

**Workshop “Minorities and Borders in Europe in the times of *Zeitenwende*”**

**26 March 2026**

**German Historical Institute, Warsaw**

**Venue:** Aleje Ujazdowskie 39, 00-540 Warszawa

**Convenor:** Julia Buyskykh

8.30 – 9.00 Registration

9.00 – 9.15 Welcome

**Magdalena Saryusz-Wolska, Julia Buyskykh** (German Historical Institute, Warsaw).

**9.15 – 10.30 Keynote lecture**

**Fiona Murphy** (Dublin City University)

**Turning Point, Turning Worlds: Nostalgia, Solidarity and the Moral Life of Borders**

**Moderator: Julia Buyskykh** (University College Cork/German Historical Institute Warsaw)

**10.30 – 10.45 Coffee-break**

**10.45 – 12.30 I Panel**

**Chair: Christhardt Henschel** (German Historical Institute Warsaw)

**David Henig** (Utrecht University)

Explosive Borders That Wars Make

**Andrew Tompkins** (German Historical Institute, Warsaw)

Exile, Espionage, and Suspicion: German Fishermen at the Polish Border after World War II

**Jan Musekamp** (German Historical Institute, Warsaw)

Periphery or Center? The Borderland at Eydtkuhnen/Chernyshevskoe, Past and Present

**Discussant: Maciej Górny** (Institute of History, PAS)

**12.30 – 14.00 Lunch**

**14.00 – 15.45 II Panel**

**Chair Michael Zok** (German Historical Institute Warsaw)

**Olena Sobolieva** (The University of Basel)

Invisible Borders: How Silence Shapes Knowledge about Crimean Tatars under Russian Occupation

**Daniel Wutti** (University for Teacher Education in Carinthia)

Trauma and Language in the Alps-Adriatic Region from a Social-Psychological Perspective

**Julia Buyskykh** (University College Cork/German Historical Institute Warsaw)

Traumatic Legacies of Constructing the Polish-Soviet Border: Mixed Neighbourhoods in Subcarpathia

**Discussant:** Laure Delcour (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)

**15.45 – 16.00 – Coffee break**

**16.00 – 17.45 III Panel**

**Chair: Kamila Baraniecka-Olszewska** (Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology, PAS)

**Mathijs Pelkmans** (London School of Economics)

Geopolitical Tremors, Collective Identities, and Naming Practices in the Georgian Turkish Borderland (ca. 1878 – 2025)

**Kamila Fialkowska, Ignacy Jozwiak** (Centre for Migration Research, University of Warsaw)

Border Communities in the Shadow of Protracted Crises: Local Solidarities, Grievances, and the Making of Deservingness in Response to Displaced People from Ukraine

**Tomasz Kosiek** (University of Rzeszów)

Ruptures Within Ukrainian Communities in Poland Prior to the Russian Full-Scale Invasion: The Case of Biały Bór.

**Discussant:** Albert Jawłowski (The Institute of Applied Social Sciences, University of Warsaw)

**17.45 – 18.15 – Final Discussion/Closing Word**

**Kamila Baraniecka-Olszewska** works in the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology, PAS in Warsaw. She studied ethnology and Latin American Studies and her main areas of interest are the anthropology of religion and performance studies. She received her habilitation in 2019 and is the author of several articles on contemporary religiosity and historical reenactments. She has also written the books: *The Crucified: Contemporary Passion Plays in Poland* (De Gruyter, 2017), *World War II Historical Reenactment in Poland: The Practice of Authenticity* (Routledge, 2021) and *Ambient History: Material Traces of World War II in Contemporary Warsaw* (Routledge, 2025). She is the Principal Investigator in a project funded by the National Science Centre, Poland: „Producing medieval history within Roman Catholic and contemporary Pagan religious practices in Poland”.

**Julia Buyskykh** is an anthropologist with a PhD (candidate of sciences) in Ethnology from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv and co-founder of NGO “The Centre for Applied Anthropology” (Kyiv). She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Warsaw in 2015-2016 and was a Fulbright scholar at Pennsylvania State University (2019-2020). Her research focusses on lived religion (Orthodoxy and Catholicism) in Ukraine and Poland, inter-confessional relationships, pilgrimages, memory studies, borderlands, and ethics and empathy in ethnographic research. She is currently writing her second PhD dissertation in Anthropology in the Study of Religions Department at University College Cork, Ireland. Her book “To the West of the Bug: Diaries from the Borderlands” (in Ukrainian) was shortlisted for the Yuri Shevelyov Award (2024) from PEN Ukraine for the Best Collected Work of Non-Fiction Essays.

**Laure Delcour** is an Associate Professor at Sorbonne Nouvelle University in Paris, France. Her research mainly explores how EU norms and policies are adopted and understood within the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy. She studies the interactions between European and Russian policies in Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus, as well as region-building efforts in Eurasia. Delcour has served as a coordinator or researcher on numerous EU- and French-funded research projects related to these themes. Currently, she is working on a project (co-funded by the French ANR and Austrian FWF) examining civil society participation in the EU’s neighbourhood policymaking. She is the author of two books: „The EU and Russia in their “Contested Neighbourhood: Multiple External Influences, Policy Transfer and Domestic Change” (2017) and „Shaping the Post-Soviet Space? EU Strategies and Approaches to Region-Building” (2011).

**Kamila Fialkowska** serves as an assistant professor at the Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw. She earned her PhD in 2018 from the Faculty of Political Studies and International Relations at the same university. She also holds an MA in Political Science from the University of Wrocław (2008) and an MA in Migration Studies from the University of Sussex (2009). Her research explores various facets of emigration from Poland, especially seasonal migration to Germany, post-accession emigration to the UK, and migration of Polish Roma. Her interests include inequalities, religion, family ties, gender, and national and ethnic identities. Kamila is part of the Researchers on the Border collective, which critically examines and documents the humanitarian crisis on the Polish-Belarusian border. She has contributed to multiple projects studying Polish Roma migrations and aims to enhance understanding of how gender, ethnicity, and migration intersect. She is the principal investigator of the ROCIT project, focusing on inequalities faced by Roma regarding citizenship within forced migration scenarios.

**Maciej Górny** has been an assistant professor at the Institute of History, PAS since 2006 (extraordinary professor since 2015). Between 2014 and 2016, he was a professor at the German Historical Institute in Warsaw, and between 2006 and 2010, he was a research associate at the Centre for Historical Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Berlin. Górny’s research interests include Central and Eastern Europe in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the history of historiography, the history of ideas, discourses on race and World War I. His publications include “The Nation Should Come First: Marxism

and Historiography in East Central Europe” (2013, Polish edition 2007, German edition 2011), „Wielka Wojna profesorów (2014)” and „Nasza wojna, vol. 1: Imperia (with Włodzimierz Borodziej, 2014, English edition forthcoming)”. Since 2014, he has also been editor-in-chief of *Acta Poloniae Historica*.

**David Henig** is an Associate Professor of Cultural Anthropology at Utrecht University and serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the journal “History and Anthropology”. He has taught at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London and the University of Kent in Canterbury. His work consistently explores what enables life to persist amid significant societal and ecological upheavals. Currently, he focuses on the social, political, cultural, and environmental consequences of wars, examining emerging planetary perspectives that respond to the unprecedented human-induced changes, especially in relation to war ecologies. David has published on lived religion, with a regional emphasis on the former Yugoslavia, postsocialist Eastern Europe, and West Asia, as well as on topics such as economic anthropology, ethics, and the anthropology of time. Notably, his monograph, “Remaking Muslim Lives: Everyday Islam in Postwar Bosnia and Herzegovina” (2020), is among his contributions.

**Christhardt Henschel** is a historian specialising in medieval and modern history, musicology, and Eastern and Southeast European studies from the University of Leipzig. Between 2006 and 2008, he worked at the Polish Institute in Leipzig, then from 2008 to 2014, he served as a research assistant at the Simon Dubnow Institute for Jewish History and Culture in Leipzig. He earned his PhD in history in 2015 from the University of Leipzig with a dissertation titled “Every Citizen a Soldier: Military, Jews, and the Second Polish Republic between History and the Present.” Since 2015, he has been a researcher at the German Historical Institute in Warsaw. His monograph, “Jeder Bürger, Soldat, Juden und das polnische Militär (1918-1939),” was published in Göttingen in 2017.

**Albert Jawlowski** is an Assistant Professor at the Chair of Methodology of Cultural Studies within the Institute of Applied Social Science at the University of Warsaw. He is a lecturer and field researcher, author of books, academic articles, essays, and popular literature focusing on anthropology and sociology of culture. His main interests include the sociology and anthropology of local communities, as well as civilizational and global influences on localities and phenomena at the intersection of politics and popular culture.

**Ignacy Józwiak** is an associated researcher at the Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw. He holds a BA and an MA in ethnology from the University of Warsaw and a PhD in sociology from the Polish Academy of Sciences. Ignacy has expertise in various aspects of migration from Ukraine. He is interested in the phenomena of transnationality, translocality and migrants’ position in the destination countries’ labour markets. Cultural diversity has long been an important, even if not decisive, context of his fieldwork in the local communities in the Transcarpathia region of Ukraine. Between 2019 and 2023, Ignacy participated in the Transnational Lives of Polish Roma – Migration, Family and Ethnic Boundary-Making in a Changing European Union research project. In 2022, he was involved in activities aimed at improving the situation of Ukrainian Roma forced migrants in Poland (he cooperated with the European Roma Institute of Art and Culture, Towards the Dialogue Foundation and informal, ad hoc groups)

**Tomasz Kosiek** is a sociocultural anthropologist and project coordinator in cultural animation. He is an assistant professor at the Institute of History at the University of Rzeszów and heads the Cultural Studies program. He has received scholarships from the International Visegrad Fund and the National Agency for Academic Exchange. His ethnographic research in Poland and the Eastern Carpathians (Ukraine, Romania) explores ethnicity, social memory, cultural heritage, and local economic strategies. He has

authored several scholarly articles and co-edited two monographs. Kosiek initiated and co-led the project “Broadcasting from the Forgotten European Borderlands: Carpathian Watershed in the Polyphony of Voices,” which resulted in the website [www.wododzial.pl](http://www.wododzial.pl). He also created the ethnographic exhibition “Polyphony of Memory on the Borders of Carpathian Worlds,” showcased at the Ethnographic Museum F. Kotula in Rzeszów (2023) and the STL Folk Art Gallery in Lublin (2024-25).

**Fiona Murphy** is an anthropologist based in the School of Applied Language and Intercultural Studies at Dublin City University, with specialisms in indigenous politics and movements, refugees and mobility studies, and sustainability studies. As an anthropologist of displacement, she works with Stolen Generations in Australia and with people seeking asylum and refuge in Ireland, the United Kingdom, and Türkiye. Fiona has served as secretary of the Anthropological Association of Ireland (2013-2015) and as book review editor for the *Irish Journal of Anthropology* (2011-2014). She is a member of the European Association of Anthropologists and the American Anthropological Association. She was co-coordinator, with Dr Katja Siedel, of the Peace and Conflict Anthropology Network of EASA for three years until 2022. She has co-directed two short films with Maria Loftus — “Ordinary Treasures: Objects from Home” and “Why Wouldn’t You” — exploring creativity, belonging, and solidarity through collaborative storytelling.

**Jan Musekamp** is the deputy director of the German Historical Institute in Warsaw. He graduated with a PhD and a habilitation from European University Viadrina. From 2018 to 2024, he was a visiting associate professor of history at the University of Pittsburgh. Previously, he taught at the European University Viadrina/Germany and was a postdoctoral fellow at Washington University in St. Louis. In his teaching and research, he focuses on East Central European cultural and migration history in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. His main areas of interest are questions of mobility, (forced) migrations, cultural appropriation in Eastern European borderlands, and transnational history. Jan’s first book, “Zwischen Stettin und Szczecin: Metamorphosen einer Stadt von 1945 bis 2005” (2010), focuses on forced migrations and cultural appropriation in the Polish border city of Szczecin between 1945 and 2005. His second book, “Shifting Lines, Entangled Borderlands. Mobilities and Migration along the Prussian Eastern Railroad” (2024), analyses the impact of the railroad on the development of international networks in East Central Europe in the long nineteenth century. His current research project deals with the global migration history of Ukraine’s German speakers.

**Mathijs Pelkmans** is Professor of Anthropology at the London School of Economics and Political Science. A specialist of the Caucasus and Central Asia, his work explores specifically the intersection of power, knowledge, and difference. This is true of his first monograph “Defending the Border: Identity, Religion, and Modernity in the Republic of Georgia” (2006) which traced the social biography of the Iron Curtain, as well as his second monograph “Fragile Conviction: Changing Ideological Landscapes in Urban Kyrgyzstan” (2017) which explored the fate of religious and secular ideologies in contexts of intense uncertainty. His interest in the shadowy sides of knowledge is especially visible in the edited collections “Ethnographies of Doubt” (2013), ‘Wilful Blindness’ (2020, with J. Bovensiepen), “How People Compare” (2022, with H. Walker), and “Misfits: Towards an Analysis of the In-Between” (2026, with G. Cheishvili), and is central in his ongoing work on suspicion and conspiracy theorising

**Olena Sobolieva** is an anthropologist specialising in the Crimean Tatar community, vernacular religion, deportation and repatriation, and urban migration in Ukraine. She holds a PhD (candidate of sciences) in Ethnology (2009) from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv and is a Fellow of the Faculty Fund for Ukrainian Researchers at Risk at the University of Basel (2023–2025), where she taught a course “Displacement, Violence and Belonging” (2025). She is a co-founder and the head of the NGO Centre for Applied Anthropology (Kyiv). Her fieldwork underpins two books in Ukrainian— “Crimean

Tatar Wedding” and „Crimean Tatar Cuisine” (Gourmand Awards 2020), and recent articles in *Etnografia Polska*, *Euxeinos*, and *Comparative Migration Studies*.

**Andrew S. Tompkins** is a historian of transnational relations in 20th-century Europe and a researcher at the German Historical Institute Warsaw, where his work focuses on the history of the German-Polish border during the Cold War. He previously taught at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (2023-2024) and the University of Sheffield (2016-2020), and has held research fellowships at the Universität Erfurt and the Uniwersytet Wrocławski (2020-2022) and the HU-Berlin (2013-2016). He completed his doctorate (DPhil) at the University of Oxford in 2013 after previously obtaining M.A. degrees in History from the University of Chicago (2008) and in Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2005). His first monograph, *Better Active than Radioactive! Anti-Nuclear Protest in 1970s France and West Germany*, was published in 2016 with Oxford University Press, and he has since written extensively on the topic of Germany’s post-1945 borders.

**Daniel Wutti** is a researcher at the University for Teacher Education in Carinthia, Austria, where he is employed as a professor and also leads a study program in multilingualism and transcultural education. Holds a PhD in social psychology and works also as a psychotherapist (Psychodrama) with descendants of NS victims and refugees. Daniel is currently participating as a researcher in the Horizon Fosterlang project (University of Warsaw) and CERV Re4Healing project (University of Primorska, Slovenia). In the past, he led several projects on dialogical remembrance and memory culture in border regions in the Alps-Adriatic Region.

**Michael Zok** is a historian specialising in Eastern European History and Political Science, educated at Philipps-University Marburg and Justus-Liebig-University Gießen. Between 2008 and 2012, he served as an assistant researcher at Herder-Institute, Marburg. He earned his PhD in 2013 from Justus-Liebig University Giessen. During 2013-2014, he received a scholarship from the German-Czech and German-Slovak Commission on History at the German Historical Institute in Warsaw. In 2015, he held a Visiting Fellowship at the same institute. Since February 2020, he has been a researcher at the German Historical Institute Warsaw. His current project, “The Backbone of Heroes: Political Networks and Radicalisation in the Irish and Polish Independence Movements in Late Imperialism,” explores political networks and radicalisation. His publications include books “The Representation of the Extermination of the Jews in Film, Television and Political Journalism of the People's Republic of Poland 1968-1989” (2015) and, as editor, “The Circle of Life. Birth, Dying, and the Liminality of Life in Modern Times” (2024).