

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

Anna Amelina (Chemnitz University of Technology)

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 Anna Amelina, 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>Maria Mayerchik (Hochschule Rhein-Waal) & Olga Plakhotnik (University of Greifswald): Regimes of Migration Revisited: Diasporic Queer Communities in Post-2022 Germany</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): Holocaust Memory across Diasporas: Babyn Yar, Auschwitz, and Postsocialist Transformation</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	INPUT

	Piro Rexhepi (LSE): Epistemic Zonification and Migration Knowledge
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: Anna Amelina, Encarnación Encarnación Gutiérrez Rodríguez & Irina Kuznetsova</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can methodologies confront 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