

# Experiencing a Changing Climate from Phenomenological Perspective: Everyday Lives of Older Adults in Warsaw, Poland

**Zofia Bieńkowska**  
University of Warsaw

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10:00 - 12:00

Troja 0.32

Katedra sociální a kulturní  
antropologie  
FHS UK

My presentation will explore how shifting weather patterns impact the everyday lives of older adults, highlighting how climate change is experienced at a sensory level in fleeting and often difficult-to-verbalize "here-and-now" moments of daily life. I will present findings from a two-year ethnographic field study on the sensory experience of climate change among individuals over 65 in Warsaw. I will present the temporal, material, and sensory dimensions of the experience of climate change, demonstrating how being "here-and-now" intertwines with past experiences and memories, and how these memories shape interpretations of weather. Furthermore, I will examine how both urban space and domestic environments are transformed by changing weather conditions, and how these transformations influence the

everyday lives of my participants. Finally, I will discuss the everyday practices that emerge as responses to the changing reality surrounding them.

**ZOFIA BIEŃKOWSKA:** social anthropologist, sociologist and environmentalist. Her main research interests are: social dimensions of climate change (she was employed as a researcher in Embodying Climate Change project: [emclic.com](http://emclic.com)), social dimensions of infrastructure, and entanglements of anthropology and nature conservation. Apart from academia she is working for an environmental NGO. PhD candidate at University of Warsaw, Doctoral School of Social Sciences.