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Czech The "Roma Question"

A talk by Filip Pospíšil, PhD

Roma in the Czech Republic became in recent decades subjects of various governmental programs as well as public protests, discrimination and racial violence. The "Roma problem" was presented as the result of a "culture of poverty", Roma were characterized as "undeserving poor" and finally being treated as a security issue. The securitized approach to Roma was reflected also in adoption or promotion of the policies of "zero tolerance" of Roma criminality in several Czech municipalities. The talk will discuss how Roma-related discourses affect policy formation at national and local levels and also how certain policies transform the way Roma are perceived and understood.



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Wed, April 20, 2016
at 7:00pm

at Bohemian National Hall
321 E 73 St, New York City

RSVP: newyork@svu2000.org

In conjunction with
**Opre Khetanes IV Concert and Conference
on Romani (Gypsy) Musics and Cultures**
at New York University, April 23-24



Filip Pospíšil, PhD is an anthropologist, human rights activist and journalist focusing on marginal groups and subcultures in the Central Europe. He received his Ph.D. in Anthropology at Charles University Prague. He is an author and co-author of several academic publications, and participates in research, advocacy and campaigns on human rights and privacy rights. For six years, he worked as a co-editor of the cultural bi-weekly A2 in Prague. He is currently a Visiting Scholar at the Harriman Institute at Columbia University with the project *The "Roma question": Evolution of discourses on Roma and related policies in the Czech Republic*.

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