

MORNING BREW TALK WITH

14.10.
2025



9 AM - 11 AM
INSTITUTE OF
ETHNOLOGY, CAS
NA FLORENCI 3,
PRAGUE 1
CONFERENCE ROOM,
5TH FLOOR

DARIA

IN PERSON OR
ONLINE VIA MS TEAMS



KRIVONOS

BACK TO 'NORMAL'? WHITENESS AND LIFE-MAKING AMONG UKRAINIAN MIGRANTS THREE YEARS ON

ORGANIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
MOBILITY AND MIGRATION AT THE IE CAS



Institute of Ethnology
Czech Academy of Sciences

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ABSTRACT: SOME OF THE EARLY SCHOLARLY ANALYSES OF UKRAINIAN DISPLACEMENT AFTER 2022 FRAMED UKRAINIAN REFUGEES AS 'WHITE' AND 'DESERVING' IN CONTRAST TO NON-EUROPEAN ASYLUM SEEKERS. WHILE RACIST EXPULSIONS ACROSS EU BORDERS INDEED REMAINED NORMALIZED, THE NARRATIVES ON UKRAINIANS OFTEN RELIED ON AHISTORICAL, EMERGENCY-DRIVEN, AND EVENT-BASED PERSPECTIVES ON FORCED DISPLACEMENT. NOW, AS THE WAR ENTERED ITS FOURTH YEAR, 'HOST SOCIETIES' ARE FATIGUED BY THE WAR AND ARE BACK TO 'NORMAL'. THIS PRESENTATION CENTERS THE PERSPECTIVES OF UKRAINIAN NATIONALS WHO HAVE LIVED IN WARSAW BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER 2022, TO EXPLORE WHAT THIS 'NORMAL' ENTAILS ONCE THE SENSE OF IMMINENT CRISIS HAS FADED. IT CONCLUDES THAT, AS LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES GROW WEARY, THE STRUCTURES THAT ONCE SUPPORTED UKRAINIAN REFUGEES HAVE RAPIDLY DETERIORATED, REVEALING THE LIMITS OF WHITENESS. THIS EROSION MUST BE UNDERSTOOD WITHIN THE BROADER COLONIALITY OF THE EU MIGRATION-ASYLUM REGIME — ONE NEVER DESIGNED TO SUSTAIN THE LIVES OF LIFE-SEEKERS, EVEN THOSE PORTRAYED AS "RELATIVELY CIVILISED, RELATIVELY EUROPEAN."

DARIA KRIVONOS IS A SOCIOLOGIST AND A FINNISH ACADEMY RESEARCH FELLOW BASED IN THE SWEDISH SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI. HER RESEARCH EXPLORES MIGRATION AT THE INTERSECTION OF RACIALISATION, LABOUR, CLASS AND GENDER. HER BOOK "RACE AND LABOUR AMONG RUSSIAN MIGRANTS: RECLAIMING WHITENESS IN EUROPE" IS FORTHCOMING WITH BRISTOL UNIVERSITY PRESS IN 2026.

THIS LECTURE IS PART OF THE PROJECT "UNEQUAL CITIZENSHIP AND TRANSNATIONAL MOBILISATION OF POLISH, CZECH, AND UKRAINIAN ROMA IN THE FACE OF WAR IN UKRAINE" SUPPORTED BY THE CZECH SCIENCE FOUNDATION, REGISTRATION NO. 24-14388L. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [HTTPS://ROCIT.PL](https://rocit.pl).