Letter of motivation
Short-term Stay for Guest Scholars in Leipzig, Halle and Jena

Hereby I, Eleonora Narvselius, anthropologist and PhD affiliated with the Centre for Languages and Literature (SOL) at Lund University, apply for a stay at the Leibniz Science Campus EEGA between September 24 and October 15 2017.

I am a senior researcher active in the field of Eastern European Studies, and in 2015-2016 I was employed as co-ordinator of the Master Programme in European Studies (MAPES) at Lund. My post-doctoral study (2010-2013) “Collective Memory and Accommodation of Ethno-Cultural Difference in Lviv and Kaliningrad: The Case of Polishness and Germanness” was funded by IRTG “Baltic Borderlands” (University of Greifswald). I am an Associate Professor in European Studies since 2016. The profile of my studies focusing on intelligentsia as an important historical actor in Eastern Europe might suit best EEGA’s Research Area 4. However, my research interest in Europeanization of heritage and memory in Eastern Europe correlates with the profile of Research Area 5, too.

The most immediate reason for my visit is the opportunity to exchange ideas and profit from expertise available at the host institution. At the same time, I would be happy to participate in the research activities of the host institution and contribute to workshops and networking meetings with scholars in the EEGA. This scholarly exchange is much needed in order to prepare a project application for ERC Consolidator Grant and to continue working on the introductory chapter of a planned book Cultural Diversity of East-Central European Borderlands: Cityscapes, Memories, People. This edited volume summarizes main findings of the concluded international project Memory of Vanished Population Groups and Societies in Today’s East-Central European Urban Environments. Memory Treatment and Urban Planning in Lviv, Chernivtsi, Chisinau and Wroclaw co-ordinated by Dr Bo Larsson. The profile of this project, which was affiliated with the Center for European Studies (CFE), is well in line with academic priorities of the EEGA research community. It should be stressed that the preliminary inquiries about the possibility to submit the edited volume to an international academic publishing house in the US have been encouraging. Nevertheless, as the volume’s editor, I would like to gauge whether some leading German publishers would be interested in the book.

Another reason of my application is an opportunity to represent Lund University’s research milieu specializing in Eastern and Central Europe and discuss possibilities for further cooperation between Lund University and EEGA regarding both research projects and initiatives on the level of the master education (e.g., Erasmus+, Erasmus Mundus etc).

Last but not least, the short-term scientific mission will allow me to develop useful connections with colleagues from Max Plank Institute for Social Anthropology (MPI) that may be used to work on applications for international research projects, joint publications, organisation of workshops and, last but not least, more intense intellectual exchange between SOL, CFE and EEGA.

Principal point of contact: Prof. Dr. Stefan Troebst Stellvertretender Direktor of GWZO

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Task Schedule of the Short-term Stay for Guest Scholars in Leipzig, Halle and Jena

I am planning to spend three weeks at the Leibniz Science Campus EEGA. The most immediate reason for my visit is the opportunity to exchange ideas and profit from expertise available at the host institution, primarily in order to prepare a chapter to the planned anthology Cultural Diversity of East-Central European Borderlands: Cityscapes, Memories, People (a sketch of prospectus is attached). This edited volume concludes the international project Memory of Vanished Population Groups and Societies in Today’s East-Central European Urban Environments. Memory Treatment and Urban Planning in Lviv, Chernivtsi, Chisinau and Wroclaw co-ordinated by the Center for European Studies at Lund University.

The three-week long missions’ plan will consist of the next stages:

Week 1.

- Arrival to Leipzig.
- Personal meetings and consultations with the researchers at the Leibnitz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe (GWZO) and the Center for Area Studies at Leipzig University (CAS). The primary aim of these meetings is getting first-hand information about the research and education activities run by these institutions.
- Presentation of the book project “Cultural Diversity in East-Central European Borderlands: Cityscapes, Memories, People” during a research seminar at the GWZO. The focus will be laid on explaining the theoretical and methodological framework of the project outlined in the introductory chapter. The feedback obtained in the course the seminar and during the personal meetings with the researchers in Leipzig will be used for improving academic quality of the text. The questions on which I am especially interested to collect possible answers are: What is specific about transnationalization of memory in the urban public spaces of Central and Eastern Europe? What are the political rationale and implications of approaching legacy of the perished population groups in the chosen cities? How do these approaches relate to European dimensions of memory and the “European vector” of identity-making of the contemporary urban populations?

Week 2

Work at the scientific library of GWZO and writing of the introductory chapter.

Week 3

- Arrival to Halle.
- Personal meetings and consultations with the researchers at Max Plank Institute for Social Anthropology (MPI). Participation in workshops and seminars arranged by the Institute.
- A research seminar at MPI presenting my current study about comemoration of the Polish academics executed in Lviv during WWII, co-authored with Dr. Igor Pietraszewski (Wroclaw University).

Expected results:
The academic and personal connections established with researchers from the host institutions will be instrumental in planning project applications and other co-operative academic events involving the Center for European Studies at Lund University and the EEGA.

The mutual exchange of information about Master program in European Studies at Leipzig University and the Master program in European Studies run by Center for European Studies will be a much welcome outcome of the research stay at EEGA.
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Associate Professor, lecturer at SOL (Center for Languages and Literature)


Scientific focus areas

Anthropologist, her recent research deals with Memory Studies, Heritage Studies, Urban Studies and studies of ethnicity and nationalism. In the course of her research career she participated in two large international research projects focusing on urban environment, memory and heritage management: Life Forms in the Suburbs of Large Cities in the Baltic Sea Region (funded by the Swedish Research Council, project leader Prof. Karl-Olof Arnstberg, 1999-2001) and Memory of Vanished Population Groups and Societies in Today’s East- and Central European Urban Environments. Memory Treatment and Urban Planning in Lviv, Chernivci, Chisinau and Wroclaw (funded by the Swedish research foundation Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, project co-ordinator Dr. Bo Larsson, 2011-2014). She is an MC member of the European research network COST In Search for Transcultural Memory (ISTME) in 2012-2016. In 2017- 2020 I participate in the research project ”The Lessons of Communist and Nazi History – A Genealogical Approach” (Lund University, Faculty of History, funded Marcus and Amalia Wallenberg Foundation) led by Prof. Klas-Göran Karlsson.

Project management and participation in submissions for international research projects:

- collaborative FP7 research project Forgive, Forget, Forgo? Collective Memory between Reconciliation and Contestation in Europe after 1989 (European Commission’s Seventh Framework Programme, February 2010, Lund university);
- collaborative research project Addressing the legacy of the post-war forced migrations in Europe. Memory, conflict and reconciliation (European Science Foundation, April 2010);
• international research project *Mellan konflikt och försoning. Minnespolitik i Europa efter 1989* (RJ, april 2010);

• collaborative research network COST Action 1203 *ISTME In Search of Transnational Memory* (European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research COST, april 2011) – funded;

• collaborative FP7 research project *Bordering, Re-Bordering and De-Bordering in European Regions and Spaces* (European Commission’s Seventh Framework Programme, Februari 2011, Greifswald University);


• collaborative research project *EUROHERITO: Forms and Mechanisms of Creation and Transmission of European Cultural Heritage* (HORIZON 2020), April 2015;

• collaborative research project *Contagious Pasts: Enabling Inclusive Histories on Europe’s Borders* (HERA, September 2015).

International relations: established collaboration with the Center for Urban History of Eastern and Central Europe (Lviv, Ukraine), Copenhagen University, Ethnology Institute (Lviv, Ukraine), Institute of European Studies (Jagellonian University, Poland) and Kalininrad University (Russian Federation).
List of publications

1. Monographs


2. Articles (*after 2000*)


3. Peer-reviewed articles


4. Book chapters

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