

# SAMANTHA ROSE SIMPSON

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## Research Interests

Kosovar Albanian diaspora in Switzerland and Germany; social movements in Kosovo and Northern Ireland; formation of paramilitary groups in Kosovo and Northern Ireland; nationalism, memory, and conflict in the twentieth century

## Education

- 2018 - 2021 **PhD Researcher, Historisches Institut – Universität Bern**  
Academic Supervisor: Dr. Christian Gerlach  
Research Focus: formation of political/nationalist organisations among the Kosovar Albanian diaspora in Switzerland and Germany
- 2017 - 2018 **M.A. Military History and Strategic Studies – Maynooth University**  
Academic Supervisor: Dr. John Paul Newman  
Thesis: 'Yugoslavia's Problem Child: Protests and Social Disorder in Kosovo, 1968-1981'
- 2015 - 2016 **M.A. Comparative History – Central European University**  
Academic Supervisors: Dr. Vladimir Petrovic, Dr. Julian Casanova-Ruiz  
Thesis: 'A Call to Arms: Tradition, Nationalism and Paramilitary Violence in Northern Ireland and Kosovo During the Twentieth Century'
- 2010 - 2015 **B.A. History – Idaho State University**  
Major: History, focus on Irish history  
Minor: English Literature

## Professional Academic Experience

- 2018 - 2021 Universität Bern, Historisches Institut, PhD Research Assistant · Bern, Schweiz  
❖ Assisting Dr. Franziska Zaugg with research for the SNF-funded project, 'Eine "longue durée" der Gewalt? – Kriegsversehrte Gesellschaften in Südosteuropa'
- 2017 - 2018 Maynooth University, John Paul II Library, Graduate Assistant · Maynooth, Ireland  
❖ Responsible for the sorting and shelving of library books and periodicals. Aid in the general organization of the library and provide answers to general student enquiries.
- 2017 Maynooth University, Student Records and Registration Office, Registration Assistant · Maynooth, Ireland  
❖ Assisted new incoming and returning university students during online registration and registration check. Checked that all proper documentation was in order during the registration process.
- 2012 - 2015 Idaho State University, Eli M. Oboler Library, Circulation Desk Attendant · Pocatello, Idaho  
❖ Responsible for the organization and proper cataloguing of the library's main collection of books and reading materials. Supervised the front desk and provided answers to reference questions using the online catalogue and various research databases.
- 2013 Idaho State University, Department of History, Career Path Intern · Pocatello, Idaho  
❖ Transcribed a series of documents from the National Archives, Kew and the National Archives of Ireland. Took part in the responsible use and proper handling of archival materials. Conducted independent research regarding the Irish Revolution.

### **Contributions and Conferences**

- 2018 Co-organiser, 'Contested Memories in Southeast Europe 1912-2019: Is After the War Before the War? – Examining Cycles of Conflict and Violence in Pre- and Post-war Eras', Universität Bern (planned for June 2019).
- 2017 Co-organiser, 'Cultures of Victory, Cultures of Defeat and Cultures of Peace: Europe's Twentieth Century Post-war Periods', Maynooth Centre for European and Eurasian Studies, Maynooth University.
- 2017 Review of Alexandra de Renzy Channer's *Nationalism in Albania: The Politics of Activism in the Balkans* (I.B. Tauris, 2018) in *Südosteuropa* (Forthcoming).
- 2017 Review of Leandrit I. Mehmeti and Branislav Radeljic, eds. *Kosovo and Serbia: Contested Options and Shared Consequences* (Pittsburgh University Press, 2017) published in *Irish Slavonic Studies, Volume 26* (2017).
- 2017 'Youth in Revolt: Student-led Civil Resistance in the 1968 and 1981 Protests' presented for 'Dealing with the Past: Social Movements in Kosovo in Socialism and the 1990's', Alter Habitus, Pristina, Kosovo.
- 2017 'Martyrs of the Nation: The Role of Death and Martyrdom in the Formation of the Kosovo Liberation Army' presented for "Journeys", 41<sup>st</sup> Annual and International Conference of the Irish Association for Russian, Central and East European Studies, Moore Institute, NUI Galway, Galway, Ireland.
- 2016 Participant, 'Regional Cooperation and Regional Identity in the Western Balkans: Similarities and Differences', Centre for European Neighbourhood Studies, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.

### **Awards and Fellowships**

- 2016 Top 5 Contributor for May 2016, 'Letters of 1916: A Year in the Life', Maynooth University and An Foras Feasa · Maynooth, Ireland
- 2015 - 2016 Recipient, Partial M.A. Fellowship for the 2015-2016 academic year, Central European University · Budapest, Hungary

### **Academic Involvement and Volunteer Work**

- 2017-Present Member, Irish Association for Russian, Central and East European Studies
- 2017-2018 MA Class Representative, Maynooth University Student Subcommittee
- 2015-2017 Member, American Conference of Irish Studies
- 2016 Contributor, Letters of 1916 Project, Maynooth University · Maynooth, Ireland
- 2015 – 2016 Member, CEU Yugoslav-Region Research Group, Central European University · Budapest, Hungary
- 2013 – 2016 Member, Friends of Irish Studies in the West
- 2014 – 2015 Member, Phi Alpha Theta Honours History Society, Idaho State University · Pocatello, Idaho
- 2013 – 2015 President, International Affairs Council, Idaho State University · Pocatello, Idaho