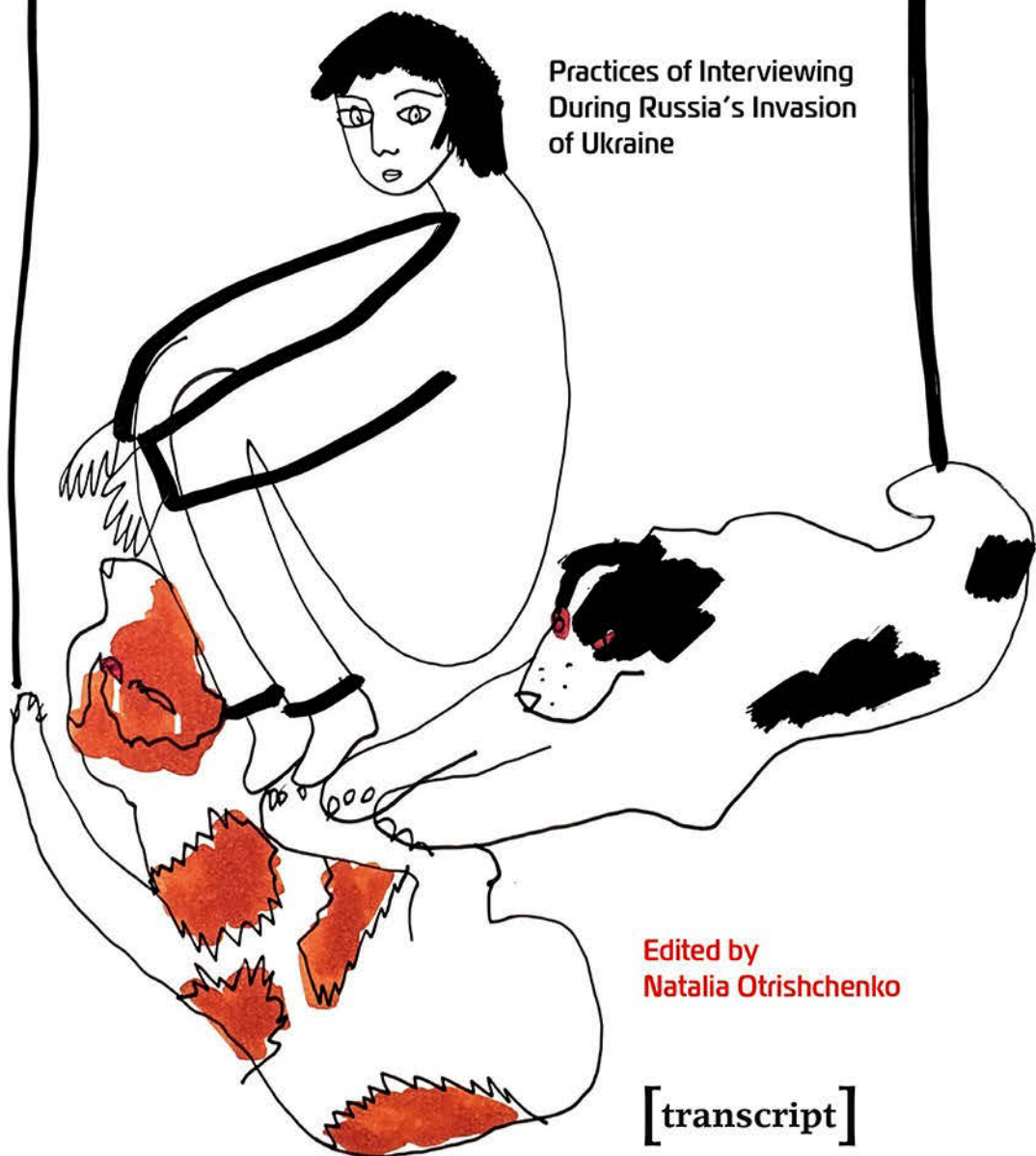




# CONVERSATIONS WITH THOSE WHO ASK ABOUT WAR

Practices of Interviewing  
During Russia's Invasion  
of Ukraine



Edited by  
Natalia Otrishchenko

[transcript]



## Editorial

This series explores how experiences of war are narrated, recorded, preserved, and interpreted. Conceived as an ongoing collective effort, the series examines the processes that shape war archives and narratives. Across diverse formats—interviews, essays, sources, and artworks—the books in the series rethink practices of storymaking and challenge hierarchies of theorizing and documenting, foregrounding the ethical and practical complexities of creating sources and archives in times of war. Taking Ukraine under Russian attack as its point of departure, the series fosters multi-vocal conversations across disciplines and geographies about the responsibilities—and limits—of wartime documenting and archiving.

## Editorial Board

Sofia Dyak (Center for Urban History), Taras Fedirko (Institute for Human Sciences (IWM Vienna) / University of Glasgow), Iryna Klymenko (Research Centre Ukraine / Max Weber Foundation, Ludwig Maximilian University Munich), Ioulia Shukan (Graduate School of Social Sciences (EHESS)), Katherine Younger (University of Glasgow)

## Academic Advisory Board

Jan C. Behrends (Center for Contemporary History, Potsdam), Tymofii Brik (Kyiv School of Economics), Masha Cerovic (Center for Russian, Caucasian and Central European Studies (CERCEC) at the Graduate School of Social Sciences (EHESS)), Emily Channell-Justice (Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University), Vitaly Chernetsky (University of Kansas), Victoria Donovan (University of St. Andrews), Andreas Fickers (University of Luxembourg), Mayhill Fowler (Stetson University), Mischa Gabowitsch (University of Mainz), Peter Haslinger (Herder Institute), Valentina Izmirlieva (Harriman Institute, Columbia University), Valeria Korablyova (Charles University, Prague), Oksana Kuzmenko (National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), Daria Mattingly (University of Chichester) Stephen Naron (Fortunoff Video Archive, Yale University), Katarzyna Person (Warsaw Ghetto Museum), Viktoriya Sereda (Virtual Ukrainian Institute for Advanced Studies (VUIAS) / Kyiv School of Economics), Iuliia Skubytska (Ukrainian Oral History Association / Bard College), Timothy Snyder (University of Toronto), Tomasz Stryjek (Polish Academy of Sciences), Balázs Trencsényi (Central European University), Kateryna Yakovlenko (Suspilne Media), Serhy Yekelchuk (University of Victoria), Yuliya Yurchuk (University of Södertörn)

**Natalia Otrishchenko**, born in 1989, works as a researcher and sociologist at the Center for Urban History of East Central Europe in Lviv. In 2022-23, she was a Fulbright visiting scholar at Columbia University. She leads the Ukrainian team in the international documentation initiative “24/02/22, 5 am: Testimonies from the War”. Her research focuses on qualitative research methods, oral history, urban sociology, and sociology of expertise.

Natalia Otrishchenko (ed.)

# **Conversations with Those Who Ask about War: Practices of Interviewing during Russia's Invasion of Ukraine**

**[transcript]**

## Bibliographic information published by the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek

The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data are available online at <https://dnb.dnb.de>



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons License BY-ND 4.0. For the full license terms, please visit the URL <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/4.0/>.

Creative Commons license terms for re-use do not apply to any content (such as graphs, figures, photos, excerpts, etc.) not original to the Open Access publication and further permission may be required from the rights holder. The obligation to research and clear permission lies solely with the party re-using the material.

## 2026 © Natalia Otrishchenko (ed.)

transcript Verlag | Hermannstraße 26 | D-33602 Bielefeld | [live@transcript-verlag.de](mailto:live@transcript-verlag.de)

The automated analysis of the work in order to obtain information, particularly concerning patterns, trends, and correlations as defined in § 44b (text and data mining) of the German Copyright Act (UrhG) is prohibited without the written consent of the rights holders.

Cover design: Maria Arndt

Cover art and illustrations: Alevtina Kakhidze

Concept, interviewing, and editorial oversight: Natalia Otrishchenko

Interview processing: Valentyna Korol

Accounting support: Yaryna Paniv

Administrative support: Viktoriia Panas

Design and layout: Iryna Tsimerman

English translation: Yuliia Kulish

<https://doi.org/10.14361/9783839478813>

Print-ISBN: 978-3-8376-8277-9 | PDF-ISBN: 978-3-8394-7881-3

ISSN of series: 3054-2529 | eISSN of series: 3054-2537


Printed on permanent acid-free text paper.



# Contents

<b>Foreword to the Series.</b> Sofia Dyak, Iryna Klymenko, and Katherine Younger .....	9
<b>Stories from Within the War.</b> Natalia Otrishchenko .....	13
<b>Chapter 1 Experiences of Rootedness</b> .....	25
Humanitarian Aspects of the Russian-Ukrainian War .....	27
Svitlana Makhovska on Expeditions to the De-occupied Chernihiv Region Those Who Stayed .....	37
Iuliia Skubytska on Interviewing in the Kharkiv Region Chronicles of Civil Resistance Oleksandr Cheremisin on the Research in Kherson and About Kherson .....	45
Past, Future, Art Olha Hvozdetska and Oksana Dovgopolova on the Connection with Odesa .....	54
<b>Chapter 2 Forced Displacement</b> .....	63
24.02. Life After .....	65
Andrii Usach and Anna Yatsenko on Recording the Stories of Internally Displaced People in Lviv Voices of Our Time.....	73
Albert Venher on Documentation in the Frontline City of Dnipro	

<b>Chapter 3 Advocacy and Research</b> .....	81
<b>Fight for Right</b> .....	83
Hanna Zaremba-Kosovych and Viktoriia Kharchenko on the Experiences of People with Disabilities during the Full-Scale Invasion	
<b>Mothers During the War</b> .....	90
Mariia Shvab on How to Talk about Pregnancy and Childbirth	
<b>The Past Coming to Life</b> .....	98
Inha Kozlova and Nadia Ufimtseva on History Teachers in Times of War	
<b>Chapter 4 Localizing Methodologies</b> .....	107
<b>The War Childhood Museum</b> .....	109
Viktoriia Nesterenko and Svitlana Osipchuk on the Stories of Children and Teenagers	
<b>Post Bellum–Ukraine</b> .....	118
Yevheniia Nesterovych on How We Fought and Continue to Fight	
<b>Chapter 5 Creating Archives</b> .....	129
<b>Oral History of the Russo-Ukrainian War</b> .....	131
Tetiana Kovtunovych and Tetiana Pryvalko on Interviewing for the Ukrainian Institute of National Remembrance’s Projects	
<b>Ukraine War Archive</b> .....	139
Mariia Buchelnikova and Yaroslav Kyryienko on Collecting Stories for Justice	
<b>24/02/22, 5 am: Testimonies from the War</b> .....	151
Natalia Otrishchenko, Artem Kharchenko, and Valentyna Shevchenko on the International Documentation Initiative	
<b>Postwar Life of an Interview.</b> Iryna Sklokina .....	163
<b>Voices Heard in This Book</b> .....	179
<b>List of Pictures</b> .....	186



I JUST  
WANT TO SAY:  
IF IT IS NO WAR  
TODAY, DO NOT  
MEAN IT IS  
NO WAR.

16.02.2022

