

Working Lives in War-Time Ukraine

Shifting Geographies, Vulnerabilities, Resistance

22.04.2026

Centre Marc Bloch Berlin



Photo : Hanger granery destroyed by Russian shelling near Onkiiv in the Polohy district, Zaporizhzhia region, Ukraine, on July 8, 2025. ©Dmytro Smolienko Ukrinform/IMAGO



WORKSHOP : 9:00 – 17:45

9:00–9:30 Welcome & Introduction

Jay Rowell, Tatiana Zhurzhenko, Fabien Théofilakis, Susann Worschech

9:30–11:00 Panel 1: Shifting Geographies

Inna Semenenko (Volodymyr Dahl East Ukrainian National University / VNG International): War-induced business relocations: success factors, failures, and local government support (online)

Daria Malchykova (Kherson State University / Virtual Ukraine Institute for Advanced Study (VUIAS)): Demographic Hollowing and multiple stressors of the labour market in front-line de-occupied regions

Sofia Pinedo-Padoch (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology Halle (Saale) / CO-HATY Ivano-Frankivsk): Zirochka: an ethnographic portrait of building during wartime

Chair: **Sabine von Löwis** (ZOIS)

11:00–11:15 Coffee Break

11:15–12:45 Panel 2: To Stay or To Go

Sbigniew Szmyt (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan): Housing-Work Nexus in Wartime: Private Hosting and the Labour Incorporation of Ukrainian Refugees in Provincial Poland

Nataliia Zaika (American University Kyiv): Staying Under Fire: Working-Age Women's Motivations to Stay in Ukraine During the War

Richard Pettifer (University of Melbourne / Cultural Workers Studio, Berlin): Precarious Acceleration: Cultural Labour through the Full-scale invasion

Chair: **Lidia Kuzemska** (University of London)

12:45–13:45 Lunch

13:45–15:30 Panel 3: Socioecological Transformations and Critical Professions Under Fire

Iryna Zamuruieva (University of Oxford / Commons Journal): A figure of a farmer: exploring the agronomic, entrepreneurial and manual labour it takes to grow rapeseed in war-time Ukraine

Milena Komar (National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" / Capitalent Network): The Green Transition's Missing Workers: Human Capital Crisis in Ukraine's Wartime Renewable Energy Sector

Kateryna Filonova (Center for Urban History (Lviv)): Professional Identities, Social Recognition, and Institutional Loyalty among Ukraine's Critical Infrastructure Workers

Sophie Lambroschini (CERCEC (EHESS-CNRS)/Centre Marc Bloch): Repairing pipes and society at war. How the 'golden hands' of Ukraine's infrastructure workers connect hardware, the commons and the state in wartime liminality

Chair: **Benjamin Beuerle** (CMB)

15:30–15:45 Coffee break

15:45–17:15 Panel 4: War-related Vulnerabilities and Resistance

Viktoria Naumenko (FernUniversität in Hagen): Between "Before" and "After": Continuity and Interruption of Work under Occupation (case Vilcha village, Kharkiv region)

Daryna Korkach (Kyiv School of Economics / "Gender in Detail"): Invisible Shifts: Women's Care Work and Wartime Labour in Ukraine since 2022

Inha Kozlova (Ukrainian Catholic University, Lviv): Returning to Civilian Life: Employment Challenges and Pathways for Ukrainian Veterans (online)

Chair: **Simon Schlegel** (Center for Liberal Modernity in Berlin)

17:15 – 17:45 Final discussion & outlook

Chair: **Nathalie Moine** (CMB)

ROUNDTABLE WITH JOURNALISTS : 18:00 – 19:30

How to inform on Ukrainian Lives in Front-Line and occupied areas

Gwara (TBA) (ONLINE), Viktoriia Hubereva (Rubrika, UWEC) (ONLINE), Peggy Lohse (dekoder.org, taz, MOZ/SWP), Valeriia Semeniuk (Tagesspiegel), Olesya Yaremchuk (INDEX) (ONLINE)

Chair: **Susann Worschech**, KIU

Organizing team:

Benjamin Beuerle (CMB), Sabine von Löwis (ZOIS), Nathalie Moine (CMB), Fabien Théofilakis (CMB), Susann Worschech (KIU Competence Network Interdisciplinary Ukrainian Studies Frankfurt (Oder) – Berlin), Tatiana Zhurzhenko (ZOIS)

