

## **Migration, Resilience, and War: How Do Ukrainians Narrate Survival?**

*Friday, 5 June 2026 09:35 (15 minutes)*

This presentation seeks to explore the ways in which resilience and survival are represented in the testimonies collected in the edited volume *100 Days of War: Through the Eyes of the Ukrainian Academia (2023)*, focusing especially on the ethical and emotional dilemmas surrounding migration, staying, and leaving. Using qualitative research methods and the analysis of social-autobiographical narratives, the study highlights several key dimensions of wartime experience. The findings suggest that resilience is often expressed through ordinary practices that recreate a sense of order and continuity, such as obtaining food, organising temporary shelter, or caring for children. Silence emerges as an important indicator of danger, fear, and disrupted normality. At the same time, decisions related to migration or remaining in place appear shaped by moral responsibility, attachment to community, and the support of volunteer networks. The narratives further reveal how ideas of justice, education, and collective future provide individuals with symbolic frameworks that preserve hope and continuity of identity. The main findings reveal that resilience in wartime of Ukraine should be understood not only as an individual capacity, but also as a socially grounded process sustained through community support structures and shared normative values.

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