

## Europass Curriculum Vitae



### Personal information

First name(s) / Surname(s)

**Sofiya  
Zahova**

Address

67, Odrin street, app. 18, 5<sup>th</sup> floor  
Sofia 1303 Bulgaria

Telephone

(02) 805 26 14

Mobile: + 359 / 898 903 999

E-mail

[szahova@yahoo.com](mailto:szahova@yahoo.com)

Nationality

Bulgarian

Date of birth

07.08.1978

Gender

Female

### Occupational field

**Ethnology & Social/Cultural Anthropology**

### Work experience

Dates

Feb 2011 – at present

Occupation or position held

Specialist

Main activities and responsibilities

Scientific research, administrative activities, participation in research projects

Name and address of employer

Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 6a Moskovska street, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria

Type of business or sector

Research and science, Ethnology

Dates

Jan 2008 – Dec 2010

Occupation or position held

PhD student

Main activities and responsibilities

Research on PhD topic *Dynamics of Identity in Montenegro*, field research, participation in scientific events for presentation of the research, participation in research projects

Name and address of employer

Institute of Ethnography with Ethnographic Museum (Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum) Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 6a Moskovska street, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria

Type of business or sector

Research and science, Ethnology

Dates

2002 – Dec 2007

Occupation or position held

Programme coordinator

Main activities and responsibilities

Management of programmes for funding publishing projects for Romani literature, monitoring of projects, organization of seminars and conference, preparation of narrative and financial reports

Name and address of employer

Next Page Foundation, 35 Ljuben Karavelov street, Sofia 1142, Bulgaria

Type of business or sector

Civil sector, publishing, Romani culture and literature

Dates

2002 – 2003

Occupation or position held

Research coordinator

Main activities and responsibilities

Research team management, methodology development, field research

Name and address of employer Technology park Culture  
 Type of business or sector Cultural policies, cultural organizations and institutions

**Education and training**

Dates Jan 2008 – Dec 2010  
 Title of qualification awarded  
 Principal subjects/occupational skills covered PhD thesis *Dynamics of Identity in Montenegro. Ethnic Groups and Processes after 1992*  
 Name and type of organisation providing education and training Institute of Ethnography with Ethnographic Museum (Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum) at the Bulgarian Academy of Science  
 Dates 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010  
 Title of qualification awarded ERASMUS programme PhD student specialization  
 Principal subjects/occupational skills covered Research within the PhD thesis *Dynamics of Identity in Montenegro*  
 Name and type of organisation providing education and training University of Ljubljana – Slovenia  
 Dates 2004-2005  
 Title of qualification awarded Certificate on Cultural Policies on the Balkans  
 Principal subjects/occupational skills covered Post-graduate course on Cultural Management  
 Name and type of organisation providing education and training University of Arts – Belgrade & University Lyon 2 – France & University Pierre Mendes – France  
 Dates 1997 – 2007  
 Title of qualification awarded MA in Cultural Studies  
 Principal subjects/occupational skills covered MA thesis *Cultural Policies towards the Roma in Bulgaria within the period 1989 – 2006 г.*; Cultural Anthropology, History and Theory of Culture  
 Name and type of organisation providing education and training Sofia University *St. Kliment Ohridski*, Culture and Theory of Culture Department

**Personal skills and competences**

Mother tongue(s) **Bulgarian**

Other language(s)  
 Self-assessment

**English**  
**Serbian / Croatian / Bosnian / Montenegrin**  
**Romany / Gypsy language**  
**Macedonian**  
**Italian**  
**Russian**

Understanding				Speaking				Writing	
Listening		Reading		Spoken interaction		Listening		Reading	
Ⓐ2	Proficient	Ⓐ2	Proficient	Ⓐ2	Proficient	Ⓐ2	Proficient	Ⓐ2	Proficient
Ⓐ2	Proficient	Ⓐ2	Proficient	Ⓐ2	Proficient	Ⓐ2	Proficient	Ⓐ1	Proficient
Ⓐ1	Proficient	Ⓐ1	Proficient	Ⓐ1	Proficient	Ⓐ1	Proficient	Ⓐ1	Proficient
Ⓐ2	Proficient	Ⓐ2	Proficient	Ⓐ1	Proficient	Ⓐ1	Proficient	Ⓐ1	⏏⏏⏏⏏⏏⏏⏏⏏
B1	Independent	B1	Independent	A2	Basic	B2	Independent	B1	Independent
B2	Independent	B2	Independent	A2	Basic	A2	Basic	A2	Basic

(\*) [Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#)

Social skills and competences	Good communication and team work abilities; Work in inter-cultural environment, with different ethnic communities and countries within Europe as result of my participation in number of international projects and initiatives.
Organisational skills and competences	Management of research and publishing projects; 10-year experience in organization of international events.
Computer skills and competences	Microsoft Office™ (Word™, Excel™ and PowerPoint™) and Open Office; Basic knowledge of graphic design (Adobe Illustrator™, PhotoShop™).
<b>Additional information</b>	

### **Membership in international scientific organizations**

Organization	Position	Period
National Civil Forum <i>Culture</i>	Member, Coordinator	2002-2006
Minority Studies Society <i>Studii Romani</i>	Member	2008 – at present
URBA-Rom, Observatory of Policies for Roma/Gypsies in European Towns	Member	2010 – at present
Gypsy Lore Society	Member	Jan 2011 – at present

### **Research activities**

Country	Period	Short description of project and leading institution
Bulgaria	2002–2003	<i>Typology of cultural organizations with national-wide activities and networks and their influence on cultural policies in Bulgaria.</i> Technology Park <i>Culture</i> and History and Theory of Culture Department of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski
Bulgaria, Serbia, Macedonia	2005–2006	<i>Young Roma Literature Talents. Research on Romani literature in three Balkan countries.</i> Next Page Foundation with support of Open Society Institute – Budapest
Austria, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary	2006-2007	<i>Literature of Roma Authors: research on poetry, novels and short stories.</i> Romani Library project with the support of the European Commission
Montenegro, Serbia	2008-2010	<i>Dynamics of Identities in Montenegro. Ethnographic research on ethnic groups and ethnic processes.</i> PhD research under the supervision of assoc. professor Veselin Popov
Montenegro, Macedonia, Serbia, Albania	May 2009 -at present	<i>Effective Participation of Ethnic Communities Vulnerable to Racial Discrimination in the Public Life of Western Balkans</i> Union of Balkan's Egyptians with the support of European Commission
Bulgaria, Italy	May 2009-at present	Research on contemporary Bulgarian migrations in Italy Project <i>Cultural heritage and national identity in terms of pan-European labor mobility</i> funded by National Science Fund – Bulgaria

### **Activities in the field of publishing, archives and digitalization**

Country	Period	Short description of the project
Europe	2003–2007	<i>Romani Publications Project</i> for support of print and electronic publications in Romani in over 10 countries in Europe
Europe	2006-2007	<i>Romani Digital Collection Ромска</i> – digitalization of books in small online library. VORBA project of Next Page Foundation
Bulgaria, Romania, Macedonia	2006-2008	<i>Multi-cultural books for children: publication and promotion of books for Roma youth</i> Supported by the European Cultural Foundation
Europe	2007-2008	<i>Romani Digital Collection at TEL (the European Library): digitalization and access to catalogs and metadata of Romani publications in 44 libraries in Europe.</i> National Library of Serbia, Next Page Foundation and the European Library

## Analysis and Evaluations

Country	Period	Short description of activity
Bulgaria	2002–2003	Evaluation of <i>Translation Project</i> of Open Society Foundation in Bulgaria
Serbia, Bulgaria	2003-2005	Consultancy for <i>BalkanKult</i> . Survey and analysis of the legislation and fiscal framework for development of cultural foundations in Bulgaria and Serbia. Funded by ERICarts
Bulgaria	2003 – 2007	Advising and monitoring projects of Romani Baht Foundation <i>Desegregation of Roma schools in Sofia</i> ; <i>Securing Equality in Education – access to Roma in kindergarten and school</i> ; <i>Enhancing Institutional Capacity of Central and Eastern European Roma Organizations to Provide Services to Roma Communities</i>

## Civil Society activities

Country	Period	Short description of the activity
Bulgaria	2002–2003	<i>Cooperation between the National Civil Forum Culture and the public authorities</i> . Observations of the Commission on Culture meetings at the Bulgarian Parliament
Europe	2004	<i>Training and consultations of organizations dealing with publishing of Romani books</i>
Bulgaria, Macedonia, Rumania	2006-2007	<i>Our Stories project: campaigns for reading promotion among Romani children</i> With the support of the European Cultural Foundation

## Participation in international events (congresses, seminars, conferences)

Sept 2010 – 2010 Annual meeting of Gypsy Lore Society *Gypsies/Roma in the XXI-st century*, report and presentation: *Gypsy Groups in Contemporary Montenegro*

June 2010 - International Scientific Conference *Social, Political and Economic Change in the Western Balkans*, organized by University of Fribourg, Durres (Albania), report and presentation: *Historiography on Montenegrin Ethnic Past and Politics of Identity in Montenegro*

June 2010 - International Conference *Rethinking Late Socialism. Socio-Cultural Change and Political Legitimacy in Eastern Europe since the 1960s*. Institute of History (Sarajevo, BiH), report: *Nostalgia for the Last Decades of Tito's Yugoslavia in Narratives and Memories of Different Ethnic Groups and Nationalities in Montenegro*

Jan 2010 – International Conference *Romani mobilities in Europe. Multidisciplinary perspective*, Refugee Studies Center, University of Oxford (Oxford, UK), report: *Refugee Migrations of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptians to Montenegro and their Impact on the Communities' Social and Cultural Development*

Dec 2009 – International Conference *Effective Participation of Ethnic Communities Vulnerable to Racial Discrimination in the Public Life of Western Balkans* (Podgorica, Montenegro)

Nov 2009 – International research scientific conference *Alignment with the regime of communism – 20 years later* (Sofia, Bulgaria), report: *"We are all Jugo-nostalgics" - The Yugo-nostalgia in Memories and Images of Different Ethnic Groups and Nationalities in Montenegro*

Nov 2008 – International Conference *The Literature of Roma (Gypsies)*, University of Limoges – France, report: *Influences of Folklore Tradition in the Literature by Roma on the Balkans*

Oct 2007 – Conference *Diversity of Minorities Literature in Romania*, International Book Fair at Sibiu - European Capital of Culture 2007 (Sibiu, Romania).

Oct 2006 - Seminar *Romani Language in the teaching, book creation and promotion of children books in schools and communities* (Skopje, Macedonia)

Sept 2006 – Seminar *Access to Romani language and the Possibilities of the IT Development*, Linux Center and IP program of OSI – Serbia (Belgrade, Serbia)

May 2005 – Second Romani Studies Conference *The Other Side of Europe*, International Romani Studies Network (Istanbul, Turkey).

2005 - 17<sup>th</sup> Congress of International Reading Association (Zagreb, Croatia)

Oct 2004 – 6<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Romani Union (Lanciano, Italy)

April 2004 – Seminar & Study Visit *Cultural Policies in Albania* (Tirana, Albania)

May 2004 – Conference: *Eurovisionen: From Cultural Networks to Politics*, on the occasion of the EU Enlargement (Berlin, Germany)

June 2003 - *ENCATC Academy 2003 on Cultural Management* (Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria)

Dec 2002 – Conference *Funding the Future – the role of cultural foundations in the Balkans*, (Belgrade, Serbia).

June 2002 – International Seminar *Cultural Policy and Modern Media Arts* (Sofia, Bulgaria)

## Publications:

In Bulgarian:

Захова, София. 2011. Два възгледа за черногорската официална носия като национален символ. [Two options on Montenegrin Official Costume as National Symbol]. *Българска етнология*, ISSN 1310-5213. (Forthcoming)

Захова, София. 2011. 'Ние всички сме югоносталгици'. Спомени и разкази за Югославия сред черногорци и сърби в Черна гора. ['We are all Yugonostalgics'. Memories and Narratives about Yugoslavia among Montenegrins and Serbs in Montenegro]. *Наука*, ISSN 0861 3362. (Forthcoming)

In other languages:

Zahova, Sofiya. 2010. Refugee Migrations of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptians to Montenegro and their Impact on the Communities' Social and Cultural Development. In: Sigona, Nando. (Ed.) *Proceedings of International Conference "Romani Mobilities in Europe: Multidisciplinary Perspectives"*, pp. 251-256.  
<http://romanimobilities.wordpress.com/2010/01/29/romani-mobilities-in-europe-conference-proceedings-final-version/>

Zahova, Sofiya. 2011. Influences de la tradition folklorique dans la littérature par des Roms sur les Balkans. In: *Études Tsiganes*. (Forthcoming)

Zahova, Sofiya. 2011. Ethnographic Studies on the Montenegrin Festive Costume as National Symbol. In: *Folklore. Electronic Journal of Folklore*. ISSN 1406-0949 (Forthcoming)