RESEARCH PUZZLES AND COMPETING APPROACHES TO STUDYING ROMA MIGRATION

Venue: Central European University, Monument Building, 1st floor, Popper Room
Nádor Street 9, 1051 Budapest, Hungary

The aim of the workshop is to bring senior and junior scholars together who work on topics related to various aspects of migration, Roma, and Roma migration. Roma migration has been increasingly in the focus of scholarly interest as Roma, generally losers of the transition from state-socialist economies to capitalism, started to migrate from poorer regions and countries to wealthier ones as part of their survival strategies under the new circumstances. In the last two decades the migration process has been varied both with regard to its extent and composition of migrants. For many years, Roma have sought refugee status in Western European countries but were turned away, however, with the opening up of the labor markets and /or borders for new member states, migration intensified and brought about intense political and social rejection in several EU member states. The process raises a number of new questions both in sending and receiving countries concerning migration.

The workshop is planned to be genuinely interactive: senior scholars working on Roma migration will present their work while junior scholars studying other migration related topics will act as discussants. Thus we aim to generate a fruitful debate between senior and junior scholars on the one hand, and link the conceptual, theoretical and empirical experiences of ‘migration research’ and ‘Roma migration research’, on the other.

WORKSHOP CONVENERS:

Vera Messing, Research Fellow, Center for Policy Studies, Central European University (Budapest, Hungary)

Zsuzsanna Vidra, Research Fellow, Center for Policy Studies, Central European University (Budapest, Hungary)

CHAIRS:

Tina Magazzini, INTEGRIM early-stage researcher, University of Deusto (Bilbao, Spain)

Stefano Piemontese, INTEGRIM early-stage researcher, Center for Policy Studies, Central European University (Budapest, Hungary)
9:00 – 10:40  First session:

**Judit Durst**, University College London, Department of Anthropology (United Kingdom)

“This is getting to be like Canada': Transnational economic strategies of Hungarian Roma migrating to Canada and then to the UK. A comparative study”

**Discussant**: Claudia Parascivescu, INTEGRIM early-stage researcher, Center for Ethnic and Migration Studies, University of Liege (Belgium)

**Discussant**: Reinhard Schweitzer, INTEGRIM early-stage researcher, Sussex Center for Migration Research, University of Sussex (United Kingdom)

Stefánia Toma & László Fosztó, Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities (Cluj, Romania)

“MIGROM - Causes or consequences of international migration of Roma - the interplay of economic, religious factors and changes in social networks”

**Discussant**: Celine Cantat, INTEGRIM early-stage researcher, International Migration, Space and Society, University of Poitiers (France)

**Discussant**: Iulius-Cezar Macarie, INTEGRIM early-stage researcher, Center for Policy Studies, Central European University (Budapest, Hungary)

10:40 – 11:00  Break

11:00 – 12:40  Second session:

**Alexey Pamporov**, Institute for the Study of Societies and Knowledge, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Sofia, Bulgaria)

“Research tools and methodological issues in the study of Roma migration within the European Union”

**Discussant**: Jill Ahrens, INTEGRIM early-stage researcher, Institute of Geography and Regional Planning, University of Lisbon (Portugal)

**Discussant**: Davide Gnes, INTEGRIM early-stage researcher, Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies, University of Amsterdam (Netherlands)

**Giovanni Picker**, Institute for Advanced Study, Central European University (Budapest, Hungary)

“Policy Logic and the Spatial Segregation of Roma in Urban Europe: The Cases of Florence and Cluj-Napoca”

**Discussant**: Franz Buhr, INTEGRIM early-stage researcher, Institute of Geography and Regional Planning, University of Lisbon (Portugal)

**Discussant**: Amandine Desille, INTEGRIM early-stage researcher, International Migration, Space and Society, University of Poitiers (France)

12:40 – 12:55  Marek Szilvási and Kieran O’Reilly, European Roma Rights Centre (Budapest, Hungary)

ERRC new edition of the Journal of the European Roma Rights Centre: “Going Nowhere? Western Balkan Roma and EU Visa Liberalisation”

12:55 – 13:10  Q&A
PARTICIPANTS’ PROFILES IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER

**JILL AHRENS**

Workshop role: Discussant  
Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning  
University of Lisbon (Portugal)  

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Jill Ahrens is a PhD candidate in the School of Global Studies at the University of Sussex. Currently she also is a Marie Curie Research Fellow in the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning (IGOT) at the University of Lisbon. The topic of her doctoral research is the onward migration of Nigerians within the EU for which she carried out fieldwork in Germany, the UK and Spain. Jill has held visiting research fellowships at the University of Bielefeld and the University of Oslo. Prior to that she worked at the Sussex Centre for Migration Research as a researcher on the Migrations between Africa and Europe longitudinal survey and two projects related to international student migration.

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**FRANZ GUSTAV BUHR**

Workshop role: Discussant  
Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning  
University of Lisbon (Portugal)  

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Franz Buhr is a PhD student at the Institute of Geography and Spatial Planning of the University of Lisbon, Portugal, and a Marie Curie Early-stage researcher. His current topic relates to immigrants' spatial integration in urban areas, focusing on migrants' mobility practices within Lisbon city spaces. Franz has a Research Master delivered by a joint program in sociology of migration including the University of Amsterdam, University of Deusto (Spain) and University College Dublin.
CÉLINE CANTAT

Workshop role: Discussant
International Migration, Space and Society
University of Poitiers (France)

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Céline Cantat is a PhD candidate in Refugee Studies at the Centre for Research on Migration, Refugees and Belonging, University of East London. She is currently spending a year at Migrinter, Université de Poitiers, as an INTEGRIM Marie Curie researcher. Céline’s PhD research is concerned with pro-migrants organizations and networks in the European Union and the way in which they adapted and responded to the Europeanization of immigration and asylum frameworks. Her main research interests are globalization and migration, racism and patterns of exclusion in Europe, migration and the state and dynamics of mass displacement. Before starting her PhD, Céline graduated from an MSc in Globalisation and Development at SOAS, University of London. Céline also worked and volunteered with several migrants’ rights’ organizations in London and Paris, as well as with refugee groups in the Middle East, where she lived for several years.

AMANDINE DESILLE

Workshop role: Discussant
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Amandine Desille is a Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher within the INTEGRIM Initial Training Network, a PhD student at Migrinter at University of Poitiers (France), and a PhD student at the School of Geography and Human Environment at Tel Aviv University (Israel). She works under the Working Package 4: urban integration, residential patterns and mobility. Her research focuses on local policies for the integration of Jewish immigrants designed by four municipalities in peripheral Israel. Amandine completed her BA in international business management at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing (China). Following this experience, she completed her Masters in Science of Population and Development at the University of Liege (Belgium), writing her dissertation on the role of NGOs in the socio-professional integration of migrant workers in southern China. After graduation, she moved to Israel where she worked for three years in a non-profit organization on topics related to local economic development and urban planning. In parallel, she has been involved with research projects in various international organizations – notably UNIDO and ILO -, in academic institutions, and in non-profit organizations on topics related to immigration, immigrant integration, institutional setups for immigrant integration, and local economic development. Today, Amandine is also involved in student networks. Particularly, she coordinates the newly funded “réseau migrations” in Poitiers, and she is a member of the “migration community” coordinated by Ruppin Academic Centre in Israel.
Judit Durst is a Hon. Research Associate at University College London, Department of Anthropology. She was a Bolyai Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Institute of Sociology and Social Policy of Corvinus University, Budapest during 2009 - 2012, where she is still, intermittently a visiting lecturer. She has got her PhD degree in Sociology, writing about social exclusion, ethnicity and reproductive decision making in some rural Hungarian ‘ghetto’ villages in the region of Borsod, Hungary. She is a member of the Scientific Committee of the European Academic Network on Romany Studies and a faculty of CEU Summer University on Romany Studies.

László Fosztó, researcher at the Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities (ISPMN), is an ethnographer and social anthropologist trained at the Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj, Romania, Central European University in Budapest, Hungary, and Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle/Saale, Germany. His training and interest encompasses both ‘western’ and ‘eastern’ traditions of ethnological research. He has been doing research among different Roma/Gypsy groups in Transylvania since 1993. Fosztó worked among Hungarian, Romanian and Romani speaking communities. He contributed to the fields of the study of relations between Hungarians and Roma in Transylvanian villages, the ethnography of communicative practices, media events, and the anthropology of religion, particularly the ritual revitalization after socialism, and religious conversion among the Roma. Additionally he has an interest in the political movement of the Roma in Europe and the issues of social identities, stigma, ethnicity, diaspora, and nationalism. More recently he started research on the local impact of the migration processes and broader issues of economic anthropology (informal economy, social capital, ritual and consumption). Some of his publications are: Ritual Revitalisation after Socialism: Community, Personhood, and Conversion among the Roma in a Transylvanian Village, Halle Studies in the Anthropology of Eurasia, Volume 21. Münster: LIT Verlang, 2009; Colectie de studii despre romii din România, Editura Institutului pentru Studierea Problemelor Minorităţilor Naţionale - Editura Kriterion, Cluj-Napoca 2009; Pentecostalism in Romania. The impact of Pentecostal Communities on the Life-style of the Members (coauthored with Dènes KISS). La ricerca folklorica. 65 (La sfida del pentecostalismo), p. 51-64.; Mobilising "culture" and "religion": Ritual practices and social relations among two minority groups in rural Transylvania. Sociologie Româniească 1:(2010) pp. 132-145. and The Revitalization of Diverging Rituals: the case of Roma and Gadje in a Transylvanian village. The Anthropology of East Europe Review 25 (2): 121-131. 2007.
DAVIDE GNES

Workshop role: Discussant
Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies
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Davide Gnes is a Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher within the INTEGRIM Initial Training Network and a PhD candidate at the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research (AISSR). His research focuses on comparative urban political mobilization of migrants on issues of social and economic rights. His main research interests relate to: a) migrant political participation and social mobilization; b) citizenship, rights and social protection; c) social capital and social networks. Davide completed a Masters’ Degree in Postcolonial Studies and International Relations (cum laude) at the University of Pavia, Italy as well as a 2-year Research Master in International Migration and Social Cohesion (MISOCO) between Amsterdam, Bilbao, Lima and Riga. His latest Masters’ thesis, a multi-sited study of the Peruvian migrant community between Italy and Peru, looked at the way in which social protection safety nets are informally arranged by migrants, both at the local and transnational level, by means of dynamic social capital. Prior to his current position, Davide worked for a number of NGOs and nonprofit organizations in Jordan, Spain and Denmark on issues relating to migrants’ and refugees’ rights and international development. Through the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN), he has been recently involved in supporting capacity-building of North African civil society organizations on migration and asylum issues, as well as in conducting research on transit migration in the Maghreb region.

IULIUS-CEZAR MACARIE

Workshop role: Discussant
Center for Policy Studies
Central European University (Budapest, Hungary)

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Iulius-Cezar Macarie is the 2013 INTEGRIM Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher cohort, affiliated with the Centre for Policy Studies, CEU. Since September 2014, he is a PhD Candidate at the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Central European University. Macarie's PhD thesis investigates on Romanian and Turkish migrant workers in London. The main research question asks to what extent solidarity and competition amongst and within the two groups of Romanian and Turkish migrants provide a framework reflecting the presumed precariousness in the lives of night workers in London’s night economy. The ethnographic fieldwork will be carried out during October 2014 and September 2015. For a short introductory video to this research, please click on the link. Macarie co-directed with Tim Marrinan, the documentary on the Invisible Lives of Romanian Night Workers in London (Production: UK, June 2013). The film is available to watch online. His most recent publication, Half-in, Half-out: Roma and Non-Roma Romanians with Limited Rights Working and Travelling in the European Union (2014) is now available online at INTEGRIM working papers. For his other publications see academia.edu. He is active on social media @snapshotsfromjc and contributes to the research blog Nightlaboratory.
TINA MAGAZZINI

Workshop role: Chair
Human Rights Institute Pedro Arrupe
University of Deusto (Bilbao, Spain)

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Tina Magazzini is a Marie Curie Junior Researcher at the University of Deusto within the INTEGRIM Network, a member of the Human Rights Institute research team, and a PhD student in the “Human Rights: Ethical, Social and Political Challenges” program at the same institute. She holds a MA in International Relations from the City College of New York (CUNY), New York, and a BA in Political Science from the University of Florence (Italy), with a one year study abroad at the New University of Lisbon (Portugal). Her main research interests are social exclusion, identity politics, Roma integration, diversity management, ethnicity and minority issues. Previously to moving to Bilbao, she has worked with a number of NGOs, think tanks and the European Commission in the areas of community development, Roma inclusion, indigenous and minority rights in Portugal, Italy, the US, Guatemala, Belgium and Hungary. She is a member of the European Academic Network on Romany Studies, of the International Political Science Association (IPSA) Research Committees RC40 (Problems of Socio-Political Pluralism) and RC25 (the Politics of Language) and of the standing groups on ‘Identity’ and on ‘the Politics of Immigration and Ethnicity’ of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), as well as of the Academic Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES) CRN ‘Romanis in Europe’.

VERA MESSING

Workshop role: Convener
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Vera Messing is a visiting research fellow at the Center for Policy Studies (CPS) since 2008 as well as a senior research associate of the Center for Social Sciences at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences since 2004. She earned her PhD studies in Budapest, Corvinus University in 2000. She has over 15 years’ of experience in empirical research on ethnicity, minorities, social exclusion, media representation of vulnerable groups and ethnic conflicts. Her work focuses on comparative understanding of different forms and intersections of social inequalities and ethnicity and their consequences. She is specifically interested in policy and civil responses to ethnic diversity in the field of education and labor market. At CPS, she has been involved in the coordination of the FP7 research project EDUMIGROM about ethnic differences in education and diverging prospects for Roma and migrant youth in nine countries. Presently she is a work package leader in the FP 7 funded project NEUJOBS. She has been leading a comparative empirical and policy research on Roma employment in Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Spain. She is also involved in ASSESS: Assessing Integration of Vulnerable Migrants project. In addition she is a lead researcher of the Hungarian team of the European Social Survey. She recurrently consults domestic civil and governmental institutions and NGOs on issues of employment and education of vulnerable groups.
ALEXEY PAMPOROV

Workshop role: Speaker
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Alexey Pamporov is an Associate Professor in Sociology at the Institute for the Study of Societies and Knowledge, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and Head of Research Unit at the Open Society Institute - Sofia. He holds PhD in Sociology from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (2005) and MA in Cultural Studies from Sofia University (2001). Currently he is lecturing on the Sociology of the Family, the Electoral sociology and the Romany history and culture at Sofia University.

CLAUDIA PARASCHIVESCU

Workshop role: Discussant
Center for Ethnic and Migration Studies
University of Liège (Belgium)

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Claudia Paraschivescu is a PhD student in the School of Sociology at the University of Leeds, UK. Currently she is a Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher in the INTEGRIM program at CEDEM, University of Liège. The PhD research entitled *Transnationalism as the Negotiation of Belonging. A Case Study of Romanians in London and Paris* understands transnationalism as a migrant experience and it explores it through a belonging lens. This looks firstly on how migrants negotiate their attachment to the host country and the country of origin. Secondly, it helps understand how migrants construct new identities in relation to both countries. Thirdly, it clarifies the strained relation between cities migrants live in and spaces they belong to as a result of their attachment to the home and host country.
GIOVANNI PICKER

Workshop role: Speaker
Institute for Advanced Study
Central European University (Budapest, Hungary)

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Giovanni Picker is Associate Researcher at the CEU Institute for Advanced Study. In 2009 he obtained his International PhD in Urban Sociology (URBEUR) from Miilan-Bicocca University; he has subsequently been awarded a number of research and teaching fellowships in Romania (ISPMN, 2011-2012), Russia (HSE, 2012-2013) and Hungary (CEU, 2014). His primary research and teaching interests include historical and comparative sociology, ethnic and racial segregation, urban governance, and the social exclusion of minorities, particularly European Roma. His work appeared in, among other journals, *Identities*, *Civilisations* (French), *European Urban and Regional Studies*, and *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*. Aside from contributing to a number of international research projects, such as SPAREX - Spatialization and Racialization of Social Exclusion: The Social and Cultural Formation of “Gypsy Ghettoes” in Romania (*sparex-ro.eu*), Giovanni is a coordinator of the "*Black Europe Summer School*", an independent and intensive two-week course which is offered every year in Amsterdam. Since 2007 he has been blogging about his work at gopk.blogspot.com.

STEFANO PIEMONTESE

Workshop role: Chair
Center for Policy Studies
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Stefano Piemontese is affiliated with the Center for Policy Studies as a Marie Curie Junior Research Fellow in the Integration and International Migration: Pathways and Integration Policies (INTEGRIM). He is also a PhD student at the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology of the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), and member of the Spanish research agency Taller ACSA. His previous research focused on the analysis of the policies for Gitanos in Spain and the study of social and housing intervention addressed to Romanian Roma immigrant families in Spain. His PhD focuses on the intersections between education and residential/international mobility of Romanian Roma youths living between Madrid and southern Romania. Other topics relevant related to his research include the conceptual and practical challenges of the policies for Roma in Europe, and the issue of political participation of Roma migrants, both within the Spanish 'indignados' Movement and the evangelical Church.
REINHARD SCHWEITZER

Workshop role: Discussant
Sussex Centre for Migration Research
University of Sussex (Brighton, United Kingdom)

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Reinhard Schweitzer is a Marie Curie Early-Stage Research Fellow at the University of Sussex, where he currently pursues his PhD within the INTEGRIM research network. Before that, he studied Political Science and Sociology at the University of Innsbruck, and completed an MA in Migration Studies at the University of Sussex. His broader research interest centers on the interplay between the making, implementation and functioning of migration policies on the one hand, and migrants’ own perceptions, (counter-)strategies and behaviors on the other, as well as the structural inequalities that underlie both and often predetermine the possibility for inclusion/exclusion. His doctoral research project looks at the situation of irregular migrants (in London and Barcelona), whose position within society best illustrates some of the contradictions and ambiguities resulting from the intersection of formal (policy) frameworks and the individual agency of both migrants and members of the so-called ‘host society’.

STEFÁNIA TOMA

Workshop role: Speaker
Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities (Cluj, Romania)
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Zsuzsanna Vidra is a research fellow at the Center for Policy Studies, Central European University and assistant professor at Eötvös Loránd University, Center for Intercultural Psychology and Education, Hungary. She holds a PhD in sociology from École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France, an MA in Sociology from Eötvös Loránd University and an MA in Nationalism Studies from the Central European University. Her main areas of research are poverty, ethnicity, interethnic relations, Roma, migration, human trafficking and media and minorities. Recently she worked in the collaborative project of Tolerance, Pluralism and Social Cohesion: Responding to the Challenges of the 21st Century in Europe (ACCEPT PLURALISM), Faces and Causes of Marginalization of the Roma in Local Settings, and led the project on Roma migration to and from Canada. Experiences of Hungarian, Slovak and Czech Roma returnees. Currently she is working on the project of Countering new forms of Roma children trafficking: Participatory approach (CONFRONT). Her latest publications: she edited Roma Migration to and from Canada: The Czech, Hungarian and Slovak Case (2013), Facing the Far-Right. Ethnographic portrayals of local civil resistance (2014), and co-edited the special issue of the Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies (2014 Vol. 12, Issue 4) New Forms of Intolerance in European Political Life.