

Does the Method Fit? Exploring Diverse Methodologies of Research in South East Europe

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Much has been said and written about the challenges hegemonic theoretical frameworks face when applied in 'non-Western' contexts. However, not much attention has been paid to the challenges hegemonic methodologies and methods encounter. This roundtable brings together a diverse group of emerging and advanced scholars of international relations whose '(non-)traditional' research methodologies aim to unearth the 'worlding' potential of Southeast Europe. Ethnographic research on war tourism, poetry as an exploratory method, uncovering peace-seeking from below through interviews, and bottom-up (critical) discourse approaches to identity and memory building are just some of the '(non-)traditional' methodologies and methods of international relations assembled under this roundtable's auspices. Most of them were chosen to counter the hegemonic narratives and the top-down research practices that prevent a more comprehensive knowledge production of the region. However, are these methods and methodologies the perfect fit for Southeast Europe? This is the main question we want to address and discuss in our roundtable and therefore we invite papers tackling similar themes in a multitude of different methods to explore what method may and may not do for research in Southeast Europe.

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