**Shifting Perceptions: Investigating the Causes of Attitude Changes towards War Migrants in Lithuania**

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This project examines the factors influencing shifts in attitudes towards war migrants in Lithuania. Existing work of social identity theory suggests that social behaviour is shaped by individual characteristics and motivations as well as group memberships. People typically strive to maintain a positive image of their groups, impacting their perceptions of out-group members, such as war migrants. I employ a vignette experiment with a 2x2 factorial design to identify the causes behind these attitude shifts. My experiment explores the effects of four treatments: the education level of war migrants (speaking Lithuanian vs. speaking their own language) and their social behaviour (driving a posh car vs. using a public transport). I aim to uncover the specific dynamics that influence public attitudes towards war migrants. The findings will provide crucial insights into the complex interplay between individual motivations, group identity, and external factors in shaping societal attitudes. These insights are essential for informing policymaking, media representation, and social integration strategies, thus contributing to a more informed and empathetic discourse on war migration in Lithuania.

Eglina Bubliauskaite is an MRes Social Research student at Birkbeck, University of London. Trained in linguistics, literature, and law and society, her interdisciplinary education has fuelled her passion for understanding how different societies function and the factors that drive human behaviour. Her research interests lie in exploring why people think and behave the way they do. I am particularly fascinated by the factors that influence human behaviour, including cultural norms, social dynamics, and political influences. She is keen to investigate causes that shape public opinion and people’s decision-making processes. Her work is driven by a desire to promote social justice, equity, and a better understanding of the world we live in.