

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name **Andrej Belak, MSc**
Address **Fedora Ruppeldta 1, 010 01 Žilina, Slovakia**
Telephone **+421 919 268 260 / +420 775 658 680**
E-mail **abendrej@gmail.com**
Born **16th of July 1979 in Slovakia**
Fluent in **English, German, Romani ('Gypsy'), Slovak, Czech**

EDUCATION / CERTIFICATES

1994-1998 **Great Circuit Gymnasium in Žilina, Slovakia**
 National Leaving Certificate
1998-2000 **University of Vienna, Austria – Faculty of Basic Sciences**
 Graduate study of Philosophy and Biology
2000-2002 **Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic – Faculty of Arts**
 Graduate study of Philosophy
2000-2005 **Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic – Faculty of Science**
 MSc in Biology @ Dpt. of Anthropology and Human Genetics
2012-present **Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic – Faculty of Humanities**
 PhD candidate in Social Anthropology @ Dpt. of General Anthropology
2012 **EUROMISE Centre, Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic**
 Statistical methods in epidemiology, Certificate of completion
2013-2014 **edX / Harvard School of Public Health, USA**
 Health in Numbers: Quantitative Methods in Clinical & Public Health Research,
 Certificate of Mastery
 Health & Society, Certificate of Mastery

FIELDWORK / WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2004-2006 **Medical-anthropological research within rural Romani settlement in Central Slovakia**

Original ethnography – MD thesis: *“Health through eyes of those excluded. Medical-anthropological study of a segregated rural Romani settlement in south-central Slovakia”*
- 2006-2011 **Pharmaceutical industry laboratories in Ireland – Schering- Plough, Merck**

Quality Analyst roles
- 2011-present **Follow-up qualitative research among Slovak Roma and their physicians**

On-going PhD projects: *“Closing health-disparities among Roma and non-Roma in Central and Eastern Europe: A handbook for the discontented physician of goodwill and open mind”*
- 2013 **Qualitative research among physicians on behalf of Biennial collaborative agreement (BCA) 2012–2013 between WHO/Europe and Slovakia**

Research design, field-work, reporting: *“Health-system limitations of Roma health-status in Slovakia”*

CONFERENCES / INVITED LECTURES / PROJECTS

- 2012 ***Methodological problems in ethnographic research of social representations***, International conference @ Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, Slovakia

Presenter – *“The utility of researching social representations – an example from applied medical anthropology”*
- Beyond Boundaries: Interstices in Medical Anthropology***, 15th Anniversary Conference of the Work Group Medical Anthropology of the German Anthropological Association, University of Vienna, Austria

Presenter – *“Research of Romani (Gypsy) health-disparity after ‘anthropology of biomedicine’”*

2013

Romistic utopias, a series of lectures organized by academic journal *Romano Džaniben*, Prague, Czech Republic

Invited lecture – „*Health-status of Romani sub-populations in Central and Eastern Europe: So what?*“

Methodological crossovers between medical anthropology and social epidemiology: An informal workshop, Kosice Institute for Society and Health / Health Psychology Unit, Institute of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, PJ Safarik University in Kosice, Slovakia

Convenor and presenter

Indology seminar @ Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

Invited lecture – “*Romani bodies*”

Psychology of health, conference @ Institute of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, PJ Safarik University in Kosice, Slovakia

Presenter – “*Romani influences on Romani health*”

Encounters and engagements: creating new agendas for medical anthropology, Joint conference of the Society for Medical Anthropology (AAA), EASA Medical Anthropology Network and the URV, Tarragona, Spain

Presenter – “*On engaging with a (Romani) population*”

PUBLICATIONS

Belák, Andrej. *Health-system limitations of Roma health in Slovakia: A qualitative study* Bratislava, Slovakia: WHO Country Office in Slovakia, 2013

Belák, Andrej. "Za polidšťování biomedicíny přednostmi etnografie." *Cargo Journal*; Czech Association for Social Anthropology, no. Special issue on Symmetrical anthropology (accepted manuscript), 2013 [Making biomedicine more humane employing ethnography]

Belák, Andrej. "Zdravie očami vylúčených: Medicínsko-antropologická štúdia stredoslovenskej rómskej osady." Charles University MD Thesis, 2005 [Health through eyes of those excluded: A medical-anthropological study of a Romani settlement in Central Slovakia]