

Unveiling the Unexplored Faces of Religiosity, Spirituality and Non-religiosity among the Roma

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Research of Religiosity, Spirituality and Non-religiosity among the Roma

(2023–2027)

GOAL

- church and non-church religiosity
- modern and postmodern spirituality
- religious experimenting, de-conversion,
- non-religiosity and secularism (atheism, agnosticizm, apatheism, humanism, etc.)



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GOAL

- **processes of mutual negotiation**
- **dynamic continuation of local religious tradition (Romani community, family)**
- **constant appropriation/accommodation of mainstream forms of religiosity/spirituality/non-religiosity**
- **enculturation and ethnicization, cultural transcript and translation**
- **creative processes of innovation, invention**



(2023–2027)

Specific GOAL

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RELI-ROMART webportal

- digital archive of documentary and artistic photographs of religious and spiritual objects and compositions, documenting domestic and community devotion in Roma communities



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QUANTITATIVE MODULE

- EVS, ISSP, WVS, Census 2021)

QUALITATIVE MODULE

- initial mapping of church based religiosity (online questionnaire + in situ interviews)
- multi-levelled + multi-sited ethnographies
(15 localities = 300 interviews + 300 photographs, videos)

DESIGN



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DESIGN

- **QUANTITATIVE** perspective at national context (SPSS)
- **QUALITATIVE** perspective:
- **(1)** multi-sited ethnography, **stationary and return** research; **(2)** multivocal ethnography: **multi-levelled perspective and local embeddedness—whole spectrum of target groups, including the comparative Non-Roma sample**
- **multidisciplinary approach**



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METHODS – analysis

- **content analysis** (Schrier 2014; Herzog, Handke, Hitters 2019)
- **thematic analysis** (e.g., Boyatzis 1998)
- **interpretative-phenomenological analysis** (Smith et al., 2009)



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**Innovation
+ Added
Value**

- **Research Design**
- **Digital and Visual Anthropology, Ethnomusicology**
- **Web-portal RELIROMA**
- **Exhibition**
- **Applied Anthropology and Participatory approaches** (workshops for church leaders and representatives, engaged volunteers both Roma and non-Roma)



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(M1) Mapping

(M2) Quantitative analysis

(M3) Ethical and Methodological Design

(M4) Pilot Research, validation of questionnaires;

(M5) Qualitative research I + II: (2-rounded field-work research at selected localities (16 localities, min. 320 interviews)

(M6) Analysis, Interpretation and evaluation

(M7) Final monograph and international conference;

(M8) Dissemination and popularization

(M9) Web portal RELI-ROM-ART

Milestones



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WORKING ASSUMPTIONS

- Roma religiousness is similarly diverse and constantly flexibly negotiated with the modern and postmodern world as well as the majoritarian religiousness;
- religious and spiritual seekers as well as indifferent, unbelieving, non-practicing, atheists or quite secular people are also significantly represented in the Roma communities.



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národnosť	trvalo bývajúci	prítomní	% rozdiel
Slováci	4 567 547	4 358 389	-4,6
Maďari	422 065	403 697	-4,4
Rómovia	67 179	64 992	-3,3
Rusíni	23 746	22 655	-4,6
Ukrajinci	9 451	20 593	+118
Spolu	5 449 270	5 233 612	-4



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národnosť/ vyznanie	rímsko-katolícke	bez vyznania	evanjelické a. v.	grécko-katolícke	pravoslávne	reformovaní	svedkovia jehovovi
rómska	60,2	18,4	1,4	6,5	2,75	1,2	1,4
slovenská	59,2	25,6	6,0	4,1	0,72	0,55	0,27
maďarská	62,3	17,1	1,7	1,9	0	14	0,53
rusínska	2,3	7,9	0	55,8	32,3	0	0,3



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	Index diverzifikácie (0-100)
Slovenská	42,3
Rómska	40,4
Maďarská	43,7
rusínska	42,2

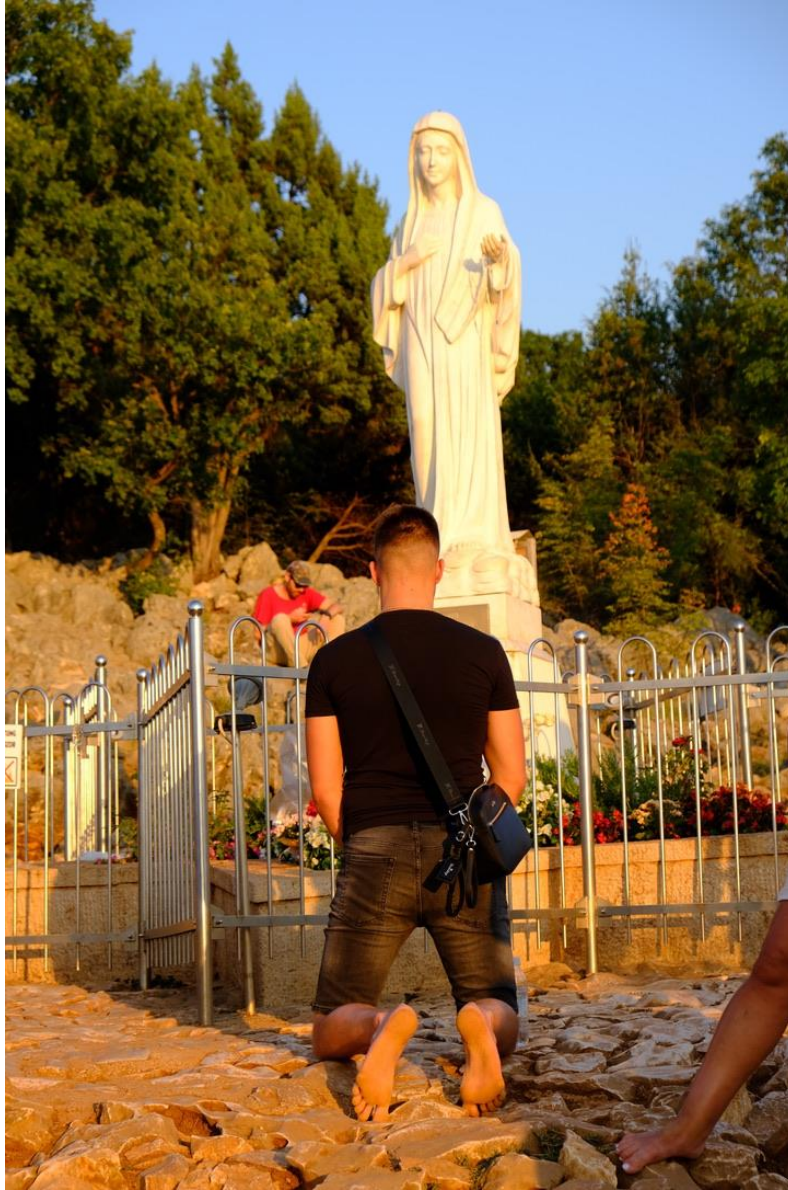


Roma Pilgrimage, Gaboltov, 2023





Roma pilgrim,
(Medjugorje,
2023)





**„Faith, Heart,
Love“
Roma woman,
from Czech
Republic,
(Markušovce,
2024)**





**Salesian
Church of St
Zeferyn
(Poštárka,
Bardejov,
2024)**





**Salesian
Church of St
Zeferyn
(Poštárka,
Bardejov,
2024)**





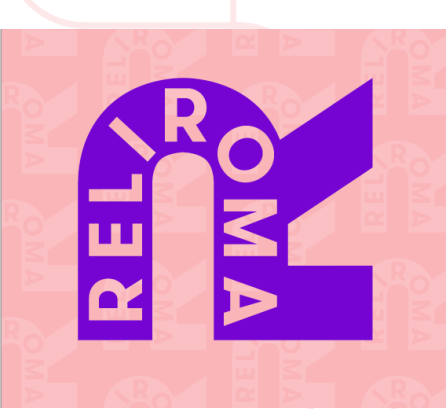
**Car of Romani
Pastor,
Charismatic
assembly of
Greek-
Catholic
church near
(Petrovany,
2024)**



RELIGION
ROMA

Roma grave,
(Sirk, 2021)



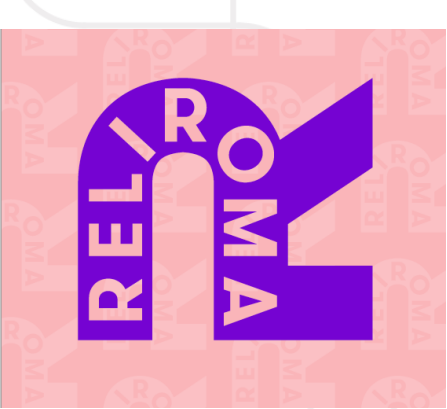


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PRELIMINARY RESULTS

- **QUANTITATIVE MODULE:** there is no “ethnic” pattern of religiosity, spirituality or non-religiosity;
- **MAPPING:** some faith-based organisation follow the model “sect-to church”, and some “church-to-sect” or “sect-to-cult”



To be continued...:)

Thank you for you attention!