

## EDITOR'S NOTES

Next year will be 15 years since we added English editions to *Lidé města / Urban People* (the journal itself has existed since 1999, and in its first seven years was only published in the Czech language). During these years of maturation, we have graduated into a high-quality interdisciplinary and international journal of urban anthropology, as we continue raising our standards. Part of this process of transformation involves some recent innovations that we initiated last year, which can also be directly or indirectly observed in our new issue (23/2). We have revitalized the journal's Editorial Board of the English editions (with the following new members: Martin Fotta, Miha Kozorog, Izabella Main, Francisco Martinez, Jeremy Morris, and Tatjana Thelen; see all members, including their institutional affiliations, here: <https://urbanpeople.cuni.cz/LMENG-23.html>), while we also broadened our editorial policies to include “creative and experimental submissions, such as photo essays, formats with forum discussions, and multi-modal ethnography” (see [urbanpeople.cuni.cz/LMENG-21.html](https://urbanpeople.cuni.cz/LMENG-21.html)). In addition, we expanded our communication with various international organizations and institutions.

The resulting new issue includes articles, and a photo essay, by authors from the USA (2), Vietnam (1), and Czechia (3), and covers a wide range of geographical areas and groups of people (Uyghur minorities in Xinjiang, China; Czech and Slovak migrants in the Arctic/Svalbard, Norway; Vietnamese migrants in Prague, Czechia; international tourists and ethnic minorities in New York; and the historical Catholic Church in Brazil). Topically, the new journal's English edition deals with several historical and contemporary social, political, technological, cultural, and natural crises: the COVID-19 pandemic (Jones, Sokolíčková and Soukupová), technologies of state surveillance in China (Wozniak), migrant working conditions and ethnic identity issues in Czechia (Nguyen), attitudes toward national minorities in Xinjiang (Wozniak), and New York (Jones), and historical contradictions between Catholic Church and modernity in Brazil (Kalenda). The texts in the new issue offer rich discussions of different types of contemporary mobilities, ranging from working-class migrations (Nguyen, Sokolíčková and Soukupová), to tourist and lifestyle mobilities (Jones, Sokolíčková and Soukupová), and concomitantly (or separately) explore the issues of place (Jones, Nguyen, Sokolíčková and Soukupová),

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online space (Nguyen), and intimate technology (Wozniak), as well as probe the subject of ethnic (Jones, Nguyen, Wozniak), tourist and/or occupational (Jones, Sokolíčková and Soukupová), and religious identities (Kalenda). Finally, some of the contributions also present rich ethnographies of particular cities and towns (New York City in Jones, Svalbard in Sokolíčková and Soukupová), and/or of particular city areas (Prague's Sapa area in Nguyen). These kinds of ethnographies of particular urban places will form a regular rubric of the journal, and thus also already constitute another of its innovations.

I want to express my gratitude to all the people who contributed to this issue with their dedicated work (including all of the authors of the texts, anonymous article and essay reviewers, our language editor, members of the Editorial Board, and the journal's staff members) – a lot of hidden and unacknowledged work goes into this endeavour – as well as to all of the readers who will contemplate, share, cite, and comment upon the content of this issue. And please, do not hesitate to write to us with your comments and questions (find our address on our website), or to send us your valuable contributions for next year's English edition (24/2), starting now.

*David Verbuč*