



Department of Political Science, Law and International Studies  
Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie IF-2014-EF  
*TransHI-Rom*  
G.A. 660281

## *Risk and Migration* *A Transnational History of Romanian Migration to Western Europe (2002-2013)*

Participating to the  
**European Social Science History Conference 2016**  
Valencia (Spain)  
30 March – 02 April 2016

The European Social Science History Conference (ESSHC) aims at bringing together scholars interested in explaining historical phenomena using the methods of the social sciences. The ESSHC takes place bi-annually and is organized in several parallel thematic panels.

I participated in a panel that took place the second day of the conference, with a group of researchers working on migration from Central Eastern Europe. Together with the members of the panel, and other researchers, we are part of a research project (initiated in 2014) on "Political Migration from Central Eastern Europe during the Cold War", coordinated by Anna Mazurkiewicz (University of Gdansk, Poland).



To bring together scholars who explain historical phenomena using the methods of the social sciences

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## Programme

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Wed 30 March 8.30 - 10.30 11.00 - 13.00 14.00 - 16.00 16.30 - 18.30	<b>Thursday 31 March 2016 14.00 - 16.00</b> <b>C-7 - ETH05 : Eastern European Migration as Political Propaganda: Immigrants, Exiles and Repatriates in the Early Cold War</b> <b>Seminario C, Nivel 0</b> <b>Networks:</b> Ethnicity and Migration , Politics, Citizenship, and Nations <b>Organizer:</b> Bethany Hicks <b>Chair:</b> Leslie Page Moch <b>Discussant:</b> Leslie Page Moch <b>Anna Fin :</b> Ethnic Mobilization of Immigrants. Case Studies of Ukrainian Political Emigration in the United States <b>Bethany Hicks :</b> East German Repatriates as Political Capital, 1955-1961 <b>Anna Mazurkiewicz :</b> East European Political Exiles in American Psychological Warfare during the Truman Administration <b>Francis Raska :</b> The Role of Exile Publishers in the Preservation of Independent Czechoslovak Culture (1968-1989) <b>Beatrice Scutaru :</b> Romania's Propaganda Campaign against Exiles during the Cold War: Horia Vintila and the Prix Goncourt
Thu 31 March 8.30 - 10.30 11.00 - 13.00 14.00 - 16.00 16.30 - 18.30	
Fri 1 April 8.30 - 10.30 11.00 - 13.00 14.00 - 16.00 16.30 - 18.30	

My talk, as all the others of the panel, emphasized the use of migrants from Eastern European Countries as propaganda tools by both leaving and receiving countries. Besides being able to share our previous findings with the other attendees, this conference was also a perfect opportunity for us to discuss on the possible evolutions of our research project.

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Throughout the conference, I also attended various panels, mostly on migration, but also on media/press and representations. Several panels on migration were particularly useful in comparing the preliminary findings of my fieldwork and other researches on related subjects as, for example:

**Panel: Labour Mobility and Social Rights**

Olle Jansson: "Industrial Makers of Labour Migration: the Case of the Metal and Engineering Industry of the County of Västmanland Sweden", talk that showed how industrial companies, together with the state and other actors – the makers of labour migration – created and perpetuated flows of migration.

Elaine Moriarty: "Mechanism for Exclusion? Social Protection in Post Celtic Tiger Ireland" which analyzed the issue of the portability of social protections in Europe in the context of the transforming European mobilities. It highlighted the growing tension between EU directives guaranteeing equal protections between member state nationals and national welfare implementation systems, which have engaged in selective 'restrictive' policies.

The talks in the two panels on expats (**Putting expats in their place: the socio-spatial consequences of high-skilled migration I and II**), too numerous to present in detail, confirmed one of the preliminary consequences of my interviews with Romanian migrants: high and low skilled migrants face basically the same difficulties during the migration process. These panels also provided the opportunity of numerous discussions on the definition of "expat".

Others helped me realize the importance of dealing, especially when working with migration at a local level, with the relationships that could be established between different sections of the population, of various geographical origins, in order to better understand the mechanisms that underpin the identity building process, the feeling of "home", etc.

THE MSC FELLOW

*Dr. Beatrice Andreea Scutaru*

THE SUPERVISOR

*Prof. Antonio Varsori*

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