Trajectory of the Personal and the National in the Autobiographical Narrative of a Migrant

Angelina Ilieva (Summary)

The present article is an attempt to reveal the everyday diaspora nationalism of the Bulgarians who live beyond the national borders of their country. Using the methodological advantages of the live history, the author throws light on the relations between the personal and the community dimensions and of the *personal* and the *national* in particular. The aim is to find the transection of these trajectories as far as they have their conceptualization and articulation in the narrative sequence. The life history of a Bulgarian migrant – the basketball coach Hristo Kostov – is analyzed following the different thematic nuclei in his personal autobiography and their relations with the themes of Bulgaria, the Bulgarians and the Bulgarian. Thus the article outlines from the one hand, the personal dimensions of the national as a subjective experience, and, from the other hand – the interpretation of the personal choices and of the human fate within the national.

Keywords: life history; migrants; personal and national

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