



Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen  
Institute for Human Sciences

## Neuankommende IWM Visiting Fellows im März 2025

Das Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (IWM) heißt ab März sechs neue Gastwissenschaftler:innen willkommen: Cameron Abadi, Filip Borek, Ognyan Georgiev, Karolina Jesieñ, Yegor Mostovshikov und Assaf Sharon. Während ihrer Zeit am IWM verfolgen sie folgende Projekte.



### Cameron Abadi

Foreign Policy Magazine  
März – April 2025

#### **The Potentially Fragile Future of Dual Citizenship**

Cameron Abadi's time in Vienna will be dedicated to a book project on the future of dual citizenship, and how the tensions inherent in the concept are increasingly becoming exposed in ways that the West is struggling to come to terms with. In a world of shifting borders, dual citizenship has gradually become a benign reality across much of the world, with most states now acknowledging that formal nationality can help immigrants assimilate into their new state, while also allowing them to spread their new culture back home. But there are more disconcerting potential consequences of dual citizenship that are now becoming a factor in Western politics, often in unspoken ways. These include the potential dilution—even the trivialization—of solidarities, as possessing multiple formal attachments to states potentially weakens state-based identities. The book, which is currently in its early stages, will discuss how the tensions associated with dual citizenship are becoming increasingly apparent, while calling on readers to rethink nationhood in alternative ways.



### Filip Borek

Universität Warschau und Karls Universität  
März – Juni 2025

#### **Sense in the Making: Husserl's The Origin of Geometry and the Question of Invention**

*Sense in the Making* analyzes one of Husserl's most enigmatic and, at the same time, frequently discussed texts, namely, *The Origin of Geometry*. Despite the abundance of comments on this text, its theoretical and practical significance remains inexhaustible, ever prompting renewed exploration of the threads emerging within it. One such thread is the problem of invention (Erfindung). The aim of *Sense in the Making* is to demonstrate to what extent the text on the origin of geometry, as well as Husserl's late philosophy in general, can grasp the specificity of the invention and its intersubjective transmission.



**Ognyan Georgiev**

Capital Newspaper  
*März – Mai 2025*

**A Tale of Three Cities**

This project consists of a deep dive into three case studies in Central and Eastern Europe to understand what helped them change the momentum and start attracting talent, instead of losing it. In a region long plagued by depopulation and outwards migration, Gdańsk, Cluj-Napoca and Plovdiv are examples of how The East can soon compete with The West. They are also a proof of why cities, not countries, will be on the forefront of the global battle for talent.



**Karolina Jesień**

University of Nottingham  
*März – Juni 2025*

**An Anti-Nationalist Organic Wholeness? Walter Benjamin and the Body of Humankind at the Turn of the 1920s**

This project builds on undeveloped tropes in Karolina Jesień's PhD thesis and aims to analyze Walter Benjamin's early post-WWI writings (1918–1923). Contrary to some contemporary readings (Friedlander 2012; Barbisan 2017; Jay 2023), Benjamin's notion of the collective body does not oppose the organicist vocabulary of right-wing thinkers such as Spengler, Jünger, and Klages but intercepts its core ideas for a different understanding of politics. This proposed re-reading of Benjamin will focus on his post-WWI attempts at thinking collectivity, both in relation to the bodily human constitution and on a level that would escape its fascist (ab)use.



**Yegor Mostovshikov**

Unabhängiger Journalist  
*März – Mai 2025*

**Identity Looted: Tracing Ukraine's Lost Art in Russia's Black Hole**

For more than three decades, members of the international art community have suspected Russia to be a “black hole of art crime.” Icons, ancient books, manuscripts, engravings, medals, orders, old musical instruments and jewelry have allegedly been stolen. Museums, private collections, churches, and library almanacs, they claim, are robbed. The market is flooded with forgeries: some estimates suggest up to 90 percent of Russian artists' paintings are fakes. All stolen art pieces eventually resurface somewhere—that's the law of the market. For years, this shadowy underbelly of the art world was one of Yegor Mostovshikov's journalistic beats. And now he is working on “Identity Looted”—an investigation into the systematic looting of over 480,000 Ukrainian artworks by Russia, which would be the largest art heist since the Nazis. Creative narrative non-fiction reporting, in-depth research, expert interviews, OSINT, and tracing the fate of Ukraine's stolen treasures aim to reveal the extent of this fraudulent activity.



**Assaf Sharon**

Universität Tel Aviv

März – August 2025

**Faith and Flag: Religious Nationalism in the Age of Populism**

The gods are once again afoot in the public square. Across the globe, a toxic mixture of religion and nationalism is upending liberal conventions. In the United States, Christian nationalists have reshaped both the Republican Party and American politics. In Europe, reactionary populists champion Christianity as a political cause and a national ethos. In India, the ethno-religious nationalism of Hindutva is the official ideology of the ruling party. Similar trends are visible in many other countries. Repudiating the separation between religion and state, these religious nationalists do not regard the connection between faith and flag as a conjunction but a fusion—their faith is nationalist and their nationalism is religious. Assaf Sharon's book project investigates the ideology of religious nationalism and liberal responses to it, with particular attention to Jewish religious nationalism in the State of Israel.

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

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**Rückfragehinweis:**

Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen

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[iwm-pr@iwm.at](mailto:iwm-pr@iwm.at)