

Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted that all of you are part of the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Gypsy Lore Society and Conference on Romani Studies to be held at the University of Iceland in Reykjavík, 15-17 August, 2019. There will be **109 presenters**, with **127 registered participants** from **32 countries** attending the conference. The conference dates are coming close and we would like to update you on the conference programme and other important things to have in mind.

Conference Programme and Abstracts. The final programme and abstracts are enclosed. They can also be accessed and downloaded from the conference website (<https://vigdis.hi.is/en/events/gls-2019/>) and the website of the Gypsy Lore Society (<http://www.gypsyloresociety.org/annual-meeting>). You will receive a print copy of the programme, but we will be having only electronic version of the abstracts. Those who want to consult a hard copy of the Conference Abstracts, can find one at the conference desk.

Presenters. Participants presenting papers will be allocated 20 minutes for presenting with 10 minutes for discussion to take place straight after the paper presentation. If you have slides or audio-visual materials to present, please bring these on a USB drive. Each room is equipped with a computer and a projector for power-points. You are encouraged to present yourself to the chair of your session and check if your slides can open before the session starts. If you need loudspeakers and don't see such in your session's room, please let us know. Conference staff will be at the conference desk to help if needed.

Chairs. Please be in the session's room few minutes before the start and notify our assistants at the reception desk if any technical troubles are detected. You should remind the participants that they have 20 minutes for presenting and 10 minutes for discussion. The most challenging task for you would be to be strict and kindly remind the speakers when they have 5 and few minutes left. You have to terminate the talk and discussion when the 30-min time allocated for the participant has passed. If, due to some reason, a participant does not show up, you should not invite the next speaker, but keep to the schedule and wait for 30 minutes until the time allocated for the missing participant has passed.

Conference venue. All conference sessions take place in Veröld – Hús Vigdísar, University of Iceland, Brynjólfsgata 1, 107 Reykjavík. Picture of the building is enclosed. It is easily recognizable and accessible (see Practical information section of the conference website on ways to access it). Once you enter the building you will be directed by signs to the conference desk downstairs. Sessions are taking place in neighbouring rooms on two floors of the building. The welcome reception on August 15 takes place at the Municipal Hall of the City of Reykjavík and the conference dinner takes place in Messinn Granda Seafood restaurant at the Old Harbour of Reykjavík (addresses provided in the programme). Both days the organizing team will be leaving from the conference venue to these places.

Environmental friendly policies. You will receive a print copy of the programme and a conference badge at the conference desk. We have decided to be an eco-friendly event and will not be providing folders with handouts, maps, print vouchers for lunch and dinner, and writing pads. There will be some **printing paper and pens, as well as city maps, available at the conference desks** for those who need them.

Coffee and lunch during the conference. We will be providing coffee/tea and cakes during the planned coffee breaks at Veröld cafeteria, and lunch during the lunch breaks on August 15 and August 16 at the University Restaurant Háma. As we will not be having lunch vouchers, **your**

conference badge is your entry for lunch, and the lunch is a simple meal of the day. A vegan option can be provided for those who request. Please let us know if you need a vegan meal or have any dietary requirements before July 30. Those of you **who are not attending any of the lunches or not taking lunch at all, please let us know**, so that we purchase the exact number of lunch meals.

Internet access. You should be able to access your **Eduroam** network if you have such. If you do not, there will be a **conference Wi-Fi** that you will be able to connect to. Information related to the conference Wi-Fi can be obtained from the conference desk.

Conference dinner. If you have registered and paid for the **conference dinner**, you will have a sticker on your conference badge that will be your dinner entry. We have a wonderful **Icelandic fish buffet at Messinn Granda restaurant**. The dinner is vegetable friendly. It includes two drinks (either 2 glasses of wine or of beer) and a piece of cake. Those who do not eat fish, can be offered a lamb dish or a vegan dish. Please let us know if you have any dietary requirement or wish to take a vegan / lamb dish before July 30.

Those who have not paid for their dinner can still join. This can be done by July 30, at the conference website (<https://vigdis.hi.is/en/events/gls-2019/>), Fees and registration section, Dinner only option. You will not be able to join the dinner if you have not paid for it online.

Certificates. Those who need certificate for their participation please let us know by July 30. We will not be issuing certificates for each participant, but only for those who have requested such.

Registration for conference attendees still possible. While the registration deadline for speakers has already passed, **registration of conference attendees will be possible by July 30**. The registration is done by paying a participation fee at <http://vigdis.hi.is/en/events/gls-2019/>, Fees and registration section. Please feel free to distribute the information among colleagues and practitioners who might be interested to attend the conference.

List of participants. A file containing participants' list and their contact information will be sent out by email after the conference. Please let us know **only if you do not wish your contact information to be shared** with the conference participants.

Conference desk. We will be having two students supporting the conference organization to whom you can refer in case you have questions related to the conference programme, conference venues and facilities, including technical issues with your presentation. They will not be able to help in case you need to print papers, hand-outs or boarding passes, but can direct you to the nearest place to do it. If you have any questions related to planning touristic trips or visits, please ask your hotel/hostel staff.

Practical information. Please check the conference website for practical information <http://vigdis.hi.is/en/events/gls-2019/> There are plenty of online resources providing extensive information about different aspects on visiting Iceland and Reykjavík.

Additional questions related to the conference can be directed to the conference email 2019gls@gmail.com or to Sofiya Zahova, Conference coordinator, at zahova@hi.is

We look forward to welcoming you soon in Reykjavík!

Marco Solimene

Sofiya Zahova

On behalf of the Academic Committee

On behalf of the Organizing Committee