

Dear readers,

Issue 1/2024 brings together texts primarily linked by the theme of political and urban anthropology. They confirm David Gellner's statement in his introductory paper that contemporary anthropologists 'want anthropology to have something to say about the biggest issues of the day'. It is also the focus of his article, *Liberalism and Hierarchy: A Tension-Filled Relationship as Seen from Social Anthropology*, based on his Ladislav Holý Lecture in Prague in January 2024. We are pleased to publish this text written by the Oxford University Professor of Social Anthropology, a scholar well-known for his expertise on the Newars of the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal, and other Nepali groupings. The other texts also deal with very topical issues. The second text is an article by Šárka Kopecká from the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, focusing on the city of *Zlín* in Moravia, where she makes an intergenerational comparison of identification with the urban setting. Not only does she comment on the dynamic changes of the city and its perception, but her article also provides empirical material to discuss further how particular generations are connected to space and perceive their role in it. Radim Tobolka, an anthropologist and physician, also comments on the contemporary world and its transformations. His text *Chieftdom in Sub-Saharan Africa* stimulates reflection on how older, seemingly outdated forms of governance are encapsulated in new structures or are successfully opposed to them and play an important political role in contemporary governance. In the unreviewed section of the journal, we have included a response by Petr Skalník to Tobolka's article, as well as reviews of publications from the Czech and Slovak linguistic areas, which may also draw the attention of readers who do not speak local languages to the issues raised there.

Zdeněk Uherek