Vice-Chancellor’s PhD Scholarships

**Russian nationalism, affective citizenship and the war in Ukraine**

## School of Social Sciences and Professions

Since the start of the war in Ukraine, Putin’s regime has attempted to generate popular mobilisation in support of the war. The main focus of the study will be on the efforts of the state propaganda machine and “patriotic” moral entrepreneurs to build public support for the war through campaigns of moral indignation with internal “enemies” and “traitors” and through defining the emotional and moral meanings of belonging to the Russian nation.

The PhD project will explore discursive constructions around ‘cleansing’ and ‘purification’ of society and creating a homogenous nation, emotionally and ideologically united around the country’s leadership. The project will engage with theoretical debates around nationalism, affective citizenship, the role of public rituals of moral indignation during the war, and with ongoing debates around the existence and nature of Russian fascism. The candidate should have the working knowledge of Russian language.

For more information or to arrange an informal conversation about applications to research this topic, please email Professor Svetlana Stephenson s.stephenson@londonmet.ac.uk