

## Editor's Notes

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The Spring 2010 issue of *Anthropology of East Europe Review* is a product of the work of many people. Graduate students at Indiana University in the seminar Postsocialist Gender Formations served as editorial assistants for the special theme section on “Gender in Postsocialist Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.” For their diligent and meticulous work corresponding with authors and editing articles I am grateful to Maryna Bazylevych, Christine Beresniová, Margaret Browndorf, Olga Bueva, Kara Hodgson, Zachary Kelly, Laura Linderman, Aynur Onur, Katherine Pruess, and Emily Young.

Scholarship on gender formations has become increasingly salient in postsocialist studies. For this issue's special theme section on “Gender in Postsocialist Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union” we are especially pleased to highlight research on topics that have received relatively little attention in the existing literature, such as LGBT communities, masculinities, and how other aspects of identity (class, profession, religion) intersect with and inform gender in postsocialist contexts. Countries under focus include Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Macedonia, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Ukraine, the U.S., and Uzbekistan (Ferghana Valley). The 15 articles in the special theme section are organized into four parts: 1) Gender Matters: Negotiating Gender Identities, Sexualities, and Family in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century; 2) Laboring Women: Gendered Dynamics of Work; 3) Gendered Migrations; and 4) Women in the Lead: Gendered Aspects and Effects of NGOs and Women's Activism. This division is in some sense quite arbitrary, since crosscutting themes are evident across many of the articles. These include, among others, the central role the body plays in negotiations of gender and power; the importance of experience-near ethnographic approaches for understanding the complexities of gender formations in everyday life; the continuing importance (and fuzziness) of dynamics of private and public for organizing gender orders; and the varied but important ways mass media reflects, generates, and mediates public discourse in relation to gender and sexuality.

As always, I am grateful to Neringa Klumbytė for her expert work on the Book Reviews section. Thanks also to editorial assistant Jenny Riley, who has been hard at work migrating back issues of AEER to the Archives section of the journal's new website.

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