

## Call for Workshop Papers

The [Anthropology of Race and Ethnicity Network \(ARE\)](#) invites papers for a two-day workshop titled “**Global Racial Capitalism and the Politics of Refusal**” at **Sabanci University, Istanbul, on June 13-14, 2025**. Dr Ida Danewid of the University of Sussex will give a keynote speech.

This workshop aims to bring together papers that rethink the relationship between race, capitalism, and the state through ethnographic and interdisciplinary research. We especially invite anti-racist, anti-imperialist, feminist, and decolonial analyses that center on the politics of resistance and refusal within the Global South as well as the minoritized and immigrant communities in the Global North.

Racial capitalism, as a critical exploratory framework, has acquired unprecedented popularity thanks to grassroots movements such as Black Lives Matter, inspiring new research and conceptual debate (Issar, 2021). Although its theoretical origins were originally rooted in the Global South, more specifically in South Africa (Kelley, 2023), the concept’s global popularity has been mediated by the United States (see Robinson, 1983). Without taking for granted the inherent raciality of capitalism (Bhattacharyya, 2018), we aim to bring together research that is attentive to the historical, political, and cultural specificities of each context. While we invite ethnographies of the contemporary that investigate the novel ways in which racial and capitalist formations are interwoven, we also encourage submissions that focus on the legacies of slavery, colonialism, and racial segregation. Studies that historicize systems of domination, such as racism and capitalism, are welcome.

Building on Ida Danewid’s recent book *Resisting Racial Capitalism: An Antipolitical Theory of Refusal* (2024), this workshop places the study of racial capitalism in conversation with the anthropological theorization of refusal. Recent scholarship has contributed to our understanding of the politics of refusal in relation to indigenous sovereignty (Simpson, 2007, 2014), claims to statehood (McGranahan, 2018), abstention from state (Weiss, 2016), non-citizen politics (Partridge, 2022), ecological resurgence (Yildirim, 2024), and work of repair (Thomas, 2024) that exceed and subvert the liberal logics of recognition, inclusion, and citizenship.

Scholars and students of migration, policing, labor, political economy, social movements, critical race theory, gender and sexuality, Black studies, indigenous studies, and African studies—among others—who engage with the following questions are encouraged to apply: What role does the state play in the making and workings of the global capitalist economy? What political possibilities and forms of sovereignty lie beyond the hegemony of the state? What does restorative justice look like outside of the state-sanctioned forms of repair and restitution? What is revolutionary worldmaking today? How can anthropology contribute to its theorization?

The presentations will critically focus on the production of racialized difference by the state and capital through border and migration regimes, criminal justice and policing technologies, regimes of extraction and accumulation as well as struggles against racial capitalism. In conversation with anthropological theories of refusal, these studies altogether contribute to our understanding of abolitionist possibilities beyond state-centered visions of justice. The workshop will not only make a theoretical contribution to the globalization of debates on racial capitalism, but also help build a transnational network of scholars and activists working with these frameworks.

The workshop is sponsored by the ARE Network of the [European Association of Social Anthropologists \(EASA\)](#), [Association for Migration Research \(GAR\)](#) and [Sabanci University](#). Due to our limited budget, we can only provide **financial support** to a small number of participants for travel and accommodation expenses. Priority will be given to early-career, precarious, and independent scholars.

Please submit a **250-word abstract** of your paper to [eguner@haverford.edu](mailto:eguner@haverford.edu) with the subject line “ARE Workshop” by **March 7, 2025**. Please indicate in your abstract if you would require travel funding. Selected participants will be notified shortly thereafter.