Space-lore and Place-lore working group

Our mission

The relationship of ethnology and cultural anthropology towards the notions of space and place in the history of our discipline has been manifold and is offering a multitude of theoretically and methodologically different approaches. Both scientific and popular concepts of space, place, locality, landscape have become extremely diverse in the course of the 20th century and political and natural, social, symbolical, religious, ethnic, linguistic and other borders criss-cross our lives, continuously shaping the space and place of our lives producing a distinctive regionalism and regional consciousness. By exploring the unique contexts and reactions to the preservation, removal, and transformation of spaces and places impacted by variety of sociocultural processes, we can learn much about the ways in which contested histories and futures are mediated through built and natural environments, and the emotions that they inspire.

Our working group wishes to examine these themes, mainly in ethnological and anthropological case studies, with a global and local outlook or comparative approach. We also wish to draw on the experiences of the International Ethnocartography Working Group regarded as our forerunner. We welcome all those researchers who wish to deal with spatial experience from any relevant disciplinary angle.

Chairs
prof. Dr. Jelka Vince Pallua, Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar, Zagreb, Croatia
Dr. Jiří Woitsch, Institute of Ethnology, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic

Secretary
Dr. László Mód, Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Faculty of Arts, University of Szeged, Hungary

Our history
1953 – atlas and cartography group established within CIAP in Namur
1965 – WG breaks with SIEF and become independent as die Ständige Internationale Atlaskommission (SIA)
1990 – SIA transformed into International European Ethnocartography Working Group
2013 – Space-lore and Place-lore working group instituted at SIEF’s General Assembly

Our latest activities
International workshop Monuments and Memorial Sites in Changing Social-Political Contexts. Szeged, Hungary, November 22–23, 2017 (organized by University of Szeged Faculty of Arts, Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology)

International conference Spaces and Places in Transition. Urban and Rural Transformations in Central and Eastern Europe. Prague, Czech Republic, November 7–10, 2018 (organized by Institute of Ethnology, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague and Centre for Baltic and East European Studies (CBEES) at Södertörn University, Stockholm)

SIEF Congress panel in Santiago de Compostella Landscape - the instructions manual: negotiating the meanings of landscape (starts on 17th April, 2019 at 9:00 in Aula 19)

Our plans
2020–2021 publishing contributions from WG panel in Santiago as an edited volume and/or special journal issue
2020 WG conference in Ljubljana (Slovenia); date, title and topic TBA

Our publications
Traditiones 47, 3, 2018: special journal issue Sacred space and place and their symbolic adoption (editors Ingrid Slavec Gradišnik and Jelka Vince Pallua)

Baltic Worlds 12, 2, 2019: special journal issue Remembering and reimagining rural communities (in preparation, editors Paul Sherley and Jiří Woitsch)

Contact
https://www.siefhome.org/wg/iea/index.shtml
jelka.vince@gmail.com, jelka.vince@pilar.hr
jiri.woitsch@post.cz
modlac1@gmail.com