



Editorial

Arja Turunen

The theme in this issue of *Ethnologia Fennica* are transnational practices and connections in the everyday lives of migrants and non-migrants in Europe. The theme issue originates from a seminar titled “Transnational Processes and Practices among European Diasporas – Ethnological and Anthropological Approaches” held at the Department of History and Ethnology, University of Jyväskylä, Finland, in November 2013. The purpose of the seminar was, first, to bring together recent international research in ethnology and its sister disciplines, and second, to trace out how transnational and translocal perspectives have been utilized and understood in these disciplines when studying migration in contemporary multicultural European settings. An open call for articles focusing on these questions was issued in 2015. Scholars were encouraged to write articles about migrant individuals’ or groups’ transnational and translocal practices, social networks, and/or social ties and responsibilities which are closely linked to everyday life.

In their introductory article, Anne Häkkinen and Sanna Tawah discuss how transnationalism is approached in contemporary research on migration and transnational flows and practices, and how the articles in this theme issue discuss transnational actors, families, and socio-spatial practices and identifications through the lens of everyday life. The issue aims to contribute to the discussion on transnational and translocal practices, connections, being and belonging by shedding light on why migrants choose transnational lives and what aspects shape the transnational

practices they engage in. The articles also bring forward important but often neglected aspects in a global context such as children as movers and material layers of transnational ties.

Children’s views and experiences on mobility, migration and transnational family settings are discussed in Pihla Siim’s article. Siim studies Estonian families living in Finland by asking how children make sense of relocation and mobility in their everyday lives, and how they understand translocal family practices. Estonian families are also discussed in Keiu Telve’s article, which studies cross-border commuting of Estonian men who work in Finland but still live in Estonia. Telve asks what they think about their mobile way of living, and how have their working patterns changed

Maja Povrzanović Frykman investigates material practices in transnational social fields. She argues that a material culture perspective is needed for a balanced understanding of migrants’ lives as positioned in both material and discursive terms and equally importantly formed by practices and representations.

The perspective of non-migrants, including relatives in the country of origin as well as the second generation in multicultural/migrant families, is also taken into account when scrutinizing transnational connections and identifications. In her article, Hanneleena Hieta discusses transnational family life by studying the movement of people, goods and information generated by transnational families. She studies how the distance across longitudes and latitudes affects grandparenting and what forms the interaction takes.

Viktorija L.A. Čeginskas addresses the issue of multiple belonging and transnational identification for people who have parents of different nationalities and who grew up in multilingual families outside their parents' countries of origin. Her informants have not necessarily experienced mobility themselves, but as Čeginskas shows, it is impossible for them to identify with only a single or dominant cultural, ethnic and national background. Instead, they show a preference for identifying as Europeans and their

identification with Europe has become part of a self-chosen reality.

The last section of this journal issue introduces new ethnological dissertations and other ethnologically noteworthy publications. Furthermore, this issue includes reports on the following conferences: the biennial Ethnology Days, organized by Ethnos in Turku in 2016, the 14th Biennial Conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists and the 4th Nordic Conference for Rural Research, "Nordic Ruralities: Crisis and Resilience".