

Soziologisches Werkstattgespräch

January 21st, 2026, 13:00-14:30,
Meeting room, 4th floor, hybrid

Identity (Re-)Construction 1.5: Exploring new perspectives on former child refugees' identity (re-)construction in memory and art

Slađana Adamović & Jelena Jokić-Bornstein

Thirty years after the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the FWF project "IRI.S – Creating Identity out of War and Migration" (2025–2028, PI Ana Mijić) examines the long-term effects of early experiences of war and displacement on the identities of former child and youth refugees, the so-called '1.5 generation'. Drawing on Berger & Luckmann's sociology of knowledge, the project investigates how social context shapes identity negotiation in two distinct 'host societies': Vienna and Chicago.

This 'double feature' Werkstattgespräch presents the development of two doctoral dissertations within the project IRI.S, which explore new perspectives on post-crisis identity (re-)construction by focusing on memory negotiation and artistic expression. Slađana Adamović bridges sociology of knowledge and memory studies (Halbwachs, Hirsch) to explore how former child refugees negotiate personal and inherited memories (postmemory) of war and displacement. Jelena Jokić-Bornstein brings Alfred Schütz's phenomenology of the lifeworld into dialogue with Hartmut Rosa's theory of resonance to examine how experiences of war and displacement (in-)form artistic expression, what role artistic practices play in the negotiation of identity and belonging, and what alternative world-relations emerge from these artistic positions. The presentations will be held in German and English respectively.

Slađana Adamović is a pre-doctoral researcher in the IRI.S team, where her dissertation investigates memory negotiation among former child refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina in Vienna and Chicago. Her previous research focused on migration from intersectional and gender perspectives. She holds a Master's degree in Social Anthropology and is co-founder of the [Museum of Survivors](#), Austria's first digital archive of childhood experiences of war and displacement.

Jelena Jokić-Bornstein is a pre-doctoral researcher in the IRI.S team, pursuing a dissertation on artistic practices of the 1.5 generation of Bosnian war migrants in Vienna and Chicago. She specializes in qualitative research on (post-conflict) diasporas and migrant cultural production. She holds Master's degrees in Development Studies (University of Vienna) and Architecture (TU Wien).

The **Werkstattgespräch** will take place on **January 21st, 2026, 13:00-14:30, hybrid and in English.**

On-site: Meeting room, 4th floor (Institute of Sociology)

Online-Meeting-ID: 676 2657 5457, Kenncode: 039970

Koordination: Agnes Dürr & Johanna Kiermaier
Eine Initiative des Mittelbaus, Institut für Soziologie
<http://www.soz.univie.ac.at/rising-scholars/>

