ABSTRACT / The focus of the lecture is two-fold. First, I will discuss state biased approaches which contributed to failures in addressing the challenges of Romani people in Europe. I argue that although states have committed to equality and non-discrimination legislation, the acknowledgment and the radical break with the past of Roma injustice, key elements for inclusion, have been neglected. Second, I will explore the levels of participation of various Roma strata in designing policies, programs, and research in Europe. Participation is as a recurrent theme in the Roma movement as well as in the Roma related research. However, the Roma strata involved in policy, project and research formulation include primarily advocates and scholars, and rarely members and leaders of communities. I argue not only for the use of participatory research methodologies to boost the participation of Roma communities, but also to give a voice to the community members in establishing priorities and solutions for themselves. Furthermore, I will briefly touch upon competitiveness and collaboration between Roma and non-Roma scholars, and I will put forward a few themes that remain unaddressed in Roma-related research.

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