

# SOLIDARITY AS CARE AND CONTESTATION: DISPLACED UKRAINIANS AND LOCAL ACTORS IN PRAGUE AND BUDAPEST

Lecture with **Violetta Zentai** (CEU) & **Natalia Dziadyk** (CEU)



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TUESDAY  
14:00 - 16:00 CET

**INSTITUTE OF ETHNOLOGY, CAS**  
NA FLORENCI 3, PRAGUE 1  
CONFERENCE ROOM, 5TH FLOOR

**ONLINE LINK MS TEAMS:**  
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**Abstract:** This public lecture explores the relational and transformative dimensions of solidarity with displaced people from Ukraine in Central Europe, drawing on ethnographic research conducted in Prague and Budapest. It brings together two distinct yet deeply interconnected research projects, rooted in different urban contexts. One of us examines solidarity in grassroots learning spaces in Budapest, co-created by displaced Ukrainians, Ukrainian-speaking expats, inclusive faith-based actors, and local grassroots groups. The other traces the collaborations between displaced Ukrainian activists and Prague-based solidararians engaged in anti-war advocacy and awareness-raising. By bringing these two empirical contexts into conversation, we highlight how solidarity functions as a form of commoning and care – emotional, practical, and political. Across both contexts, solidarity moved beyond acts of help toward co-created spaces that challenged exclusionary structures and redefined belonging, while contestations over language, visibility, and institutional control simultaneously unsettled and transformed these spaces. Bringing together the concepts of contested solidarity, care, and prefigurative politics, we highlight how displaced people and local solidararians co-create and re-negotiate spaces of cooperation, healing, and resistance.