## Organization Name/Department/Website

Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, [http://iefem.bas.bg](http://iefem.bas.bg)

## Organization Short Name

IEFSEM – BAS

## Organization Type

☑ Academic

☐ Non-academic

## Research Fields

☐ Chemistry (CHE)

☑ Social Sciences and Humanities (SOC)

☐ Economic Sciences (ECO)

☐ Information Science and Engineering (ENG)

☐ Environment and Geosciences (ENV)

☐ Life Sciences (LIF)

☐ Mathematics (MAT)

☐ Physics (PHY)

## Sub-Fields/Keywords

Ethnology and Anthropology, Folklore Studies, Museology, Art Studies and Fine Arts, Folk Music and Folk Dances.

## Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action(s) of interest?

☑ European Training Networks (ITN-ETN)

☐ European Industrial Doctorates (ITN-EID)

☑ European Joint Doctorates (ITN-EJD)

☑ Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE)

## Short Description of the Organization/Department

The Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (IEFSEM – BAS) is a leading national institution in the sphere of ethnology, folklore studies and cultural anthropology.

At the present day in the Institute work 80 recognized and young scholars with various professional training – ethnologists, folklorists, cultural anthropologists, ethnomusicologists, ethnochoreologists, art historians and museologists, who carry out research, teaching, expert and applied research activities with the main priority of a single European area and of transforming the European Union into a society based on knowledge.

The Ethnographic Museum hosts the richest in Bulgaria collection of objects (over 55 000 exhibits), representing everyday, festive and ritual Bulgarian culture – costumes, adornments, ritual
| **Previous Related Projects/ Research Experience** | IEFSEM – BAS has a rich experience in:  
- Implementation of research and applied research projects in the field of ethnology, folklore studies, cultural anthropology, museology, archival sciences and digitalization;  
- Administration of national and international projects financed by various sources (BAS, bilateral academic agreements, the National Science Fund, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Culture, the European Social Fund, Operational Programme “Human Resources Development”, the Culture Programme of the European Commission, UNESCO etc.);  
- Teaching activities in national and foreign universities; participation in the ERASMUS and ERASMUS + programmes. |
| **Short Description of the Project idea** | IEFSEM – BAS is seeking to develop partnerships with universities, research institutions, research infrastructures, businesses, SMEs, and other socio-economic actors from different countries across Europe and beyond, offering opportunities for academic and fieldwork training and specialization on advanced topics such as:  
**Ethnology**  
The topics that can be developed are related to various ethno-cultural aspects of tradition; everyday culture in socialism and post-socialism; migration processes among different communities (in Bulgaria and abroad) and their role in identity formation; cultural processes among the Bulgarian Diaspora in the past and in our days, as well as among other ethnic communities in Bulgaria, etc.

**Folklore Studies**


The topics that can be developed are associated with storytelling and narrative practices; ‘folk’ history; folklore Christianity; the functioning of ethnic stereotypes in everyday culture; cultural characteristics and identity of local and regional communities; construction of urban space and heritage; new religious movements in Europe; the place and role of folklore in contemporary culture in the form of texts, representations, prescriptions and rituals, etc.

**Museology**

*The Ethnographic Museum* is a permanent unit in the structure of IEFSEM and is founded in 1906. In it research, education and applied activities are carried out, and are collected, preserved and exhibited objects which show the richness and diversity of the culture of Bulgarians in their ethnic borders and among the Bulgarian communities abroad, as well as the culture of other communities in Bulgaria and elsewhere.

The topics that can be developed are related to studying the dynamic relationship between museum and audience by analyzing the status and prospects of education in the museum; the place and manner of presentation of traditional crafts in museums; contemporary forms of presentation of an ethnographic exhibition, etc.

**Art Studies and Fine Arts**

*Department Anthropology of Folk Arts and Visual Forms* ([http://iefem.bas.bg/anthropologyoffolkarts.html](http://iefem.bas.bg/anthropologyoffolkarts.html))
The topics that can be developed are linked to traditional folk arts and home activities; to traditional clothing – technology and formation, composition, decoration and ornamentation, functions, semiotics and symbolism; to its various uses in modern times and to its involvement in the construction and maintenance of cultural memory; to the reconsideration of folk art as cultural heritage; to contemporary urban phenomena and visual forms; to visual markers of memory in urban space; to problems related to the intangible cultural heritage, etc.

**Folk Music and Folk Dance**

*Department Ethnomusicology and Ethnochoreology*  
(http://iefem.bas.bg/етномузикология-и-етнохореология.html)

The topics that can be developed are in the field of musicological and anthropological approach to traditional (folk) music and dance in the past and in our days; the study of archaic musical and dance forms; vocal and instrumental music in folk rituals; reconstruction of performing models; transformations in traditional music and dance in the contemporary globalized world; ethnomusicological studies among various ethnic and religious communities in Bulgaria and among Bulgarian communities abroad; ethnomusicological aspects of migration processes, etc.

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