



**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**THE ROMA CIVIC MOVEMENT IN EUROPE BETWEEN 1900 AND 1945**  
**FEBRUARY 6, 2026**

**Venue:**

Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum  
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (IEFSEM – BAS)  
Winter Garden, 6A Moskovska Street, Sofia, Bulgaria

**Online participation (Zoom):**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88936964879?pwd=fPSwz0mTUgpbFk4PM7br3JYNX5osv.1>

Meeting ID: 889 3696 4879

Passcode: 515218

**PROGRAM**

**09:00 – 09:15 | Opening Session**

- Welcome address by the Director of the Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum, BAS
- Hyusein Kyuchuk (University of Silesia) – Opening remarks

**09:15 – 10:00 | Keynote Lecture**

Elena Marushiakova & Veselin Popov

(Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology, Slovak Academy of Sciences)

**Roma Civic Emancipation and Political Subjectivisation**

**10:00 – 10:15 | Coffee Break**

**10:15 – 11:45 | Session I: Early Roma Civic Initiatives**



Chair: Elena Marushiakova

10:15 – 10:45

James Deutsch (Smithsonian Institution, USA)

English-language Articles on the 1905 Congress

10:45 – 11:15

Plamena Stoyanova (Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum, BAS)

Roma Organisations in Bulgaria in the First Half of the 20th Century

11:15 – 11:45

Magdalena Slavkova (IEFSEM–BAS & Institute of Ethnology and Social Anthropology, Slovak Academy of Sciences)

Roma Women's Activism within Evangelical Communities in Bulgaria before World War II

### **11:45 – 12:00 | Coffee Break**

### **12:00 – 13:00 | Session II: Regional Perspectives**

Chair: Elena Marushiakova

12:00 – 12:30

Sofiya Zahova (Vigdís International Centre for Multilingualism and Intercultural Understanding, School of Humanities, University of Iceland)

The Roma Movement in Yugoslavia before World War II: Key Personalities and Trends

12:30 – 13:00

Tamas Hajnaczky (Archiepiscopal College of Veszprém & Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church, Hungary)

The Genesis of the Roma Movement in Hungary: Historical Facts and Beyond Stereotypes

### **13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch Break**

### **14:00 – 17:00 | Round Table Discussion**

**“The Roma Civic Movement through the Eyes of the Roma Community”**



Moderator: Hyusein Kyuchuk

**Participants:**

- Dr. Dimitrina Demireva (Bulgaria)
- Sonia Styrkas, PhD candidate (Poland)
- Ivan Ivanov, PhD candidate (Bulgaria)
- Ognyan Isaev, PhD candidate (Bulgaria)
- Mihail Mishev, MA (Bulgaria)

**17:00 | Closing Session**

Hyusein Kyuchuk – Closing remarks