

Acknowledgements

The concept for this edited volume stems from the international workshop *Digital wars: media and technologies during the war in Ukraine*, held at the Interdisciplinary Center for European Studies (ICES) at Europa-Universität Flensburg in October 2023. The workshop was organized as part of Nadia Zasanska's research project "*War as Spiritual Mission: Russian Orthodox media in legitimization of war in Ukraine*" (2022–2025), funded by the Philipp Schwartz-Initiative, Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung.

The workshop gathered scholars from diverse research fields across Media, Communication and Culture Studies interested in the mediatization of the ongoing Russo-Ukrainian war, digital warfare and media technologies. Two days in Flensburg offered an inspiring atmosphere of academic exchange, discovery and innovative thought. This event was made possible thanks to the dedicated work of many people involved in its organization. We would like to express our deep gratitude to Tabea Boeing, Kseniia Cherniak, Dr. Tobias Nanz, Dr. Maria Schwab and Prof. Dr. Hedwig Wagner for their enthusiasm, assistance and unwavering support throughout the planning and organization of the workshop.

Nadia Zasanska expresses her sincere gratitude to Prof. Dr. Hedwig Wagner for her kind support and mentoring Nadia's project at the ICES. This research stay has brought new ideas, experiences and inspiration to see all challenges as pathways to new horizons. Special thanks go to Dr. Maria Schwab and the ICES team for their invaluable support, willingness to help and for creating an inspiring research environment, even amid the rainy days at Flensburg harbour.

Nadiya Ivanenko expresses her profound gratitude to the Council-for-at-Risk-Academics for their generous financial support and a 2-year research fellowship in the UK. She sincerely thanks the Department of Education, Linacre College, and Merton College at the University of Oxford for their invaluable support and assistance to continue her research at Oxford. She acknowledges the crucial role of these institutions in supporting at-risk academics and enabling their vital contributions to knowledge and research.

We are deeply grateful to all our contributors, both those who participated in the workshop and those who joined this publication project at a later stage, for their bril-

liant ideas, remarkable dedication to this team work, and commitment to making Ukrainian voices heard in broader international contexts.

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the USA (the Ivan and Elizabeta Chlopetsky Fund) and the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES) for their generous financial support of this publication and their great faith in Ukraine and the Ukrainian people striving for freedom and democratic values.