

## IHSS Research Seminar Program 2023

# Empty Gestures in the Public Domain: Pretense, Disguise, Ignorance

**Dr Roland Zarzycki (Collegium Civitas, Warsaw)**

Chair: Professor Paul Kenny

**Wednesday 28 June, 1-2pm AEST**

To be held in room 460.3.01 and online via Teams

**Abstract:** We study empty gestures in public space: their presence, their stigmatization, their acceptance as well as ignorance and other practices related to them. In order to describe this phenomenon, we apply the language of a number of well-known game theories (E. Berne, P. Bourdieu, V. Turner) as well as formal game-theoretic models. We are particularly interested in analyzing these strategies, which include broadly understood “pretense” and “disguise” (regarding: facts, attitudes, values, actions, capitals). Our research has an empirical component embedded in the study of a few particular social games which we distinguish, reconstruct and analyze (“green responsibility” game; “being a professional” game; “beautiful life” game). In all of these games individuals play to win social recognition and respect.



**Bio:** [Roland Zarzycki](#) is Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs at Collegium Civitas (Warsaw), PhD in mathematics, PhD in humanities. Researcher, academic teacher, speaker at international conferences, research and social projects manager/coordinator. Collaborates internationally on political issues related to sustainable & participative cultural policies, sustainable economic frameworks and development aid. Interested in social and political economy, critical political thinking and the role of fantasy and ideology in everyday life.