



9th Konitsa International Summer School in Anthropology,
Ethnography and Comparative Folklore of the Balkans
Konitsa, Greece, 23/7 – 8/8/ 2014

**THE SELF AND THE OTHER: BOUNDARIES IN THE
REGION OF PRESPA (CASE STUDY OF PSARADES,
PRESPA, GREECE)**

**(the results of the fieldwork in Prespa (Psarades),
West Macedonia, Greece, 30/7 – 3/8/2014)**

Elena Karageorgii

Irina Popravko

Tomsk, Russia

MOTIVATION
Follow your curiosity
(c) Judith Okely



METHODOLOGY

“**Funnel approach**” (Michael Agar, 1980):

“... with breadth and humanity at the beginning of the funnel, and then, within the context of that beginning, depth, problem-focus, and science at the narrow end”

Boundaries (Fredrik Barth, 1969), the idea of **otherness** and **the other**

The research question is “**What are the boundaries between WE (residents of Prespa) and THE OTHER (ourselves) in Psarades (and a wider region of Prespa)?”**

The main criteria used is **locality**



THEIR PERCEPTIONS OF US AND CONSTRAINTS

- We are young women (age, gender)
 - We are Russians (nationality)
 - We are 'tourists' (target group for local economy)
 - We are researchers (profession)
 - We are 'friends'
-
- only 5 days of fieldwork exercise,
 - certain identities attached to us by the locals, although those were changing throughout our stay,
 - gender imbalance (respondents are actually men)



METHODS

- **Observation**
- **Semi-structured interview**
- **Informal conversations**
- **Analysis of published materials,
internet sources**

KEY INFORMANTS

- residents of Psarades (Tasos, a fisherman, Germanos, a businessman-hotel owner)
- residents of Prespa (coming from a nearby village of Agios Ahillios - officials (policemen Paskhalis and Antonis), and Kostas, a baker working in Laimos, with origin from Psarades)



KEY INFORMANTS

- “temporary residents” of Prespa: Ioannis, arrived in Greece in 1992 from the village of Suli (Albania) to earn the living



KEY INFORMANTS

- “temporary residents” of Prespa: 2 Albanian young men, Argiris and Lazaros, both currently students of the University of Ioannina, living in the region of Prespa, and coming to Psarades in summer to work in the psarotaverna “Lazaros”



KEY INFORMANTS

- “temporary residents” of Prespa: Panagiotis, a countryside house owner at Agios Germanos, originally from Thessaloniki, and Olga, an ornithologist at the SPP



OPPOSITES OF THE SELF AND THE OTHER IN TERMS OF LOCALITY - DIFFERENT STRATA OF LOCALITY

- Locals – Non-locals (Greeks)
- Locals – Greeks-permanent residents of other countries (USA, Australia, Canada, Luxemburg, Germany, Italy)
- Locals – Foreigners (France, Belgium, Great Britain)
- Greek speakers with knowledge of Dopia (Ντόπια) – Greek speakers
- Greeks – Albanians from Albania (trans-border mobility)
- Greeks – Locals of Albanian origin, brought up in Prespa
- Albanians from Albania - Locals of Albanian origin, brought up in Prespa
- Periphery – Center (in terms of distribution of power and recourses)



NARRATIVES TOLD

- ✓ **Environment**
- ✓ **History and culture**
- ✓ **Economy**
- ✓ **Education and research**

ENVIRONMENT



ENVIRONMENT



HISTORY AND CULTURE



HISTORY AND CULTURE



ECONOMY



ECONOMY



EDUCATION



RESEARCH



OPPOSITES OF THE SELF AND THE OTHER IN TERMS OF LOCALITY - DIFFERENT STRATA OF LOCALITY

- Locals – Non-locals (Greeks)
- Locals – Greeks-permanent residents of other countries (USA, Australia, Canada, Luxemburg, Germany, Italy)
- Locals – Foreigners (France, Belgium, Great Britain)
- Greek speakers with knowledge of Dopia (Ντόπια) – Greek speakers
- Greeks – Albanians from Albania (trans-border mobility)
- Greeks – Locals of Albanian origin, brought up in Prespa
- Albanians from Albania - Locals of Albanian origin, brought up in Prespa
- Periphery – Center (in terms of distribution of power and recourses)