



About the authors

Victor de Munck received his PhD in Anthropology from the Department of Anthropology, University of California, Riverside in 1985. He served as a professor from 1996 to 2019 at SUNY New Paltz, where he was also chairing the Department of Anthropology for two terms (6 years in total), and was promoted to Full Professor in 2012. Since the 2019 Fall semester, he has been a Professor at Vilnius University, Institute of Asian and Transcultural Studies. He has been on the Executive Board of the Society for Anthropological Sciences for a total of 9 years. Currently, he is working on a grant issued by the Research Council of Lithuania to study romantic love and its effects on marriage rates and decisions to have children. His theoretical interests are: first and foremost, the relationship between cognition and culture. In particular, de Munck is interested in further investigating what constitutes a cultural model, how cultural models work and, conversely, how they interact with affordances. In terms of the subject matter, his focus is on various forms of love, particularly, romantic love and its transition to companionate love. De Munck has written some 60 plus articles, with many of these being published in the top journals in anthropology (e.g., *Current Anthropology*, *Royal Anthropological Institute*, *American Anthropologist*). His book, *Romantic Love in America: Straight, Gay, and Polyamorous Relationships* won the best book in anthropology award for 2019 by the Society for Anthropological Sciences. He conducted research on ecological cycles of the cultural change in a Sri Lankan village and has written numerous articles on this subject. De Munck has also written on Sufism, the violation of gender norms, and love versus arranged marriages in a Muslim village in Sri Lanka. He is now working on a book about love in Lithuania.
E-mail: demunckv@gmail.com

Kristina Garalytė is an Associate Professor of South Asian anthropology at the Institute of Asian and Transcultural Studies at Vilnius University. In 2016, she received a PhD in Sociology at Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, for her thesis *Dalit Student Movement in India: From Identity Politics to Counter Culture Movement*. From 2018 to 2024 she worked as the director of the Institute of Asian and Transcultural Studies at Vilnius University. She co-edited a special issue of *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal* titled *Student Politics in South Asia* and a special issue of *CASTE: A Global Journal of Social Exclusion* titled *Historical and Contemporary Anti-Caste Utopias: A Dalit Bahujan Discourse*. Currently, Garalytė is involved in two research projects funded by the Research Council of Lithuania: *Ethnic, National and Transnational Identities and Geopolitical Attitudes of Third-country Nationals in Lithuania in the Context of the War in Ukraine* in which she explores

Indian migrants' community in Lithuania, and also *Alternative Religiosity in Soviet and Post-Soviet Lithuania: Orientalist Religious Movements and their Features, Manifestations and Transformations*. Her areas of academic interests include South Asian anthropology, Dalit studies, caste, student activism, social movements, migration, and ethnographic research methods.

E-mail: kristina.garalyte@fsf.vu.lt

Chris Hann (b. 1953) studied social anthropology at Cambridge University (PhD, 1979). His early field research focused on rural conditions in Hungary and Poland under the socialist system. Later, together with Ildikó Bellér-Hann, he carried out numerous projects in Turkey and Xinjiang, People's Republic of China. In addition to his abiding interest in economic anthropology, Hann has been gathering data concerning ethnicity, religion, and many other topics. After teaching social anthropology at Cambridge (1984–1992), he held a chair at the University of Kent (Canterbury) from 1992 till 1999. In 1999, he moved to Germany (Halle an der Saale) as a founding director of the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, where he remained until his retirement in 2021. Hann has authored and edited approximately thirty books, in addition to numerous articles and book chapters. His recent publications include *Repatriating Polanyi. Market Society in the Visegrád States* (Central European University Press, 2019) and *One Hundred Years of Argonauts; Malinowski, Ethnography, and Economic Anthropology* (Berghahn 2024, co-edited with Deborah James). Further details can be found at https://www.eth.mpg.de/6226109/department_hann

E-mail: hann@eth.mpg.de

Smadar Lavie is a Professor of anthropology at University of California, Davis. She authored *The Poetics of Military Occupation* (1990), receiving the honorable mention of the Victor Turner Award, and co-edited *Displacement, Diaspora and Geographies of Identity* (1996). Her ethnography *Wrapped in the Flag of Israel: Mizrahi Single Mothers and Bureaucratic Torture* (2014/2018) received the honorable mention of the Association of Middle East Women's Studies. The book was finalist in the Clifford Geertz Competition of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion. Lavie won the American Studies Association's 2009 Gloria E. Anzaldúa Prize and the *Heart at East* Honor Plaque for lifetime service to Mizrahi communities in Israel-Palestine.

E-mail: slavie@ucdavis.edu

Dulam Bumochir is a Professor of anthropology at the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, National University of Mongolia. In 1998, he completed an MA at the National University of Mongolia in Mongolian philology, and, in 2000, he was awarded a PhD at the Mongolian Academy of Sciences. His earlier works focused on shamanism, ritual and religion. In 2000, he completed an MPhil, and, in 2006, a PhD in social anthropology at the University of Cambridge. For the latter PhD, he conducted fieldwork among Mongolian minorities in Qinghai, China, and elaborated respect in the local politics. From 2015 to 2019, he completed a post-doctoral research at UCL on resource, mining, environment, mobilization, nationalism, neoliberalism and the state. Dulam has conducted fieldwork in Mongolia, China and Kyrgyzstan and has published numerous articles, monographs and anthropology text books.

E-mail: bumochir@num.edu.mn

Vytis Čiubrinskas is a Professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology at Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania) and a visiting Associate Professor at the School of Anthropology, Political Science and Sociology, Southern Illinois University (USA). He was granted extended research fellowships at the School of Anthropology, University of Oxford, the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Germany), Collegium of Advanced Studies (University of Helsinki), Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi, Minzu University of China in Beijing, the University of Copenhagen, the University of Lund, and the University of Oslo. His visiting teaching positions include conducting full graduate level courses at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies (University College London), University of Fribourg (Switzerland) and Southern Illinois University. He is an editorial board member of the *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures* and of the *Urbanities: Journal of Urban Ethnography*. Čiubrinskas has written a book on anthropological theory, co-authored a book on globalization and transnationalism from the ethnic minority, borderland, and diasporic perspectives (2014), co-edited a book on return migration and social remittances to Central Eastern Europe (in 2023, published by *LIT Verlag*). He also edited a volume on comparative identity politics, citizenship, and transnationalism of the East European immigrants in the USA, UK, Ireland, Spain, Norway, and guest-edited a special issue of *Ethnologie Française: Lituanie: une anthropologie face a l'histoire* (2018).

E-mail: vytis.cubrinskas@vdu.lt

James W. W. Rose is a social anthropologist specializing in the provision of forensic investigation and expert opinion and advice services to courts, law firms, governments, and civil society organizations, primarily in relation to the rights and interests of Indigenous Peoples. Rose is a Senior Fellow with the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health (MSPGH), University of Melbourne Australia, and a member of the Forensic Anthropology Committee of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland (RAI). From the early 1980s, Rose was raised between the remote Western Desert of Central Australia, on the self-governing territories of the Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara People, and Sydney. He is one of a small number of non-Indigenous people in Australia to have been fully assimilated into Western Desert cultural life. Professionally, on the combined basis of his childhood enculturation and subsequent training, study, and experience, Rose maintains a continuing field-work practice with Indigenous communities across remote Central Australia and beyond. Academically, he supervises postgraduate researchers at MSPGH, while also co-coordinating the RAI's Forensic and Expert Social Anthropology (FESA) training and certification program. In the interests of enhancing equitable access to justice and population health internationally, Rose is committed to transforming social anthropology from pre-paradigmatic philosophy to paradigmatic science.

E-mail: james.rose@unimelb.edu.au

Ann Feuerbach is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at SUNY Nassau and an Adjunct Professor at Hofstra University in New York. She applies natural science's methods of analysis to characterize and classify archaeological artifacts and material culture. The aim is to investigate how a culture's worldview influences the innovation, production, distribution, consumption, and elimination of material culture. Her goals are to create a more objective and accurate representation of the past based on the systematic study of physical evidence and the application of testable theories. The knowledge gained can be used today in the development of sustainable and equitable material culture, and technology that is truly culturally appropriate, so that everyone, everywhere, can share the past and have a bright future.

E-mail: annfeuerbach@gmail.com

Inés Gil-Torras is a Spanish researcher finishing her PhD at the European University Institute (Florence, Italy). She has recently started a position as a post-doc at the GEN-POP ERC project (University of Bologna). Gil-Torras completed her Bachelor's and Master's studies at the University Carlos III of Madrid. During that period, she spent two years abroad, one at the University of Bath (Erasmus program), and the other year at the State University of New York at New Paltz (Scholarship of International mobility UC3M). During her PhD program, she spent three months as a visiting researcher at Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics, Barcelona. Her areas of expertise are in Sociology, Historical Demography, and Political Sciences. Due to her research interest, she is also very familiar with the fields of anthropology and psychology. Her PhD thesis is focused on the evolution of the family structure from the preindustrial to contemporary times and the legacies of the historical family systems in Europe. She specifically looks at the links between the pre-industrial family practices and the current patterns of cohabitation and population values. She uses a combination of historical census data, secondary historical data, the current census, and the survey data in her empirical chapters. She is also involved in a cross-cultural research project exploring the process of courtship and family formation in the current times in different countries in the world. Gil-Torras is denoted by an interdisciplinary research profile. Her training in anthropology gave her experience in using techniques such as free-listing, pile sorting, consensus analysis, long interviews, text analysis, and questionnaire design. As a political scientist and sociologist, she gained expertise in quantitative methods and large dataset preparation, including linear models, structural equation models, sequence analysis, event history analysis, multilevel modeling, longitudinal analysis, game design, and causal inference models. Additionally, she has experience as a teaching assistant. She has designed and taught a course on the design of historical legacies research for postgraduate students.

E-mail: giltorrasines@gmail.com

Žygmantas Bučius is a social anthropologist representing Vilnius University. He was awarded his Master's degree in social anthropology at Vytautas Magnus University. In his MA thesis, he wrote about dignified death in a nursing hospital. Bučius is a member of the Lithuanian Anthropological Association. Presently, he is pursuing a PhD within the Institute of Sociology and Social Work at the Faculty of Philosophy of Vilnius University. His scholarly endeavors are concentrated on the cultural aspects, identity, and the transformative impact of technology on communication within the community of individuals with hearing disabilities.

E-mail: zygimantasbucius@gmail.com

Jūratė Charenkova graduated from Vilnius University with Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Social Work. In 2020, she successfully defended her dissertation in sociology (thesis topic: *Identity Continuity of Older People during Residential Care Facility Relocation*). For the last few years, she has been mostly interested in various ageing-related topics, such as well-being in residential long-term care settings, family caregivers' motivation, experiences and challenges while providing care for their ageing relatives and other related thematic areas. Currently, along with the topic of ageing, she is researching various facets of family life, such as the social and cultural context of individual choices, motivations and decisions (not) to have children, enter a relationship, get married, etc.
E-mail: jurate.charenkova@sf.vu.lt

Eugenijus Liutkevičius is a sociocultural anthropologist and head of the Anthropology Program at Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas. He received his PhD from the University of Birmingham on the subject of the transformation of the Baptist movement in Ukraine. His research interests are the development of global evangelicalism with a particular focus on hermeneutical practices, politics, and the communal strategies of dealing with war traumas among IDPs and refugees.
E-mail: eugliutke@gmail.com

Afsara Ayub is a sociologist whose research interest lies in unraveling the complexities of social identity and marginalization within diverse communities. Currently she is serving as an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the School of Law, LLOYD. Her research journey began at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, with her M.Phil. dissertation which delved into the multifaceted dimensions of the identity formation among Urdu-speaking Muslims facing marginalization in Kolkata. Ayub's doctoral thesis further enriched her understanding of identity dynamics, focusing on the experiences of Chamar Buddhists in a caste-conflicted region. Through qualitative methods and immersive fieldwork, she explored the intricate interplay between religion, caste, and social empowerment, while shedding light on the complexities of identity reconstruction in marginalized communities.
E-mail: afsara79@gmail.com

Agnieška Avin is a social anthropologist specializing in ethnic minorities, social (ex)inclusion, human rights, and inclusive education. She holds an MA degree in Social Anthropology from Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas), and is currently pursuing her PhD degree in Sociology from the Institute of Sociology at the Lithuanian Centre for Social Sciences. She is also employed there as a junior research assistant. Her main areas of focus are Roma communities in Lithuania, systemic discrimination, and inclusion practices. Besides academic work, Avin is actively engaged in the community work; she is working as a youth worker with the youth from disadvantaged backgrounds and a cultural mediator. She also serves as an expert at the National Antigypsyism Commission under the Department of National Minorities under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and in the Vilnius City Municipality Roma Inclusion working group. E-mail: agneska.avin@gmail.com

Linus Tavaras is a doctoral student of Ethnology at the Institute of Asian and Transcultural Studies at Vilnius University. Within the last 3 years, he has been conducting anthropological research mainly on the history and culture of psychoactive substances in India and Nepal. He also conducts research on drug harm reduction through the involvement in the youth non-governmental organization *Young Wave* where, for the past 6 years, he has been providing harm reduction services at night life events, while conducting trainings for peers as well as managing international projects. In 2023, Tavaras became a representative of the *Youth Organizations for Drug Action (YODA)* as well as a member of the Steering Committee of the *Eurasian Harm Reduction Association (EHRA)*. E-mail: linastavaras5@gmail.com