

# CARING TO SURVIVE, SURVIVING TO CARE

## GENDERED SURVIVAL PRACTICES, SOCIAL REPRODUCTION AND CIRCUITS OF VIOLENCE IN UKRAINE

### Researchers

PI: Elisabeth Prügl

Project coordinator: Agnieszka Fal-Dutra Santos

Administrative assistant: Gabriele Hauf

### Additional information

Timeline: March 2024 - February 2027

Funder: Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) within the Solution-oriented Research for Development (SOR4D) programme

### Description

The project examines the different types of violence experienced by diverse Ukrainians – from the violence of war and Russian invasion, to the economic violence unleashed by structural and austerity reforms – and the survival strategies they have adopted. Using a feminist political economy lens, it sheds light on everyday strategies that are often invisible, including practices of social reproduction: the daily, often unpaid work of caring for individuals and communities. It examines how these coping strategies are shaped by gender and other intersectional identities, and influenced by national and international policies.

The project adopts a participatory action research approach, using a combination of fieldwork in two oblasts in Ukraine, policy analysis, and a prefigurative workshop, in order to make a two-fold contribution. On the one hand, it provides a concrete illustration of feminist conceptualisations of violence, and a deeper understanding of the place of social reproduction in the war and the war economy. On the other hand, it addresses an urgent practical need for information and analysis that will inform more gender-responsive and feminist policy-making and recovery planning in Ukraine.

The project is carried out by an interdisciplinary team that brings together academic, policy experts and practitioners, and in partnership with the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Kharkiv Karazin University and the Center for Social and Labour Research in Ukraine.

