The Role of Infrastructure in Migrants' Integration and City Space Transformation: The Case of “Ethnic” Cafes in Moscow
Part of IERES’s Behind the Headlines Series

with

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Russia has become an immigration country over the last decade. International migrants in Russia are faced with numerous challenges every day, and not having access to formal services, they develop their own ways to resolve their problems through different types of self-organization. This also leads to the creation of new economic niches and a migrant-oriented infrastructure in the service sector. Adaptive techniques include ethno-immigrant associations, primary-group networks (compatriots and relatives), travel agencies, migrant services agencies, “ethnic” media, medical centers, grocery stores with special products, and “ethnic” cafes and clubs. The “ethnic” cafes in Moscow that are oriented mostly towards immigrants from Central Asia provide a vivid example of the contemporary migrant-oriented infrastructure. If the ethno-cultural characteristics of Moscow’s social space can change due to migrant-oriented social service infrastructure, this could have important effects on Moscow society, including the formation of enclaves.

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Wednesday, May 7, 2014
4:00 – 5:00 pm
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E Street NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP at http://go.gwu.edu/Peshkova.
This event is on the record.

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