

## Ruxandra Oana Ciobanu

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Born on 19 October 1979  
Married, 1 child

### Current Appointment

Marie Heim-Vögtlin Senior Researcher, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation  
Centre for the Interdisciplinary Study of Gerontology and Vulnerability (CIGEV), University of Geneva,  
Switzerland

### Research Interests

International migration, Older migrants, Transnational processes, Welfare, Social networks, Comparative  
research, Qualitative research methods

### Academic Education

09.2005 – 02.2009

#### PhD in sociology

*University of Osnabrück, Faculty of Social Sciences, Germany*

- “A Stage Approach to Transnational Migration: Migrant Narratives from Rural Romania”

Supervisor: Prof. Michael Bommers

Thesis accepted with *Magma Cum Laude*

06.2004

#### MA in Sociology and Social Anthropology

*Central European University, Budapest, Hungary*

Supervisors: Prof. Ayse Caglar and Prof. Judit Bodnar

11.2003

#### BA in Sociology

*University of Bucharest, Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, Romania*

Ranked first

Supervisor: Prof. Dumitru Sandu

2005 – 2016

Trainings through twelve different courses in:

Academic teaching and communication (3 courses),  
Qualitative and quantitative methodologies (4 courses),  
International migration (3 courses),  
Funding applications and career orientation (2 programmes).

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## Research and Professional Experience

- 09.2016 – present Senior researcher, Centre for the Interdisciplinary Study of Gerontology and Vulnerability (CIGEV), University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland
- 05.2014 – 08.2016 Marie Curie Research Fellow, Centre for the Interdisciplinary Study of Gerontology and Vulnerability (CIGEV), University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland
- 02.2013 – 04.2014 Researcher, project “Romanian Ageing Migrants and the Welfare State”, financed by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland, Geneva, Switzerland
- 09.2009 – 12.2012 Researcher, Institute for Sociological Research, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, New University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal
- 10.2008 – 08.2009 International Labour Organization (ILO), Department of Statistics and International Migration Programme, Geneva, Switzerland  
Intern (10.2008 – 03.2009)  
Consultant (04.2009 – 08.2009)
- 10.2007 – 06.2008 Marie Curie Early-Stage Researcher in the EU Marie Curie Research Training Network “Transnationality of Migrants”, Hamburg Institute of International Economics, Hamburg, Germany
- 09.2005 – 09.2007 Marie Curie Early-Stage Researcher in the EU Marie Curie Excellence Grant “Expanding the Knowledge-Base of European Migration Policies”  
Hamburg Institute of International Economics, Hamburg, Germany (09.2005 – 09.2006)  
University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom (10.2006 – 09.2007)
- 09.2004 – 08.2005 Pre-doctoral research and teaching assistant, Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, University of Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania

## Honours

2000 – 2003: BA Scholarship from the University of Bucharest

2003 – 2004: MA Scholarship from the Soros Foundation, Central European University

## Grants

Swiss National Science Foundation, Marie Heim-Vögtlin Grant “Vulnerability in Old Age: A Comparative Approach”, grant number PMPDP1\_171274 (2017 – 2019), 263 820 CHF.

Marie Curie Fellowship of the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under REA grant agreement no. 328518 (2014 – 2016), 184 709 €.

Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences, travel grant to participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> European Conference for Social Work Research, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, 15 – 17 April 2014, 700 CHF.

Ciência research grant from the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), Portugal, Reference C2008-FCSH-CESNOVA-M-Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas-UNL, New University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal (2009 – 2012).

EU Excellence Network “International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion” (IMISCOE) funding for the Standing Committee “Ageing Migrants”, beginning with 2015 joint applications with Tineke Fokkema

(Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, University of Groningen, Erasmus University Rotterdam).  
2011 – 2500 €  
2012 – 3500 €  
2013 – 3750 €  
2014 – 2250 €  
2015 – 4000 €  
2016 – 5000 €  
2017 – 2500 €

**Experience with Research Proposals**

Swiss National Science Foundation, funding to organise an International exploratory workshop “Ageing Migrants: Studying by Comparing”, 2015, main applicant Prof. Michel Oris, University of Geneva, co-conception of the application.

Swiss National Science Foundation, research project “Romanian Ageing migrants and the Welfare State”, 2013, main applicant Prof. Claudio Bolzman, University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland, co-conception of the research proposal.

**Teaching Experience**

## Guest lectures

- 2017 University of Geneva  
Guest lectures, course “Qualitative Methods in Global Health”, 2\*1h30, MS Global Health, (Prof. Claudine Burton-Jeangros)
- 2012 – 2017 University of Geneva  
Guest lectures, course “Sociologie des migrations internationales” and “Migrations et relations à l’altérité”, 3\*1h, 2\*1h30 (Prof. Claudio Bolzman)
- 2014 University of Lausanne  
Guest lecture, course “Migration et parcours de vie”, 1\*1h (Prof. Laura Bernardi)
- 2014 University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland  
Guest lecture, course “Sociologie des migrations internationales”, 1\*1h30 (Prof. Claudio Bolzman)

## Seminars / Courses

- 2009 – 2011 Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Social Sciences, New University of Lisbon (with Prof. Margarida Marques and Mr. José Leitão), interventions in several classes  
MA course “Economic integration: local and transnational strategies”
- 2005 – 2006 Teaching Assistant, University of Architecture and Urbanism “Ion Mincu”, Department of Design  
BA course “Research methods in sociology”, 2h / week
- 2004 – 2005 Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Sociology and Social Assistance, University of Bucharest  
BA seminar “Demography” (Prof. Vasile Ghetau), 3 \* 2h / week

**Supervision**

Supervision of the internship and MA thesis of Julia Sauter, University of Geneva, 2015 – 2016  
Thesis title “Le recours au Care par les migrants âgés d’origine allemande – Etude de terrain à Bâle-Ville et Bâle-Campagne”, thesis defended on 21 March 2016.

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Fieldwork supervision of the MA student Diana Tomás, New University of Lisbon, 2010

**Conference and Workshop Organisation (14)**

- 2016 International workshop “Research on Ageing Migrants: Current State and Future Directions” (with Vincent Horn and Tineke Fokkema)  
University of Mainz, Germany, 3-5 November.
- 2016 Workshop “Ageing migrants in the Swiss context”  
Workshop at the end of the Marie Curie project, University of Geneva, Switzerland, 6 September.
- 2016 Policy workshop “Shaping the lives of ageing migrants: top-down policy impositions” (with Tineke Fokkema)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, Charles University, Czech Republic, 30 June-2 July.
- 2015 International workshop “Ageing Migrants: Studying by Comparing” (with Michel Oris and Claudio Bolzman)  
University of Geneva and University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland, Switzerland, 19-21 March.
- 2014 Session “Care by Ageing Migrants: Inter-Generational Transfers From Grandparents to the Younger Generations” (with Mihaela Nedelcu)  
Session “Care Arrangements for Ageing Migrants at the Intersection between Public, Private, Third Sector and the Family” (with Ute Karl and Anne Carolina Ramos)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, Comillas University, Spain, 27-29 August.
- 2014 International workshop “Well-being in an Ageing Europe: Comparisons between Ageing Migrants and Natives” (with Eralba Cela, Angeles Escriva, Tineke Fokkema, Mihaela Nedelcu)  
New University of Lisbon, Portugal, 15-16 May.
- 2013 Session “Vulnerabilities and coping strategies of ageing migrants” (with Tineke Fokkema)  
Session “Care for and care by ageing migrants” (with Mihaela Nedelcu)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, Malmö University, Sweden, 26-27 August.
- 2013 International conference “Ageing Migrants: (Im)Mobilities of Ageing” (with Alistair Hunter)  
New University of Lisbon, Portugal, 15-16 March.
- 2012 Session “Ageing Migrants: (Im)Mobilities of Ageing” (with Alistair Hunter)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 25-26 August.
- 2012 International workshop “Ageing Migrants: Demography, Agency and Welfare” (with Joana Lopes Martins)  
New University of Lisbon, Portugal, 6-7 March.
- 2011 Session “Ageing Migrants: Demography, Agency and Welfare” (with Joana Lopes Martins)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, University of Warsaw, Poland, 7-9 September.
- 2010 – 2011 Three workshops “The Ageing of the Migrant Population” (with Margarida Marques)  
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, The Forum on Migrations, Portugal, 10 November, 10 December and 15 February.

- 2010 Workshop “Ageing Migrants: Demography, Agency and Welfare” (with Joana Lopes Martins)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, University of Liège, Belgium, 13-14 September.
- 2008 Third IMISCOE PhD Workshop, Hamburg Institute for International Economics, Germany, 6-8 February.

### Invited Presentations

- 2014 Keynote talk “*The well-being of Romanian ageing migrants. What role do social networks and institutions play?*”  
Rethinking EU Immigration: legal developments, management and practices, Romania, 14 March.
- 2012 *Multiple migrations among Romanian labour migrants*  
Panel “The challenge of internal mobility in the present and future EU”, international conference, FIERI, Italy, 26 March.
- 2008 *Patterns of Migration in Post-1989 Romania*  
International Seminar of the “New Migration and New Migrants in Belgium” Project, Belgium, 23 November.

### Conference Presentations (40)

- 2017 *Which place for older migrants in local institutions in Switzerland?*  
International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics World Congress, GSA Interest Group: International Aging and Migration, San Francisco, USA, 23-27 July.
- 2017 *Between exile and mobility: Contrasted logics and practices of transnationalism. The case of Romanian older migrants in Switzerland* (with Mihaela Nedelcu)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, Rotterdam University, The Netherlands, 28-30 June.
- 2017 *Social networks in old age: The case of older migrants in Switzerland*  
Workshop “Vieillesse et mobilités géographiques. Famille, care et migrations”, INED, France, 1 March.
- 2016 *Ageing migrants and local welfare in three Swiss cantons*  
Workshop “Ageing migrants in the Swiss context”, University of Geneva, Switzerland, 6 September.
- 2016 *The welfare mix for the ageing (migrants)*  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, Charles University, Czech Republic, 30 June-2 July.
- 2016 *Which place for ageing migrants in local institutions? A comparison of three cantons in Switzerland*  
International workshop “Ageing migrants: developing methodological tools for international comparisons and social network analysis”, University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, 10-13 March.
- 2016 *Comparing the structuring of support models for ageing natives and migrants in Switzerland* (with Marie Baeriswyl)  
5<sup>th</sup> International meeting of REIACTIS “Vieillesse et pouvoirs d’agir: Entre ressources et vulnérabilités”, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 10-12 February.

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- 2016 *Mode de construction de la géographie de la retraite parmi les Roumains âgés en Suisse* (with Claudio Bolzman)  
5th International meeting of REIACTIS “Viellissement et pouvoirs d’agir: Entre ressources et vulnérabilités”, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 10-12 February.
- 2015 *Comparing the support model for ageing natives and migrants in Switzerland* (with Marie Baeriswyl)  
Congrès de la Société Suisse de Sociologie, University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 3-5 June.
- 2015 *Ageing migrants and social welfare in Switzerland*  
“Ageing Migrants: Studying by Comparing”, University of Geneva and University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland, Switzerland, 19-21 March.
- 2015 *Quelle place dans la protection sociale pour les personnes âgées d’origines étrangères en Suisse?*  
Gerontology seminar, University of Geneva, Switzerland, 24 February.
- 2015 *Families within and across borders: bridging the gap between ‘traditional’ and ‘transnational’ family support research* (with Tineke Fokkema and Eralba Cela)  
Conference “Transnational Migration: Disciplinary Impacts”, Malmö University, Sweden, 29-30 January.
- 2014 *The role of social networks and institutional structures in the well-being of ageing migrants; The case of Romanian ageing migrants in Switzerland* (with Claudio Bolzman)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, Comillas University, Spain, 27-29 August.
- 2014 *Doing research on ageing migrants: A methodological discussion on limitations and implications of studying ageing migrants*  
European Population Conference 2014, Hungary, 25-28 June.
- 2014 *The welfare usage configuration of ageing migrants: at the interplay between public, private and third sector*  
International workshop, New University of Lisbon, Portugal, 15-16 May.
- 2014 *Romanian ageing migrants abroad; an important but under-studied topic. Categories, statistics and existing studies* (with Claudio Bolzman)  
International conference of the Society of Sociologists from Romanian (SSR), University of Iasi, Romania 8-10 May.
- 2014 *Romanian ageing migrants going native in Switzerland* (with Claudio Bolzman)  
4th European conference for social work research, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, 15-17 April.
- 2013 *The role of the churches for Romanian ageing migrants in Switzerland* (with Tineke Fokkema)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, Malmö University, Sweden, 26-27 August.
- 2012 *The Interplay between International Migration and the Welfare State in the Context of the Ageing of the Migrant Population*  
International workshop “Changing Patterns of Migration – Changing Patterns of Social Inequalities? Borders and Boundaries in the Enlarged Europe”, Bielefeld University, Germany, 12-13 April.

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- 2012 *A Discussion on Active Ageing: The Case of Ageing Migrants in Portugal*  
International seminar “Ageing Migrants: Demography, Agency and Welfare”, New University of Lisbon, Portugal, 6-7 March.
- 2012 *The Interplay between International Migration and the Welfare State in the Context of the Ageing of the Migrant Population*  
Seminar, Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies, Switzerland, 18 January.
- 2011 *Taking the contributions of aged migrants for granted; The case of Portugal*  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, University of Warsaw, Poland, 7-9 September.
- 2011 *Window-shopping among European Union Countries; Understanding the intra-European Migration Flows of Romanian Citizens*  
Conference “The Economic and Local Consequences of Labour Migration from Central and Eastern Europe in a Time of Economic Crisis”, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands, 8-9 June.
- 2011 *Window-shopping among European Union Countries; Understanding the intra-European Migration Flows of Romanian Citizens*  
International conference “Mobilities in Motion: New Approaches to Emergent and Future Mobilities”, Drexel University, USA, 21-23 March.
- 2010 *Estimating the population of aged migrants based on official data*  
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, The Forum on Migrations, Portugal, 10 December.
- 2010 *Aged Migrants in Portugal; Evidences from Migrant Associations*  
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, The Forum on Migrations, Portugal, 10 November.
- 2009 *A Stage Approach to Romanian Migrations. Migrant Narratives from Rural Romania*  
IMISCOE Conference “Migration Flows in Europe: Empirical Findings and Theoretical Implications”, Central European University, Hungary, 25-26 June.
- 2009 *The Role of Social Networks for the Economic Integration of Romanian Migrants in Spain*  
IMISCOE Conference “Matching Context and Capacity: The Economic Integration of Immigrants”, European University Institute, Italy, 11-12 June.
- 2008 *Networks, Policy Change and East-West European Migration* in the presentation of the project *Expanding the Knowledge Base of European Labour Migration Policies* (with T. Elrick)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, Deusto University, Spain, 9-12 September.
- 2008 *Family Stories of the Romanian Transnational Migration to Spain*  
IMISCOE PhD Summer Workshop, University of Lisbon, Portugal, 30 June-4 July.
- 2008 *An Analysis of the Romanian Transnational Migration to Spain through Family Stories*  
Seminar at the Centre for Research on Families and Relationships, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom, May.
- 2008 *A Stage Approach to Romanian Migrations. A Comparison between two Villages*  
Transnationality of Migrants network meeting, Belgium, 12 March.
- 2007 *Evaluating the Impact of Migration Policy Changes on Migration Strategies. Insights from Romanian-Spanish Migrations* (with T. Elrick)  
IMISCOE Annual Conference, Sussex University, United Kingdom, 7-8 September.

- 2007 *The Influence of Migration Policy Changes on Migrants' Practices. Romanian Case study*  
Conference "Creolising Europe", University of Manchester, United Kingdom, 6 September.
- 2007 *An Analysis of the Romanian Transnational Migration to Spain through Family Stories*  
First meeting of the network "Transnationality of Migrants", University of Latvia, Latvia, 26-27 October.
- 2007 *The Unheard Voice of the Community; The Relevance of Migrants' Projects for Migration Policy Making*  
IMISCOE international conference "The Local Dimension of Migration Policy Making in Europe", FIERI and University of Turin, Italy, 10 May.
- 2006 *The Unheard Voice of the Community. The Importance of the Community in the Migration Policy Making*  
IMISCOE Workshop on "Decentralised Migration Policy in Europe", University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom, 2-3 November.
- 2006 *The Monitoring and Evaluation of the Planning Phase of a Sustainable Development Project in Roma Communities*  
Easy – Eco conference on "Improving the Quality of Sustainable Development Projects in Saarbrücken", Centre for Evaluation, University of Saarland, Germany, 11-14 October.
- 2006 *Changing the Home from Abroad. The Impact of Migration on the Community of Origin*  
IMISCOE Conference "Poverty, Vulnerability and Migration Choice", Graduate Institute of Development Studies, Switzerland, 18-19 May.
- 2005 *One step at a time: sustainable development strategies in Roma communities*  
Easy-Eco Conference "Impact Assessment for a New Europe and Beyond", University of Manchester, United Kingdom, 15-17 June.

#### Posters in Conferences

- 2017 (forthcoming) *The Impact of Religiosity on Attitudes towards Abortion in Post-Communist Romania*  
(with Cristina Bradatan)  
International Population Conference, Cape Town, South Africa, 29 October – 4 November.
- 2016 *Comparing the structuring of support models for ageing natives and migrants in Switzerland*  
(with Marie Baeriswyl)  
Swiss Society of Gerontology, Université Miséricorde, Fribourg, Switzerland, 28-29 January.
- 2015 *The Impact of Religiosity on Attitudes towards Abortion in Post-Communist Romania*  
(with Cristina Bradatan)  
Annual Meeting of Population Association of America, San Diego, California, USA, 30 April-2 May.



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## Participation and organisation of impact, knowledge transfer and outreach activities

- 2017 to present      Representative of the Centre for the Interdisciplinary Study of Gerontology and Vulnerability in the PLATEFORME des associations d'ânés de Genève (The Geneva Platform of Associations of Elderly).
- 2015                    La Bibliothèque humaine comme outil contre le racisme – La Semaine valaisanne d'action contre le racism (The human library as a tool against racism – the week of action against racism in the canton of Valais), Valais, Switzerland, 24-25 March 2015.
- 2014                    Forum 'Communes et seniors: ensemble en actions' (Forum 'Towns and seniors: together in action'), Grandson municipality, Switzerland, 11 June 2014.
- 2014                    Forum Romand sur l'interculturalité: « Venir d'ailleurs et vieillir ici? » (Swiss French forum on interculturality: "Coming from abroad and ageing here?")  
University of Applied Sciences of Western Switzerland, Switzerland, 2 October 2014.

## Skills

Qualitative methods: interviews, biographical narrative interviews, focus group, participant observation  
Quantitative methods: questionnaire research, secondary data analysis  
Comparative research

## Computer Knowledge

Qualitative analysis: AtlasTi and NVivo

**Fieldwork Research:** Romania, Spain, Portugal and Switzerland

## Memberships & Associations

EU Excellence Network International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion (IMISCOE)

Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research LIVES: Overcoming vulnerability: Life course perspectives, in the projects "Behind the democratization of old age: Inequalities within progress" (2014) and "Old Age" (2015 to present).

## Service to Profession

Since 2016: Jury Member for the Rinus Penninx Best Paper Award

Since 2016: Member of the Conference Committee, IMISCOE Annual Conference

Since 2014: Editor of LIVES Working papers, NCCR LIVES

Since 2010: co-coordinator of the Standing Committee "Ageing Migrants", IMISCOE

2009 – 2012: member of the IMISCOE Board of Directors on behalf of the Institute for Sociological Research, New University of Lisbon, Portugal

## Reviewing

*Articles:* International Migration Review, Journal of Nationalism and Ethnic Politics, Ethnic and Racial Studies, Mobilities, Emotion, Space and Society, Studia Sociologica, Annuaire Roumain d'Anthropologie, Population Research and Policy Review, Public Health Reviews, Transnational Social Review, Journal of Religion in Europe, Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology

*Books and book projects:* Amsterdam University Press, Springer

*Research project:* Swiss National Science Foundation

## Languages

Romanian – native

English, French and Italian – full professional proficiency

German and Portuguese – basic use