

FATIGUE

Comparative Analysis Workshop

MINA P BAGINOVA – ESR 15



Project Title

Post-1989 Social Movements in East Central Europe: Activist Cultures of Contemporary Feminist Movements and Women's Mobilizations in Poland and Slovakia

Research Question

*What are the **feminist activist cultures in CEE** today? How do the **contemporary feminist movements** react to the emergence of **anti-gendered politics**? How the emergence of anti-gender movements and anti-gender discourse of the populist right politics challenge the feminist movements in their **strategy building towards systematic** change in Poland and Slovakia and in the CEE region at large?*

Methodology: Multi-Sited Ethnography

Principles:

1. **On-site “thick”** study of activist cultures and their social life **over prolonged** period of time
2. Study of **multi-layered relationships** of various actors and understanding of social movements as a *process*
3. **Main ethnographic** methods: participant observation and in-depth interviews

2019/2020

Sept./Oct.

Nov./Dec.

Jan./Feb.

Mar./Apr.

May/Jun.

Jul./Aug.

Sept./Oct.

- Interviews
- Focus groups
- Observations

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- Observations

- Interviews
- Digital observations

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- Digital observations

Multi-sited Ethnography: CEE Social Movements in Globalized World

“groups are no longer tightly territorialized, spatially bounded, historically unselfconscious, or culturally homogenous”, “there is an urgent need to focus on the cultural dynamic of what is now called deterritorialization. The task of ethnography now becomes the unravelling of a conundrum: what is the nature of locality as lived experience, in a globalized, deterritorialized world?”

“the field is not only multi-local, it is also translocal, in the sense that it is necessary to clarify the nature of relations between localities. Some people might claim that while the analytical entity is translocal, the fieldwork is multi-local, quite simply because one is always somewhere”.

Access to the Field: Engaged Anthropology

“They gave me an ultimatum: the next time I came back to the Alto de Curuzeiro it would be on their terms, that is as a companheira, ‘accompanying’ them as I had before in the struggle and not just sitting idly by taking fieldnotes”.

“what impressed me most about so many of those I came to know and respect during my time in the field was their fierce dedication to egalitarian, collaborative processes, which demanded of me a politically engaged mode of ethnographic research”.

“activism is not a spectator’s sport.”

Ethnography of Social movements: Social Movements as a *Process*

“processes of becoming”

“active realities constantly in making”

“a work of collective encounters between activists, organizers, allies, opponents and the broader public”

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