**From War to War and “Ongoing Displacement”:**

**Immigrant Absorption During the Iron Swords War**

**Scientific Abstract**

War is a powerful force that can lead to dramatic changes in society and culture. It profoundly transforms societies and individuals, reshaping social structures, practices, and established systems, including the immigrant absorption processes. Despite the increasing complexity in theories of migration and absorption that account for multidirectional influences between origin and destination countries, war continues to be seen unidirectionally, as a factor accelerating outmigration. This prevailing perspective means that there is a lack of research attention to immigrant absorption during war in the destination country. This is a critical lacuna, as war, especially in the country where the absorption process occurs, may undermine foundational concepts at the base of theoretical perceptions, such as cultural capital, belonging, nation, and identity.

The goal of the proposed study is to examine the processes related to immigrant absorption during the Iron Swords War in Israel (launched following a devastating terror attack), with the aim of offering a new perspective on existing paradigms. Using a mixed methods case study approach, we will examine the process of immigrant absorption among five different groups of immigrants who arrived in Israel between 2022 and 2023, each of which possesses specific cultural capital of migration. While all are experiencing war in Israel, some are also experiencing internal displacement. Consequently, they experience an ongoing displacement during their absorption. Further, many in the group have moved from “war to war” – experiencing war in both their origin and destination countries. Research on the concept of such a “double war” remains limited. However, the continuous dynamics of ties and relationships across time and space undoubtedly shape the experiences of these immigrants.

Learning more about the experiences of these recent immigrants offers an opportunity, for the first time, to examine the processes of immigrant absorption under the conditions of war. By analyzing the experiences of immigrants from diverse backgrounds during the Iron Swords War, the study will provide a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities of immigrant absorption during war. With the proposed study, we seek to demonstrate the ways in which war not only precipitates migration but can also shape and sharpen the processes of immigrant absorption.