

[View this email in your browser](#)



## NEWSLETTER 2023/2 JULY

### IN FOCUS

#### EASA AoE and ANTHROFA Workshop "Capitalism, Fascism, and the Environment"

The joint workshop of the Anthropology of Economy Network and the Anthropology of Fascisms Network "Capitalism, Fascism, and the Environment" took place in Cologne, Germany, on July 3-4, 2023. Over two days, we discussed how capitalism and fascisms intersect in the domain of the environment. We began with a panel revolving around right-wing resentments towards wolves in Germany (Julia Leser) and Spain (Nicolas Petel-Rochette). The second panel focused on the negotiations with the law and right-wing politics by those who lack state power, be they environmental activists fighting against developmentalist projects (Hayal Akarsu), immigrants who adopt anti-immigrant political stances (Rafal Soborski and Anna Jochymek), or Dalits (Indulata Prasad). The concluding panel aimed to provide a broader contextualization of right-wing politics focusing on far-right localism in France (Lise Benoist), the long-duree processes of colonial extraction in the Amazon (Paula Bastos), and global environmental degradation (Joyce Dalsheim). The keynote speech was delivered by Alexandra Coțofană, who talked about her work on xenophobic sentient landscapes in Romania.

This in-person workshop continues the ongoing collaboration across EASA networks on the relationship between fascisms and capitalisms in the series of ongoing online conversations that will continue until the end of the year. We look forward to deepening the conversations and hope to provide a deeper understanding of these important topics grounded in ethnographic work.

We thank EASA for providing generous initial funding for the workshop. We are also grateful to the University of Cologne Global South Studies Center, which provided additional funding and people power that allowed us to have a successful event in Cologne.



### PERSPECTIVES, NOTES AND QUERIES

#### Women and Housing Crises in Economic Anthropology's Research Agenda

Just as in other corners of the world, whenever civil society organisations send out volunteers to count people sleeping rough in Spanish cities, a predominance of men over women is revealed. But the under-representation of women among the homeless is at odds with the fact that they have been affected more than men by the housing crisis that Spain has experienced since 2008. Unaffordability, unstable leases, overcrowding, substandard housing and evictions motivate them to apply for social housing and housing benefits and to join housing rights movements in greater numbers than men.

So, how is the housing crisis affecting women specifically? How does gender inequality operate in the housing realm? What do women do to get and keep a home where domestic life is made possible? Why do women tend to avoid homelessness at all costs? How many of them are poorly sheltered, despite not being actually homeless, and what housing conditions do they endure? Ethnographic enquiries into these questions may provide answers of interest to economic anthropologists, to the extent that they call for more attention to the intersection of housing markets and policies, patriarchal social structures and the sphere of social and domestic reproduction in the context of the financialisation processes that affect both housing and households.

To advance in that direction, the specific effects of the housing crisis on women need to be related to conditions at play beyond the housing arena. Importantly, the feminisation of poverty, with women being prone to low wages and temporary or part-time jobs, has considerable explanatory potential, as it aggravates the unaffordability of housing for them. This is particularly so for migrant and racialised women, whose residential options, constrained by the need to get ahead with little support and provide for their kin, expose them to discrimination, exploitation and predation in job and housing markets, as well as to institutional racism that denies them the chance of getting an adequate home.

Besides, the reproductive responsibilities attributed to women, including their duty to provide living space and care to people depending on them, limit the scope of their choices, binding them to support networks based on proximity, and aggravating their dispossession in the event of forced displacement. In addition, domestic violence on women forces them either to flee their homes without the status of victims of eviction, or to stay in hostile domestic environments where they experience nothing like a home. And the longevity of elderly female tenants in low-rent dwellings exposes them to harassment by profit-maximising landlords. What does all this tell us about the provision of basic resources in our societies and about the outcomes of financial capitalism affecting the sphere of reproduction?

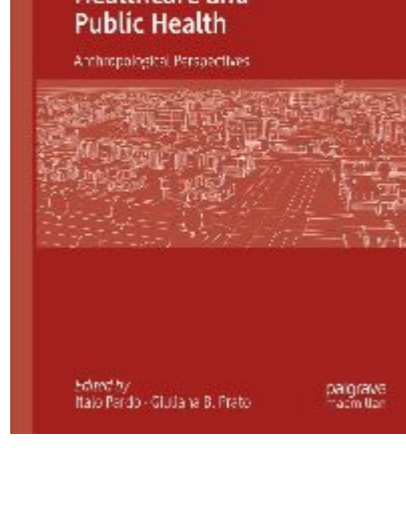
Rarely considered in the design of housing policies, and only partially addressed by housing-rights activism, the specific experiences of women in housing crises may not only inform theoretical debates of interest to economic anthropology, but may also provide a chance to reinforce the discipline's commitment to housing and gender justice.

Irene Sabaté Muriel  
Universitat de Barcelona  
[sabate.irene@ub.edu](mailto:sabate.irene@ub.edu)

If you want to reply to this column, or if you want to write a column or have an idea for one, please communicate with James G. Carrier: [jgc.carrier@gmail.com](mailto:jgc.carrier@gmail.com)

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

#### BOOKS AND SPECIAL ISSUES



**The Legitimacy of Healthcare and Public Health**, edited by I. Pardo & G.B. Prato, Palgrave Macmillan (2023).

This book brings comparatively together anthropological studies on healthcare and public health, drawing on ethnographies from urban Europe, India, Africa, Latin America, the USA and the Far and Middle East. Inspired by the current debate on legitimacy, legitimation and de-legitimation, the contributions do not refrain from taking into account the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the health systems under study, but carefully avoid letting this issue monopolise the discussion. This book raises key challenges to our understanding of healthcare practices and the governance of public health, as well as socio-economic determinants of health and access to health care. With a keen eye on urban life, its inequalities and the ever-expanding gap between rulers and the ruled, the findings address important questions on the complex ways in which authorities gain, keep, or lose the public's trust.

ISBN 978-3-031-25591-5  
<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-25591-2>



**Special issue "Entrepreneurs and economic change in the Balkans, 19th-21st century,"** edited by Mehdi Belasri, Milana Čerđić and Andrea Umberto

**Gritti, Balkanologie 17, 2 (2022).** Entrepreneurship has attracted relatively little attention from social scientists focusing on the Balkans. This thematic dossier features six original research articles (three in French and three in English) and a research note (in English) by anthropologists, geographers and historians focusing on Ottoman Rumelia, Ottoman and contemporary Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Ottoman and contemporary Greece. In their case studies, the authors spotlight specific entrepreneurial trajectories demonstrating that such trajectories intersect in multiple, unpredictable ways with the encompassing economic and political transformations of their time. One of the important findings is that, in the Balkans, "entrepreneur" has been most often a temporary status, and "enterprise" a malleable category. Five thematic book reviews close the issue.

<https://hdoiio.gri/en/news/announcements/1005/>



**Special Issue "Social Lives of Debts: Ethnographies from Post-Soviet and Post-socialist Economies,"** edited by Rano Turueva, *Journal of Extreme Anthropology* 6, 1 (2022).

The special issue is addressing debt relations and economic exchange centered on debt which remains relatively unexplored within the realm of anthropology. The contributions to the special issue examine debt relations and economic exchange based on debt focusing on the significance of debt for the various actors involved in making, repaying, resetting, and utilizing debt as both a business model and a survival strategy. The analysis of the contributions deal with the understanding of the multifaceted process of debt creation, debt repayment, the interdependencies arising from debt, and the social reality surrounding the establishment of debt in transition economies within the Eastern European context, including post-Soviet countries and Eastern Europe.

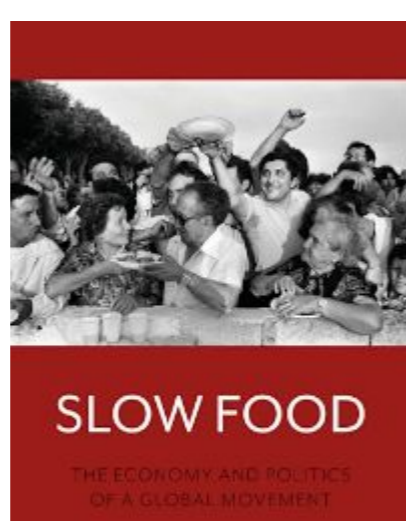
<https://journals.uio.no/JEA/issue/view/820>



**Special issue "Infrastructures of Value: New and Historical Materialities in Agriculture,"** edited by André Thiemann, and Christof Lammer, *Ethnos, Journal of Anthropology*, (2023).

Values – whether they are financial profit or solidarity and sustainability – often appear abstract and intangible. This special issue looks at the infrastructures that undergird land's financialization, terroir wine, organic certification, alternative food networks and capitalist cold chains. The outlined approach to economic anthropology thus sheds light at the materiality of seemingly immaterial value.

<https://ost-research-group.org/portfolio/infrastructures-of-value/>



**Slow Food: The Economy and Politics of a Global Movement**, by Valeria Siniscalchi, Bloomsbury Academic (2023).

Slow Food is a grassroots organisation that embraces a slow way of life, linking the love of food with community and environmental support. Based on three years of ethnographic fieldwork inside Slow Food's international headquarters in Italy, Valeria Siniscalchi reveals what really goes on behind the scenes of this enigmatic organization. Through talking to insiders and people who have 'broken' with Slow Food, Siniscalchi makes a major contribution to our understanding of one of the most high-profile and controversial food movements in the world – and to our knowledge of activist organizations more broadly.

ISBN 9781474282444  
<https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/slow-food-9781474282444/>

### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Fonterfrancesco, M. F., & Costa, A. (2023). "Keeping the Knives Sharp: Socioeconomic Innovation in the Artisan Sector of Butchery in Italy." *Societies*, 13 (4): 80. DOI: [10.3390/soc13040080](https://doi.org/10.3390/soc13040080)

Turueva, R. (2022). "Measuring Humans Through Money: Anthropology of Debt in Post-Soviet Economies." *Journal of Extreme Anthropology* 6 (1): i-xvii. DOI: [10.5617/jea.9791](https://doi.org/10.5617/jea.9791)

Turueva, R. (2022). "Economy of favours in Central Asia: Tanish-bilish, kattalar and kichkina." *Economic Sociology: Perspectives and Conversations* 23 (3): 10-16. <http://hdl.handle.net/10419/262993>

### CONFERENCES

**International Conference on "Forms of Inequality and the Legitimacy of Governance"**  
Montecatini Terme (Italy), 28-31 July 2023.

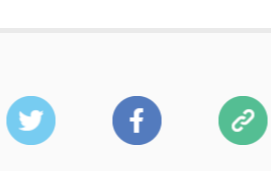
Details on this event are available at: <https://www.internationalurbansymposium.com/events/2023-2/>

**Conference of the German Association of Anthropology on "Contested Knowledge: Anthropological Perspectives"**  
Munich (Germany), 25-28 July 2023.

Workshop of the Working Group Economic Anthropology convened by Mechthild von Vacano "45. Reconceptualizing the Economic Subject: An Invitation for Contestation (Workshop)", Thursday, 27 July, 11am:  
<https://tagung.dgsk.de/en/workshops-%c2%b7-roundtables-%c2%b7-tables>

Informal Pub Night on Wednesday. To get updates on venue, please mail to [andreas.streinzer@unisg.ch](mailto:andreas.streinzer@unisg.ch)

The Anthropology of Economy network was launched at the 2012 conference of the European Association of Social Anthropologists. The Network unites EASA members who share an interest in the anthropology of economy. Further information on the AoE Network: <https://www.eassonline.org/networks/economy/>  
Contact for Newsletter inquiries and submissions:  
Michele Filppo Fontefrancesco, [m.fontefrancesco@unisg.it](mailto:m.fontefrancesco@unisg.it)  
AoE Network Newsletter 2023/2 was set by Ognjen Kojanić.



Copyright © Anthropology of Economy network, EASA  
Join the mailing list:  
<http://lists.eassonline.org/listinfo.cgi/anthecon-eassonline.org>

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list

