

CURRICULUM VITAE

DR. ESZTER VARSA

VarsaE@ceu.edu
+49 162 8659 177

CURRENT POSITION

02/2021- Postdoctoral researcher, ZARAH: Women's Labour Activism in Eastern Europe and Transnationally from the Age of Empires to the late 20th Century, Department of History/Department of Gender Studies, Central European University (CEU), Vienna

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

05-12/2020 Romani Rose Fellow, Research Center on Antigypsyism, History Department, Heidelberg University
01/2017-01/2021 Research Fellow, Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS), Regensburg
2013-/2016 Researcher (Wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin), IOS, Regensburg
2011-2013 Visiting lecturer, Department of Gender Studies and Department of History, CEU, Budapest

EDUCATION

2011 Ph.D. in Comparative Gender Studies, CEU Budapest
2002 M.A. Gender Studies, CEU Budapest
2000/2003 M.A. English with English Language Teaching Qualifications and American Studies, Minor: Dutch Language and Culture, ELTE University, Budapest

LANGUAGES

Hungarian: native; English: excellent; German: excellent;
French: good; Dutch: good

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS

05-12/2020 Heidelberg University, History Department, Research Center on Antigypsyism, Romani Rose Fellowship

05/2014-10/2016	IOS, Marie Sklodowska-Curie Intra-European (IEF) Research Fellowship
10/2013-04/2014	IOS, DAAD Post-doctoral fellowship
08-09/2013	Goethe Institute Mannheim, DAAD German language study scholarship
03/2009	University of Vienna, Department of History, CEEPUS-OEAD Scholarship Award
01/2006-04/2007	University of Maryland, College Park, Department of History, Research Scholar, CEU Doctoral Research Support Grant
09/2004-08/2007	CEU Budapest, Full CEU Doctoral Fellowship

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Health, hygiene and “solutions” to the “Gypsy question” in interwar Germany, Austria and Hungary, 1918-1938, in the framework of the Romani Rose Fellowship at the Anti-Gypsyism Research Center, History Department, Heidelberg University (05-12/2020), <https://www.uni-heidelberg.de/fakultaeten/philosophie/zegk/histsem/mitglieder/varsas.html>

Health, Hygiene and Romani Assimilation in Austria and Hungary from an Intersectional Perspective, 1956-1989, financed by the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Intra-European (IEF) Research Fellowship (05/2014-10/2016) and the DAAD (10/2013-04/2014), <http://www.ios-regensburg.de/forschung/drittmittelprojekte/health-hygiene-and-romani-assimilation.html>

Gender, ‘Race’/Ethnicity, Class and the Institution of Child Protection in Hungary, 1949–1956, PhD research project at the Gender Studies Department, CEU, Budapest, <http://www.etd.ceu.hu/2011/gphvae01.pdf>

Romani Children in the Hungarian Child Protection System, financed by the European Roma Rights Center (ERRC), Budapest (10/2010-06/2011)

History of Social Work in Eastern Europe, 1900-1960, financed by the Volkswagen Stiftung, Project leaders: Prof. Dr. Sabine Hering, University of Siegen, Prof. Dr. Berteke Waaldijk, Utrecht University (2004-2005)

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

02/2021-	ZARAH Lead Responsibility: Collaborative Research Management
2021-	Member, Society for the History of Children and Youth
2020-	Reviewer, <i>Hungarian Historical Review</i>
2018-	Reviewer, <i>Journal of East Central Europe</i>
2016-	Member, Advisory Board, Prague Forum for Romani Histories, www.romanihistories.usd.cas.cz/

2015- Reviewer, *Südosteuropa*
2005- Member, Network for Historical Studies of Gender and Social Work

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2020 Co-editor of the special issue (with Dorottya Szikra)
"Reproductive Politics and Sex Education in Cold War Europe,"
The History of the Family 25, 4 (2020)

2018 Organizer of the panel "Sex education and reproductive politics
in 20th century (Eastern) Europe at the ESSHC 2018, Queens
University, Belfast, 04-07/04/2018

2015 Organizer of the panel "The politics of reproduction and Roma
in post-World War II Eastern Europe," at the 47th Annual
Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, &
Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), Philadelphia, 19-22/11/2015

10/2013-07/2014 Editorial assistant *Rosa Manus (1881–1942): The International Life
and Legacy of a Jewish Dutch Feminist*, ed., Myriam Everard and
Francisca de Haan (Leiden: Brill, 2016)

2012-2013 Editorial assistant *Aspasia: The International Yearbook of Central,
Eastern and Southeastern European Women's and Gender History*

2012 Assistant coordinator, MATILDA (Joint European Master in
Women's and Gender History) Summer school on "Gender and
Migration, 19th-21st Centuries: Economic, Regional, and
Methodological Perspectives," CEU, Budapest, 2-14 July, 2012

TEACHING

Heidelberg University, 2020-2021

Antigypsyism in (Eastern) Europe, 20th-21st centuries: Historical Discourses and
Media Representation (MA seminar) Winter 2020/2021 (with Dr. Maria Bogdan)

University of Regensburg, 2014-2016

Health, the Body and Gender in (Eastern) Europe's Twentieth Century (MA seminar)
Summer 2016

Health, the Body, and Gender in (Eastern) Europe's Twentieth Century (MA seminar)
Winter 2015/2016

The Politics of Reproduction, Framing Interactions in Socialist Societies (Online MA
seminar with the Aleksanteri Institute, Helsinki) Winter 2014/2015

CEU, Budapest, 2011-2013

Foundations in Gender Studies (MA course) Winter 2012/2013

The Social History of State Socialism in Central Eastern Europe. Comparative
Perspectives (MA course) Winter 2011/2012

Interdisciplinarity and Intersectionality in Women's and Gender Studies (MA course)
Winter 2011/2012

Roma Access Program, Open Society Institute and Special Extension Program of the CEU,
Budapest, 2010-2012

Introduction to Gender Studies Winter, Summer 2010/2011

Introduction to Gender Studies Winter, Summer 2011/2012

OTHER ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

06/2014 Introductory course to SPSS, IOS
2008-2009 Course in Teaching in Higher Education, Curriculum Resource
Center, CEU

PUBLIC OUTREACH

10/2015-09/2018 Project leader, LGBTTIQ Counselling Centre PLUS, Mannheim
2017 Organizer of the conference "Proud to be – Muslim, Gay,
Lesbian, Transgender, Queer and More," as part of the Queer
Festival in Heidelberg, Germany, 10.05.2017
2017 Presentation, "The Situation of LGBTTIQ People in East, Central,
and Southeastern Europe," Lecture as part of the program
series accompanying the exhibition "Differences that Make a
Difference," Documentation and Cultural Center of German
Sinti and Roma, Heidelberg, 21.02.2017
2016 Author of the publication (with Margret Göth and Angela Jäger),
Homosexualität und Islam: Lsbttiq und muslimisch sein?!
Mannheim: PLUS. Psychologische Lesben- und
Schwulenberatung Rhein-Neckar e.V., 2016, [http://www.plus-
mannheim.de/images/stories/PLUS-Brosch_Homosex-
Islam_web.pdf](http://www.plus-mannheim.de/images/stories/PLUS-Brosch_Homosex-Islam_web.pdf)
2016 Organizer of the conference "Homosexuality and Islam a
relationship of tensions? Symposium on sexual diversity and
Islam as a religious and cultural framework"
(Spannungsverhältnis Homosexualität und Islam? Fachtagung
zur Vielfalt geschlechtlicher und sexueller Identitäten und
Islam als religiösem Rahmen und gemeinschaftlicher Heimat
verschiedenster Menschen), together with local NGOs,
Mannheim 10.11.2016
2016 Presentation at the Long Night of the Sciences "Szexuális
felvilágosítás az államszocialista Magyarországon" [Sexual
education in state socialist Hungary] Institute for History,
Károly Eszterházy University, Eger, Hungary, 30.09.2016

- 2009 Gender Studies Expert, Gender Mainstreaming Training in the Governmental Sector, Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, Budapest
- 2008 Editor of the report "Dis-Interest of the Child: Romani Children in the Hungarian Child Protection System," ERRC, Budapest
- 2007 Translator and editor of the report "Breaking the Barriers: The Status of Romani Women in Bulgaria," Open Society Institute Budapest, Roma Initiative Program

CONFERENCE PAPERS, LECTURES

Eszter Varsa, Book presentation "Protected Children, Regulated Mothers: Gender and the "Gypsy Question" in State Care in Postwar Hungary, 1949-1956" Online Colloquium of the Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies, Regensburg/Munich, 15.07.2021

Eszter Varsa, Book presentation "Protected Children, Regulated Mothers: Gender and the "Gypsy Question" in State Care in Postwar Hungary, 1949-1956," 11th Biennial Online Conference of the Society for the History of Childhood and Youth, National University of Ireland, Galway, 24.06.2021

Eszter Varsa, Book presentation "Protected Children, Regulated Mothers: Gender and the "Gypsy Question" in State Care in Postwar Hungary, 1949-1956" Co-hosted by the Department of Gender Studies and the Romani Studies Program of the CEU Vienna, 25.05.2021

Eszter Varsa, "Reproductive politics and sex education in Cold War Europe," Presentation at the graduate seminar on the history of science during the Cold War (instructor: Dr. Birgit Nemeč), Institute for the History and Ethics of Medicine, Heidelberg University, 12.11.2020

Eszter Varsa, Comments to the panel "Challenging Borders and Closed Concepts," Trajectories of Romani Migrations and Mobilities in Europe and Beyond (1945- present), International Conference of the Prague Forum for Romani Histories at the Institute of Contemporary History at the Czech Academy of Sciences, Villa Lana, Prague, 16-19. 09. 2019

Eszter Varsa, Comments to the panel "Biopolitics and Discourses on Sexuality", Fearing for the Nation: Biopolitics in Central and Eastern Europe in the 20th Century, Annual Conference of the Imre Kertész Kolleg, Jena, 13-14. 06. 2019

Eszter Varsa, "Sex advice East and West: Sex education and family planning in Cold War Austria and Hungary," ESSHC 2018, Queens University, Belfast, 04-07. 04. 2018

Eszter Varsa, "Child protection authorities' perception of Romani and non-Romani families in early state socialist Hungary," Tracing the Legacies of the Roma Genocide: Families as Transmitters of Experience and Memory, Villa Lana, Prague, 20-21. 09. 2017

Eszter Varsa, "Also Gypsy women are trying to find employment': A source from child protection work in early state socialist Hungary," Introductory Workshop: Concepts, Methods, and Evidence, AHRC Research Network on Legacies of the Roma Genocide in Europe since 1945, University of Liverpool, 26-27. 07. 2017

Eszter Varsa, "Gypsies as objects of health education': Discourses on Roma in Hungarian medical journals, 1960s-1980s," European Healthcare Before Welfare States Workshop, University of Huddersfield, 17. 02. 2017

Eszter Varsa, "Local Physicians and the Fight against Infectious Diseases in Austria and Hungary, 1918-1938," University of Salzburg, 16. 12. 2016

Eszter Varsa, "Preparation for family life': Sex education and pronatalism in Cold War Hungary," Making Children? 20th century Value Changes in Human Reproduction and Family Planning, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, 14-16. 04. 2016

Eszter Varsa, "The size of the Gypsy population is in a constant growth': Roma and the politics of reproduction in (North-East) Hungary, 1950s-1980s," ASEES Annual Convention, Philadelphia, 19-22. 11. 2015

Eszter Varsa, "The prevention of 'unwanted birth': Racism and the politics of reproduction in Hungary, 1960s-1980s," The Annual Meeting of the Gypsy Lore Society, Academy of Sciences, Chisinau, Moldova, 10-12. 09. 2015

Eszter Varsa, "The Final Solution of the Gypsy-Question': Continuities in discourses about Roma in Hungary, 1940s-1950s," 20th Annual World Convention of the ASN Columbia University, New York City, 23-25. 04. 2015

Eszter Varsa, "The solution of the Gypsy-question?' Intersections of gender and "race"/ethnicity in child protection in early state socialist Hungary," Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Toronto, 22-25. 05. 2014

Eszter Varsa, "Perspectives on Roma in medical journals in Hungary, 1960s-1980s," Health, Ethnicity and Gender in Twentieth Century Eastern Europe, 10th European Social Science History Conference, Vienna University, 23-26. 04. 2014

Eszter Varsa, "Health, hygiene and Romani assimilation in Austria and Hungary, 1950s-1980s," Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Project Presentation, Research Colloquium

„Geschichte und Sozialanthropologie Südost- und Osteuropas“, IOS, Regensburg, 10. 04. 2014

Eszter Varsa, “Education for work in child protection in early state socialist Hungary, 1949-1956,” Interventions: The Impact of Labor Movements on Social Care and Cultural Development, International Conference of Labor and Social History (ITH), Linz, 13-16. 09. 2012

Eszter Varsa, “‘Hindered from finding employment by her daughter:’ Gender, “race”/ethnicity and children’s placement in state care in early state-socialist Hungary, Colloquium by the CEU and Humboldt-University Berlin (Project Re:Work, IGK Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History), Care-Gender-Life Cycle: Women’s Work in State-Socialist and Post-State-Socialist Hungary, CEU Budapest, 17. 08. 2012

Eszter Varsa, “‘The solution of the Gypsy-Question?’ Intersections of gender and “race”/ethnicity in child protection in early state socialist Hungary,” 9th European Social Science History Conference, University of Glasgow, 11-14. 04. 2012

Eszter Varsa, “Child protection and the solution of the ‘Gypsy-Question’: Intersections of gender and “race”/ethnicity in the protection of abandoned/endangered children in early state socialist Hungary,” NordWel, Nordic Centre of Excellence: The Nordic Welfare State – Historical Foundations and Future Challenges (<http://blogs.helsinki.fi/nordwel/>) Symposium: Intervention and Deprivation: Long-Run Perspectives on Policy and Poverty, University of Helsinki, 8-9. 06. 2011

Eszter Varsa, “Child protection as a welfare institution in early state socialist Hungary,” The 8th Annual ESPAnet Conference, ELTE University, Budapest, 2-4. 09. 2010

Eszter Varsa, “‘Make them experience the good taste of work’: Education for work in residential care in early state socialist Hungary,” State, Society and Citizen, Cross- and Multi-disciplinary Perspectives on Welfare State Development, NordWel-REASSESS International Summer School, University of Southern Denmark, Odense and Svendborg, Denmark, 15-20. 08. 2010

Eszter Varsa, “At the crossroads of ‘East’ and ‘West:’ Gender Studies in Hungary,” The 7th European Feminist Research Conference, Utrecht, 4-7. 06. 2009

Eszter Varsa, “Immoral parents, delinquent children: Moral abandonment/endangerment in the early 1950s in Hungary,” ELTE University, Budapest, Department of Social Work and Social Politics, Winter 2008

Eszter Varsa, “Moving within the frames of the past: Methodological challenges in placing former state socialist Eastern European countries in the history of European welfare

states," The 8th Annual Aleksanteri Conference, Welfare, Gender and Agency in Russia and Eastern Europe, University of Helsinki, 10-12. 12. 2008

Eszter Varsa, "Inclusion and exclusion in the building of the Hungarian welfare state: An intersectional analysis of productive social policy and the settlement movement in interwar Hungary," 7th European Social Science History Conference, Lisbon, 27. 02 -01. 03. 2008

Eszter Varsa, "Social rights under state socialism: The case of residential care in state socialist Hungary, 1949-1956," 'Social Care' Under State Socialism (1945 - 1990), University of Siegen, 23-24. 11. 2007

Eszter Varsa, "'Youth whose further education cannot take place:' Gender, 'race'/ethnicity, class and tensions between education and work in the institution of residential care in Hungary, 1949-1956," The 5th Annual ESPAnet Conference, Vienna University, 20-22. 09. 2007

PUBLICATIONS

MONOGRAPHS

Eszter Varsa, *Protected Children, Regulated Mothers: Gender and the "Gypsy Question" in State Care in Postwar Hungary, 1949-1956*. Budapest: CEU Press, 2021.

Eszter Varsa, *Gender, "Race"/Ethnicity, Class and the Institution of Child Protection in Hungary, 1949-1956* (PhD diss., Budapest: Central European University, 2011), <http://www.etd.ceu.hu/2011/gphvae01.pdf>.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Eszter Varsa and Dorottya Szikra, "'New Eugenics,' Gender and Sexuality: A Global Perspective on Reproductive Politics and Sex Education in Cold War Europe," *History of the Family* 25, 4 (2020): 527-549, <https://doi.org/10.1080/1081602X.2020.1807385>

Eszter Varsa, "Sex Advice East and West: Sex Education and Family Planning in Cold War Austria and Hungary", *History of the Family*. Online on 10.01.2020, <https://doi.org/10.1080/1081602X.2019.1702890>

Eszter Varsa, "'The (Final) Solution of the Gypsy-Question:' Continuities in Discourses about Roma in Hungary, 1940s-1950s," *Nationalities Papers* 45, 1 (2017): 114-130. Online on 2.12.2016, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00905992.2016.1241221>.

Eszter Varsa, "The Minor Would Hinder the Mother in Finding Employment: Child Protection and Women's Paid Work in Early State Socialist Hungary," *East European Politics and Societies* 31, 4 (2017): 818-839. Online on 22.08.2017, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0888325417720488>.

Eszter Varsa, "The State-of-the-Art in Women's and Gender History in Hungary: Studies from and about the State Socialist Period," *Aspasia* 7 (2013), 174-183.

CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

Eszter Varsa, "Gypsies/Roma, and the Politics of Reproduction in Post-Stalinist Central-Eastern Europe." In: Katalin Fábrián, Janet Elise Johnson, and Mara Lazda (eds.). *The Routledge International Handbook to Gender in Central-Eastern Europe and Eurasia*. New York: Routledge, 2021.

Eszter Varsa, "Respect Girls as Future Mothers: Sex Education as Family Life Education in State Socialist Hungary, 1950s-1980s." In: Ann-Katrin Gembries, Theresia Theuke, and Isabel Heinemann (eds.). *Children by Choice? Changing Values, Reproduction, and Family Planning in the 20th Century*. Oldenbourg: De Gruyter, 2018, 77-98.

Eszter Varsa, "The Gypsy Population Is Constantly Growing: Roma and the Politics of Reproduction in Cold War Hungary." In: Heike Karge und Friederike Kind-Kovacs, and Sara Bernasconi (eds.). *From the Midwife's Bag to the Patient's File: Public Health in Eastern Europe*. Budapest, New York: CEU Press, 2017, 263-292.

Eszter Varsa (with Karin Reemtsma), "Roma." In: Holm Sundhaussen and Konrad Clewing (eds.). *Lexikon zur Geschichte Südosteuropas*. 2. edition. Wien, Köln Weimar: Böhlau Verlag, 2015, 787-791.

Eszter Varsa (with Sonya Michel), "Children and the National Interest." In: Dirk Schumann (ed.). *Raising Citizens in the "Century of the Child": Child Rearing in the United States and German Central Europe in Comparative Perspective*. New York, Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2010, 27-49.

Eszter Varsa (with Éva Fodor), "At the Crossroads of 'East' and 'West': Gender Studies in Hungary." In: Christine Bose and Minejong Kim (eds). *Global Gender Research: Transnational Perspectives*. New York: Routledge, 2009, 290-307.

Eszter Varsa, "Child Protection, Residential Care and the 'Gypsy-Question' in Early State Socialist Hungary." In: Sabine Hering (ed.). *Social Care under State Socialism (1945-1989)*. Opladen and Farmington Hills: Barbara Budrich Publishers, 2009, 149-159.

Eszter Varsa (with Dorottya Szikra and Borbála Juhász), "Building the 'Social State' in Hungary: The Hungarian Settlement Movement between the Two World Wars." In: Gisela Hauss and Dagmar Schulte (eds.). *Amid Social Contradictions: Towards a History of Social Work in Europe*. Opladen and Farmington Hills: Barbara Budrich Publishers, 2009, 131-148

Eszter Varsa, "Class, Ethnicity and Gender – Structures of Differentiation in State Socialist Employment and Welfare Politics, 1960-1980. The Issue of Women's Employment and the Introduction of the First Maternity Leave Regulation in Hungary." In: Kurt Schilde and Dagmar Schulte (eds.). *Need and Care – Glimpses into the Beginnings of Eastern Europe's Professional Welfare*. Opladen and Bloomfield Hills: Barbara Budrich Publishers, 2005, 197-217.

Eszter Varsa (with Dorottya Szikra), "Gender, Class and Ethnicity-based Differentiation in the Practice of Hungarian Social Work: A Case Study of the Kozma-Street Settlement, 1935-1945." In: Kurt Schilde and Dagmar Schulte (eds.). *Need and Care – Glimpses into the Beginnings of Eastern Europe's Professional Welfare*. Opladen and Bloomfield Hills: Barbara Budrich Publishers, 2005, 123-134.

Eszter Varsa (with Dorottya Szikra and Borbála Juhász), „'A lány villamosa': Határátlépő nők a két világháború közötti szociális munkában Földy Ilona és Göntér Zsuzsanna életrajzán keresztül” [Border Crossing Female Social Workers in Interwar Hungary. The Lives of Ilona Földy and Zsuzsanna Göntér]. In: Boglárka Bakó and Eszter Zsófia Tóth (eds.). *Határtalan nők. Kirekesztés és befogadás a női társadalomban [Women without Borders: Social Exclusion and Inclusion among Women]*. Budapest: Nyitott Könyvműhely Könyvkiadó, 2008, 113-128.

NON-PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Eszter Varsa, "Gyermekvédelem a kora szocialista Magyarországon a társadalmi nemi és etnikai különbségek tükrében" [Child protection in early state-socialist Hungary in light of gender and ethnic differentiation]. In: *Replika* [Hungarian Journal of the Social Sciences], Special Issue on Gender Studies in Hungary, 85-86 (2014): 57-70.

REVIEWS

Susan Zimmermann, *Divide, Provide, and Rule: An Integrative History of Poverty Policy, Social Policy, and Social Reform in Hungary under the Habsburg Monarchy*, Budapest and New York: Central European University Press, 2011, *Aspasia* 7 (2013), 265-267.

CONFERENCE AND PROJECT REPORTS

Eszter Varsa, Conference report "Trajectories of Romani Migrations and Mobilities in Europe and Beyond (1945–present)," 16.09.2019 – 18.09.2019 Prague, in: H-Soz-Kult, 21.10.2019, www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-8481

Eszter Varsa, "Gesundheit, Hygiene und Assimilation von Roma in Österreich und Ungarn aus intersektionaler Perspektive, 1956-1989," Selected Research Projects, *IOS Yearbook 2015*, Regensburg: IOS, 2016, 42-47.

Eszter Varsa (with Rachel Trode), Workshop report "Epistemologies of In-Betweenness: East Central Europe and the World History of Social Science, 1890-1945," 29.05.2015 – 30.05.2015 Regensburg, in: H-Soz-Kult, 08.08.2015, www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-6117

Eszter Varsa, Conference report "Work and Non-Work: 51st ITH Conference, 17.09.2015 – 19.09.2015 Berlin, in: H-Soz-Kult, 17.03.2016, www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-6451

Eszter Varsa, Dorottya Szikra and Borbála Juhász, History of Social Work in Eastern Europe (1900-1960): Country Report Hungary," 2005, <http://www.sweep.uni-siegen.de/>