

# THE NEW SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

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## Call for Papers

### Decolonizing Eastern European Studies - Knowledge as an Object of Inquiry

May 13, 2022 (virtual)

Calls for decolonization have become a mainstream politics in contemporary academia: rethinking epistemology, destabilizing the canon, and challenging existing institutional structures. Eastern European Studies is no exception and numerous scholars wish to work toward a more relational, hybrid, and plural vision of the field. But what does it mean to decolonize Eastern European Studies? What is to be gained by decolonizing Eastern European Studies? How can this intellectual project advance our understanding of the region?

This interdisciplinary workshop invites proposals from **advanced PhD students** who are currently working on a publishable piece or a dissertation and are interested in rethinking epistemology and exploring the systems of knowledge production in and about Eastern Europe broadly understood. Some of the topics may include:

- the role of scholarship produced in the region and its languages for rethinking the interdisciplinary field of Eastern European Studies,
- the relation between knowledge production and politics,
- prospects and challenges of decolonial methodology,
- the role of the canon in sustaining systems of knowledge control,
- epistemological tensions and contradictions in studying the region,
- the relation between memory and history in decolonizing Eastern European Studies,
- access to and dissemination of knowledge,
- knowledge production in the moment of political and social change,
- challenges and prospects of comparative research in and outside the region.

The **workshop** will be organized in the format of intensive panel discussions of pre-circulated papers led by leading scholars in the field that will be closed to the public. It will be followed by a keynote panel including invited speakers and selected participants. Applicants should submit an **abstract** and **short bio** to [deesproject@newschool.edu](mailto:deesproject@newschool.edu) by **March 20, 2022**.

Selected participants must submit their papers (approx. 15 pages) two weeks before the workshop. A publication of the presented papers is planned.

The organizer of the workshop is the Decolonizing Eastern European Studies Group with the support of the Dean's Office of The New School for Social Research, New York City.

More information about DEES can be found: <https://deesproject.org>.