



University of St. Gallen
Center for Governance
and Culture in Europe



University of
Zurich ^{UZH}
CEES
Center for Eastern European Studies



Ukrainian Research
in Switzerland



1-6
SEPTEMBER
2024

Societies on the Move

Migration, Mobility and Displacement in
Eastern Europe

Societies on the Move.

Migration, Mobility and Displacement in Eastern Europe

International Conference

Organized by the Center for Eastern European Studies (CEES), University of Zurich, the Center for Governance and Culture in Europe (GCE), University of St. Gallen, and the initiative Ukrainian Research in Switzerland (URIS), University of Basel



Monte Verità, Congressi Stefano Franscini
Strada Collina 84, CH-6612 Ascona, Switzerland

Eastern Europe witnessed significant post-Iron Curtain transformations, marked by extensive migration and mobility, fueled by geopolitical shifts and conflicts like the Yugoslav wars. This included rural-urban shifts and transnational labor migrations to the West, with profound impacts on both origin and host countries. Despite serving as transit nations during the 2015 "refugee crisis", the countries of Eastern Europe took in most of the Ukrainian war refugees in 2022 following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. However, the war in Ukraine is also present in Western European states, not least in the form of several million war refugees.

This international conference is dedicated to the causes, forms and social and political consequences of geographical mobility and migration in Eastern Europe. We focus on the states and societies of the post-socialist and post-Soviet space and the years 1989/1991 to the present, although issues with a broader historical scope are also considered.

Program

Sunday, 1 September

Arrival of participants, Check-in at Monte Verità

Monday, 2 September

8.00-8.30 **Introduction**

8.30-10.00 **Migration and Nation Building in Ukraine**

Speakers Bohdan Kolesnyk, University of St.Gallen
Who Builds the Nation? Nation-Building and Subjectivity in Ukraine since 2014

Mykhailo Minakov, Kennan Institute, Woodrow Wilson
International Center for Scholars
The Role of Nationalization in Ukraine's Post-Soviet Development

Chair Ulrich Schmid, University of St. Gallen

10.30-12.00 **Receiving Societies**

Speakers Karolina Czerska-Shaw, Jagiellonian University Kraków
Agency, Civic Entrepreneurship and Nation-Building: New Horizons of Ukrainian Migrations and Refugees in Poland

Sandra King-Savic, University of Zurich
Transnational- and Diaspora Perspectives from the Global East: De-Centering the Eurocentric Perspective

Jannis Panagiotidis, University of Vienna
German Society and Immigration from "the East"

Chair Oleksandra Tarkhanova, University of St. Gallen

14.00-15.30 **Labor Migration**

Speakers Ulf Brunnbauer, University of Regensburg
Elusive Development: Gastarbeiters, Experts and Inequality in Socialist Yugoslavia

Jeff Sahadeo, Carlton University
Labor Migration from Central Asia and the Caucasus at the End of the USSR

Zuzana Uhde, Czech Academy of Sciences, Institute of
Sociology, Prague
The European Care Border Regime: Extraction, Exploitation, and East-West Inequalities in Cross-Border Care Work in Central Europe

Chair Frithjof Benjamin Schenk, University of Basel

Tuesday, 3 September

16.00-17.30 **Migration and the Decolonization Debate**

Speakers Frithjof Benjamin Schenk, University of Basel
Migration Management. Comparing "Internal" Colonisation in and Emigration from the Late Russian Empire

Botakoz Kassymbekova, University of Basel
Understanding the Soviet Empire through a Settler Colonial Lense

Chair Jeronim Perović, University of Zurich

20.30-22.00 **Keynote Lecture**

Traumatic Rhymes: Contemporary Ukrainian Refugee Experience and the Cultural Legacies of the 1940s Displacement

Vitaly Chernetsky
University of Kansas/University of Basel

9.00-10.00 **Brain Drain and Demography**

Speakers Alexander Dmitriev, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne
Waves of Russian and Ukrainian Scientific Migration in the Twentieth Century (Historical Samples)

Alexander Kalgin, Constructor University Bremen
The Displaced Russian Academics: Individual and Collective Strategies of Emigration

Chair Kai Willms, University of Basel

10.30-12.00 **Religion and War**

Speakers Tornike Metreveli, Lund University
Divine Right or Geopolitical Might? Orthodox Christianity in Russia's Conflicts with Georgia and Ukraine

Ansgar Jödicke, University of Fribourg
How Strong are Religious Underpinnings of War, Violence, or Humanitarianism? Theoretical Perspectives

Lucian N. Leustean, Aston University
Religious Responses to Forced Displacement in the European Union

Chair Ulf Brunnbauer, University of Regensburg

Wednesday, 4 September

14.30-15.30 **Conflict and Development in the South Caucasus**

Speakers Vicken Cheterian, Centre for Security Policy, Geneva
From Self-Determination to Right to Return: Karabakh Armenian Struggle After the Ethnic Cleansing

Elena Natenadze, University of Bern
War, History and Memory: Case of Georgian-Abkhaz conflict of the 1992-1993

Franziska Smolnik, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin
(Re-)Building Georgia's Road to the Future: Transport Infrastructure Development Between the Past and Promises of Connectivity

Chair Jeronim Perović, University of Zurich

16.00-17.30 **Presenting CEES (University of Zurich), GCE (University of St. Gallen) and URIS (University of Basel)**

20.30-22.00 **Roundtable "War, Atrocities, and Reconciliation"**

Elmira Muratova, European Centre for Minority Issues, Germany

Vicken Cheterian, GCSP, Geneva

Jeronim Perović, University of Zurich

8.30-10.00 **Diaspora**

Speakers Kai Willms, University of Basel
Migrant Intellectuals as a Knowledge Resource for Area Studies: The Case of the Cold War Polish Émigré Community

Félix Krawatzek, Centre for East European and International Studies, Berlin
Russians in Canada: An Invisible Minority or Simply Part of a Multicultural Mainstream? [Insights Into Attitudes on Politics and Historical Events Based on a Multigenerational Survey]

Fabian Baumann, Heidelberg University
Autobiographical Practices and the Consolidation of Ukrainian Nationhood in the Interwar Emigration

Chair Alexander Dmitriev, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne

10.30-12.00 **Migration and Gender**

Speakers Janik-Freis, Center for Research on Antisemitism, Technical University of Berlin
Between Individual Experiences and Public Discourses: Female Migration from Eastern Europe 1890 – 1920

Oksana Udovyk, INGENIO, Spanish National Research Council / Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain
Feminist Urbanism Futures: Navigating Displacement and Envisioning the Future of Ukrainian Cities

Yuliia Soroka, Department of Sociology N.V.Karazin Kharkiv National University/ Senior researcher at the Department of Geoscience, Human Geography Group, University of Fribourg
Women's Migration in Occupied Territories: Surviving Strategies and Discursive Boundaries

Chair Viktoria Sereda, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin/ Virtual Ukrainian Institute for Advanced Study

Thursday, 5 September

14.00-17.30 **Excursion to Isole di Brissago (Island on Lake Maggiore)**

18.00–20.00 **Dinner at "Ristorante Isole di Brissago"**

8.30-10.00 **Repression and Mobility in Belarus**

Speakers Iryna Herasimovich, University of Zurich
Between Restricted Mobility and Forced Migration: The Case of Belarus

Nelly Bekus, University of Exeter
Migration and Transformation in Belarus after 1991: From Transnational Experience to the Discourses of National Identity

Anton Liavitski, University of St. Gallen
Soviet Urbanization and Its Consequences Revisited: Internal Migration and Belarus Political Cultures in the Wake of Socialism's Collapse

Chair Sandra King-Savic, University of Zurich

10.30-12.00 **Migration and Language**

Speakers Cristiana Lucchetti, University of Zurich
A Sociology of Language Perspective on the Balkan Diaspora in Switzerland

Tomáš Glanc, University of Zurich
Migration, Mobility, Dislocation. Russian Culture during the War against Ukraine – the Semantics of Geographical Transfers

Aleksej Tikhonov, University of Zurich
Linguistic Landscapes and Re-Branding of the so-called "Russian Stores" in Berlin, Vienna, and Zürich

Chair Ulrich Schmid, University of St. Gallen

Friday, 6 September

14.00-15.30 **Internal Migration and Population Exchange**

Speakers Zbigniew Wojnowski, Oxford
From Forced Migration to Public Diplomacy: The Making of Ukrainian-Polish Border after 1945

 Matthew Pauly, Michigan State University
Children on the Move: The 1921 Soviet Famine, Evacuation, and the Ambiguities of Public Assistance

 Julia Elena Grieder, University of Basel
Local Perspectives on Migration: Unraveling Migration Regimes in Soviet Lviv and Transcarpathia

Chair Olena Palko, University of Basel

16.00-17.30 **Border Management**

Speakers Franziska Exeler, Free University Berlin
Labor Migration, Coal Mining and Border Regimes along the Imperial Russian-Habsburg-German Border

 Stephan Rindlisbacher, European University Viadrina
Frankfurt (Oder)
From Affirmative Action to Ethnic Cleansing. How the Soviets Solved the "Pasture Issue" between Armenia and Azerbaijan, 1921-36

Chair Frithjof Benjamin Schenk, University of Basel

20.00-21.30 **Roundtable "Temporary Protection Status S. What Comes Next?"**

Speakers Simone Zurschmitten, Head of S-Status Section, State Secretariat for Migration, Bern

 Babak Fargahi, Attorney at law, RISE, Zurich

Chair Sandra King-Savic, University of Zurich

9.00-10.30 **Displacement in Ukraine**

Speakers Viktoria Sereda, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Virtual Ukrainian Institute for Advanced Study
War and Displacement Effects on Ethnic Diversity in Ukraine

 Oleksandra Tarkhanova, University of St. Gallen
Citizenship and Mass Displacement in Ukraine

 Elmira Muratova, European Centre for Minority Issues, Germany
Displaced Crimean Tatars: Identity, Values and Future Plans

Chair Olena Palko, University of Basel

11.00-12.00 **Final Discussion**

Chair Ulrich Schmid, University of St. Gallen

13.30 Departure of participants

Short Biographies (A-Z)

Dr. Fabian Baumann

Heidelberg Center for Transcultural Studies, Heidelberg University

Fabian Baumann is a historian of Eastern Europe with a focus on the history of nationalism and empire in Ukraine, Russia, and East Central Europe. He obtained his doctorate from the University of Basel in 2020 and was a SNSF.Mobility postdoctoral fellow at the University of Chicago and the University Vienna before joining the University of Heidelberg as a research associate in 2023. His book *Dynasty Divided: A Family History of Russian and Ukrainian Nationalism*, which deals with the nationally divided Shul'gin/Shul'hyn family of Kyiv, was published by Cornell University Press in 2023.

Dr. Nelly Bekus

University of Exeter

Nelly Bekus, PhD (2007) is a Lecturer at the University of Exeter. Previously held research posts at Harvard University, the Institute of Human Sciences in Vienna, and the University of Warsaw. Her academic interests lie in Eastern European and Eurasian studies and focus on Soviet and post-Soviet nation-building, postcolonialism, technopolitics, heritage, religious and linguistic identity. Published, among others, in *Theory and Society*, *British Journal of Sociology*, *Slavic Review*, *Europe-Asia Studies*, and *Nationalities Papers*, and edited several special issues, including *Slavic Review*, *Communist and Postcommunist Studies*, and *International Journal of Heritage Studies*.

Dr. Katharina Biegger

Center for Governance and Culture in Europe, University of St. Gallen

Katharina Biegger completed her studies of philology, education, and folklore at Zurich University with a dissertation on the early-modern polymath Theophrastus Paracelsus. She has working experience as a university assistant, translator and a academic administrator. For many years, she was involved in the management of the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin - Institute for Advanced Study. Since 1994, she has been collaborating with (mostly South) Eastern European colleagues in diverse projects and programs, but especially with the New Europe College in Bucharest and the Centre for Advanced Study in Sofia. Recently, she has also been connected to the Viadrina Center for Polish and Ukrainian Studies.

Prof. Dr. Ulf Brunnbauer

Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies, University of Regensburg

Ulf Brunnbauer holds a PhD from the University of Graz and a Habilitation from the Free University of Berlin. He is Academic Director of the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies in Regensburg and Professor of Southeast and East European History at the University of Regensburg. His research explores the social history of Southeastern Europe since the 19th century, with a focus on labor and migration as well as demographic change. The geographic focus of his research is the area of the former Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, but situating the region also in larger spatial frameworks.

Prof. Vitaly Chernetsky

University of Kansas / University of Basel

Vitaly Chernetsky is a Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Kansas. A native of Ukraine, he received his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and Literary Theory from the University of Pennsylvania. He is the author of *Mapping Postcommunist Cultures: Russia and Ukraine in the Context of Globalization* (2007), of five edited or co-edited volumes, and numerous articles on modern and contemporary Slavic and East European literatures and cultures where he seeks to highlight cross-regional and cross-disciplinary contexts. A book in Ukrainian, *Intersections and Breakthroughs: Ukrainian Literature and Cinema between the Global and the Local*, is forthcoming. His published translations into English include two novels, two poetry collections, and numerous shorter literary works, as well as scholarly articles and historical documents. Translation of Sophia Andrukhovych's novel *Felix Austria* is forthcoming. He is the editor of the Ukrainian Studies book series at Academic Studies Press. Prof. Chernetsky is a past president of the American Association for Ukrainian Studies and in 2024, he is serving as the President of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES).

Dr. Vicken Cheterian

University of Geneva

Vicken Cheterian holds a Ph.D. from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva. He has published on armed conflicts in the Middle East and Post-Soviet space. His research interests include ethno-territorial conflicts, nationalism, transition from socialism, as well as Islamist movements and sectarianism. He has also worked on the impact of the Armenian Genocide on contemporary Middle Eastern history. He is currently working on a book on the Second Karabakh War between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Dr. Karolina Czerska-Shaw

Institute of European Studies, Jagiellonian University in Krakow

Karolina Czerska-Shaw has a Ph.D. in Sociology and is an assistant professor at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Institute of European Studies. Her research interests include migration and mobility, European Union migration policies, citizenship, civic education, transnational civil society, migrant integration, and diversity management. She is a member of the Jagiellonian Centre for Migration Studies and collaborates with the Multiculturalism and Migration Observatory at the Cracow University of Economics. She is the author of numerous reports and studies on the integration of migrants in Krakow and Małopolska, participating in expert teams advising local and regional authorities in developing strategies for the integration of migrants. Her recent research projects include WP lead on a Horizon Europe project, "RECLAIM: Reclaiming Liberal Democracy in the Post-Factual Age", as well as "PeaceRep: Rethinking Peace & Transition Processes in a Changing Conflict Landscape" in collaboration with the Conflict and Civicness Research Group at the London School of Economics, where she was work package leader researching the civic mobilization of Ukrainians in Poland, focusing particularly on leaders of social organizations and entrepreneurs in the face of Russia's full-scale aggression against Ukraine.

Dr. Alexander Dmitriev

The Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

Alexander Dmitriev holds a Ph.D. from the University of St. Petersburg. He is Affiliated Researcher, Laboratory for the History of Science and Technology, The Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland. His research interests include intellectual history, inter-war exile, literary theory, the evolution of Marxism and public memory in Eastern/Central Europe and the former Soviet Union. His latest work: Atlantis of Soviet National Modernism: The Formal Method in Ukraine (1920s – early 1930s), 2021 (with Galina Babak).

Dr. Franziska Exeler

Free University Berlin

Franziska Exeler is a postdoctoral fellow at the graduate school Global Intellectual History at Free University Berlin and research associate at the Centre for History and Economics at the University of Cambridge. Trained as a historian of Eastern Europe, Russia & Eurasia, her research interests include (1) war & society, specifically the history of the Second World War in Europe and Asia, as well as the aftermath of war, questions of myth, memory, and trauma, (2) the history of international criminal law, war crimes trials, and transitional justice in the twentieth century, and (3) empire, borders, and borderlands studies. Franziska's book *Ghosts of War. Nazi Occupation and Its Aftermath in Soviet Belarus* was published in 2022 with Cornell University Press. The book received the 2021 Ernst Fraenkel Prize. Franziska holds a PhD from Princeton University.

Prof. Dr. Tomáš Glanc

Slavic Seminar, University of Zurich

Tomáš Glanc is teaching at Zurich University. Topics of his research include modern slavic and East European literature and culture, samizdat and unofficial media, performance in Eastern Europe, Slavic ideology, and contemporary Russian art and literature. He has organized numerous exhibitions, including Poetry & Performance: The Eastern European Perspective (with Sabine Hänsen). He has also been a visiting professor at Humboldt University, Berlin; visiting professor at Basel University; senior fellow at Bremen University; director of the Czech Cultural Center in Moscow; and director of the Institute of Slavic and East European Studies, Charles University, Prague.

Julia Elena Grieder, MA

University of Basel

Julia Elena Grieder is a PhD student at the University of Basel. There she is pursuing her thesis project with the working title: *Defying Soviet Assimilation: Non-Titular Minorities in Post-Stalinist Transcarpathia and Lviv Oblast (1953-1982)*. She is a project assistant in the SNSF PRIMA research project "Red Tower of Babel: Soviet minorities experiment in interwar Ukraine" led by Prof. Dr. Olena Palko. Her research interests include migration and minority history in the Soviet Union, with a particular focus on Ukraine, as well as popular music and culture in Ukraine.

Iryna Herasimovich

University of Zurich

Iryna Herasimovich was born in Minsk in 1978 and is a translator, essayist and researcher. She has translated works by Lukas Bärfuss, Georg Büchner, Jonas Lüscher, Franz Hohler other German-language authors into Belarusian. Her latest translation is "Dictionary of War" by Ostap Slyvynsky (Ukrainian - Belarusian). She also works as a dramaturge and curator in the field of visual arts and is a member of the German Academy for Language and Poetry. Since 2021, she has been a doctoral candidate at the Slavic Department of the University of Zurich in the SNF-project "Arts & Disinformation".

Dr. Elisabeth Janik-Freis

Technical University Berlin

Elisabeth Janik-Freis holds a Ph.D. from Vienna University. She is currently a research assistant at the Center for Research on Antisemitism at the Technical University of Berlin. Her recent project, entitled “Deviant Danzig – Gender, Police, and the State 1918–1950,” analyses Danzig’s so-called underworld through antisemitic and racial lenses and includes perspectives from both governmental and non-governmental actors during political system changes. In her previous postdoctoral project at TU Berlin, she worked on the trafficking of women up until 1914, examining various discourses on trafficking from Eastern Europe. She has authored numerous articles on (female) migration from Habsburg Galicia to South America in the late 19th century. Her research interests are diverse, covering the history of migration, cultural history, and gender history and the history of antisemitism.

Prof. tit. Dr. Ansgar Jödicke

University of Fribourg

Ansgar Jödicke holds a PhD in the Study of Religions from the University of Zurich and is a senior lecturer in the Department of Social Sciences at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. His area of research is religion and politics in two fields: first, the politics of education in Switzerland and Europe; second, the political role of religious groups in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. Ansgar Jödicke has coordinated several research projects in the South Caucasus and in Switzerland.

Dr. Alexander Kalgin

Constructor University Bremen

Alexander Kalgin is an economist and a sociologist. He worked as an associate professor at the HSE University in Moscow, Russia, from 2010 to 2022 and published actively in the fields of public administration and corruption studies. In 2019, he received a second Master’s degree in sociology from the University of Manchester and the Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences, and shifted his career towards social theory. He worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the political science research group of IOS Regensburg, Germany, from 2021 to 2022 and held the position of a senior visiting researcher at Cluster of Excellence SCRIPTS, Free University of Berlin, Germany, between 2022 and 2023. Currently, he works as a Senior Analyst at Constructor University Bremen. His academic interests include the sociology of education, migration and epistemology of social sciences.

Dr. Botakoz Kassymbekova

University of Basel

Dr. Botakoz Kassymbekova is a Lecturer/Assistant Professor in Modern History at the University of Basel, with a specialization in Soviet history, Stalinism and post-Stalinism and Russian imperial history. She holds Ph.D. from Humboldt Universität Berlin. Her first book “Despite Cultures. Early Soviet Rule in Tajikistan” (Pittsburgh University Press, 2016) traces Soviet imperial strategies in Central Asia. She is guest editor of the “Stalinism and Central Asia” volume with Central Asian Survey (2016). Her current research project investigates post-Stalinist Soviet Union and analyzes how Soviet citizens (un)processed Stalinism in their older lives.

Dr. Sandra King-Savic

University of Zurich

Sandra King-Savic is a postdoctoral researcher focusing on migration, especially integrationism, diaspora and transnational spaces, as well as informal practices with a regional expertise in Central and Southeastern Europe. She received her BA, MA, and PhD in International Relations and Sociology at the University of Wyoming, Kansas, and St. Gallen respectively, and is currently a researcher at the University of Zürich (as of September 2024).

Dr. Bogdan Kolesnyk

Center for Governance and Culture in Europe, University of St. Gallen

Dr. Bogdan Kolesnyk is a scholar specializing in Ukrainian political discourse and political thought. He received his Ph.D. (magna cum laude) on political narratives in Ukraine from the University of St. Gallen under the supervision of Prof. Ulrich Schmid. Originally trained in finance and economics, he pursues his academic activities in parallel with a career in business.

Dr. Félix Krawatzek

Centre for East European and International Studies, Berlin

Félix Krawatzek is Senior Researcher at the Centre for East European and International Studies (ZOiS) in Berlin as well as an Associate Member of Nuffield College (University of Oxford). At ZOiS he heads the research cluster “Youth and Generational Change” and is PI on the ERC-funded research project “Moving Russia(ns): Intergenerational Transmission of Memories Abroad and at Home” (MoveMeRU). His research focuses on post-Soviet politics and European politics more broadly with a particular interest in the role of youth in politics, the significance of historical representation in political processes, and questions related to migration and transnationalism.

Dr. Lucian Leustean

Aston University, Birmingham, United Kingdom

Dr Lucian Leustean is a Reader in Politics and International Relations at Aston University. His recent publications include, as editor/co-editor, *Religion and Forced Displacement in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia* (2022), *The Oxford Handbook of Religion and Europe* (2021) and *Eastern Christianity and Politics in the Twenty-First Century* (2014).

Dr. des. Anton Liavitski

University of St. Gallen

Anton Liavitski holds a Ph.D. (Dr. des.) from Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. Currently, he holds an ESKAS fellowship at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of St. Gallen. His research has focused on the history of political and cultural transformation in the Soviet Union in the late 1980s and 1990s.

Dr. Cristiana Lucchetti

Slavic Seminar, University of Zurich

Cristiana Lucchetti is a postdoctoral researcher at the newly founded Institute of East and Southeast European Studies at the University of Zurich. Her research is situated within sociolinguistics, the sociology of language and migration studies. During her PhD at the University of Munich (2019-2023), she studied language attitudes and social identity in the post-Soviet immigrant communities of Israel and Germany. Within the scope of her PhD work, she was a visiting scholar at the University of Tel Aviv (2019-2020) and at the University of California, Berkeley (2021). Her current postdoc project at the University of Zurich focuses on language prestige, with particular focus on Albanian and BCMS (Bosnian-Croatian-Montenegrin-Serbian) as heritage languages in multilingual Switzerland.

Dr. Alexander Meienberger

University of St. Gallen

Alexander Meienberger holds a Ph.D. from the University of St. Gallen. He is the Executive Director of the Center for Governance and Culture in Europe. His academic pursuits revolve around Eastern European literature and culture, with a focus on Russian works from the nineteenth century to the present. His research explores the intersection of literature, medicine, and the humanities by analyzing representations of illness and health in Eastern European texts.

Prof. Dr. Tornike Metreveli

Lund University, Sweden

Tornike Metreveli is a Reader in European Studies and a Associate Professor in Sociology of Religions at Lund University, Sweden. Before joining Lund, Tornike was a postdoc at University of St. Gallen, Harvard (Ukrainian Research Institute and before that Davis Center for Russian Eurasian Studies). His first book - *Orthodox Christianity and the Politics of Transition* (2021, London: Routledge) discusses how Orthodox Christianity was involved in and influenced political transition in Ukraine, Serbia and Georgia after the collapse of communism; edited volume titled *Orthodox Christianity and the COVID-19 Pandemic* explores the dynamics between Orthodox Christianity and the COVID-19 pandemic, unraveling a profound transformation at institutional and grassroots levels. Tornike employs digital humanities methods in his research for which he got EU Prize for Journalism in 2023.

Prof. Dr. Mykhailo Minakov

Kennan Institute / Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, Washington, DC - Guild of Philosophy / Free University, Riga

Mykhailo Minakov holds a Candidate of Sciences in Philosophy (2000) and a Dr. Habil. in Philosophy (2007) — both from the Institute of Philosophy, Ukrainian National Academy of Sciences. Kyiv. He is a Senior Advisor on Ukraine at the Kennan Institute/Wilson Center and a Professor of Political Philosophy at Free University, Riga. He works in the areas of political philosophy, social theory, international development, and the history of modernity. He is also the editor-in-chief of the peer-reviewed *Ideology and Politics Journal*, the Kennan Institute's Focus Ukraine blog, and the philosophical web-portal *Koinè*. Minakov is the author of six books and numerous articles in philosophy, political science, and history.

Dr. Elmira Muratova

European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg, Germany

Elmira Muratova holds a Ph.D. from Taurida National University in Ukraine. She is a post-doctoral researcher at the European Centre for Minority Issues in Flensburg. Her academic pursuits revolve around Crimean Tatars, with a focus on identity, collective memory, and protest behavior. Her research explores the impact of the 2014 annexation of Crimea by Russia on Crimean Tatars' intragroup dynamics, displacement, and resistance.

Elena Natenadze, MA

University of Bern / University of St. Gallen

Elena Natenadze is a PhD candidate at the Institute of History at the University of Bern. She is managing editor of the academic journal *Euxeinos - Governance and Culture in the Black Sea Region* at the Centre for Governance and Culture in Europe. Her academic interests are in Eastern European history, with a focus on the conflicts of the 1990s to the present. Her research explores the intersection of history, memory, conflict and peace studies.

Prof. Dr. Olena Palko

University of Basel

Olena Palko is an Assistant Professor at the Department of History, University of Basel, working on her new research project, "Red Tower of Babel: Soviet Minorities Experiment in Interwar Ukraine", funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. Her research interests lie in the field of minority history, early Soviet cultural history and the interwar history of Ukraine and Eastern Europe. She was awarded her Ph.D. from the University of East Anglia in 2017. She also holds a degree of 'Candidate of Sciences' (kandydat nauk) from the Institute of Political and Ethnic Studies at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. Olena Palko is a co-convener of the BASEES Study Group for Minority History, and a coordinator of a digital project, *Shadows of Empire: contesting territorial imaginations and borders in modern Europe*.

apl. Prof. Dr. Jannis Panagiotidis

Research Center for the History of Transformations, University of Vienna

Jannis Panagiotidis is Scientific Director of the Research Center for the History of Transformations (RECET) at the University of Vienna. He holds a PhD from the European University Institute (2012) and was a Junior Professor of Migration and Integration of Germans from Russia at Osnabrück University (2014-2020). His research deals with migration history, with a special focus on diaspora migration, post-Soviet migration, and the history of anti-East European racism.

Prof. Dr. Matt Pauly

Michigan State University / University of Basel

Matthew D. Pauly is an Associate Professor of History at Michigan State University, USA. He is the author of *Breaking the Tongue: Language, Education, and Power in Soviet Ukraine* as well as numerous journal articles and book chapters on early Soviet nationalities policy, education, and childhood in the Russian Empire and Soviet Ukraine. He has won grants from the US Fulbright Program, IREX, ACTR/ACCELS, the Shevchenko Scientific Society, and the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies. Dr. Pauly is currently engaged in the writing of a research monograph, "City of Children: Juvenile Poverty, Crime, and Salvation in Odesa."

In the fall of 2024, he will be a Visiting Scholar affiliated with the Chair of East European History and the Graduate School of History at the University of Basel.

Prof. Dr. Jeronim Perović

University of Zurich / Department of History and Center for Eastern European Studies

Jeronim Perović is a Professor of Eastern European History in the Department of History at the University of Zurich. He specializes in the history of Russia, the Soviet Union, and the Balkans. Additionally, he serves as the director of the Center for Eastern European Studies (CEES) at the University of Zurich. Perović has authored several monographs, including *Fuel and Power: Energy, Trade and Russian Foreign Relations from Lenin to Putin* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024) and *From Conquest to Deportation: The North Caucasus under Russian Rule* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018).

Dr. Stephan Rindlisbacher

European University Viadrina / University of Bern

Dr Stephan Rindlisbacher works as a researcher at the Viadrina Center of Polish and Ukrainian Studies (VCPU) at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder). Previously, he was research assistant with the Institute of History at the University of Bern. For his dissertation he studied the radical movement in the late Russian Empire. He is currently editing a book on territorial disputes within the early Soviet state that will be published with Cornell University Press in March 2025.

Prof. Dr. Jeff Sahadeo

Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, Carleton University

Jeff Sahadeo is professor at the Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies at Carleton University. He is the author of *Voices from the Soviet Edge: Southern Migrants in Leningrad and Moscow* (Cornell UP, 2019) and *Russian Colonial Society in Tashkent, 1865-1923* (Indiana UP, 2007). He is also co-editor of *Everyday Life in Central Asia* (Indiana UP, 2007) and his articles have appeared in the *Journal of Modern History*, *Slavic Review*, *Kritika* and elsewhere. Professor Sahadeo focuses on issues of mobility, social and cultural relations, borders and daily life in the late imperial and Soviet periods. His current research examines the intersection between rivers and society in tsarist and Soviet Georgia.

Prof. Dr. F. Benjamin Schenk

University of Basel / Ukrainian Research in Switzerland

F. Benjamin Schenk is Professor of Eastern European History at the University of Basel and Director of the programme "Ukrainian Research in Switzerland" (URIS). His research focuses on the history of memory culture and the politics of history, the history of geographical mobility and mental maps, and the history of empire and gender. His current research project examines the history of emigration from the Tsarist Empire and internal migration in Russia in the late 19th and early 20th centuries from a comparative perspective.

Prof. Dr. Ulrich Schmid

University of St. Gallen / Center for Governance and Culture in Europe

Ulrich Schmid is Professor of East European Studies at the University of St. Gallen. His research interests include nationalism, popular culture and the media in Eastern Europe. He studied German and Slavic literature at the Universities of Zürich, Heidelberg, and Leningrad. He held academic positions in Basel, Bern, Bochum and was visiting researcher at Harvard and in Oslo.

Prof. Dr. Viktoriya Sereda

Virtual Ukraine Institute for Advanced Studies, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.

Viktoriya Sereda is the Virtual Ukraine Institute for Advanced Studies (VUIAS) Head coordinator at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. Her main areas of research include: nationalism, migration and identity studies, memory studies, civil society and urban sociology. She is also a Senior Advisor of the project "Prisma Ukraïna: War, Migration and Memory" of the Forum Transregionale Studien, a senior research fellow at the Institute of Ethnology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and a professor in the department of Sociology at the Ukrainian Catholic University. In the spring semester of 2021, she was a visiting lecturer at the University of Basel. From 2011 to 2017, she was the head of the sociological team for the project "Region, Nation and Beyond: An Interdisciplinary and Transcultural Reconceptualization of Ukraine", organized by the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland.

Dr. Franziska Smolnik

German Institute for International and Security Affairs / Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Berlin

Franziska Smolnik holds a Ph.D. from the University of Bremen, Germany. She is a senior fellow in the research division Eastern Europe and Eurasia of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, with a focus on applied, practice-driven research. Her research interest is on contemporary socio-economic and political developments in the South Caucasus. More recently, she has in particular focused on dis-/connectivity, transport infrastructure development, and processes of regional reconfiguration.

Yuliia Soroka

N.V. Karazin Kharkiv National University / University of Fribourg

Yuliia Soroka holds her PhD and Doctorate in sociology at N.V. Karazin Kharkiv National University, Ukraine. She is a professor in the Department of Sociology (N.V. Karazin Kharkiv National University) and a senior researcher in the Human Geography Unit of the Department of Geosciences at the University of Fribourg. She studied the symbolic space of Ukrainian society, culture and power relations. Her current research project explores sociocultural aspects of Ukrainian society in the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine, including autoethnography, everyday life, media representation, and gender aspects of occupation in the prospects of Ukrainian social integrity. Gallen.

Dr. Oleksandra Tarkhanova

Center for Governance and Culture in Europe, University of St. Gallen

Dr. Oleksandra Tarkhanova is an SNSF Ambizione Grant holder with a research project on reconfigurations of state-citizen relations in Ukraine, based at the University of St. Gallen. Her research interests revolve around citizenship relations, forced displacement, welfare and gender politics. She is an associated researcher in an nccr-on the move project on agency and liminality in forced migration. Her Ph.D. is in Sociology from Bielefeld University.

Dr. Aleksej Tikhonov

University of Zurich

Aleksej Tikhonov holds a Ph.D. in Slavic Linguistics from the Humboldt University Berlin. The topic of the dissertation were linguistic and visual markers for author identification of historical manuscripts in the case of Czech protestant refugees in Berlin. He has been working on AI-driven transliteration algorithms for handwritten Ukrainian, Russian, and Yiddish at the University of Freiburg (Germany). Since 2023 he explores Slavic languages and multilingualism in German rap and German youth language in his postdoctoral project at the University of Zurich.

Dr. Oksana Udovyk

INGENIO, Universitat Politècnica de València

Oksana Udovyk is a Postdoctoral Researcher at Universitat Politècnica de València, INGENIO [CSIC-UPV]. She obtained her bachelor's degree in natural sciences from the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Ukraine, a master's degree in Sustainable Development from Linköping University, Sweden, and a PhD in Environmental Governance from Linköping and Södertörn Universities, Sweden. Her current research interests focus on human-nature interactions, deep listening and participation, urban transformations, and recovery efforts in Ukraine and beyond.

Zuzana Uhde, PhD

Institute of Sociology, Czech Academy of Sciences

Zuzana Uhde specializes in critical social theory, feminist theory and research of global interactions. Her current research revolves around interdisciplinary analyses of political economy of transnational migration, bordering processes and structural injustice, transnational social reproduction and commodification of care, with a regional expertise focused on central Europe and eastern Africa. She is a researcher at the Institute of Sociology of the Czech Academy of Sciences and an external research affiliate at the School of Women and Gender Studies, Makerere University. She is a member of the management committee of the COST network Data Matters: Sociotechnical Challenges of European Migration and Border Control (DATAMIG).

Dr. des. Kai Johann Willms

University of Basel

Kai Johann Willms is a postdoctoral assistant at the Chair for East European History, University of Basel. His research interests include the history of migration, the history of knowledge, as well as imperial and urban history. In 2023, he earned his doctorate from LMU Munich with a thesis on the contribution of Polish émigrés to the development of East European Studies in Cold War America. His current project takes a comparative look at the history of urban modernisation in the non-Russian peripheries of the late Tsarist Empire.

Dr Zbigniew Wojnowski

Faculty of History / Oxford School of Global and Area Studies, University of Oxford

Zbigniew Wojnowski is an Associate Professor of Soviet History at St Antony's College, University of Oxford. His work has focused on Soviet Ukraine and Kazakhstan after 1945. His book entitled *The Near Abroad: Socialist Eastern Europe and Soviet Patriotism in Ukraine, 1956-1985* explores how the flow of people and ideas across borders shaped Ukrainian politics, culture, and society after the death of Stalin. Wojnowski is currently working on the history of popular music in Eastern Europe and Central Asia during the late twentieth century.



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Societies on the Move

1–6 September 2024

Organizers:

University of St.Gallen (GCE)

University of Zurich (CEES)

University of Basel (URIS)

Venue

Fondazione Monte Verità

Strada Collina 84

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