



Seminar

## EWA MORAWSKA

Fellow, SCAS.

Professor of Sociology, University of Essex

*Exploring Ground-level Multiculturalism in the Past:  
Renaissance Venice and Enlightenment-era Sankt Petersburg*

Tuesday, 20 March, 11:15 a.m.

In the Thunberg Lecture Hall  
SCAS, Linneanum, Thunbergsvägen 2, Uppsala  
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## ABOUT EWA MORAWSKA

Ewa Morawska holds MA degrees in Sociology and History from the University of Warsaw and a Ph.D. in Sociology from Boston University. Between 1984 and 2003, she was affiliated with the Departments of Sociology and History at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and since 2004, she has been Professor of Sociology at the University of Essex. She has had research fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, Lichtenberg-Kolleg - the Göttingen Institute for Advanced Study, and the Max-Planck-Institut zur Erforschung multireligiöser und multiethnischer Gesellschaften in Göttingen.

Morawska's fields of specialization are social theory, the comparative historical sociology of international migration and inter-group relations, and ethnographic research methods. Her recent publications include "The *Verstehende* Approach in Migration Research: Questions It Invites and Answers It Accommodates" (forthcoming); "Promising Directions of Future Migration Research: Three Suggestions" (forthcoming); *International Migration Research: Constructions, Omissions, and Promises of Interdisciplinarity* (co-edited with M. Bommes, 2005); "Composite Meaning, Flexible Ranges, and Multi-Level Conditions of Conviviality: Exploring the Polymorph," *European Journal of Cultural Studies* (2014); "Toward a Reconciliation of the Structuration and Morphogenesis Theories of Social Processes 'Tested' in the Eventful Historical Analysis", *Current Perspectives in Social Theory* (2013); "Multiculturalism from Below: Reflections of an Immigrant Ethnographer", *Debating Multiculturalism in the Nordic Welfare States* (2013); "Ethnicity as a Primordial-Situational-Constructed Experience: Different Times, Different Places, Different Constellations", *Studies in Contemporary Jewry* (2011).

During her stay at SCAS, Morawska will work on a project comparing ground-level multiculturalism or everyday inter-group relations in three cities in the past: Renaissance Venice, Enlightenment-era St. Petersburg, and Wilhelmine Berlin.

## ABSTRACT

I present selected findings of my examination of the functioning of 'ground level multiculturalism' or everyday inter-group relations in Renaissance Venice and the Enlightenment-era St. Petersburg. The former was, I argue, a pragmatic kind of conviviality whereby the criterion of usefulness of pacific inter-group exchanges for the city's and its residents' economic well-being and the public order, embedded in the local legal system the operation of its government, informed daily relations among residents. In contrast, St. Petersburg's multiculturalism was a mandated one, imposed from above by the ruler's fiat with a few stimuli of amicable partnerlike coexistence in the population involved in this experiment. For each city, I present illustrations of the maximum- and minimum-ends of the specific types of their ground-level multiculturalisms spectrums.