Long-Term War-Induced Transformations of Settlement and Land-Use Systems: Regimes of Scientific Recognition and Research Patterns

Anna Tymoshenko

Prague, 15–17 October 2026

PROBLEM

Fragmented evidence and a changing system

Population statistics record demographic change

Settlement maps record the presence of places

Land-use records describe economic activity

Research must establish how these changes connect

Regimes of scientific recognition

Research questions make some changes visible

Categories and periodisation shape the object

Source selection determines which evidence connects

Literature analysis tests the extent of fragmentation

METHOD

Long-duration historical reconstruction

The same territory remains the reference point

Successive events retain their distinct mechanisms

Later changes require evidence of earlier connections

Boundaries, names and statistical units need reconciliation

Research while explanations remain incomplete

Existing knowledge supplies questions and possible mechanisms

Scientific recognition progressively organises the object

Uncertainty identifies what needs investigation

Disciplinary methods contribute to a common research process

Microgeography as a common frame

One settlement provides a spatial reference

Its fields and water systems extend the investigation

Connections determine the relevant study boundary

Regional evidence places local findings in context

Evidence with a traceable context

Every observation retains its source, date and location

Maps and registers distinguish recording from actual use

Oral accounts preserve knowledge requiring corroboration

Conflicts and gaps remain visible in the reconstruction

Observation, association and causation

Observed change establishes what happened

Temporal association suggests a possible connection

Causal explanation requires evidence of a mechanism

Alternative causes guide further investigation

Comparison and the scope of explanation

Common questions make distinctive cases comparable

Contrasting cases test proposed mechanisms

Similar forms may have different causes

Findings specify the conditions under which an explanation holds

ANALYTICAL EXAMPLE

A village that remains on the map

Continued registration establishes one kind of survival

Population records test continuity of residence

Service records test the settlement’s regional role

Land and water evidence test agricultural functioning

ANALYTICAL EXAMPLE

The continuity of land use and maintenance

Residence, ownership and cultivation may diverge

Surviving infrastructure may cease to function

Loss of local knowledge requires specific evidence

The history of maintenance tests functional continuity

Questions that determine the next research step

Population evidence tests changes in available labour

Infrastructure evidence tests interruption of water supply

Access and economic evidence test competing explanations

Unresolved questions define further data collection

A reconstructable and testable research object

A territorial history links evidence across periods

Documented relations connect disciplinary findings

Competing explanations retain an explicit evidence status

Further cases test the reach of the proposed mechanism

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Systematic inquiry into distinctive situations

Long-duration reconstruction preserves historical differences

Scientific recognition connects evidence around the object

Comparative questions make unique cases open to testing

A research result includes justified next steps and unresolved questions

Key publications

Tymoshenko A. Long-Term War-Induced Transformations… (2026)
DOI: 10.66659/sq5wbm78

Nikolaenko D. Scientific Recognition Architecture, v1.0 (2026)
DOI: 10.66659/q52haz36

Nikolaenko D. From Scientific Recognition to Scientific Explanation (2026)
DOI: 10.66659/db5ekw49

Nikolaenko D. From Individual Events to the Morphology
of Military Contamination (2026). DOI: 10.66659/resz8h58