

Jitka Králová

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Education

UCL School of Slavonic and Eastern European Studies, United Kingdom

Started in 2022 **PhD in Social Anthropology**

- Thesis title: 'Between Debt and Democracy' Financialization, Overindebtedness and Populism in Czech Deindustrialized Regions

Supervisors: Professor Jan Kubik and Dr Nicolette Makovicky

University of Oxford, United Kingdom

2019-2020 **Master of Science in Social Anthropology**

- Distinction
- Dissertation title: 'Whose city is it anyway?' Tourism, Gentrification and Right to the City in Prague

Supervisor: Professor David Gellner

SOAS, University of London, United Kingdom

2015-18 **Bachelor of Arts in Social Anthropology and Development Studies**

- First Class Honours
- Dissertation title: Exploring the relationship between exilic nationalism, collective memory, and identity. An ethnography of the Bir Tibetan Settlement

Supervisor: Professor Marloes Janson

Selected Work Experience and Research Fellowships

Oct 2024-present **Research Fellow**, Institute of Ethnology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

Research project: MEMPOP
Funded by European Research Council
Principal Investigator: Dr Johana Wyss

The project adopts a bottom-up approach to investigate the everyday mnemonic practices and populist sentiments in the post-imperial, transnational borderlands. I participate in it with my doctoral research, take part in weekly meetings and discussions and explore the role of memory in populist mobilization.

Sep 2023-Dec 2023 **Teaching and Research Fellow**, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, Czechia
Supervisor: Dr Jiří Kocián

Teaching at the Department of Russian and East European Studies (Institute of International Studies) for one academic term. As part of my role, I compiled and delivered a series of guest lectures focused on anthropological theory and methods. As part of the Institute's research seminar series, I gave a presentation about my doctoral research.

May 2023-Jun 2023 **Doctoral Research Fellow**, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany

Research group: "Peripheral Debt: Money, Risk and Politics in Eastern Europe"
Supervisor: Dr Marek Mikuš

Invited to collaborate with the Emmy Noether research group, participating in discussions about the dynamics and issues pertinent to the cycles of peripheral debt in Central and Eastern Europe. As part of the fellowship, we exchanged research insights from our respective fields. Furthermore, I gave a public talk on the topic of personal indebtedness and political mobilisation in the Czech Republic.

Feb 2021-2023

Ethnographer, UCL - University College London, UK

Research project: POPREBEL – Populism in Central and Eastern Europe
Funded by Horizon 2020
Principal Investigator: Professor Jan Kubik

The project investigates the rise of populism in Central and Eastern Europe. My responsibility was in designing and overseeing ethnographic research, investigating how in the Czech Republic, the socio-economic consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic have shaped people's political choices and beliefs, focusing on rising populist sentiments. I was responsible for writing up the analysis of the Czech section of the report.

Nov 2021- Sep 2022

Research Fellow, Ji.hlava International Documentary Film Festival, Czech Republic

Research project: 'The Limits to Growth'
The Inspiration Forum LAB

This was an interdisciplinary research-based art program designed to provide a space for collaboration between artists and scientists. My group addressed the 2022 topic 'The Limits to Growth' through an ethnographic exploration of the phenomenon of coal mining in the deindustrialising region of Ostrava (CR). The project addressed the limitations of the green transition as perceived by our participants in the region. The outcome was a short documentary film.

Awards and Scholarships

- May 2022 **UCL SSEES Foundation Scholarship (£21,000 - 3 years)** awarded to academically excellent applicants applying to study a full time PhD research programme within University College London's (UCL) School of Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES).
- Sep 2021 **Research prize (£430)** awarded by Ji.hlava International Documentary Film Festival, following my selection to participate in the Inspiration Forum LAB's interdisciplinary project.
- Sep 2019 **Full postgraduate scholarship (£18,000)** awarded by the Bakala Foundation Scholarship programme.
- Jun 2017 **Undergraduate Research Award (£600)** from SOAS, University of London
Awarded a grant to conduct ethnographic fieldwork for my undergraduate thesis.
- Sep 2013 **Jan Barta Prize** awarded by The English College in Prague
The prize is given to a student who uses his/her special talents in an unconventional way but one that suggests future leadership qualities and success.

Selected Conference Presentations and Talks

- Jul 2024 Paper title: **Deindustrialization, personal debt and political disillusionment**, EASA 2024, Barcelona Spain
- Apr 2024 Paper title: **The online mobilisation in times of the COVID-19 pandemic – prospect for populist solidarity?**, BASEES 2024, Cambridge UK
- Jun 2023 Talk title: **Between Debt and Democracy: Over-Indebtedness and Contestation in Czech Deindustrialized Regions**, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Halle Germany
- Jun 2023 Paper title: **"Precarious living in 'cardboard states'" An introduction to the dynamics of the growing popularity of populist movements in CEE**, 2022 ASEES Annual Convention, Chicago USA

Publications

Davidov, V., Kubik, J., Cottica, A., Góralaska, M., Kocian, J., Králová, J., Mole, R., Rivera-Cardona, S., Sauerborn, D., Sloboda, Z., & Szymański, W. (2022). A large-scale ethnography of populism in the Czech Republic, Germany and Poland (Version 1). Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7494327>