



# Editorial

## Introducing Open Issues

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As the last issue of the 2016 volume gets published, the journal *Sociální studia / Social Studies* is going through an exciting period. Having gone bilingual in 2015, the journal is now open to English-speaking readers worldwide. In yet another step, the present issue is the first open issue of the journal, one that is not organized around a certain topic. This means that the journal can now accommodate thematically diverse, high-quality papers on topics which may not fit in the current plan of monothematic issues but are timely and relevant enough to merit a spot in *Sociální studia / Social Studies*. While we will stick to monothematic issues as the main model going forward, we will be keeping open slots and possibly whole open issues for papers on other topics too, to accommodate the wide variety of fascinating research in sociology and related fields.

This issue opens with a paper by *Olga Nešporová* on the norms and expectations of parenthood as described by expectant parents. Nešporová reveals a set of discrepancies along the normative frame of what parental care should be as well as along the gender frame, as her respondents voice different ideas about the roles of men and women in childcare. She identifies three general models of parental care which the expectant couples subscribe to.

Continuing on the topic of gender, a large-scale empirical study by *Iлона Matysiak* addresses the role of women as village representatives in Poland. As the function of a village representative shifts from a traditionally male-dominated one towards the inclusion of women, Matysiak is looking for changes this may bring: are there differences in leadership styles of women, compared to men? Drawing on the theory of substantive representation, the paper turns to role theory in order to explain both the differences and similarities.

In an interdisciplinary study, *Lucia Dobrucká* turns to the world of urban and spatial planners to study how they deal with the problem of power. While it is studied extensively in sociological theory, power plays a central role in planning processes too, and it is interesting to see the concept re-framed in planning literature, along with a different take on sociological household names, from Max Weber to Michel Foucault and Jürgen Habermas. In her review, Dobrucká analyses the concept of power through the lens of time and space.

The first of two strong contributions to cultural sociology, the paper by *Dominik Želinský* and *Werner Binder* takes us back to the 1950s Czechoslovakia to witness the celebration of the “Majáles” student carnival. The subversive performances by the students in Prague and Bratislava, the authors argue, were enabled by a shift in the relationship

between the symbolic centre of the regime and its periphery, following the “second death of Stalin” after Khrushchev’s speech at the 1956 Communist Party Congress.

In the second cultural sociological study, *Ali Türünz* examines the meanings of music as a resource through which Turkish immigrants in Germany make sense of their lives and their identities. Using the distinctions between what they perceive as refined and uncultured music, the immigrants produce binaries which establish the internal symbolic differentiation in the community and position themselves and others in it.

Readers interested in cultural sociology will be pleased to learn that the issue also includes an interview with Isaac Ariail Reed, a leading cultural sociologist and the author of the celebrated book *Interpretation and Social Knowledge* (2011). The issue concludes with book reviews by Anna Durnová and Zuzana Botiková.