

PROGRAM

25-26 JUNE 2026



ZIF RESEARCH GROUP

POSTCOLONIAL AND POSTSOCIALIST INTERDEPENDENCIES ACROSS BORDERS

ZIF RESEARCH GROUP WORKSHOP II

NAVIGATING RESEARCH CHALLENGES IN POST-SOCIALIST CONTEXTS: RETHINKING KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGIES

Karolina Barglowski (University of Luxembourg)

Encarnación Gutiérrez Rodríguez (Goethe University Frankfurt)

Irina Kuznetsova (University of Birmingham)

WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE

18:00

OPTIONAL DINNER AT ZIF

THURSDAY 25 JUNE

09:30–10:00

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

By Karolina Barglowski, Irina Kuznetsova, Encarnación Gutiérrez Rodríguez

10:00–11:30

METHODOLOGICAL STRATEGIES THAT UNSETTLE EUROCENTRIC, COLONIAL AND IMPERIAL
CATEGORIES OF ANALYSIS

Chair: Andreas Vasilache (Bielefeld University)

10:00–10:30

INPUT

	<p>Marianna Muravyeva (University of Helsinki): Decolonising Law-and-Rights Frameworks in the Post-Soviet Space: Feminist Methodologies, Epistemic Justice, and the Politics of Knowledge Production</p>
10:30-11:30	<p>FELLOWS' PRESENTATIONS</p> <p>Anna Amelina & Manuel Peters (Chemnitz University of Technology): The Construction of the Canon Beyond the Imperial Standpoint</p> <p>Encarnación Gutiérrez Rodríguez (Goethe University Frankfurt): Complicating Collaborations – Collectivizing Knowledge. Orlando Fals Bordas, Colonial Entanglements and Critical Ethnography.</p>
11:30–11:45	COFFEE BREAK
11:45-13:15	<p>POSTSOCIALIST LENS TO GENDER AND QUEER RELATIONS</p> <p>Chair: Encarnación Gutiérrez Rodríguez (Goethe University Frankfurt)</p>
11:45-12:15	<p>INPUT</p> <p>alyosxa Tudor, SOAS (University of London): Retelling the past to formulate political principles for the present? Methodologies against epistemic innocence</p>
12:15-13:15	<p>FELLOWS' PRESENTATIONS</p> <p>Helma Lutz (Goethe University Frankfurt): Learning from Biographical Research in Central and Eastern Europe</p> <p>Olga Plakhotnik (University of Greifswald), Maria Mayerchyk (Hochschule Rhein-Waal) & Masha Beketova (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin): Re-Thinking Queer Diaspora/Migration from Eastern European Peripheries</p>
13:15-14:30	LUNCH BREAK
14:30-16:00	<p>POSTSOCIALISM(S) IN MEMORIES AND LEGACIES</p> <p>Chair: Irina Kuznetsova (University of Birmingham)</p>
14:30-15:00	<p>INPUT</p> <p>Noa K. Ha (German Center for Integration and Migration Research (DEZIM): Challenging Epistemic Hierarchies through Participatory Research in Policy-oriented Research: Methodological Reflections from Germany and Eastern Germany</p>
15:00-16:00	<p>FELLOWS' PRESENTATIONS</p> <p>Yaroslav Zhuravlov (University of Jena): Remembering Auschwitz and Babyn Yar: Polish and Ukrainian (Diaspora) Memory from the Cold War to the Early Postsocialist Period</p> <p>Tetiana Havlin (BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg): Protest, Resilience, and the Underground: The Post-GDR Art Scene in Postsocialist and Postcolonial Entanglements</p>
16:00-16:15	BREAK
16:15-18:15	<p>CRITICAL MIGRATION RESEARCH AND POSTSOCIALISM</p> <p>Chair: Anna Amelina (Chemnitz University of Technology)</p>

16:15–16:45	<p>INPUT</p> <p>Piro Rexhepi (LSE): Epistemic Zonification and Migration Knowledge</p>
16:45–17:45	<p>FELLOWS' PRESENTATIONS</p> <p>Birgit Glorius (Chemnitz University of Technology): Decolonizing postsocialist perceptions on immigration, refugee reception and racial mix</p> <p>Irina Kuznetsova & John Round (University of Birmingham): Aspirational Futures and Legacies: Understanding Ukrainian Youth (Non)Return in Post-War Contexts</p>
18:30	DINNER AT ZIF

FRIDAY 26 JUNE

09:30–11:00	<p>PANEL: POSITIONALITIES, (SELF)REFLEXIVITIES AND CRITICAL METHODOLOGIES</p> <p>Chair: Helma Lutz (Goethe University Frankfurt)</p> <p>Heike Greschke & Mei-Chen Spiegelberg (Bielefeld University): Positioning as Methodological Intervention: The Contribution of Autoethnographic Positioning Analysis (APA) to Research in Post-Socialist Contexts</p> <p>Dina Bolokan (Global Migration Centre and Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, Graduate Institute Geneva): Trauma, biography and research ethics: methodological reflections on conducting research amid war and dispossession</p> <p>Karolina Barglowski, Lisa Bonfert & Paula Wallmeyer (University of Luxembourg): Epistemic work in postcolonial knowledge orders. Reflections on care as a methodological principle</p>
11:00–11:15	COFFEE BREAK
11:15–11:45	<p>BOOK LAUNCH</p> <p>Irina Kuznetsova (University of Birmingham) & Oksana Mikheieva (Kyiv School of Economics (KSE) and European University Viadrina (KIU Guest Professor): <u>Bordering and Mobilities in Ukraine: Inconvenient People in the Time of War</u>. Routledge, 2025 (free download)</p>
11:45–12:30	<p>CONCLUDING DISCUSSION</p> <p>Chairs: Karolina Barglowski, Encarnación Gutiérrez Rodríguez & Irina Kuznetsova</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can methodologies reflect the entanglements of post-socialist and post-colonial histories in the production of “legitimate” knowledge? • What tools make visible the geographies of epistemic inequality that shape the circulation of theory, data, and expertise? • And how can reflexive, comparative, or/and historically informed approaches challenge the hierarchies between “East” and “West,” “North” and “South,” and between regions in a context of post-dependency?
12:30–13:30	LUNCH
13:30	END OF THE WORKSHOP & DEPARTURE