SUGGESTIONS FOR TRAINERS AND EDUCATORS

LEVEL: MEDIUM

THE STRUGGLE OF ROMA COMMUNITIES: GENEALOGIES AND ORAL HISTORY

COMPLEXITY

This section is meant to engage a group of university students with some knowledge of minority groups, ideally of Romacommunities, identities, and histories in Albania and the Balkan region.

GROUP SIZE & TYPE

8-15 participants, ideally foreigners who have very little knowledge of Albania and its ethnoreligious diversity, as well as Albanian students or activists living in the capital Tirana or outside the areas mentioned in this section.

TIME

90 minutes or 2 hours in case of the need to wrap up and/or set a follow-up activities ; if a visit is organised in the areas mentioned above, make sure to allocate enough time to the connected activities to be done on the ground.

OBJECTIVES

- Familiarise with Roma history and identities of Roma in socialist Albania;
- Reflect critically on the issue of securitization vis-à-vis Roma groups;
- Understand and come to know the wide range of Roma oral history during and after the socialist period in Albania with a spotlight to put on a series of Roma protests and attempts of resistance;
- Stimulate critical thinking and develop research skills through easy-to-handle pieces of Roma minority history.

MATERIAL

Internet connection, laptop, projector, flipchart posters, handouts, (online) dictionary, map of Tirana.

PREPARATION

- Make sure to review the keywords before kicking off the different activities.
- Organise activities in two sections of 45 minutes each. Make sure to have enough time to restore participants' attention for the second session;
- Divide participants into small groups in order to initiate research activities and have diverse findings to discuss as a follow-up activity;
- Prepare links for a detailed map of Tirana;
- Be prepared to open up the discussion among the participants about the different photos and related sensitive topics, such as socialist Albania, ethnicity, and gentrification. Throughout, make sure that none in the group will feel marginalized or discriminated against.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

If possible, organize a one-day trip to the Selita area mentioned in this section. A tour around Tirana may also be an interesting place to visiting during the workshop, training or conference.