

THE PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A RESEARCH AREA (COOPERATIO PROGRAM)

name of the research area:	Social and Cultural Anthropology
coordinator:	Doc. PhDr. Zuzana Jurková, Ph.D.

The following text is the result of a consensus of the members of the **Cooperatio Program Board for Social and Cultural Anthropology (SCAN)**. The coordinator of the Board is doc. PhDr. Zuzana Jurková, PhD. (FHS), the deputy coordinator is doc. PhDr. Marek Jakoubek, Ph.D. et Ph.D. (FF), the members are PhDr. Dana Bittnerová, CSc. (FHS), doc. PhDr. Petr Janeček, Ph.D. (FF), doc. PhDr. Jan Horský, Ph.D. (FF), prof. PhDr. Zdeněk R. Nešpor, Ph.D. (FHS), Alessandro Testa, Ph.D. (FSV) and Mgr. et Mgr. Markéta Zandlová, Ph.D. (FHS). This Board represents three departments with different histories and distinctive research themes and emphases.¹

All the following information refers to the current situation (2022).

1. Description of the current state of the research area; Reflection of the internal evaluation; Conditions

1.1. Faculty of Humanities Charles University

1.1.1. General Introduction

Since its establishment in 2000, anthropology has been one of the pillar disciplines of the Faculty of Humanities, which runs from undergraduate to doctoral studies. It is a broad concept of anthropology, which - besides social and cultural anthropology - includes physical, historical, philosophical anthropology and their overlaps. This broad and interdisciplinary nature of anthropology at FHS, together with its long experience in research, its production of diverse interdisciplinary projects, and its collaboration with several major journals, makes it an important base for contemporary Czech anthropology. It is also supported by a high-quality institutional background, which includes the habilitation process. Students at FHS can choose social and cultural anthropology (SCAN) as a profiling discipline within the bachelor's degree, at the master's level, it is one of the specialisations of the Anthropological Studies program, the anthropologically oriented doctoral program is called General Anthropology.

This situation – together with the emphasis on interdisciplinarity, in line with current trends in the social sciences characteristic of the FHS – is the reason why the numbers of persons involved in the discipline (lecturers and PhDs) are quite significantly at odds in the present document. It is also related to the fact that it is not always possible to unambiguously assign a researcher or his/her scientific outputs to one particular discipline, here specifically SCAN (these overlaps exist for example between SCAN and master's study programs Historical Sociology and Oral History - Contemporary History and doctoral study program Contemporary European History). Ethnology and SCAN share a wide range of topics, theoretical-methodological approaches and epistemological starting points, and even scholars who

¹ There is no representative of the Centre for Theoretical Studies on the Council, although it was included in the internal evaluation.

subscribe to both traditions or rather engage in both scholarly communities. This is also supported by the infrastructure of scientific work, where scientific and professional departments, professional organisations as well as publishing platforms are open to researchers from both disciplines.

1.1.2. Evaluation reflection

With full weight, we want to recall what the evaluation also emphasizes, namely that bibliometric comparisons in the social sciences need to be treated with some caution (these kinds of bibliometric indicators are less important in social science than in the “hard sciences”, and that „we need to treat any bibliometric analysis based upon a “hard science” model with caution“ – p. 6). This is also related to the difference in preferred/valued genres: unlike e.g. sociology, the monograph genre is highly valued in SCAN (which is not reflected in the evaluation). This does not contradict the thesis that it is appropriate to encourage the production of excellent results (see pp. 7-8 for the evaluation). The second area to be taken into account is that the FHS emphasises other forms of scientific work considered to be of particular importance in the SCAN: applied science (see the two TAČR grants above), popularisation of science (see the Didaktikon grant, etc.).

1.1.3. Conditions

1.1.3.1. Personnel

Taking into account the above, we can include 80 members in the SCAN + Ethnology group: 14 in the role of scientific and teaching staff, 66 PhD. students.

1.1.3.2. Workspace and Material

Considering the relative space-saving nature of the discipline and the fact that FHS now has a new, building the working conditions and technical equipment are relatively satisfactory. In the material area, two spheres can be distinguished: a) material provision of research (see below the section *Research projects*), b) basic material provision of researchers. While the situation in the first area appears to be standard, the sphere of basic material support for researchers, especially for non-habilitated ones, is fundamentally unsatisfactory. While the average salary in the state sphere is 40,000 CZK (in September 2021), non-habilitated researchers have (without personal remuneration) about 75% of this amount. As these are mostly those who also provide for their families, it is not exceptional that they have to find additional ways of earning. In such a situation, it is hard to imagine (and hard to demand) extraordinary results, especially given the volume of teaching duties (4 courses).² The situation of habilitated staff, as well as PhD students, is similarly unsatisfactory.

1.1.4. Cooperation at the national and international level

It is clear from the evaluation committee's report that it did not have all the relevant data. This concerns, e.g., membership of editorial boards of foreign journals (e.g., *Journal for Urban Research*), or invited lectures abroad (p. 13). The situation regarding participation in international grants has improved (see below). At the same time, the narrower definition of

² It is necessary to mention the possibility of creative leave – sabbatical, which can be taken after 7 years.

the discipline in this text, as discussed above, should be taken into account, with the result that the internationally fruitful field of longevity studies is not included here (Ph.D. Studia dlouhověkosti - Fakulta humanitních studií Univerzity Karlovy).

1.1.4.1. Research projects

Research funding has so far been available from institutional research support (Progress), which has usually covered smaller research projects.

- COST, Petra Ezzeddine: *Women on the Move*, CA19112
- ACES, Petra Ezzeddine: *Transnational care landscapes in Central Europe: Privatization, marketization and overlapping mobilities in elderly care*
- TAČR, Zuzana Jurková: *Můžeme hrát spolu. Využití sociálně-homogenizačního potenciálu kolektivních hudebních performancí Projekt*, TL01000329
- ERASMUS+ grant, Bohuslav Kuřík: *The Smart for Democracy and Diversity*
- TAČR, Markéta Zandlová: *Příběhy sucha: Lokální souvislosti extrémních klimatických jevů, jejich percepce a ochota aktérů k participaci*, TL02000048

1.1.4.2. National cooperation

There is a regular cooperation between FHS and EÚ AV ČR, irregular but emerging between FHS and FSV UK. Irregular cooperation exists also between FHS and SOU AV ČR, ÚSD AV ČR, Global Change Research Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Výzkumný ústav Silva Taroucy pro krajinu a okrasné zahradnictví, v.v.i. FHS also cooperates with journals *Historická sociologie* and *Historická demografie*. A large number of persons involved in the SCAN at FHS have been active in the Czech Association for Social Anthropology (CASA) since its foundation, even serving as its chairpersons.

FHS publishes a pivotal anthropological journal *Lidé města/Urban People*, which is published in both Czech and English issues, with a fully international editorial board for the foreign issues. FHS thus creates an important disciplinary infrastructure and also provides a platform for publications by foreign researchers.

1.1.4.3. International cooperation

Internationalisation happens at several levels: at the level of joint research projects, at the level of organising and participating in conferences and at the level of student activities.

1.1.4.4. Bilateral contracts

Erasmus+

- University of Aarhus, Aarhus, Denmark
- University of Turku, Turku, Finland
- Université Paris Diderot, Paris, France
- University of Limerick, Limerick, Ireland
- University of Iceland, Reykjavik, Iceland
- Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania
- Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary
- Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, Germany
- Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden, Germany

- Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Frankfurt, Germany
- Universität Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany
- Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany
- Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands
- Univerzita sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Trnave, Trnava, Slovakia
- Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Madrid, Spain
- University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden
- Sabancı University, Istanbul, Turkey
- Durham University, Durham, United Kingdom

AKTION:

- Study and research stays in Austria.

1.2. Faculty of Arts Charles University, Institute of Ethnology

1.2.1. General Introduction

The Institute of Ethnology has a long history dating back to 1919 when its precursor, Department of German Ethnography, was established as one of the first ethnographical departments in Central Europe, followed by the Czech Ethnographic Seminar in the 1930s. Original research geographically focused on national and local ethnography and folklore of the Czech Lands combined with a comparative study of Slavic and Germanic cultures. This was geographically widened in the second half of the 20th century to incorporate a comparative study of other cultures, specially selected European, American and Asian ones. In recent years, theoretical and methodological influences provided by social and cultural anthropology were added. The Institute offers both B.A. and M.A. level study programs of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology and Ph.D. program of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, offered both in Czech and English languages.

Contemporary research, publication and pedagogical activities of the Institute are based on three fields, or rather general academical discourses: 1. Social and Cultural Anthropology, 2. European Ethnology and 3. Folkloristics, all conceptualized as sub-fields or thematical domains of a joint field of anthropological research. This specific, both theoretical and practical dialogue between Social and Cultural Anthropology, European Ethnology and Folkloristics represent the uniqueness of the Institute of Ethnology not only in national but also in a wider international context of academical institutes, where these fields usually consist of parts of different departments.

1.2.2. Conditions

1.2.2.1. Personnel

Number of employees: 9 (7,5 full-time), including 5 Docents (Associate Professors) and 1 Professor. Number of PhD students: 66 (including international ones).

Starting Salary: Assistant: 27 500 Kč; Assistant professor (odborný asistent): 27 500 Kč; Docent: 30 400 Kč; Professor: 32 000 Kč (Starting salaries here are even lower than at FHS).

1.2.2.2. Workspace and Material

The Institute regularly uses 3 offices with 9 workplaces with PCs and two printers, along with academic library which is part of the Library of the Faculty of Arts. For teaching purposes, the Institute uses 2 teaching rooms which are however shared with several other departments of the Faculty of Arts.

1.2.3. Cooperation at the international level

Through individual memberships of its academical staff, the Institute of Ethnology is a member of multiple anthropological international societies and professional associations (e.g. WCAA, EASA, SIEF, ISFNR, ISCLR, FLS). Several of the academic staff of the Institute are also members of editorials boards of international academic and scholarly journals and academic editions, such as *Journal of Folklore and Popular Culture*, *Contemporary Legend*, and *Studies in Ethnology and Folklore*.

1.2.3.1. Bilateral contracts

Erasmus:

- Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria
- New Bulgarian University, Department of Anthropology, Sofia, Bulgaria
- Institut d'ethnologie, Université de Strasbourg, France
- Institut für Kulturanthropologie / Europäische Ethnologie, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany
- Europäische Ethnologie / Kulturwissenschaft, Philipps-Universität Marburg, Germany
- Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, University of Wrocław, Poland
- Department of Ethnology and Non-European Studies, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Trnava, Slovakia
- Institut für Sozialanthropologie, Universität Bern, Switzerland
- Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies (CEEPUS):
- International placements can take place at any eligible university in the following countries:
- Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Austria, Croatia, Montenegro, Hungary, Northern Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, Kosovo

EEA and Norway Grants:

- Department of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo, Norway

1.3. Faculty of Social Sciences Charles University, Institute of Sociological Studies

1.3.1. General Introduction

SCAN has been developed at the ISS since its inception (1993). It has always been organizationally integrated into the Department of Sociology, and it is studied alongside sociology both at bachelor's and master's levels.

The main creative personality for the development of social anthropology at the Department of Sociology until 2016 was Professor Josef Kandert, who also led the department for several

years. He projected anthropological views into the profile of the department as a whole and stabilized social anthropology as a teaching branch at both the bachelor and master levels. At the doctoral level, social anthropology can be studied in the doctoral program of sociology.

The mission of social anthropology at ISS is to bring and improve research and teaching perspectives, especially in the area of qualitative research, fostering a deep understanding of socio-cultural issues and individual and group behaviour by applying a variety of methodologies. This model is currently being developed with a greater emphasis on the present, and on Europe – although the impact of non-European influences on Europe is not neglected –, and on the theme of transforming societies at the local, global, and glocal levels.

The internationalisation of anthropological research at ISS, FSV has been happening in a variety of ways, both the pedagogical and research level. Social anthropology is included in all study programs, and also in the Sociology, Communication and Media, and Sociology in European Context, which are educated in English. This has ensured a constant flow of ideas between teachers, invited lectures, and students coming from different countries. Staff members regularly participate in international academic events (such as the conferences of the EASA, EASR, SIEF, and others). They also seat in several international reviews, editorial, and evaluation boards, and publish in international journals and for international publishers. The department seminars as well as the Gellner seminars, also organised by the department, regularly host foreign researchers. Last but not least, thanks to the international study programs, there are many students coming from all over the world to study at the department, which, moreover, is also chosen by many Erasmus students every year.

1.3.2. Condition

1.3.2.1. Personnel

Number of academic staff: 5. Number of researchers: 5

Additionally, about fifteen PhD. students are writing their thesis in social anthropology, often having a sociologist as supervisor or co-supervisor.

1.3.3. Cooperation at the international level

1.3.3.1. Research projects

The department has been regularly hosting national and international projects for years. Recent national and international projects:

- ERC-CZ, Alessandro Testa: The Re-Enchantment of Central-Eastern Europe (ReEnchEu), LL2006
- GAČR, Tereza Freidingerová: Integrace migrantů v nemetropolitních oblastech na individuální, diasporální a institucionální úrovni, 21-06818S
- GAČR, Barbora Spalová: Proměny církevních morálních ekonomíí v ČR a SR v kontextu restitucí a odluky od státu, 19-08512S
- GAČR, Jakub Grygar: Inovace v etnickém podnikání a rozvíjející se každodenní multikulturalismus, 17-18584S
- TAČR, Barbora Spalová: Společnost a církve v procesu restitucí církevního majetku: Podpora participace, TL02000132

- GAUK, Martin Tremčinský: Mezi dvěma stranami téže mince: Analýza mnohačetných podob Bitcoinu v interakci se státními kontrolními, 1298119

1.3.3.2. Bilateral contracts

Apart from several agreements with - and also informal cooperation with members of - several scholars and institutions within the Czech Republic, ISS FSV has bilateral agreements for the Erasmus + or other schemes with the following institutes and departments:

- University of Antwerp, Faculty of Social Sciences
- Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
- Universite Catholique De Louvain
- Université de Liege
- Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- University of Zagreb, Faculty of Political Science, Departement of Political Science
- Aarhus University
- University of Southern Denmark
- University of Helsinki, Department of Social Research
- University of Tampere, School of Social Sciences and Humanities
- Sciences Po Grenoble
- Universite Lumiere Lyon 2, Département de Sociologie
- Ecole Normale Superieure
- Université de Rennes, Faculté des Sciences Economiques
- University of Portsmouth
- University of Portsmouth
- University College Cork
- University of Dublin, Trinity College
- University of Limerick, Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of History
- University of Island
- Scuola Normale Superiore, Istituto de Scienze Umane e Sociali
- Università Degli Studi Di Roma 'La Sapienza'
- Università degli Studi Roma Tre
- Università degli Studi di Salerno
- University of Milan, Department of Political and Social Studies
- Università degli Studi di Perugia
- Università degli Studi della Tuscia
- Kaunas University of Technology, Faculty of Social Sciences
- University of Klaipeda
- European Humanities University
- Eötvös Loránd University, FSS, IPES
- Corvinus University of Budapest, Faculty of Economics
- National University of Public Service
- Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen
- Chemnitz University of Technology, Department of Sociology
- Technische Universität Chemnitz
- Universität Konstanz, Faculty of Humanities, Department of History and Sociology

- Universität Konstanz, Department of Politics and Public Administration
- Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz
- University of Postdam, Faculty of Social Sciences
- Tilburg University
- University of Twente
- Universiteit Leiden, Faculty of Social Sciences, Institute of Political Sciences
- Rotterdam University
- University of Bergen, Faculty of Social Sciences
- University of Bialystok, Faculty of History and Sociology
- University of Silesia, Institute of Sociology
- Jagiellonian University
- University of Science and Technology
- University of Warsaw, Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, Institute of Social Policy
- University of Warsaw, Faculty of History, Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology
- University of Wrocław, Institute of International Studies
- Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz
- Alpen-Adria - Universität Klagenfurt
- University of Vienna
- National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Faculty of Political Science
- National University of Political Studies and Public Administration, Faculty of Political Science
- Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Social and Economic Sciences
- Univerzita sv. Cyrila a Metoda v Trnave, Faculty of Social Sciences
- University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences
- Universidad de Almeria
- University of Barcelona, Faculty of Economics and Business
- Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Faculty of Political Science & Sociology
- Dalarna University, School of Health and Social Sciences
- University of Gothenburg, Department of Sociology
- Uludağ University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Sociology
- Dicle University
- Sakarya University
- Staffordshire University, School of Law Policing and Forensics
- University of York, Centre for Global Programmes

There are currently several non-Czech scholars working at the department with both “academic” and “scientific” full-time contracts. In particular, the running ERC CZ project is led by a foreign scholar (Alessandro Testa), who formed a research team composed mostly of foreigners (four foreign researchers and one Czech).

2. Main research directions and objectives

2.1. Environment for discipline development

In the above-mentioned text, the context of the SCAN at CU is described, in particular the highly unsatisfactory remuneration/support of researchers. Above all, it must be stated that the development of the discipline is tied up and sorely hampered by the impossibility of awarding higher academic qualifications and thus contributing to natural development, personal growth and professional mobility within the field. Although Charles University is the leading institution in the country, it does not have accreditation for the Appointment (Professorship) Procedure in either social and cultural anthropology (at the Faculty of Humanities), or ethnology (at the Faculty of Arts), and for this reason also the Habilitation Procedure is endangered in the near future. Even worse, there is not any other institution authorized to award Professorship in social and cultural anthropology in the Czech Republic, and the only accreditation in ethnology (at the Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University in Brno) is highly endangered due to age of the guarantor (while there is not any other professor to replace her). Although these difficulties are not directly related to the academic research at the Charles University, we consider them to be highly serious and at the same time we do not have a way to straighten them. We strongly appeal to the university management to stand up for us and support the solution of the problem, because otherwise the very existence of social and cultural anthropology and ethnology in the Czech Republic will be threatened in the near future.

Another problem is the lack of an equal opportunity for SCAN to progress as other fields of social sciences. To resolve this, the council believes it is extremely important for social and cultural anthropology to have its own evaluation panel (the expert body of the discipline committee) in the Czech Science Foundation (GAČR), the only institution in the Czech Republic that provides public funding for basic research projects. Currently, not only that “social and cultural anthropology” does not have its own panel, it is even completely missing in the list of the evaluation panels (see <https://gacr.cz/o-ga-cr/poradni-organy/panely/>). The situation is to the greatest disadvantage to scholars aiming at professional profiling in the discourse of social and cultural anthropology and striving to promote its development.

One of the causes of the predicament of social and cultural anthropology as an academic discourse in the Czech academia is the fact that its integral part – ethnology – is classified as a historical science and as such belongs to a completely different branch of sciences than social and cultural anthropology. The classification of ethnology as a historical science resulted from the decision made by the Academy of Sciences of the USSR in 1950s, and later accepted by the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.

2.2. Research fields to be developed

Research will be performed in the fundamental areas of Theory, Methodology, and History of SCAN. In accordance with contemporary trends in SCAN at the Charles University, research of following topics/areas of today’s complex world are recommended to be prioritized:

1. Anthropology of Europe
2. Anthropology of health, care, and the body
3. Anthropology of religion
4. Cognitive anthropology
5. Critical heritage studies
6. Environmental anthropology

7. History of sociocultural anthropology
8. Kinship and ethnicity
9. Memory studies
10. Mobility
11. Music anthropology/Ethnomusicology
12. Political and economic anthropology
13. Subcultures, minorities, and marginalisation

2.3. Publication

Publication activities of various kinds are one of the key tools to periodically develop and cultivate the scientific discipline at the international and national level and to effectively link these two levels. It is therefore essential to support: a) publication in the internationally recognised arenas (in top-journals and for top-publishers); b) the publication of pivotal works – both in Czech and English (e.g. by financing translations or proof-readings); c) the production of quality translations of key texts in SCAN, which will help the formation of a conceptual and theoretical apparatus in the Czech language; and d) the publication of leading national journals, shaping the discourse and research, such as *Lidé města/Urban People* and *Studia Ethnologica Pragensia* (to cultivate the development of the discipline). Such a development is also aided by making the full texts of published scientific results, mostly articles, broadly available (open access). The funding is recommended especially for the following outputs and publications:

1. Articles in AIS journals
2. Monographs (both in Czech and English – preferably with top publishers)
3. Influential national journals

2.4. Research

Support should be given to research activities that fall under one of the research areas mentioned above or develop an interdisciplinary research framework, and that result in a publication or other scientific output. In order to foster in-country research, applications for prestigious international grants should be encouraged and prioritised. In the case of PhD students, the research topic must be related to the scientific objectives of their supervisor and their faculty. Basic research should be prioritized. The following research activities are eligible for financial support:

1. Submission and processing of applications for major prestigious international grants such as Horizon, ERC, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions and other similar schemes
2. In-country research, pre-research (including PhD students)
3. Pre-preparation/pre-research of another grant (GAUK, GAČR, TAČR...) (including PhD students)
4. Academic cooperation on the national level (joint publications across institutions...), primarily with AV ČR

2.5. International cooperation and visibility

Efforts should be made to encourage Czech anthropologists to become more involved in international cooperation, to participate in prestigious international projects and grants, and to become more visible abroad. Therefore, the following activities are recommended to be supported:

1. Preparation of international projects and grants (including remuneration for a submission of application of highly prestigious grants)
2. Invited talks/lectures
3. Joint publication
4. Visiting scholars
5. Active participation in an international conference
6. Organizing an international conference
7. Memberships in disciplines leading organisations

2.6. Applied research and public outreach

Applied research is not only an important part of the scientific discipline, but also a link to the outside world through its subsequent publication and practical application of its results. Through the presentation and dissemination of the latest scientific knowledge and values, the so-called third role of the university is fulfilled: to serve and positively influence society while maintaining a two-way open society-wide contact at local, national and international level. For this reason, it is appropriate to financially support both applied research and the publication of its results and subsequent presentation to the wider public.



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