

## Lectures on PEACE

**7 March 2025**

**13:30-15:00**

**Strefa Współpracy**



### **1. The Power of Wordless Books & Storytelling: Creative Pathways to Peacebuilding**

**Alla Fridrikh, Olena Kasatkina-Kubyskhina, Nataliia Antonenko, Rivne State University of Humanities, Ukraine**

This session explores the role of wordless books and storytelling in fostering creativity, critical thinking, and peacebuilding. Through imaginative storytelling and problem-solving, these books give voice to complex social issues and facilitate emotional engagement. Discover how students analysed narratives, interpreted emotions, and created their own graphic stories, developing cross-cultural connections, communication skills, and social-emotional learning. The lecture will also provide practical strategies for incorporating storytelling into the EFL classroom to enhance 21st-century skills and empathy-building. This lecture is an opportunity to explore how wordless books and storytelling can shape a more peaceful and connected world through education.

### **2. Building Bridges Through Education: Local Initiatives for Global Peace**

**Klaudia Ogrodniczek, University of Warsaw**

This talk explores how local initiatives in Poland, particularly those focused on language education and refugee support, empower individuals to contribute to peacebuilding. Drawing from my work with a foundation that aids refugees, I will highlight how education can serve as a transformative tool for promoting peace. By examining grassroots efforts, this lecture will illustrate how local initiatives not only foster social integration but also influence international perspectives on conflict resolution and peace promotion. The goal is to inspire young people to leverage their skills and make meaningful contributions to peace in their communities and beyond.

### **3. Ukrainian Evacuees in Japan: Challenges, Integration, and Future Hopes**

**Adelina Torubara, Gunma University**

The Russian invasion of Ukraine and the full-scale war have caused one of the largest displacement crises since World War II. As of February 2025, the number of internally displaced Ukrainians is estimated at 3.7 million, while over 6.9 million have sought refuge in countries such as Germany, Poland, the Czech Republic, and others worldwide.

In an unprecedented response to the humanitarian crisis, the Japanese government decided to open its borders to people fleeing Ukraine in March 2022 and provided them with generous support. This lecture will explore the situation of Ukrainian evacuees in Japan, focusing on their daily challenges, integration into Japanese society, and hopes for the future.

The lecture draws on multiple sources, including interviews with Ukrainian evacuees, reports from Japanese and Ukrainian media, surveys and in-depth interviews conducted by Japanese non-governmental organizations such as the Nippon Foundation, as well as interviews conducted by the speaker with Ukrainian women aged 18–30.