

Max Planck Studies in Anthropology and Economy

Series Editors: Stephen Gudeman and Chris Hann



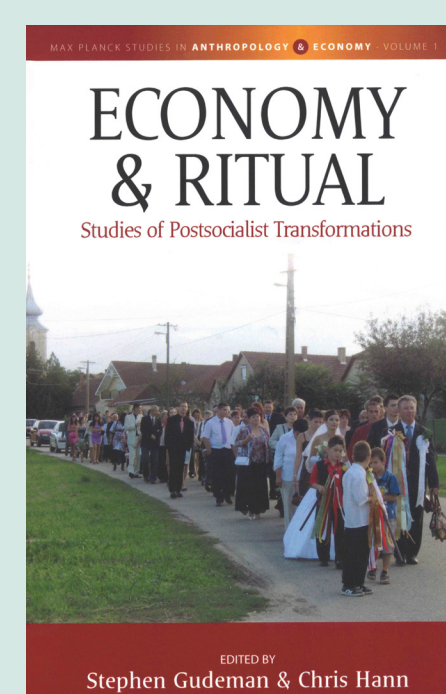
Definitions of economy and society, and their proper relationship to each other, have been the perennial concerns of social philosophers. In the early decades of the twenty-first century these became and remain matters of urgent political debate. At the forefront of this series are the approaches to these connections by anthropologists, whose explorations of the local ideas and institutions underpinning social and economic relations illuminate large fields ignored in other disciplines.

The primary goal of the series is to disseminate the results of collective projects at the Max Planck Institute. Works by external scholars on related themes are also eligible for consideration.



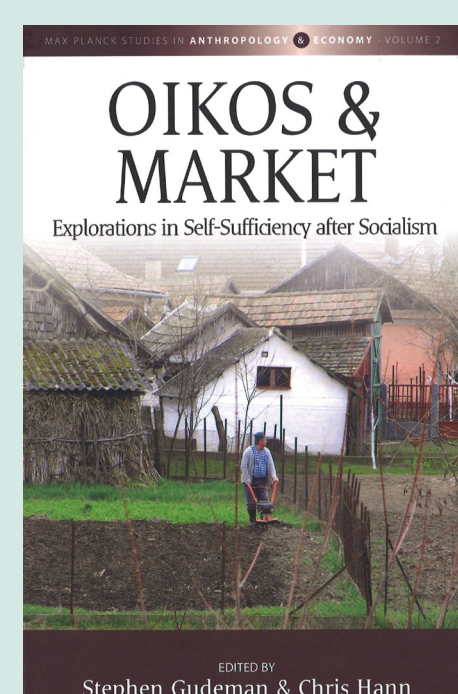
Volumes Published 2015–2022

- Vol 1 **Economy and Ritual:** Studies of Postsocialist Transformations (edited by Stephen Gudeman & Chris Hann, 2015)
- Vol 2 **Oikos and Market:** Explorations in Self-Sufficiency after Socialism (edited by Stephen Gudeman & Chris Hann, 2015)
- Vol 3 **When Things Become Property:** Land Reform, Authority, and Value in Postsocialist Europe and Asia (Thomas Sikor, Stefan Dorondel, Johannes Stahl and Phuc Xuan To, 2017)
- Vol 4 **Industrial Labor on the Margins of Capitalism:** Precarity, Class, and the Neoliberal Subject (edited by Chris Hann & Jonathan Parry, 2018)
- Vol 5 **Market Frictions:** Trade and Urbanization at the Vietnam-China Border (Kirsten Endres, 2019)
- Vol 6 **Financialization:** Relational Approaches (edited by Chris Hann & Don Kalb, 2020)
- Vol 7 **Work, Society, and the Ethical Self:** Chimeras of Freedom in the Neoliberal Era (edited by Chris Hann, 2021)
- Vol 8 **Moral Economy at Work:** Ethnographic Investigations in Eurasia (edited by Lale Yalçın-Heckmann, 2021)
- Vol 9 **Wine Is Our Bread:** Labour and Value in Moldovan Winemaking (Daniela Ana, 2022)
- Vol 10 **Thrift and Its Paradoxes:** From Domestic to Political Economy (edited by Catherine Alexander & Daniel Sosna, 2022)



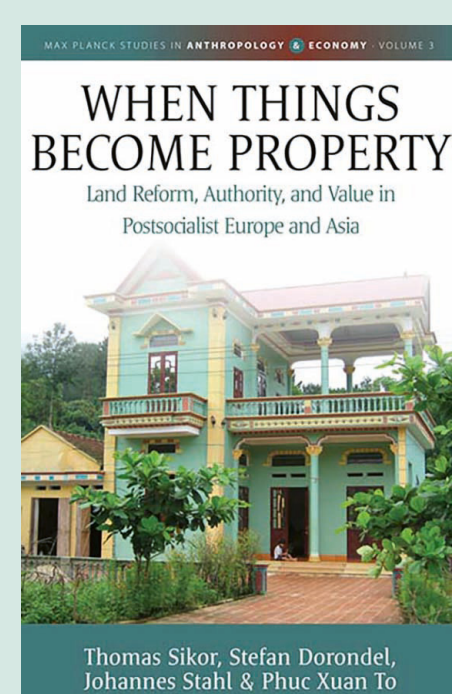
Volume 1 Economy and Ritual

According to accepted wisdom, rational practices and ritual action are opposed. Rituals drain wealth from capital investment and draw on a mode of thought different from practical ideas. The studies in this volume contest this view. Comparative, historical, and contemporary, the six ethnographies extend from Macedonia to Kyrgyzstan. Each one illuminates the economic and ritual changes in an area as it emerged from socialism and (re-)entered market society. Cutting against the idea that economy only means markets and that market action exhausts the meaning of economy, the studies show that much of what is critical for a people's economic life takes place outside markets and hinges on ritual, understood as the negation of the everyday world of economising.



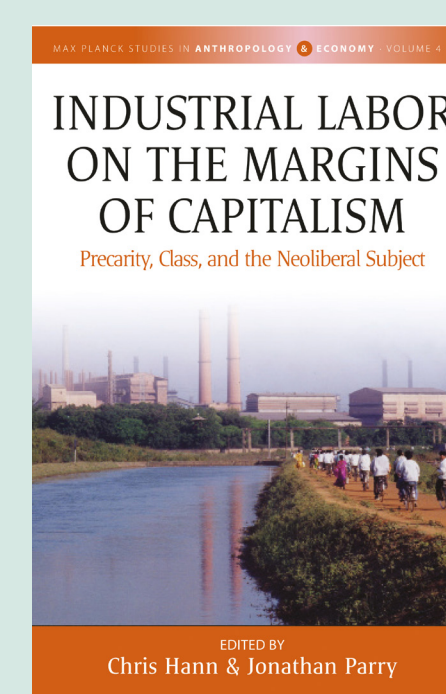
Volume 2 Oikos and Market

Self-sufficiency of the house is practiced in many parts of the world but ignored in economic theory, just as socialist collectivization is assumed to have brought household self-sufficiency to an end. The ideals of self-sufficiency, however, continue to shape economic activity in a wide range of postsocialist settings. This volume's six comparative studies of postsocialist villages in Eastern Europe and Asia illuminate the enduring importance of the house economy, which is based not on the market but on the order of the house. These formations show that economies depend not only on the macro institutions of markets and states but also on the micro institutions of families, communities, and house economies, often in an uneasy relationship.



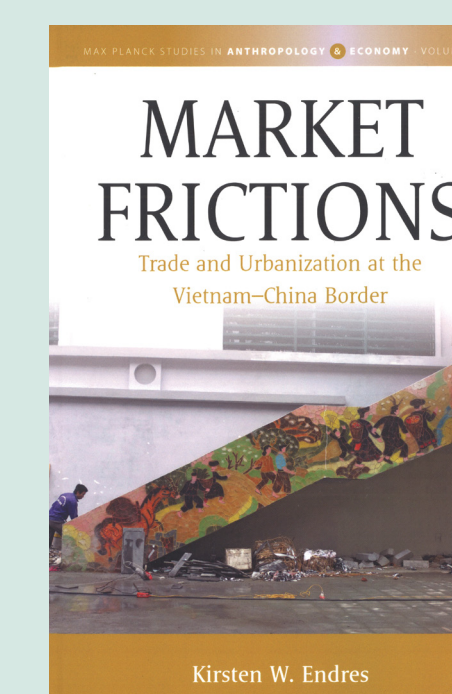
Volume 3 When Things Become Property

Governments have conferred ownership titles to many citizens throughout the world in an effort to turn things into property. Almost all elements of nature have become the target of property laws, from the classic preoccupation with land to more ephemeral material, such as air and genetic resources. *When Things Become Property* interrogates the mixed outcomes of conferring ownership by examining postsocialist land and forest reforms in Albania, Romania and Vietnam, and finds that property reforms are no longer, if they ever were, miracle tools available to governments for refashioning economies, politics or environments.



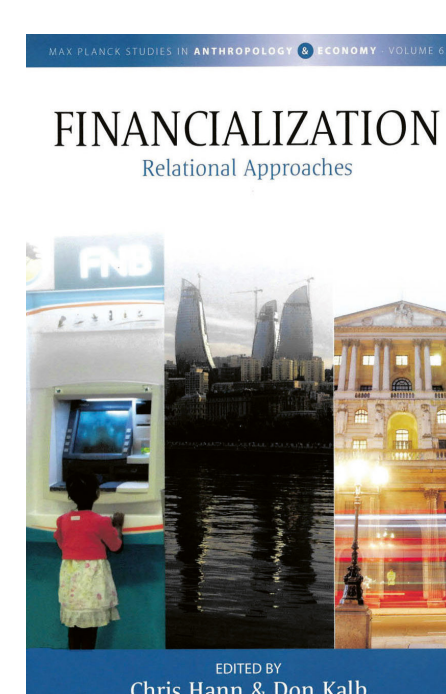
Volume 4 Industrial Labor on the Margins of Capitalism

Bringing together ethnographic case studies of industrial labor from different parts of the world, *Industrial Labor on the Margins of Capitalism* explores the increasing casualization of workforces and the weakening power of organized labor. This division owes much to state policies and is reflected in local understandings of class. By exploring this relationship, these essays question the claim that neoliberal ideology has become the new 'commonsense' of our times and suggest various propositions about the conditions that create employment regimes based on flexible labor.



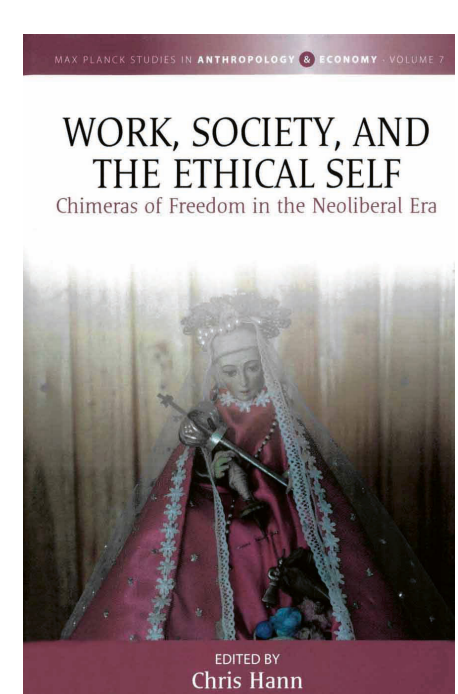
Volume 5 Market Frictions

Based on ethnographic research conducted over several years, *Market Frictions* examines the tensions and frictions that emerge from the interaction of global market forces, urban planning policies, and small-scale trading activities in the Vietnamese border city of Lào Cai. Here, it is revealed how small-scale traders and market vendors experience the marketplace, reflect upon their trading activities, and negotiate current state policies and regulations. It shows how "traditional" Vietnamese marketplaces have continually been reshaped and adapted to meet the changing political-economic circumstances and civilizational ideals of the time.



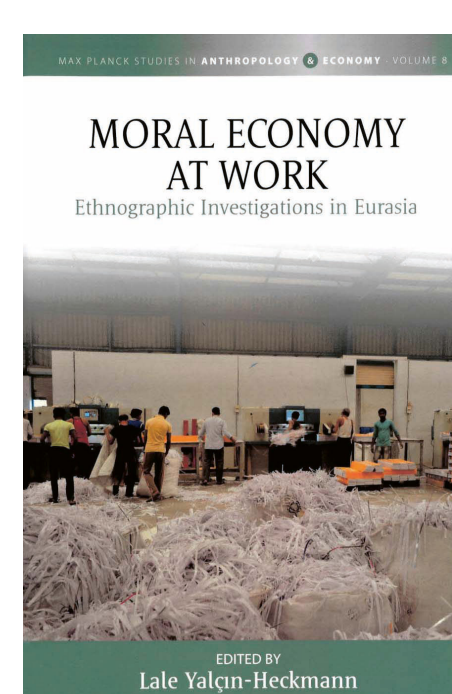
Volume 6 Financialization

Beginning with an original historical vision of financialization in human history, this volume then continues with a rich set of contemporary ethnographic case studies from Europe, Asia and Africa. Authors explore the ways in which finance inserts itself into relationships of class and kinship, how it adapts to non-Western religious traditions, and how it reconfigures legal and ecological dimensions of social organization, and urban social relations in general. Central themes include the indebtedness of individuals and households, the impact of digital technologies, the struggle for housing, financial education, and political contestation.



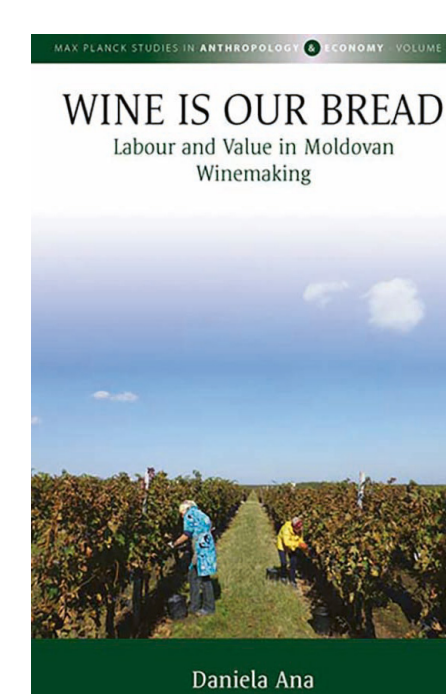
Volume 7 Work, Society, and the Ethical Self

Primarily on the basis of ethnographic case-studies from around the world, this volume links investigations of work to questions of personal and professional identity and social relations. In the era of digitalized neoliberalism, particular attention is paid to notions of freedom, both collective (in social relations) and individual (in subjective experiences). These cannot be investigated separately. Rather than juxtapose economy with ethics (or the profitable with the good), the authors uncover complex entanglements between the drudgery experienced by most people in the course of making a living and ideals of emancipated personhood.



Volume 8 Moral Economy at Work

The idea of a moral economy has been explored and assessed in numerous disciplines. The anthropological studies in this volume provide a new perspective to this idea by showing how the relations of workers, employees and employers, and of firms, families and households are interwoven with local notions of moralities. From concepts of individual autonomy, kinship obligations, to ways of expressing mutuality or creativity, moral values exert an unrealized influence, and these often produce more consent than resistance or outrage.



Volume 9 Wine Is Our Bread

Based on ethnographic work in a Moldovan wine-making village, *Wine Is Our Bread* shows how workers in a prestigious winery have experienced the country's recent entry into the globalized wine market and how their productive activities at home and in the winery contribute to the value of commercial terroir wines. Drawing on theories of globalization, economic anthropology and political economy, the book contributes to understanding how crises and inequalities in capitalism lead to the 'creative destruction' of local products, their accelerated standardization and the increased exploitation of labour.



Volume 10 Thrift and Its Paradoxes

Thrift is a central concern for most people, especially in turbulent economic times. It is both an economic and an ethical logic of frugal living, saving and avoiding waste for long-term kin care. These logics echo the ancient ideal of household self-sufficiency, contrasting with capitalism's wasteful present-focused growth. But thrift now exceeds domestic matters straying across scales to justify public expenditure cuts. Through a wide range of ethnographic contexts this book explores how practices and moralities of thrift are intertwined with austerity, debt, welfare, and patronage across various social and temporal scales and are constantly re-negotiated at the nexus of socio-economic, religious, and kinship ideals and praxis.

Contact:

Chris Hann (hann@eth.mpg.de)
Stephen Gudeman (gudeman@umn.edu)

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