About the Conference

The speakers will discuss the genesis of the Nazi “Final Solution of the Gypsy Question” in various parts of Europe and the subsequent Roma struggle for compensation and recognition of their suffering. The conference, which has been organized with the generous support of the Norwegian Arts Council, is coincided with the publication of the book, *The Nazi Genocide of the Roma: Reassessment and Commemoration* (edited by Anton Weiss-Wendt; Berghahn Books, 2013).

Registration before September 2 at www.hlsenteret.no/arrangementer/2013/the-nazi-genocide-of-the-roma/

Visiting address:
HL-senteret, Huk aveny 56, Bygdøy
Buss no. 30
Program

Introductory Remarks (10:00-10:15):
Anton Weiss-Wendt (HL-senteret, Norway)

Session 1 (10:15-12:00): Confinement, Mass Murder, and Genocide
Chair: Anton Weiss-Wendt

Shannon L. Fogg (Missouri University of Science and Technology, USA)
“Assimilation and Persecution of Roma in Vichy France”

Alexander Korb (University of Leicester, UK)
“Ustasha Mass Violence against Roma in Croatia, 1941-1942”

Martin Holler (Humboldt University, Germany)
“The Nazi Persecution of Roma in Northwestern Russia: The Operational Area of the Army Group North, 1941-1944”

Lunch (12:00-13:00)

Session 2 (13:00-14:00): Studying the Porajmos in Norway
Chair: Chalak Kaveh (University of Oslo, Norway)

Johanne Bergkvist & Kai-Samuel Vigardt (Oslo City Archives, minority historian, Norway)
“Planning the Final Solution of the ‘Gypsy Question’ in Norway”

Natalina Jansen (Le Norvegianongi Romengi historia research group, Norway)
“A Grandchild of the Norwegian Roma Survivor Milos Karoli Remembers the Genocide”

Session 3 (14:00-16:00): Restitution and Commemoration
Chair: Maria Rosvoll (HL-senteret, Norway)

Julia von dem Knesebeck (K5 Publishing, Germany)
“The Roma Struggle for Compensation in Postwar Germany”

Nadine Blumer (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, USA)
“Disentangling the Hierarchy of Victimhood: Commemorating Sinti & Roma and Jews in Germany”

Sławomir Kapralski (Polish Academy of Sciences)
“A Nation from the Ashes: Memory of Genocide and Roma Identity”
Speaker Bios

Johanne Bergkvist is a historian at the Oslo City Archives and the editor of the Oslo history journal Tobias. She has published several articles on Roma and Romani history, poverty and begging, including “Norske romer i nazistenes konsentrationsleire” (Norwegian Roma in Nazi Concentration Camps) and “Da Elias hesteskjærer unnslapp tukthuset. Romanifolks møte med rettsapparatet i 1801” (When Elias, the Horse Gelder, Avoided Jail: Roma’s Encounter With the Legal System in 1801). She is a member of the two research groups, Romanimanus rakrar avri! The Romani People’s own Stories and Le Norveganongi Romengi historia.

Nadine Blumer completed her doctoral dissertation in the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto on the memorial politics of the Sinti and Roma in Germany. Her recent article in the Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies looks at issues of homeland, ethno-diasporic identity, and Holocaust education programs for Jewish youth. She is currently a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

Shannon L. Fogg is an associate professor of history at Missouri University of Science and Technology, USA. Dr. Fogg is the author of The Politics of Everyday Life in Vichy France: Foreigners, Undesirables, and Strangers (2009). She is currently working on a project that explores the spoliation of Jewish apartments in Paris during the Second World War and postwar restitution.

Martin Holler is a PhD candidate at the Humboldt University in Berlin, majoring in German and East European history and Slavic literature. He is the author of Der nationalsozialistische Völkermord an den Roma in der besetzten Sowjetunion (1941-1944) (2009) and is currently completing his dissertation on Soviet Roma during the Second World War.

Natalina Jansen is the leader of the research group Le Norveganongi Romengi historia, which aims to document the untold history of the Norwegian Roma. Jansen is a grandchild of of the Norwegian Holocaust survivors Milos Karoli and Tjugurka Karoli. She is currently working as a teaching assistant at Romtiltaket (The Roma Initiative) adult education in Oslo and writing her autobiography.

Sławomir Kapralski teaches sociology at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology in the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. He is the author of Values and Sociological Knowledge (1995) and A Nation From the Ashes? Memory of Genocide and Roma Identity (2012), and the editor of The Jews in Poland (1999) and Memory, Space, Identity (2010). Kapralski is a member of the editorial board of Studia Romologica.

Julia von dem Knesebeck studied history at Cambridge University. She wrote her Master’s Thesis on the sterilization of Sinti and Roma in Nazi Germany. Her doctoral study, The Roma Struggle for Compensation in Post-War Germany was published in 2011 as a book by the University of Hertfordshire Press. Von dem Knesebeck is currently working in publishing business in Germany.
Alexander Korb is a lecturer in Modern European history at the University of Leicester, England. He is the author of Reaktionen der deutschen Bevölkerung auf die Novemberpogrome (2008) and the coeditor of Nationalsozialistische Lager. Neue Beiträge zur Verfolgungs- und Vernichtungspolitik und zur Pädagogik in Gedenkstätten (2006). His recent monograph, Im Schatten des Weltkriegs. Massengewalt der Ustaša gegen Serben, Juden und Roma in Kroatien 1941–1945, received the 2013 Frankel Book Prize by the Wiener Library in London.

Kai-Samuel Vigardt is a minority historian specializing in genealogical research among Norwegian Roma and Romani. Vigardt is part of the research group Le Norveganongi Romengi historia, and he is currently leading the documentation project Romanimanus rakrar avri! The Romani People´s Own Stories. He has published a number of articles on the history of Norwegian Romanies, including “Romanimanuš ando Baro Foro – De reisende i byen” (Travelers in the City) and, together with Johanne Bergkvist, “En endelig løsning på taterplagen’. Oslo fattigvesen og rasehygiene under 2. verdenskrig” (‘A Final Solution to the Gypsy Menace’: Oslo Poor Relief Fund and Racial Hygiene During the Second World War).

The conference coincides with the International Gypsy/Roma Music Festival Yagori in Oslo, which has been an annual event since 1999. For more information about the Festival see www.yagori.com.

www.hlsenteret.no
http://www.facebook.com/HLsenteret