

CALL FOR PAPERS

International Conference

Romani Women: Voices, Memory and Remembrance

Florence (Italy), 29-30 May 2026

The University of Florence will host the International Conference **Romani Women: Voices, Memory and Remembrance**, conceived as a dialogue among scholars, activists, and practitioners dedicated to amplifying the narratives, experiences, and agency of **Romani women** (*Romnja*) across Europe. By placing Romani women at the centre of historical, political, and social analysis, this conference seeks to explore how they actively contribute to memory-making, public discourse, activism, memorialization processes, and inclusive democratic participation. Particular attention will be given to their role within the **remembrance of the Roma genocide** and **contemporary struggles** for recognition, equality, and political visibility.

Beyond these aims, the conference intends to advance critical reflection on the **epistemologies** generated by Romani women and to consider how their cultural practices, narrative forms, and self-representations reshape both academic and public understandings of Roma histories and present realities. By bringing together interdisciplinary perspectives, the event promotes methodological innovation in the study of *Romnja* narratives, encouraging approaches grounded in oral history, participatory research, artistic practices, and community-based documentation.

This event, therefore, aims to foster dialogue among scholars, activists, artists, educators, and community leaders, acknowledging the fundamental role of *Romnja* in shaping **collective memory**, resisting discrimination, and challenging dominant narratives. In doing so, the conference aspires to strengthen **collaborative networks** between academic institutions, cultural organisations, and Roma communities, contributing to long-term initiatives in remembrance, empowerment, and the preservation of Romani women's cultural heritage.

We welcome proposals addressing, but not limited to, **the following topics of interest**:

1. **Romani women and the remembrance of Roma genocide**: analyses of historical experiences, testimonies, and the role of *Romnja* in contemporary memory practices related to the Sinti and Roma genocide.
2. **Narratives, storytelling and intergenerational memory**: studies on oral histories, autobiographical accounts, and cultural narratives through which Romani women shape and transmit collective memory.
3. **Political participation, leadership, and activism**: research on the civic engagement, advocacy efforts, and forms of resistance developed by *Romnja* at local, national, or European levels.
4. **Intersectionality and socio-political representations**: contributions examining gendered antigypsyism, multiple discrimination, and feminist or decolonial approaches to understanding *Romnja* agency.
5. **Education, inclusion, and policy perspectives**: analyses addressing educational barriers, community-based empowerment, and the impact of inclusion policies or institutional practices on the lives of Romani women.
6. **Artistic, cultural, and digital expression**: studies exploring creative production - arts, performances, literature, digital storytelling – and its role in visibility, cultural resistance, and heritage-making.



An **abstract** in English (maximum 500 words) and a **short 1-page CV** must be sent to givo.spgi@unipd.it by **February 1, 2026**.

The authors of the selected abstracts shall be provided with **one night's complimentary accommodation** arranged by the organisers and **reimbursement for travel expenses**.

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