

Webinar on the Impact of the Russian War on Ukraine's Older Population

Come join GSA's Interest Group on International Aging and Migration
for a combined short lecture series and discussion

May 26th at 12 am EDT;

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtce2orTooGdHwaUs5Zhi8uhy6pymhvnvll>



Dr. Igor V. Persidsky (MD, PhD) is a fourth-generation board-certified physician in full-time house calls private geriatric practice, Long Beach, CA. He has close personal and professional ties to Ukraine especially in times of ongoing Russian-Ukrainian war, which started on February 24, 2022. Dr. Persidsky graduated with honors from Notional Medical University in Kiev, Ukraine (1981) and also has Ph.D. in Cardiology (1987). After graduating from medical school Dr. Persidsky spent 9 years at the geriatric research hospital of the Institute of Gerontology in Kiev (National Institute

on Aging of Ukraine and of the former USSR), first as a resident and fellow and later as junior and senior scientific researcher and attending physician. His research interests involved geriatric cardiology and lipid metabolism, and later social gerontology. The latter brought him in 1990 as Visiting Professor to the Department of Social Work at California State University, Long Beach, where he started the research project on elderly immigrants from the Soviet Union and had been actively involved in work of The Gerontological Society of America eventually together with Dr. Allen Glicksman becoming a co-founder of the informal interest group on International Aging and Migration. At the same time Dr. Persidsky pursued medical career eventually completing Internal Medicine residency at LAC+USC Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA and obtaining American Board of Internal Medicine certification (1996). He has been still actively involved in geriatric research projects and presented at various conferences. During our webinar, Dr. Persidsky will give a short presentation entitled 'Elderly Ukrainians during Russian War in the Ukraine'.



Dr. Jolanta Perek-Białas is Associate Professor at the Jagiellonian University, Cracow in Poland. She is the Director of the Center for Evaluation and Public Policies Analysis, and works also at the Institute of Statistics and Demography of the Warsaw School of Economics. Her research interest focuses on socio-economic situation of older persons in Central and Eastern Europe, including active ageing, ageism in the labour market policy, old age social exclusion and care for older persons. Dr. Perek-Białas has published extensively on these topics. The following are two of her most recent publications: Vanhuyse, P. & Perek-Białas, J. (2021) The Political Demography of Missed Opportunity: Populations and Policies in a Younger but Faster-Ageing East Central Europe,

1990–2040 in *Global Political Demography* (pp. 373-399) (Palgrave Macmillan, Cham), and Vidovićová, L., Alisch, M., Kümpers, S. & Perek-Białas, J. (2021). Ageing and Caring in Rural Environments: cross-national insights from Central Europe in *Social Exclusion in Later Life* (pp. 223-236) (Springer,

Cham). She has been the PI for various research projects on gerontological topics as well as an expert consultant to policy makers at the local (city of Cracow), regional (Małopolska, awarded by the Bronze Medal for Achievements in Senior Policy for region, 2018), national (e.g. Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy) and international levels (e.g. OECD, EC, UNECE, and in 2021 for ASEM's 20th Seminar on Human Rights for Older Persons). She was a Polish representative in two research networks funded by the European COST ACTIONS initiatives: *Ageism: A Multinational, Interdisciplinary Perspective* and *Reducing Old-Age Social Exclusion: Collaborations in Research and Policy*. Dr. Perek-Bialas has also been supervisor in a Marie-Curie Skłodowska Action – Innovative Training Network project EuroAgeism (Coordinator: Prof. L. Ayalon), and is currently involved in *Extending Working Lives project (EIWO)* and in *City&Co: Older Adults Co-Creating a Sustainable Age-friendly City*. Dr. Perek-Bialas' lecture for this webinar is entitled 'Support for Older Persons in Ukraine and for those who came to Poland: Some Examples'



Alistair Hunter, PhD is a Senior Lecturer (Associate Professor) in Health and Social Policy at the University of Glasgow, which he joined in 2018. Prior to that he held research positions at the University of Edinburgh, the University of St Andrews and the David Hume Institute think-tank. From 2015 to 2016 he was a visiting fellow at the French National Institute for Demographic Studies in Paris. Alistair will contribute to this webinar with a lecture entitled: 'The Evidence Base on Older Displaced People: What we Know, What we Need to Know, and What is Most Relevant for Older Ukrainians'. Alistair's research interests lie at the intersection of ageing, international migration and displacement, deploying mainly qualitative methods. In 2013, his

PhD on older migrant workers in France was awarded the Maria Baganha Prize for best PhD in the field of migration studies, presented by IMISCOE, Europe's largest network of migration scholars. A monograph based on that PhD – *Retirement Home? Ageing Migrant Workers in France and the Question of Return* – was published open access by Springer in 2018. The book received an honorable mention for the 2018 Khayrallah Prize in Migration Studies, and was shortlisted for the British Sociological Association's Philip Abrams Memorial Prize in 2019.

More recently, Alistair has focused on ageing in contexts of forced displacement. He is currently undertaking research on the experiences and needs of older refugees in Scotland, funded by the Scottish Refugee Council. Alistair is co-editor (with Prof. Sandra Torres) of the *Handbook of Migration & Ageing* (forthcoming, Edward Elgar Press), contributing a chapter entitled 'Older Refugees and Displaced People.'