

Call for the special issue of Slovak Ethnology/Slovenský národopis, volume 72, number 2/2024, on the topic Issues of Uncertainty: Insecurity and Precarisation as a Life Experience

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In the late twentieth century, social theorists described late modernity as an age and world of “risk and uncertainty” (Beck, 1999; Sennett, 1998), and the subsequent decades confirmed this conclusion. The COVID-19 pandemic, which paralyzed the lives of people around the world in 2020, has also affected Europeans, increasing their sense of insecurity. In fact, the crisis caused by the pandemic has deepened and made visible trends that existed in previous years, provoked by and become characteristic features of the global neoliberal market order: loss of status or property (dispossession), increasing share of work with reduced employment time and use of telework, rising poverty and inequalities, – processes which are described by the term precarization. Shortly after this crisis, wars in Ukraine and in the Middle East have not only caused new catastrophes and insecurity for the people in these countries, destroying their lives, but have also increased the sense of insecurity globally.

From the beginning of the new millennium, there has been a theoretical turn to precarity as a generalized condition of human interaction (Butler, 2004; Kallenberg, 2009; Berlant, 2011; Standing, 2011; Stewart, 2012). The various dimensions of uncertainty, insecurity and precarisation have been a subject of anthropological investigation (Eriksen, 2010; Allison, 2013; Millar, 2014; Narotzky, Besnier, 2014). How do people tackle crisis-related conditions of uncertainty and precarisation? What are the cultural frameworks and resources that help them to navigate?

In this special issue we would like to invite contributions that address the following issues:

- crisis and insecurity,
- social mis/trust and uncertainty,
- collective identities and uncertainty,
- precarity as a personal experience – perceptions and narratives about precarisation,
- consequences of precarity,

- strategies (individual, family, group, institutions) for coping with precarity and uncertainty,
- family, generations and precarity,
- comparative studies of the issues of precarisation,
- political choices (culture) and uncertainty.

Contributors are kindly requested to submit their abstracts and keywords to:

<https://journals.savba.sk/index.php/slovenskynarodopis/about/submissions> no later than **1 December 2023**.

The final manuscripts will be expected no later than **28 February 2024**. They should not exceed 6,250 words or 45,000 characters, including spaces, notes, and references, and should follow the journal's guidelines for authors accessible **HERE** (<https://uesa.sav/en/slovak-ethnology/>). They should be submitted through the editorial system of Slovak Ethnology.