

## EVALUATION BOARD DECISION ON THE NOMINATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO PROFESSOR

<b>Masaryk University</b>	
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculty of Social Studies
<b>Procedure field</b>	Sociology
<b>Applicant</b>	Doc. Bernadette Nadya Jaworsky
<b>Applicant's home unit, institution</b>	Department of Sociology, FSS MU

### Board members

#### Chair

prof. PhDr. Ladislav Rabušic, CSc.  
Masaryk University, Faculty of Social Studies

#### Members

Prof. Anna Lund  
Stockholm University, Department of Sociology

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Anna Pospech Durnova, Ph.D.  
Universität Wien, Department of Sociology

Prof. PhDr. Ing. Ondřej Císař, Ph.D.  
Charles University, Faculty of Social Sciences

Prof. PhDr. Tomáš Katrňák, PhD.  
Masaryk University, Faculty of Social Studies

### Evaluation of the applicant's scholarly/artistic qualifications

Nadya Jaworsky has come to the discipline of sociology by being trained in two of the finest educational institutions in the world: her bachelor's degree in Sociology and American Studies is from the renowned Wellesley College. She received her MA degree and also a doctorate in Sociology at Yale University -- she conducted her doctoral work under the supervision of Jeffrey C. Alexander. She was an active participant in the Yale Center for Cultural Sociology, and she maintains her status as a Faculty Fellow at the Center.

Throughout her sociological career, doc. Jaworsky has published extensively, authoring and co-authoring journal articles, books, edited volumes, book chapters, and book reviews. Her top publication, co-authored in 2007 with Peggy Levitt in the prestigious *Annual Review of Sociology*, has become a classic in transnational studies. It has been cited over 900 times in Web of Science and Scopus databases, and more than 2,000 times according to Google Scholar. It is considered a standard reference point for transnationalism and migration scholars.

In addition, she has published articles in high-quality international journals on a wide range of subjects, including debates about "illegal" migration, spiritual capital in the lives of immigrants, media portrayals of refugees, national identity, political culture, attitudes toward migration, COVID-19, and conspiracy theories. The common thread is the methodology and theoretical framing of cultural sociology.

Her monographs and edited volume cover a similarly wide range of topical analyses: the 2012 election of Barack Obama, the online mobilization of immigration-related social movement organizations, civil repair and narratives of migration, and the historicization of Roma in Central Europe. Her latest book is being published in 2023 by Lexington Books in their Challenging Migration Series: *A Critical Cultural Sociological Exploration of Attitudes toward Migration in Czechia: What Lies Beneath the Fear of the Thirteenth Migrant*. It is based on the research funded by the Czech Science Foundation: “The thirteenth immigrant? An in-depth exploration of the public perception of migration in the Czech Republic”.

Doc. Jaworsky has received other research grants from the John Templeton Foundation, the Grant Agency of Masaryk University, and the Czech Science Foundation (GAČR). Her latest GAČR project, for 2023-2025, is entitled “People Like Us? A Reverse Sociology of Migration in Czechia”. She thus has considerable experience in leading a professional research team.

Finally, doc. Jaworsky has also benefitted from her scholarly training through the service activities she has performed throughout her career. She has conducted peer reviews for dozens of journals, especially in the fields of migration and transnationalism, and has also served as a reviewer for academic publishers such as Amsterdam University Press, Bloomsbury Publishing, and Palgrave Macmillan. She reviews project proposals for grant agencies around the world – in Germany, Poland, the United States, and the EU. She is currently serving a four-year term as a member of the project evaluation committee for the Czech Science Foundation (GAČR).

**Conclusion:** The applicant's scholarly/artistic capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a professor appointment procedure in the field of sociology.

### **Evaluation of the applicant's pedagogical experience**

Nadya Jaworsky has taught in the sociology department at Masaryk University for 12 years. She has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in migration, cultural sociology, transnationalism, research methodology, popular culture, race and ethnicity, and organizational studies. In addition, she teaches sociological writing at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels. Her innovation in how she teaches writing is evident from her high student evaluations. Overall, she is one of the teachers with the best reputation and ratings in the department.

Beyond her teaching duties at Masaryk, she also spent eight years teaching in summer programs sponsored by the Open Society Foundation in association with its Civil Society Leadership Scholarship program. Traveling to Istanbul and Tbilisi, she taught a course on migration to students from Africa, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East. Such extensive experience with international students has helped doc. Jaworsky in her role at the Department as the de-facto director of the master's level English-language Sociology and Cultural Sociology programs, which attract students from all over the world (every year, about 20 students are admitted to study).

Doc. Jaworsky has been active as a supervisor for successfully defended Bachelor's (4) and Master's theses (59), working with both Czech and international students. Since being named as docent, her list of doctoral students has quickly filled up. Under her tutorship, one student successfully defended her thesis in 2019, and another will defend in the Spring semester of 2023. Additionally, she supervises six doctoral students, one of whom will finish in the Fall of 2023.

Her door is always open to students, both literally and figuratively, to help them with whatever issues they may encounter in their studies (my office is right next to hers, so I'm a direct witness to this fact).

**Conclusion:** The applicant's pedagogical capabilities **meet** the requirements expected of applicants participating in a professor appointment procedure in the field of sociology.

### **Evaluation of the applicant as a respected and recognized scholarly or artistic figure in a given field**

As we can read in one of her recommendation letters, Nadya Jaworsky is “among the leading practitioners of cultural sociology in the entire world.” She is also a respected and recognized sociologist in migration and transnational studies. Her most important scholarly contributions to these fields concern how symbolic boundaries are drawn around and by migrants and refugees. Studying the configurations of boundary work helps us address some of the most pressing questions in contemporary societies, namely, which constitutes “us” and “them.” Issues of (non)belonging affect not only personal, social, and national identity but also labor market outcomes and unequal resource distribution.

Through her concern for issues of inequality and a desire to work on topics with social relevance, she has, over the past several years, pioneered a “critical cultural sociology.” Her latest book, *A Critical Cultural Sociological Exploration of Attitudes toward Migration in Czechia: What Lies Beneath the Fear of the Thirteenth Migrant*, develops this critical analytical lens. The book, shedding light on migration, is of great relevance to Czech society. Although Czechia has few migrants and refugees, migration remains hotly debated among politicians and the public.

As an expert in cultural sociology and symbolic boundaries related to migration, doc. Jaworsky is regularly invited to give lectures throughout the world. In 2021, she gave a keynote speech at the Czech Sociological Association Annual Conference entitled *Bias, Biography, and Boundaries: Thoughts on “Doing Migration” from a Second-Generation Migrant*. In 2022, she was invited to be Plenary Speaker at the Center for Cultural Sociology at Yale University Annual Conference (*It's all about the boundaries: Navigating migrant and refugee issues through symbolic boundary work*). She has been a visiting research fellow at UCL in London (2014), Zadar University in Croatia (2019), and Yale University in the United States (2019-2020-virtually).

Finally, she has been recognized as a top scholar in cultural sociology by being chosen to serve in editorial positions. She has served as an Editor for the prestigious journal (the top in its field) *Cultural Sociology* since 2021. Before that, she was the Culture Section Editor for *Sociology Compass* (2019-2021). She is also an Associate Editor for the *American Journal of Cultural Sociology*.

**Conclusion:** The applicant **is** a respected and recognized scholarly figure in her field. The applicant **has** made a significant contribution to the development of her field. The applicant **constitutes** a leading figure in her field of scholarship or research.

**Secret vote results**

Number of board members	5
Number of votes cast	5
Number of votes in favour	5

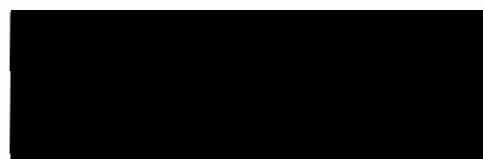
**Board decision**

Based on the outcome of the secret vote and following an evaluation of the applicant's scholarly or artistic qualifications, pedagogical experience and role as a respected and recognized scholarly or artistic figure, the board hereby submits a proposal to the scientific board of the Faculty of social studies of Masaryk University to

appoint the applicant professor of Sociology.

Brno, April 14, 2023

Ladislav Rabušic



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signature