

Preface

The new issue of “Culture and Society” is as diverse as the previous one. It covers the disciplines of sociology, anthropology and social work.

In his article “Paradigms of Migration: From Integration to Transnationalism,” Christian Giordano presents different theoretic approaches that set the tone for current debates on immigration in Europe and elsewhere and analyzes the social organization of transnationalism. Based on a qualitative migration network case study of Lithuanian migrants in Copenhagen, Denmark, Jurga Bučaitė-Vilkė and Vikinta Rosinaitė’s study “Formation of Interpersonal Networks and Their Role in Migration” focuses on the issue of migrants’ job-searching strategies. In his article “Lithuanian Population’s Attitudes Towards the Issue of Garbage Disposal and a Typology of Environmental Concerns,” Vylius Leonavičius discusses the empirical data obtained from the survey on garbage in Alytus region and argues that its population’s strong need for materialistic and physical security marginalizes the value of ecological concerns. Živilė Kėrytė analyzes, in her article “Construction of Citizenship in a Global Context: The Change of NGOs’ Role in Lithuania,” practices of the Lithuanian youth NGOs in a global context. Milda Ališauskienė’s article “Premises for the Emergence, Manifestation and Peculiarities of Modern Religion” compares ideal types of traditional and modern religions and draws guidelines for the study of contemporary religious phenomena. In their study “Social, Societal, Social Work and Psychological as Understood by Academic Social Workers – Towards the Phenomena-Based Disciplinary Identities,” Juha Perttula, Anna Väänänen, Gedas Malinauskas, Jūratė Gudliauskaitė-Godvadė and Paulius Godvadas focus on social, societal, social work and psychological as phenomena and examines their experienced and perceived definitions. Ingrida Naujokaitė’s “Medically Unexplained Symptoms in Health Care Systems” presents the concept and history of medically unexplained symptoms (MUS) and analyzes complaints and problems faced by patients suffering from biomedically undefined disorders. In her study “Convicts’ Masculinity in the Lithuanian Convict Subculture and the Polish Convict ‘Podculture’,” Rūta Petkevičiūtė focuses on the construction of different masculinities in the Lithuanian and Polish correctional facilities.

On behalf of the collective of “Culture and Society” I want to express our congratulations to the editorial board member Professor Christian Giordano on his remarkable anniversary. An Italian born in Switzerland, Giordano is an internationally renowned political anthropologist. His research geography ranges from the Mediterranean to Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia. The “Festschrift for Christian Giordano” published in a series of “Freiburg Studies in Social Anthropology” under the title “From Palermo to Penang: A Journey into Political Anthropology” (ed. by Francois Ruegg and Andrea Boscoboinik) marks his rich and distinctive intellectual journey. We are happy to include Christian Giordano’s article in this issue of our journal.

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