



Institute of Ethnology
and Social Anthropology
Slovak Academy of Sciences

Methodology, Ethics, Writing and Visions in Ethnology and Social Anthropology

Bratislava, Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology, Slovak Academy of Sciences,
June 13 – 14, 2019

Contemporary Ethnology and Social Anthropology in the last few decades have faced many challenges regarding their methodological approaches, ethical dilemmas which have arisen out of their usage, as well as the future visions of the disciplines. The aim of the conference is to follow the current outcomes and reflect the methodological approaches in connection with the intersection of ethics and future visions as the main topics. We invite proposals for:

1. **Thematic panels aiming to discuss the following questions and topics:**

- What innovative methodological approaches in ethnology and social anthropology can be used and what are the challenges of their application?
- What are the risks and gains of combining conventional ways of doing ethnography with new ones? What challenges does it bring in the context of ethics and vulnerability and how to adequately respond to them?
- What are the future visions of the discipline in the perspective of wider engagement, collaboration and participation?
- How can contemporary ethnology and social anthropology respond to the current needs of our society?

2. **Semi-opened panels:**

- Experiment in anthropology (convenor Vladimír Bahna)

In the last two decades, experimental methods, which are usually considered typical for the so called "hard sciences", also started to be more widely employed by anthropologists, scholars of religion and researchers across the social sciences and humanities. The panel focuses on innovative implementation of experiments into traditional anthropological research.

- Reflexive Writing as a Method of Inquiry (convenor Adam Wiesner)

If the postmodern social reality, where all research is now embedded, is not reflected by the use of language but rather created and produced by it, in what ways can alternative and experimental modes of inquiry, genres or formats of writing (such as writing as a method; evocative auto-ethnography; personal narrative, co-constructed representations; or storytelling) contribute to critical reflection of the writing process and research itself?

- Organisational anthropology (convenor Ľubica Voľanská)

The panel will discuss design of organisations, relationship between people involved, hierarchies and cultures present, as well as their transmissions and maintenance. It focuses on the way, how research process can be influenced by the organizational context, and what methodological adjustments and innovations may be needed.

3. **Commented poster session** offering PhD students the opportunity to present their work in a visual and interactive format (convenors Radoslava Semanová, Tomáš Winkler).

Abstracts of approximately 300 words should be accompanied by a short biographical note and emailed to **bratislavamethods2019@gmail.com**.

Closing date for submissions: **28 February, 2019**. Speakers will be notified of acceptance by 15 March, 2019.

Conference fee: 30 €

Students: free

The selected conference papers will be published in the thematic issue of the Slovak Ethnology Journal 2019/04. The deadline for paper submissions is 15 August, 2019.

The conference is the closing event of the VEGA research grant “The application of innovative approaches in ethnology / social anthropology in Slovakia” (VEGA, No. 2/0050/16), and the initiating event of the VEGA research grant “Reflexive Writing as a Method of Ethnographic Inquiry” (VEGA, No. 2/0088/19).

For further information, please, contact the conference organizing team:

bratislavamethods2019@gmail.com

Vladimír Bahna
Radoslava Semanová
Ľubica Voľanská
Adam Wiesner
Tomáš Winkler