Antigypsism

Some thesis of the books of Gernot Haupt for the Grundtvig-Partnership Roma-Integration in Europe prepared by Georg Fischer

www.grundtvig-partnership-rom.com
Meeting im Witchford Village College, , 3. Juni 2011

Basics

- **Institute for Social Work**, Gernot Haupt, Klagenfurt ⟶ working since 1989
  - Solidarity with a Roma-village in Romania
  - Books: Antigypsism and Social Work; Antigypsism and Religion.
- Grundtvig Learning Partnership „Roma-Integration" 2010-2012 ⟶ reflection about the situation after the „EU Eastern Enlargement"

Thesis 1:
There is no integration up to now

- The members of the greatest minority of Europe are only formally accepted as citizens of the EU

- „A real integration of Roma in the societies cannot yet be observed neither in the EU as a whole nor in the different memberstates.“

- Although there are a lot of programs to improve the social situation

Thesis 2:
The projects don't work properly because they are not /not enough coordinated with the Roma themselves

„We think that the priorities are established from top to bottom (by the donors, the ministries, the national organizations of the Roma, national leaders or experts), and less through field evaluations conducted with the beneficiaries and the local communities, done by independent experts." Out of 19 projects (2006) only 12 had a good evaluation. (Antigypsism and Religion, 29)

Thesis 3:
The dominant society determines/dictates theory and praxis

- The majority was and is full of predjudices
- Scientific approaches are limited by their specialized and narrow scientific concepts and theories
- Projects often work without structural analysis
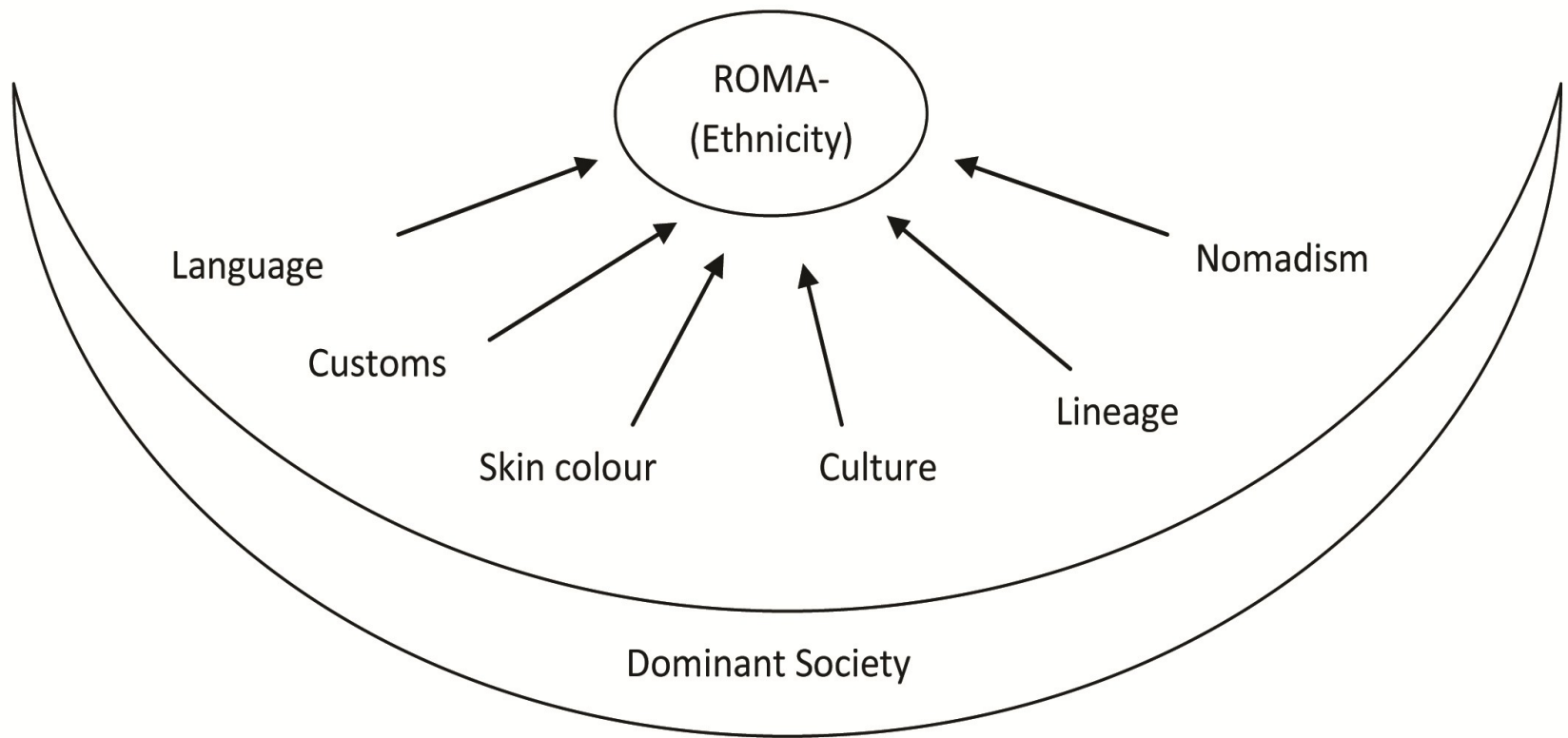
Questions 1:

- Do we agree on thesis 2 (No coordination with Roma themselves)?

- Which approach do we have in our partner-organisations?

  - scientific

  - practical

- Is there a structural analysis of the problems?

Thesis 4:
Social, political, and socio-psychological elements should be combined

- For all kinds of support it is necessary to understand identities first (i.e. denominations)

ethnizised concept of identity
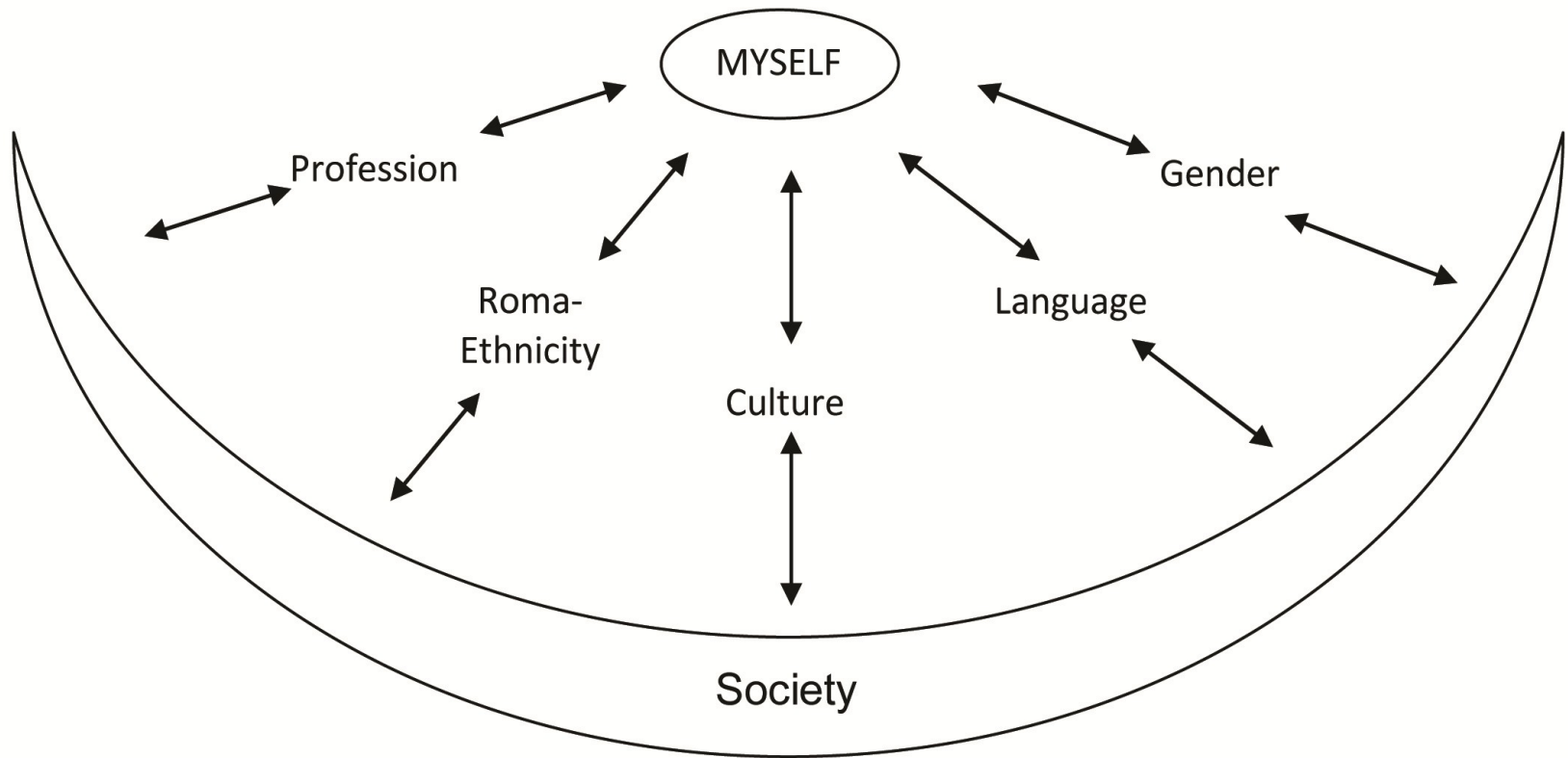
interpersonal constructed identity

Thesis 4:
Social, political and socio-psychological elements should be combined

- For all kinds of support it is necessary to understand identities first (i.e. denominations)
- Principle of „Empowerment": transfer of responsibility for the development to the Roma themselves
- Understanding the actions and interests of the dominant society

Questions 2:

- What have been your presumptions on the topic „Roma-Integration"?
  - social elements
  - political elements
  - socio-psychological elements

  - What is the influence of the meetings on these presumptions?

Thesis 5:
4 Manifestations of Antigypsism

a) Exclusion

    1. Extermination

    2. Exclusion

b) Inclusion

    3. Between Repression and Assimilation

    4. Integration

Thesis 6:
Repression in the funcional fields

1. Money/Poverty
2. Work
3. Habitat
4. Health
5. Education
6. Language and Culture
7. Politics
8. Public Opinion

Questions 3:

- Which forms of Antigypsism do you know in your countries?

- What are the activities of our partner-organisations in relation to the different forms of Antigypsism?

- How do we think to be effective as EU-project? What will be our results?

Thesis 7:

- „The sudden change from hate to tolerance and vice-versa obviously demonstrates that Antigysism does <u>not</u> depend on the real Roma, their behaviour or lifestyle, but on political, historical and economic circumstances and conditions of the dominant society."

    (Antigypsism and Religion, 2009, p. 15)

Thesis 8:

Common programs ignore their roots in religion / worldview (philosophy of life)

- The existing projects of support by churches and religious groups must be observed properly

- Is it possible to overcome the lethargy of the Roma (caused by marginalisation over the centuries) through „ethnizised religion"?

Questions 4.

- What are the values of the partner-organisations?

- Are the activities of the partner organisations based on „religious / ideological / worldview principles" ?

- What do we do in our project in respect to this question?

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