

**Program of the International Historical-Anthropological
Conference
"On categories and boundaries: Intersections in the
history and ethnography of Europe's Sinti and Roma (19th-
21st centuries)"**

Free University of Bolzano

Piazza del Università 1

Room E 2.21

6 - 7 June 2017

This conference will offer a comparative and interdisciplinary analysis of the relationship between Sinti and Roma and nation-states in European borderlands from 19th to 21th century. How has the territorial definition of national states created structures which require specific rules targeting populations involved in trans-border mobility and cross border practices? Based on a cross disciplinary perspective embracing anthropological and historical approaches, this conference will analyse the making of categories and their effect on Romani people. Through an analysis of national case studies and through bottom-up approaches, the conference will focus on the modern definitions of citizenship and nationality and their effect on mobility control and cross-border circulation as a key aspect of continuities and transformation of anti-Gypsy policies in Europe and beyond. Furthermore, the conference aims to highlight the way Sinti and Roma families in particular have handled these public policies and how they have transmitted or redefined modes of resistance, conflict, or invisibility in the face of power exercised by state institutions.



6th June 2017

9. 00 – 9.15 Welcome address FUB

9. 15 – 9.40 Elisabeth Tauber (Free University of Bolzano) “*When the archive talks to the ethnographer!*’ *Anthropology and History in dialogue.*”

I. Historical session: Roma, Borders, and States in Modern Europe and beyond

Discussant: Elisabeth Tauber

9.40 – 10.25 Ilsen About (CNRS – EHESS, Paris) “*Moving Roma away from the Borders. Scope, Failure and Effect of a European Conference to solve the “Gypsy -question” in the 1900s.*”

10.25 – 11.10 Jennifer Illuzzi (History Department, Providence College, USA) “*Finding Roma in the State of Exception: Archival Stories of Roma Families in Italy, 1900-1920.*”

11.10 – 11. 25 Coffee break – 15 minutes

11.25 -12.10 Paola Trevisan (Free University of Bolzano) “*Austrian Sinti in the Italian Archives: Historical Ethnography on Multiple Border Crossings.*”

12.10- 12.55 Marius Weigl (IFF Vienna, University of Klagenfurt) “*A ‘Solution of the Gypsy-question’ in Austria-Hungary? Surveillance, Internment Camps and Military Draft of so-called ‘Gypsies’ in the Habsburg Empire during World War I.*”

Lunch break 12.55-14.15



Discussant: Jennifer Illuzzi

14.15 – 15.00 Carolina García Sanz (Department of History, University of Sevilla) *“Targeting Gypsies: a Study on ‘para Penal’ State from Spanish Demo-liberal Legality to Dictatorship.”*

15.00 – 15.45 Maria Rosvoll and Carl Emil Voigt (LH-senteret, Oslo) *“Lost in Transit: A Norwegian Roma Family and the European Borders, 1920-1956.”*

Discussant: Gregoire Cousin (Fondation Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, Paris)

15.45 – 16.20 Petre Petcuț (Fondation Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, Paris) *“Steps in the Construction of the Circulation Regime of Individuals in Modern Romania.”*

18.00 – 19.30 Book presentation and round table – Ethnography and History – Media and the Public

7th June 2017

II. Ethnographic session: Ethnography, Archives, and Memories: the Case of Romani Populations in Europe.

Discussant: Gregoire Cousin

9.00 – 10.00 Catalina Tesar (Romanian Institute for Research On Minorities Issues) and Petre Matei (“Elie Wiesel” National Institute for the Study of the Holocaust) *“Pieptanari (Comb-makers) Roma from South East*



Romania during the 20th-21st century: territorial dispersal and re-arrangement of families under different state regimes.”

Discussant: Ilsen About

10.00 – 10.45 Volha Bartash (Hugo Valentin Centre, Uppsala University)
“They were Gypsies by profession”’: Researching the Nazi genocide of Roma in Lithuanian and Belarusian archives.”

10.45 – 11.30 Gül Özateşler (Department of Sociology, Dokuz Eylül University, Turkey)
“Silencing and Dominance on Social Memory. Neglecting the Gypsies in the Archives and Memory.”

11.30 – 11.45 Coffee break – 15 minutes

11.45 – 12.30 Elisabeth Tauber, Ilsen About, Jennifer Illuzzi and Paola Trevisan: Concluding reflections on potentials and limits of a bi-disciplinary dialogue.

14.00 – 16.00 Paola Trevisan: Workshop with South Tyrolean Sinti – archival and family memories.

Scientific committee

Chair: Dr. Elisabeth Tauber elisabeth.tauber@unibz.it;

Scientific responsible for the anthropological part: Dr. Paola Trevisan paola.trevisan@unibz.it;

Scientific responsible for the historical part: Dr. Ilsen About ilsen.about@gmail.com

