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Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

MIGRATION STORIES WORKSHOP
DETAILED PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 12 - 13, 2026
Vila Lanna, V Sadech 1, 160 00 Prague 6

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER

KEYNOTE: Katarzyna Kubin
Thursday, 12.11., 9:00 – 10:30

PANEL: Activists in War
Thursday, 12.11., 11:00 – 12:30

Amid ongoing wars, many activists are forced to migrate, yet they remain engaged despite the distance. This roundtable invites scholars and practitioners working at the intersection of activism and conflict response to examine how, when, and where diasporic communities mobilize. It also seeks to foster an exchange of experiences, particularly from the Middle East, Ukraine, and other regions affected by conflict. Participants will consider the new forms of identity emerging from diasporic activism, the ways war shapes the lives of those living abroad, and how they sustain political engagement while remaining connected to the local concerns of their countries of residence.

Chair: May Tamimova
Panel Members: Dilnur Reyhan, Marie Heřmanová, Ecem Nazlı Uçok, Melina Fischer

PANEL: Sport Migration and Racism in the Czech Sport Environment
Thursday, 12.11., 13:30 – 15:00

This panel brings together academics, journalists, and athletes of African descent to explore the intersections of migration, race, and sport in the Czech Republic. Contributors will reflect on the experiences of foreign-born and racialized athletes within Czech sporting structures, addressing issues such as inclusion, media representation, institutional barriers, and everyday racism. By combining scholarly perspectives with lived experience, the panel aims to foster a critical and nuanced discussion on how race and migration shape participation and belonging in Czech sport. Space will be given to both empirical findings and personal narratives, creating a dynamic and potentially challenging platform for debate.

Zástupci akademiků, novinářů a sportovců budou společně diskutovat o souvislostech mezi migrací, rasismem a sportem v České republice. Zaměří se na zkušenosti zahraničních sportovců v prostředí českého sportu a na témata, jako jsou začleňování a pocit sounáležitosti, mediální reprezentace, institucionální překážky nebo každodenní projevy rasismu. Propojením akademických perspektiv se zkušenostmi samotných aktérů tento panel nabídne kritickou a zároveň otevřenou diskusi o tom, jak migrace a původ ovlivňují postavení sportovců a jejich začlenění do českého sportu i širší společnosti. Prostor dostanou jak výsledky výzkumu, tak osobní zkušenosti a perspektivy jednotlivých účastníků, což umožní společnou diskusi z různých úhlů pohledu.

Chair: Jakub Vávrovský
Panel members: William Crossan, Vendula Divišová, Petr Koten, Patrick Samoura

PROJECT: MIGRATION AND US: MOBILITIES, REFUGEES AND BORDERS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE HUMAN SCIENCES (MYGRACE)
REG.NO: CZ.02.01.01/00/23_025/0008741

Institute of Ethnology
Czech Academy of Sciences

PANEL: Successes and Struggles: Africans in Czechia
Thursday, 12.11., 15:30 – 17:00

This panel is based on a round table format bringing together individuals from African diasporic communities in Czechia who have tried to make a home in the country. Participants will discuss the complexities and contradictions of their lives in the country and we will ask how, in particular, successes and struggles have unfolded. Personal accounts and narratives will help us understand and analyse how linguistic and racial dynamics are experienced by the participants and what image they form for Czech society. The round table discussion will provide insights into the transformative potential of African agency in reshaping current debates about Czech identity, language, race, diversity and belonging.

Chair: Samuel Umoh and Stephanie Rudwick
Panel members: Yomi Akinyemi, Yvonne Victoria Changamuka, Corona Čermák, Augustine Otekhile

FRIDAY, 13 NOVEMBER

PANEL: The "Orient" and Its Czech Perceptions Across Time
Friday, 13.11., 9:00 – 10:30

This panel will offer a presentation of the forthcoming book "Orientální Orient: Vybrané kapitoly z českého orientalismu" intended for the general public, with participation from its authors, Jiří Hubáček and Bronislav Ostřanský. The panel will be held in Czech and will focus primarily on the various "roles" that the "Orient" and its representations have played throughout our history.

Tento panel nabídne představení připravované knihy „Orientální Orient: Vybrané kapitoly z českého orientalismu" určené pro širokou veřejnost, a to za účasti jejích autorů Jiřího Hubáčka a Bronislava Ostřanského. Panel proběhne v češtině a zaměří se především na různé „role", které „Orient" a jeho vyobrazení hrály v průběhu našich dějin.

Chairs: Bronislav Ostřanský and Jiří Hubáček

PANEL: The Coloniality of Integration: problematizing Roma and migrant integration
Friday, 13.11., 11:00 – 12:30

This roundtable brings together multidisciplinary perspectives to critically examine the concept and practice of "integration" in relation to Roma and migrant communities. It will explore how dominant frameworks may reproduce colonial assumptions, hierarchies and gendered and racialized understandings of belonging, while considering alternative ways of thinking about inclusion, equality and participation. The aim of this conversation is to approach issues of belonging in a reflexive way, through perspectives from psychology, critical migration research and practice, to reflect upon who defines integration, whose perspectives are centred, and what it might mean to move beyond integration as a one-directional process.

Chair: Tina Magazzini
Panel members: Iva Dodevska, Sonia Styrkacz, Masha Volynsky

PANEL: Who gets seen? Migration and media representation
Friday, 13.11., 13:30 – 15:00

This roundtable brings together journalists, scholars, influencers and practitioners working in the field of migration to discuss the public and media representation of migration and people with migratory background in Czechia. What is the dominant framing of migration and which perspectives remain marginalised or entirely absent? Whose stories are told, by whom, and under what conditions of visibility and legitimacy? To what extent are migrants positioned as part of "us," and when does the public discourse continue to reproduce a firm distinction between "Czechs" and "immigrants"? Building on these questions, the discussion will examine how media narratives shape public understanding of migration, belonging and difference in contemporary Czechia. The panel will also address the question of self-representation and how to challenge dominant narratives and create alternative spaces of visibility.

Chair: Radka Klvaňová
Panel members: Marie Jelínková, Agnieszka Zogata Kusz, Filip Brychta, Tereza Freidingerová

PANEL: Acts of Care: A Film by Olena Fedyuk
Friday, 13.11., 15:30 – 17:00

Behind closed doors, migrant women care for elderly and frail across Austria — yet their own voices are rarely heard. Supported and organised by a migrant workers' association IG24, caregivers cooperate with InterACT theatre of resistance to transform personal stories into a shared performance, and an act of storytelling. This film shows how art, solidarity, and organising build power from within the community itself.

Chair: Nadya Jaworsky
Panel members: Olena Fedyuk, Alica Synek Rétiová, Petra Ezzeddine