: Bologna | Country: Italy

Module 2 – Safety Specific Training - Low risk

Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna [02/2024]

City: Bologna | Country: Italy

Module 1 – Safety General Training

Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna [02/2024]

City: Bologna | Country: Italy

Whole Genome Sequencing Analysis for Microbial Diagnostic, Identification, and Cluster Analysis

Technical University of Denmark [03/06/2024 – 06/06/2024]

City: Copenhagen | Country: Denmark

Validation and quality assurance measures for three diagnostic methods and the quality system requirements for the national diagnostics laboratories

Azerbaijan Food Safety Institute in the framework of the Twinning Project, [07/2022]

City: Baku | Country: Azerbaijan

ISO 16140-3 "Food Chain Microbiology -Method Validation",

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Turkey (online) [01/2022]

City: Baku | Country: Azerbaijan

Risk analysis and assessment and Pathological material sampling, delivering, storage and handling

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Turkey/Azerbaijan Food Safety Institute [11/2021]

City: Baku | Country: Azerbaijan

Science Mentorship

Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), Biological Threat Reduction Program (BTRP) (online) [04/2021]

Country: United States

ISO 17025:2017 Quality Management System of Testing and Calibration Laboratories (online)

Azerbaijan Food Safety INstitute/TURKISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION [10/2020]

City: Baku | Country: Azerbaijan

Linux for Life Sciences

NBIS & SciLifeLab [12/2019]

City: Stockholm | Country: Sweden

NGS Data Analysis (online)

ecSeq Bioinformatics [10/2020]

City: Munich | Country: Germany

NGS DNA Sequencing

Alliance Global (AGBL Group) [11/2019]

City: Dubai | Country: United Arab Emirates

Sustainable Animal Production and Resource Management for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Safety

Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) and Khon Kaen University [10/06/2019 – 06/07/2019]

City: Khon Kaen | Country: Thailand

BIOTECON Diagnostics and Altigen Bio-Molecular genetics

Azerbaijan Food Safety Institute [09/2018]

City: Baku | Country: Azerbaijan

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): Azerbaijani

Other language(s):

Turkish

LISTENING C1 READING C1 WRITING C1

SPOKEN PRODUCTION C1 SPOKEN INTERACTION C1

English

LISTENING C1 READING C1 WRITING B2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION B2 SPOKEN INTERACTION B2

Russian

LISTENING C1 READING B2 WRITING B1

SPOKEN PRODUCTION B1 SPOKEN INTERACTION B1

Italian

LISTENING A2 READING A2 WRITING A2

SPOKEN PRODUCTION A2 SPOKEN INTERACTION A2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

DIGITAL SKILLS

Microsoft Office package: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access

HONOURS AND AWARDS

[01/11/2023] The Ministry of Science and Education

Doctoral scholarship of State Program on Increasing the International Competitiveness of the Higher Education System in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2019-2023

[20/10/2015] Sponsored by "Compagnia di San Paolo"

University of Federico II Master's degree fellowship

[15/09/2011] The Ministry of Science and Education

Government Scholarship for Bachelor's degree

MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Substitute for the head of the division of Bioengineering at AFSI

I served as the acting head of the Bioengineering division for approximately nine months. During this period, I had the opportunity to be a supportive leader and a motivated team player. I encouraged the team to develop new projects and enhance the outcomes of ongoing ones, particularly during the early stages of the global pandemic.

Additionally, my responsibilities included attending meetings, writing academic articles for local journals, and presenting our research on TV programs.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

[17/02/2025 – 21/02/2025] Baku, Azerbaijan

Joint Certificate Program in Climate Smart Animal Production Systems

ADA University, in collaboration with Italian experts, invites applications for a specialized program focused on sustainable animal science, veterinary services, aquaculture, and the poultry, meat, and dairy industries. The program aims to foster policy dialogue, implement global best practices, and develop innovative solutions for Azerbaijan's agri-food sector. It offers a unique opportunity for professionals in animal production systems to engage in comprehensive training and policy discussions, promoting sustainability and innovation in the field.

Link: <https://www.ada.edu.az/en/news/681-call-for-application-joint-certificate-program-in-climate-smart-animal-production-systems>

PUBLICATIONS

[2025]

Assessment of the Anti-Listeria Effect of Citrus limon Peel Extract In Silico, In Vitro, and in Fermented Cow Milk During Cold Storage

Wafa Mkadem, Khaoula Belguith, Valentina Indio, Olfa Oussaief, Gulnara Guluzade, Halima ElHatmi, Andrea Serraino, Alessandra De Cesare and Nourhene Boudhrioua/Foods 2025, 14(4), 661

Link: <https://www.mdpi.com/2304-8158/14/4/661>

PROJECTS

[28/09/2019]

"TEMPORARY SANITARY STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS ON ENERGY DRINKS" of the Azerbaijan Republic

I was part of the working group responsible for establishing a national standard for energy drinks imported to Azerbaijan. As a leading specialist in the Scientific Research and Risk Assessment Department of the Scientific Research Center at the Azerbaijan Food Safety Institute, I contributed to the development and implementation of these standards.

Link: <https://e-qanun.az/framework/43360>

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

[09/2020] Baku

"Decision on the establishment of field commissions for the development of skills"

In accordance with the Rules of the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Republic of Azerbaijan regarding the preparation, revision, approval, registration, and extension of professional and qualification standards, as well as the 'Decision on the Establishment of Field Commissions for the Development of Skills,' I actively participated in field commission meetings on behalf of the Azerbaijan Food Safety Institute and contributed to the development of professional and qualification standards.