

2023 Series on Ukraine

"Political Self-Organization in Ukraine: From Euromaidan to Russia's Invasion"

A talk by Emily Channell-Justice



At the end of 2013, with a pro-Russian government turning its back on Ukraine's aspirations to join the European Union, Ukrainians gathered in protest in what would become the Euromaidan Revolution. With the illegal annexation of Crimea and the Russia-backed separatist movements inciting war in the Donbas in 2014, civil society networks have remained critical as Ukraine fought for its democracy and territorial integrity. When Russia invaded on February 24 and brought the full force of its army upon Ukraine, the smaller and lesser-armed country responded with unimaginable tenacity. In this talk, Dr. Channell-Justice discusses how the phenomenon of self-organization – that if something needs to be done and you have the capacity to do it, you should do it – was embraced during the Euromaidan, shaped Ukrainians' attitudes toward their relationship with the government and their communities, and established trust networks Ukrainians were able to build on to meet urgent needs in 2022.

TUESDAY

February 14

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

East View Room

Close-Hipp Bldg.

8th Floor



Dr. Emily Channell-Justice is the Director of the Temerty Contemporary Ukraine Program at the Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University. A sociocultural anthropologist, she is the author of an ethnography, *Without the State: Self-Organization and Political Activism in Ukraine* (2022), and an edited volume, *Decolonizing Queer Experience: LGBT+ Narratives from Eastern Europe and Eurasia* (2020).



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