Invitation to a guest lecture as part of the Fribourg Evening Lectures on Early Childhood Education

Dr. Viorela Ducu Telegdi Csetri
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The perspectives of children left behind in Moldova and Ukraine in the context of their parents’ labour migration

Tuesday, 23. April 2024
17:15 – 18:45
University of Fribourg, Regina Mundi,
Rue P.-A. de Faucigny 2, 1700 Fribourg
Room RM 02 S–0.113 Auditoire
The perspectives of children left behind in Moldova and Ukraine in the context of their parents’ labour migration

Moldova and Ukraine are countries that are heavily affected by adult labour migration. Many children have remained in these countries, separated from one or both parents. Research shows that this situation brings various negative consequences for these children. This lecture is not only about seeing them as passive victims of this phenomenon but also about how these children deal with it. What is their transnational relationship with their parents who have left the country? How do they conceptualise, imagine and represent the transnational world of their family? Based on participatory research with children, I will show how children left behind create a world of their own that goes beyond the physical proximity with their parents – a space of their immediate, physical experience.

Dr. habil. Viorela Ducu Telegdi Csetri is director of the Research Centre CASTLE – Centre for the Study of Transnational Families FSPAC – and lecturer at the Department of Social Work at the Faculty of Sociology and Social Work at the Babeș-Bolyai University, in Romania. She is interested in transnational and mixed family studies, and children's and young people's rights in transnational contexts.