

Introduction

Dear Readers,

It is an honor and a pleasure to present to you the first issue of *Český lid* in 2016, whose production I had the opportunity to oversee as the new Editor-in-Chief. The long historical tradition of the journal is a source of promise and responsibility that obliges me to ensure the material and intellectual continuity of this key ethnological and anthropological periodical in the Czech Republic. On both the material and intellectual level, this continuity is tied to the journal's publisher, the Institute of Ethnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, which generously supports the journal's publication and whose research focus determines the thematic direction of the periodical. The aim of our efforts in the years to come, therefore, will be to continue publishing high-quality scholarly articles in the fields of ethnology and sociocultural anthropology as well as interdisciplinary articles with corresponding theoretical and methodological focus.

Like most journals today, *Český lid* faces challenges tied to the new realities and requirements of global scholarly publishing. While we are committed to the continuous publication of *Český lid* in paper, we will focus much of our efforts on increasing the journal's profile through innovations and wide availability of its electronic version. The most important of these changes is the transition to full open-access publication format, which should significantly increase the journal's citation index and visibility both nationally and internationally. We will continue publishing in Czech, Slovak and English, expanding wherever possible the bi-lingual (English/Czech, English/Slovak) availability of articles. We will also strive toward increasing the journal's academic profile and visibility by publishing strong thematic issues and thematic journal sections.

This issue of *Český lid* opens with a thematic English/Czech language section on public anthropology, an area of much recent interest and disciplinary debate. We include articles by prominent contemporary European ethnologists and anthropologists – Thomas Hylland Eriksen and Michał Buchowski – which they prepared based on their keynote lectures during the 2015 conference organized by the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) and the Institute of Ethnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences (EU AV ČR) in Prague on October 14–15, 2015. This important European-wide scholarly event brought together more than 50 anthropologists from 17 different countries and was made possible by the Czech Academy of Sciences' grant programme Strategy AV21. The conference also resulted in a policy paper, which was translated into more than 10 languages and distributed worldwide, whose Czech and English versions we also bring to you in this issue. In the regular section

of the journal, there are two articles by Czech and Polish ethnologists and anthropologists. The article by Veronika Beranská and Zdeněk Uherek focuses on folk healing strategies of Chernobyl nuclear accident survivors, while Tomasz Rakowski's study looks at the grassroots economic development strategies of the Mongolian Torghuts. As always, we offer a number of conference reports and book reviews in the last section.

I would like to thank all the reviewers for generously offering their time and expertise. I am grateful to the members of the new Editorial Board for accepting our invitation to participate in the creation of *Český lid* in the years to come, and I thank my Editorial Team – Kateřina Sedlická and Vendula Škrabalová – for their great work. Last but not least, my gratitude goes to Zdeněk Uherek, Director of the Institute of Ethnology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, for entrusting me with the challenging task of *Český lid*'s editorship.

Hana Červinková
Editor-in-Chief