

International Conference

EAST-CENTRAL EUROPE AS A LABORATORY FOR NEW FORMS OF MOBILITY

The Conference is the result of the joint cooperation and exchange of researchers currently working on two European projects devoted to the study of international migration and border-making processes in Europe: GlocalEAST and REBOUND. 'GlocalEAST' is a consortium of academics from six partner universities (Comenius University in Bratislava; European University Viadrina in Frankfurt Oder; University of Belgrade; University of Bologna; Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas; University of Zagreb), who collaborate to the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership project "Developing a new curriculum in Global Migration, Diaspora and Border Studies in East-Central Europe" (2020/2023), while 'REBOUND' ([REBOUND - Rethinking Borders in and by the European Union \(unibo.it\)](#)) is an Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Module made by a team of Professors based at the University of Bologna with the aim of discussing and problematizing the compounded changes in borders in the European Union (EU) since the refugee crisis of 2015 through multiple angles and perspectives.

On the occasion of this conference, we will address the complex and interrelated challenges of migration, diaspora and borders, looking at East-Central Europe as a laboratory for disentangling new forms of mobility. East-Central Europe became a "transit area" in the so-called "refugee crisis" in the EU that peaked in 2015, but the region was also a site of migration to Western Europe from the socialist era to the post-Cold War period, lasting until today. More recently, the region has also become a place of immigration - for example, from Ukraine and other European states, but also from as far away as China. The proclamation of independent states after the fall of the Iron Curtain, which in some cases led to war and/or frozen border conflicts (as in Georgia, Moldova, and Kosovo), as well as EU association processes and new global constellations in general, affected migration in different ways. Most importantly, Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine has triggered the upsurge of new relevant migration flows from both Ukraine and Russia to other regions of the world: these phenomena only followed the rising number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ukraine after the start of the war in Donbas already in 2014.

During the Conference, the speakers will address the current, complex and interconnected challenges related to migration, diaspora and borders by offering an inter- and transnational perspective, while at the same time providing a profound knowledge of regional and local processes in East-Central Europe.

The Conference is the final event of the 'Workshop on Migration, Border and Diaspora Studies in East-Central Europe' (<https://www.unibo.it/en/teaching/course-unit-catalogue/course-unit/2022/492616>), joining together students from 5 partner universities (Comenius University in Bratislava; European University Viadrina; University of Zagreb; Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas).

June 15, 2023

Aula 6 – Teaching Hub

online on Teams



09:30 Roundtable

The plurality of migration, diasporas and borders: Challenges and Perspectives in the aftermath of the War in Ukraine

Moderator: Aneta Vilagi (Comenius University in Bratislava)

Viktoriya Sereda (Prisma Ukraine, Berlin), Cartography of belonging, Displacement governance and Production of Borders: the case of Ukraine after 2014

Tsypylma Darieva (ZOiS, Berlin), Georgia's New Wave of Russian migrants after the 2022 War in Ukraine

Frank Düvell (Osnabrück University), The European Union's Policies towards the Eastern Neighborhood and their Impact on Mobility

11:00

Eastern Europe as a Laboratory of migration and borders: Teaching and Learning Experiences in Dialogue

Moderator: Jaroslaw Janczak (European University Viadrina)

Michela Ceccorulli and Marco Puleri (University of Bologna), New Learning Tools for a Transnational Dialogue on Migration and Borders

Maja Osmančević (University of Zagreb), Transit country 'full of life': how Croatia's state-sponsored immigration discourse(s) compare to immigrants' realities

Julie Prune Naureils (University of Bologna), From one crisis management to the other: Refugee camps as an illustration of the two-tier migration policy of the European Union

Il'ja Neljubov (University of Bologna), What Is Home? The Mobilities, Identities, and Politics of Serbia's Russian Émigré Community(-ies) following the Russian Invasion of Ukraine

Alina Gavronina (University of Bologna), Migration, Diasporas and Memory: The Russian Diaspora's in Germany Perception of History and Its Reflection on Migrants' Identity



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UNIVERSITA DI BOLOGNA

DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE POLITICHE E SOCIALI

 **GlocalEAST**



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REBOUND - Rethinking borders in and by the European Union