



Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen  
Institute for Human Sciences

## Neuankommende IWM Visiting Fellows im November 2024

Das Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen heißt diesen Monat vier neue Gastwissenschaftler:innen willkommen: Gražina Bielousova, Thomas Haigh, Filip Milačić und Katja Petrowskaja. Sie verfolgen während ihrer Zeit am IWM die untenstehenden Projekte.



### Gražina Bielousova

Vilnius University

*November – December 2024*

#### **Out of Left Field: Ukrainian Leftist Feminism in Global Leftist Dialogues**

Gražina Bielousova's research project aims to examine Ukrainian leftist feminists' contribution to articulating Ukraine's right to resistance and self-determination in the context of Russia's full-scale invasion. Since 2022, when the invasion began, leftist feminists from the West and the Global South have tended to see the war as a result of NATO's expansionist politics, either placing the blame on the West or viewing it as a war of mutual fault and shared responsibility, thereby avoiding naming Russia as an aggressor or even absolving it entirely. In these conversations, the voices and contributions of Ukrainian feminists, and especially leftist feminists, have been routinely marginalized and excluded, turning it into another inter-imperial conversation between global power players. This project, grounded in standpoint feminist theory, seeks to amplify the voices of Ukrainian feminists; however, its broader theoretical contribution would extend to digital social activism and feminist organizing, as well as subaltern and decolonial theories.



### Thomas Haigh

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

*November 2024*

#### **Artificial Intelligence. The History of a Brand**

The history of artificial intelligence (AI) is the history of an intellectual brand, now almost seven decades old, that has somehow survived cycles of hype, disillusion, contestation, and redefinition to reemerge stronger than ever. The project aims to historicize artificial intelligence and move beyond the narratives of its proponents and the counterclaims of its historical critics. Because the artificial intelligence brand has been applied over time to fundamentally different approaches, this will be a short history that speaks to many long histories.

The history of artificial intelligence is the history of the unfulfilled promise that computers can be programmed to do the things that make humans uniquely intelligent, a promise that stays unfulfilled in part because we constantly redefine intelligence to exclude things that computers become good at.



**Filip Milačić**

Central European University (CEU) / Friedrich Ebert Foundation

*November – December 2024*

**Why are People Abandoning Democracy for the Nation**

Filip Milačić will conduct research on his new book, *Political Entrepreneurs vs. Democracy: Why are People Abandoning Democracy for the Nation*, which will be published by Cambridge University Press. By examining the experiences of six countries (Serbia, Poland, Hungary, India, Israel, and

Turkey) in which substantial democratic backsliding has recently occurred, the book depicts why, when, and how national identity-related interests affect political behavior. In doing so, the book answers three key questions: How does subversion of democracy in the name of the nation unfold? How do we explain voters' acquiescence to the subversion of democracy by ethno-nationalist elites? Under what circumstances is the subversion of democracy in the name of the nation more likely to succeed?



**Katja Petrowskaja**

Columnist at Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung

*November 2024 – January 2025*

**Shatters**

Katja Petrowskaja has been invited as a guest of the IWM for November, December 2024 and January 2025.

Für Interviewanfragen kontaktieren Sie bitte [iwm-pr@iwm.at](mailto:iwm-pr@iwm.at).

Mehr Informationen zu unseren momentanen Visiting Fellows finden Sie [hier](#).

**Rückfragehinweis:**

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