



## **Academic Conversation**

—

**Thursday, 14 March 2024**

**Navigating Networks in Migration: Integration, Transnationalism,  
and Methodological Perspectives**

—

**Marta Kindler, University of Warsaw**

**Janine Dahinden, University of Neuchâtel, nccr – on the move**

**Moderation: Eva Fernandez, University of Geneva**

16:00 – 17:30

This conversation will be held in person at the University of Neuchâtel, Av. du 1er-Mars 26, Room B32  
and on WEBEX ([at this link](#)).

## **Abstract**

Featuring Professor Janine Dahinden, an expert in transnational migration studies, and Dr. Marta Kindler, specializing in migration networks for the Ukrainian population in Europe, this academic conversation will delve into the critical role of networking across the migration process. From the pre-migration phase, where personal relationships can catalyze the decision to migrate, to the transit phase, emphasizing networks' role in overcoming migration challenges, and finally the post-migration phase, focusing on how networks aid in social integration and access to economic opportunities.

A key theme is the importance of transnational links, underscoring how migrants maintain connections across countries, influencing their identity and resource mobilization in the migration process. The conversation will also address the strategic use of networking, highlighting its role in shaping migration experiences based on individual agency and diverse migrant profiles. It will examine how networks facilitate both integration into new societies and economic advancement for migrants.

Moreover, the discussion will confront the methodological divergences in migration studies, specifically the qualitative versus quantitative approaches in analyzing networks. This segment aims to illuminate the strengths and limitations of each method, advocating for a more integrated approach to capture the complex dynamics of migration networks comprehensively.

Overall, this event aims to deepen the understanding of networks in migration, offering valuable insights for academics, policymakers, and practitioners. It seeks to foster a nuanced perspective on networking's role in migration, emphasizing its strategic significance and varied impacts across different migrant experiences.

## **About the Speakers**

Marta Kindler works as an assistant professor at the Faculty of Applied Social Sciences and Resocialisation and the Centre of Migration Research at the University of Warsaw. She holds a BA in Sociology (1997) from McGill University, an MA in Society and Politics (1998) from the Central European University and a PhD (2012) from the Faculty of Social and Cultural Studies, European University Viadrina, Frankfurt, Oder. She is the co-editor of the book „Ukrainian Migration to the European Union: Lessons from Migration Studies” (2016) and the author of “A Risky Business? Ukrainian Migrant Women in Warsaw’s Domestic Work Sector” (2011). She is a Board Member of the IMISCOE Standing Committee “Reflexive Migration Studies”.

Janine Dahinden is Professor of Transnational Studies at the ‘Maison d’analyse des processus sociaux’ (MAPS) of the University of Neuchâtel. Her research, anchored in what has been called reflexive migration studies, develops theoretical and methodological approaches which can overcome the nation-state- and ethnicity-centred epistemology that still largely informs migration studies. She is interested in processes of (de)migrantization and racialization in their intersections with gender and class. Most recently, she became interested in how knowledge is produced within migration studies and the ethical, political and epistemological consequences that go with it.

### **Selected Publications Marta Kindler**

- Kindler, Marta (in print). “Beyond the ‘strong’ and ‘weak’ ties divide: the role of networking in Ukrainian migrant women’s employment” in Vytis Ciubrinskas, Nina Glick Schiller and Jonathan Hill (Eds.) Transnational Mobility in the Americas and Europe: Moral Economy of Betwixt and Between. Berghahn.
- Kindler, Marta & M. Szulecka (2022). Messy Arrangements? A Social Networks Perspective on Migrant Labor Brokerage: The Case of Ukrainian Migration to Poland. Polish Sociological Review, 220(4), 457-484.
- Kindler, Marta (2021). Networking in contexts: qualitative social network analysis' insights into migration processes. Global Networks. <https://doi.org/10.1111/glob.12310>
- Kindler, Marta & K. Wójcikowska-Baniak (2019). (Missing) Bridging Ties and Social Capital? The Creation and Reproduction of Migrants’ Social Network Advantages: The Case of Ukrainian Migrants in Poland. Central and Eastern European Migration Review, 8 (1), 95-116. 10.17467/ceemr.2019.02

### **Selected Publications Janine Dahinden**

- Dahinden, Janine, Fischer, Carolin & Menet, Joanna. (2021). Knowledge production, reflexivity, and the use of categories in migration studies: Tackling challenges in the field. Ethnic and Racial Studies, 44(4), 535-554.
- Dahinden, Janine (2017). Transnationalism reloaded: the historical trajectory of a concept. Ethnic and Racial Studies, 40(9), 1474-1485.
- Dahinden, Janine (2016). A plea for the ‘de-migranticization’ of research on migration and integration. Ethnic and Racial Studies, 39(13), 2207-2225.
- Dahinden, Janine (2013). Cities, migrant incorporation, and ethnicity: A network perspective on boundary work. Journal of International Migration and Integration, 14(1), 39-60.
- Dahinden, Janine (2009). Are we all transnationals now? Network transnationalism and transnational subjectivity: the differing impacts of globalization on the inhabitants of a small Swiss city. Ethnic and Racial Studies, 32(8), 1365-1386