Commission on Nomadic Peoples

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

December 19th, 2025

Dear friends and colleagues,

As the year comes to an end, Joana and I are so grateful for all your help and support for the Commission of Nomadic Peoples. This year we've added many new members and reunited with old friends. We've participated in the World Anthropological Union bi-annual conference and the 7th Oxford Interdisciplinary Desert Conference. The *Journal of Nomadic Peoples* has published two stellar issues, and we have new graduate student prize winners on the way to publication. We are also excited to launch a new competition for photos and a grant for our youngest scholars. Overall – the Commission on Nomadic Peoples has been busy this year and we are looking forward to even more scholarship, networking, and deliberation next year as we enter the International Year of Rangeland and Pastoralists. None of these activities would be possible without this incredible community.

In this issue of the newsletter, you will find:

This year's Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

The Best Student Essay Prize 2025

A new graduate student grant

The first CNP Photo Contest

A new podcast series

New publications

We wish all of you a happy, safe, and restful holiday followed by a bright new year!

Allison Hahn, Joana Roque de Pinho, Daniel Stack and Sina Maghami

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2025

We are so happy to announce that this year's Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Professor Dawn Chatty!

The formal announcement and bio are below, written by the esteemed Kathleen Galvin. We, Allison and Joana, would like to add our thanks and appreciation for Dawn – as young and now older scholars, Dawn has been a continual inspiration. Her work and life demonstrate what it means to be a lifelong scholar. From networking academics around the world, embodying the connection between theory and practice of development, and speaking from the heart regarding refugees worldwide, Dawn has set an example of excellence for us all.

Dawn, we are deeply influenced and grateful for your scholarship and friendship. Thank you and congratulations! Allison and Joana

Photo: University of Oxford.

Professor Dawn Chatty - Outstanding Contributor to the Study of Nomadic Pastoral Societies
Recipient of the World Anthropological Union, Commission on Nomadic Peoples Lifetime Achievement Award

By Kathleen Galvin, Colorado State University

Dawn Chatty's primary research interests are broad and significant, encompassing forced migration—particularly the experiences of refugee youth in Muslim countries of the Middle East and North Africa—women's development and resistance under displacement, health and differential access to primary care, and conservation and sustainable development. As a researcher, policy advisor, and teacher, she has demonstrated a deep commitment to illuminating the misconceptions and misassumptions surrounding the displacement and dispossession of pastoralists, especially in the Middle East. With a lifetime of professional focus on pastoral refugee women and youth, forced migration, health needs, and conservation issues, Dawn has made significant and lasting contributions to the social science of pastoralism.

Dawn has held numerous academic and professional appointments. She is currently an Emeritus Professor of Anthropology and Forced Migration and previously served as Director of the Refugee Studies Centre in the Department of International Development at the University of Oxford. Her leadership roles also include President of the Council for British Research in the Levant, Chair of the Commission on Nomadic Peoples (CNP) within the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES), and Chair of the SJLP Rhodes Scholarship Committee at the University of Oxford. She also serves on multiple journal editorial boards.

Her work has been widely recognized. She has received research awards from the British Academy and the UNDP People's Participation Programme. She is also the sole recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the Commission on Nomadic Peoples of the IUAES.

Dawn's work spans decades and continents, grounded in interdisciplinary research with pastoralist communities. She has authored and co-edited numerous influential books, including *Syria: The Making and Unmaking of a Refuge State* (2018); *Conservation and Mobile Indigenous Peoples: Displacement, Forced Settlement, and Sustainable Development* (2002); *Organizing Women: Formal and Informal Women's Groups in the Middle East* (1997); and *Mobile Pastoralists: Development Planning and Social Change in the Sultanate of Oman* (1996). Her

extensive publications also include book chapters and journal articles that bridge scholarship and policy, such as “The Syrian Humanitarian Disaster: Perceptions and Aspirations in Jordan, Lebanon, and Turkey,” published in *Global Policy*.

Her scholarship has shaped generations of researchers on pastoralism, including this writer, through her dedication to speaking truth to power and offering honest, compassionate analysis of the challenges faced by people—especially women and youth—whose lives are reshaped by forces beyond their control. Dawn Chatty has made outstanding contributions to Anthropology and to Development Studies, consistently championing the well-being and rights of pastoralists worldwide.

In recognition of her distinguished contributions to the study of nomadic peoples, the Commission on Nomadic Peoples of the World Anthropological Union proudly presents Professor Dawn Chatty with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

In the picture above, by James Stanfield, Dawn Chatty and Mr. Bin Kaneidish are catching up on the news in Sahma, Oman, 1994. Beginning in 1980, with support from the UN, they worked together to set up rural health clinics and schools, which were critical factors in encouraging the participation of girls and women in Oman. They also spearheaded efforts to increase water access for pastoralists in central Oman.

Find out more about Professor Dawn Chatty's life and field work with nomadic pastoralists in Oman by exploring this wonderful photo archive at the University of Oxford, Nomads in Oman: https://www.nomadsinoman.com/index.html

BEST STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE 2025

We are very happy to announce that this year's Best Student Essay Prize goes to Munkh-Erdene Gantulga (School of Geography and the Environment, University of Oxford) for his paper **Moving with the Internet: Nationalist Expression in the Digital Environment of Rural Mongolia.**

It will be published in a forthcoming issue of *Nomadic Peoples*.

The honorary mention goes to Bhakti Lostaunau (University of Sussex) for their essay entitled **Nomadism in the Settled World: Bedouins and the Making of a Modern Ottoman State.**

Every year, the winner gets a £250 award and open access, free of charge publication in *Nomadic Peoples*. The 2024 award went to Cecilia Conte, for her article *Deconstructing the concept of 'nomad' in Central Eurasia*, published in the latest issue of Nomadic Peoples: https://liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/doi/10.3828/whpnp.63837646691076

Congratulations, Munkh-Erdene and Bhakti!

NOMADIC PEOPLES PHOTO CONTEST 2026

The Commission is happy to invite submissions for the **2026 Photo Contest** on the broad topic of nomadic peoples, as defined in *Nomadic Peoples*. This is a new, annual contest. The winner

receives recognition as well as the chance to have their image featured on the cover of *Nomadic Peoples*. Please send in images of your fieldwork – both contemporary and historic!

The deadline for submission is April 15th, 2026.

Please, submit your photos by filling in this **form**: https://forms.gle/FvWLCufgeUSbUR7S7

To ensure your image fits the cover of *Nomadic Peoples*, your photo must:

1) be in a portrait/vertical orientation (taller than it is wide), or include an area that can be cropped into a portrait format; and
2) have open, uncluttered space at both the top and bottom (e.g., sky, grass, sand, water, or areas with minimal patterns/details) for text placement.

Please label each submitted image with your name followed by a unique numerical identifier.

We expect that your submission will follow your institution's ethics guidelines regarding photography in research. Please ensure that you have obtained consent from any recognizable human subjects.

Runners-up will be recognized, and we will work with them to find alternative uses for their images in CNP-related communication. Selected photos may also be featured in a gallery on the website.

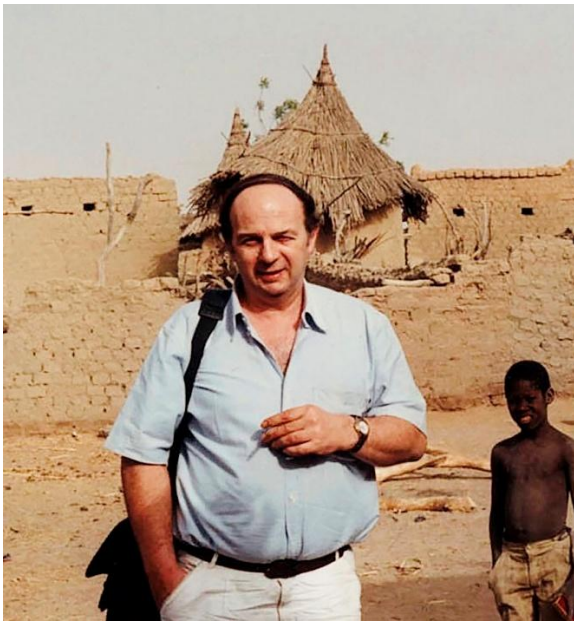
We look forward to your submissions!

NEW GRADUATE STUDENT GRANT OPPORTUNITY! The Bonte-Brisebarre Grant

We are thrilled to introduce a new grant for graduate students: the **Bonte–Brisebarre Grant**.

The grant, made possible through generous fundraising efforts of colleagues in France, is named in memory of Professor **Anne-Marie Brisebarre** (who passed away in June 2025) and Professor **Pierre Bonte** (who passed away in 2013). These two well-known French anthropologists of pastoralism were committed to supporting their students' work and their

colleagues have created the grant in their memory. This grant honors the contributions of these passionate researchers to the field and extends their work in service of education and research.



Anne-Marie Brisebarre and Pierre Bonte.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must be enrolled in a master's programme in social anthropology; and their research must focus on pastoralists or mobile/nomadic people.

The **€750 grant** will support the grantee's ethnographic fieldwork in North Africa and the Sahel (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Tunisia, Western Sahara, Senegal, Sudan, and Chad), as well as in the Mediterranean and the Middle East.
Priority will be given to students from countries where funding for ethnographic research is limited, particularly those in the Global South and the regions listed above. If applicable, please include information about your studies and personal circumstances in your application.
The grantee is expected to become a member of the Commission and to publish a blog post upon completion of their fieldwork.

Applications may be submitted in either French or English.

Please apply by **March 15th, 2026,** here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScUAP15kUAMaSOooJagAHjwhqPyC92EOhiqxF_gpOWlCqGK7A/viewform

Results will be announced on April 30th, 2026.

If you have questions, please contact us (nomadicpeoplesiuaescommission@gmail.com) or Dr. Yazid Ben Hounet (yazid_benhounet@yahoo.fr).

EARLY-CAREER SCHOLAR SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: The Bonte-Brisebarre Grant Jury

We are looking for two early-career researchers (up to 5 years post-PhD), who are members of the Commission and would like to be part of this grant's jury. If you are interested, please get in touch with us! nomadicpeoplesiuaescommission@gmail.com

WAU2025 CONGRESS, Antigua, Guatemala, November 3-8, 2025

The beautiful city of Antigua, Guatemala, hosted this year's congress of the *World Anthropological Union.* Our Commission was well represented with five hybrid CNP-affiliated panels:

Ethnographic Theory Back Through the Future-Focused Looking Glass: Comparative Metaphysics, Epistemological Historiography, and Caring for Concepts, convened by Anthony Howarth and Patrick O'Hare.
https://www.waucongress2025.org/panel/?id=1083

Human-animal relations in modern urban and rural societies: food security, technology, resources, convened by Vladimir Nikolaevich Davydov, Veronika Aleksandrovna Beliaeva-Sachuk and Francesca Lugli.
https://www.waucongress2025.org/panel/?id=242

Pastoralism in transition: Exploring intersections of religious and environmental changes, convened by Joana Roque de Pinho, Angela Kronenbug García and Aurore Dumont.
https://www.waucongress2025.org/panel/?id=517

Pastoralism through the lenses of climate change: narratives, methodologies and carbon, convened by Saverio Krätli and Véronique Dancey.
https://www.waucongress2025.org/panel/?id=972

Voices and rights of mobile pastoralists and mobile indigenous peoples, convened by Ariell Ahearn and Sarah Lunacek.
https://www.waucongress2025.org/panel/?id=1001

Read about graduate student Oyundalai Odkhuu's experience presenting her research in Antigua: https://nomadicpeople.info/carrying-the-steppe-with-me-to-the-world-anthropological-union-congress-in-guatemala/

Left to right: CNP members Oyundalai Odkhuu and Sarah Lunaček, WAU 2025 Congress, Antigua, Guatemala.

Freya Hope, graduate student at the University of Oxford, was awarded a CNP Small Grant to attend the WAU2025 congress. She presented the paper entitled *De-obviating modernity? New*

Travellers changing culture and making new temporalities in the *Ethnographic Theory Back Through the Future-Focused Looking Glass* panel.

The 5-year IUAES congresses have been replaced by biennial *World Anthropological Union* congresses. The next WAU congress will take place in Lisbon in 2027. We hope to see you there!

Presenting the CNP at the IUAES Council of Commissions

The Commission of Nomadic Peoples is one of the commissions of the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES) - https://waunet.org/iuaes/list-of-commissions/

Your CNP co-chairs, Joana and Allison, were invited to present on the history and work of the Commission to their colleagues in the IUAES Council of Commissions on July 10th, 2025. One of the topics that elicited the most interest and curiosity was the Commission's journal, *Nomadic Peoples*, and its publication model. At the request of the Council of Commissions, the CNP held a second talk to introduce our own Sarah Johnson, of White Horse Press. She described and, dare we say, wowed the IUAES commissions with her explanation of the Subscribe-to-Open model that allows for *Nomadic Peoples* to be open access for both authors and readers by relying on a critical mass of university library subscriptions and.

Thank you, Sarah, for an enthusiastic and very well received presentation!

NOMADIC PEOPLES journal

The latest issue, Vol. 29, No. 2, is here:
https://liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/toc/whpnp/current

Nomadic Peoples is edited by Saverio Krätli (saverio.kratli@gmail.com) and published by White Horse Press (WHP). *Nomadic Peoples* publishes two issues a year and can be accessed at:
https://www.whpress.co.uk/publications/journals/nomadic-peoples/

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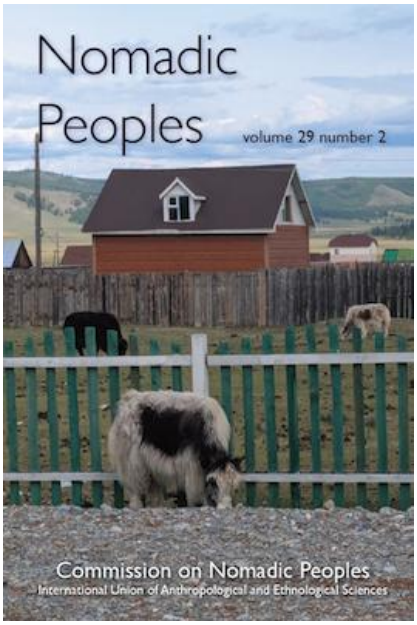
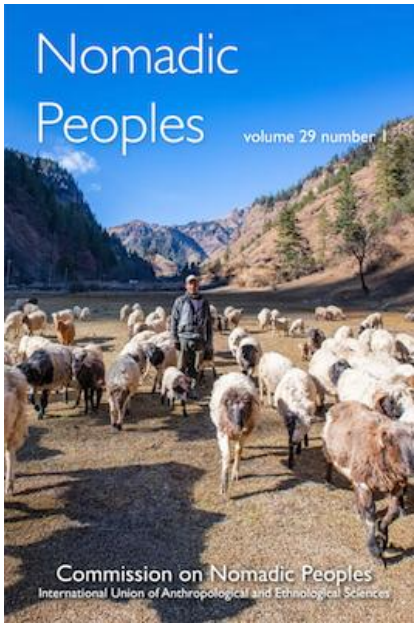




NEW PODCAST SERIES! Taking the Pulse of Pastoralism in the 21st Century

Listen to the first of three podcasts co-hosted by Daniel Murphy (University of Cincinnati) and Ariell Ahearn (University of Oxford): https://econanthro.org/podcasts/pastoralism-and-social-change-in-mongolia-a-conversation-with-our-hosts/

In this episode, Daniel and Ariell take a deep dive into each other's research on a broad range of contemporary political and economic changes in Mongolian pastoral lifeways. They explore:

1) the changing nature of work, gender, and household organization;
2) the impact of social and economic policy on herd management;

3) the connections between the Covid 19 pandemic and the rise of social media;
4) the changing value and meaning of livestock; and
5) the rise of a rights-based discourse in global conversations about pastoralism.

This podcast series is part of the Society for Economic Anthropology podcast platform. Stay tuned for the next ones!

Daniel Murphy

Ariell Ahearn

LPP News | The League for Pastoral Peoples, India

Threats to Pastoralism map

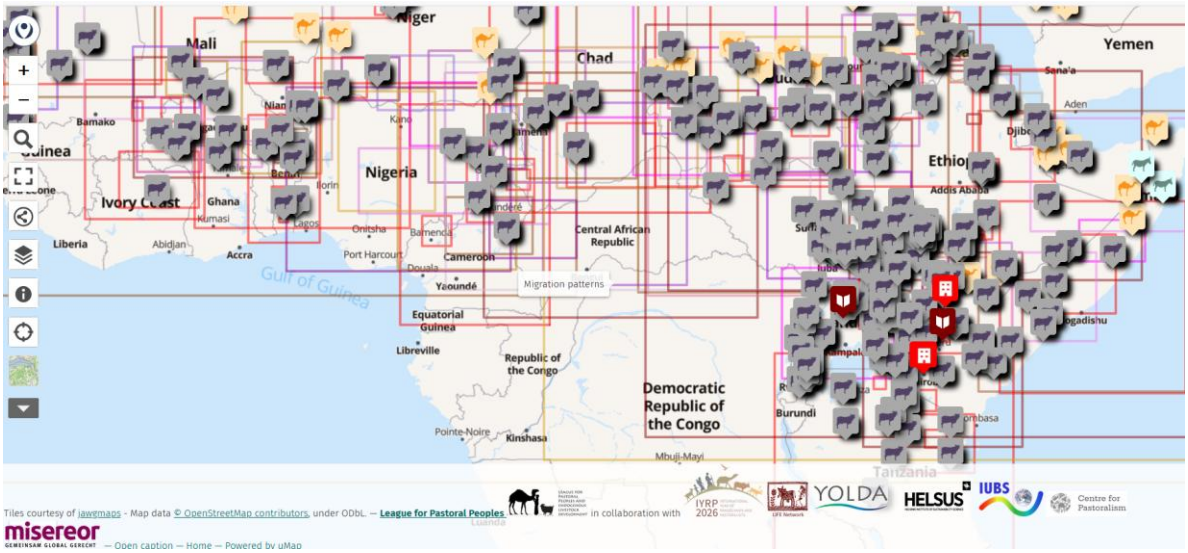
The League for Pastoral Peoples (LPP; https://www.pastoralpeoples.org/) has launched a new initiative to map the threats pastoralists face globally in relation to access to resources: the Threats to Pastoralism Map project.

Please share this widely within your networks and contribute by reporting threats to pastoralists through this **form**:
https://airtable.com/appK6EH0RKpcwkmt1/pagPW4UR5zpQgUt0l/form

This initiative is part of LPP's broader **Pastoralist Mapping Project**:
https://www.pastoralpeoples.org/pastoralist-map/

LPP's interactive Pastoralist Map (https://umap.openstreetmap.fr/en/map/a-map-of-pastoralists-worldwide_563977#5/9.882/14.766.) is a wonderful resource, displaying information on more than a thousand pastoralist groups worldwide, including their migration routes.

We encourage you to explore the map and to contribute additions or corrections. Please contact mapping@pastoralpeoples.org



Come and learn with pastoralists in Rajasthan!

LPPS – Lokhit Pashu-Palak Sansthan (http://www.lpps.org/), based in Sadri, Rajasthan, has established the **Pastoralist Knowledge Centre** to foster engagement with local pastoralists and, in particular, *learning* from them.

The Pastoralist Knowledge Centre is conceived as a place where people can learn from pastoralists about how they manage livestock in harmony with wildlife and the environment; how to communicate with and enter into dialogue with herds; as well as about ethnoveterinary medicine, principles of keeping animals within planetary boundaries, and much more. It is the result of 30 years of advocacy work by LPPS for the rights of livestock keepers.

The Centre offers residential facilities and provides an ideal setting for workshops, meetings, and writing retreats focused on pastoralists and related themes. The LPPS campus is located next to the Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary and offers simple accommodation in traditional *jhoompas*, as well as two rooms.

The campus also hosts a wool processing unit and a handmade paper factory, offering insight into the camel-based industries supported by LPPS. Field visits to Raika camel keepers' communities and camel herds can also be arranged.

This year, the Centre hosted 24 Dutch dairy farmers, 35 German agriculture students, and more than 100 school students.

If you are interested, please contact Ilse Köhler-Rollefson, ilse.koehlerroll@gmail.com.

The Pastoralist Knowledge Center, Butibagh Campus, near Sadri, Rajasthan, India.

Accommodation at the Butibagh Campus.

A Raika pastoralist.

Camel pastoralists win a prestigious tourism award!

On 12th December 2025, the Godwar Raika Camel Breeders of Sadri, Rajasthan, received the **TOFT** (Tour Operators for Tigers) **Community Wildlife Tourism Initiative of the Year Award** (https://www.toftigers.org/awardsnomination/) in a festive ceremony held at Bikaner House in New Delhi. According to the organizers, "the Godwar Raika Camel Breeders safeguard their ancestral camel herds while practicing nature-aligned pastoralism. Grazing near Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, they sustain livelihoods through ethical camel milk and organic manure, share traditional wisdom with visitors through unique cultural experiences, and help maintain harmonious coexistence between livestock, landscapes, and wildlife." Congratulations!

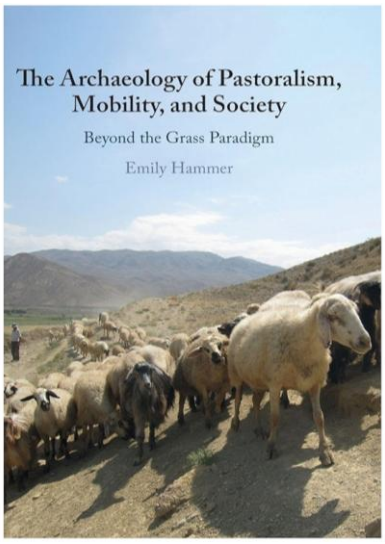
The 2025 Community Wildlife Tourism Initiative of the Year Award winners.

Enjoying milk from an *aak* leaf.

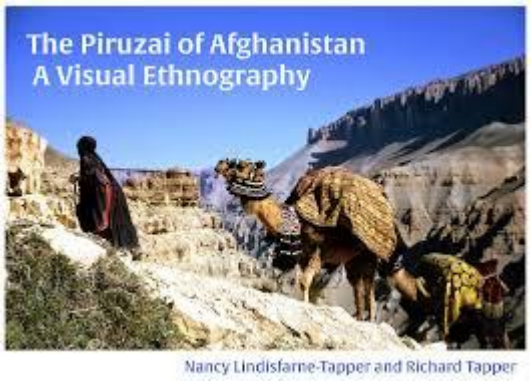
RECENT PUBLICATIONS 2024-25

These publications are authored and/or suggested by CNP members. Please send us your suggestions for the next newsletter.

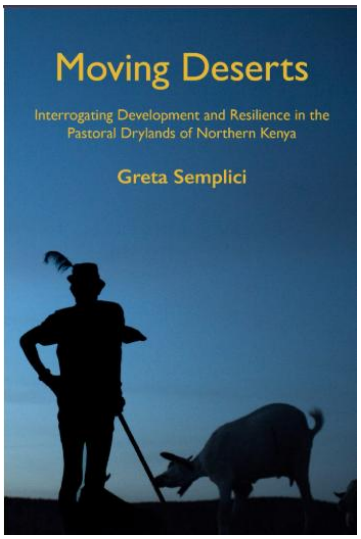
Books



Hammer, E. (2025). **The archaeology of pastoralism, mobility, and society: Beyond the grass paradigm**. Cambridge University Press. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009561709



Lindisfarne-Tapper, N., & Tapper, R. (2025). **The Piruzai of Afghanistan**: A visual ethnography. White Horse Press. https://www.whpress.co.uk/publications/2025/06/27/piruzai/



Semplici, G. (2025). **Moving deserts**: Interrogating development and resilience in the pastoral drylands of Northern Kenya. White Horse Press. https://www.whpress.co.uk/publications/2025/03/10/movingdeserts/

Edited Books

Aiyadurai, A., & Ingole, P. (Eds.). (2025). **Beings and beasts**: Human-animal relations at the margins. Cambridge University Press. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009529945

Chatty, D. and Colchester, M. (Eds.). (2025). **Conservation and Mobile Indigenous Peoples Displacement, Forced Settlement and Sustainable Development (2nd edition)**. Berghahn Books.

Collet, D., Mørkestøl Gundersen, I., Huhtamaa, H., Charpentier Ljungqvist, F., Ogilvie, A. and White, S. (eds). (2025). **Nordic Climate Histories**: Impacts, Pathways, Narratives. White Horse Press. https://www.whpress.co.uk/publications/2025/05/02/nordicclimatehistories/

Domínguez, P., Genin, D., & Ventura, M. (Eds.). (2025). **Commons, a biocultural heritage for the 21st century**: The case of the transhumant shepherds of the mountains of northeastern Andalusia (Castril, Santiago de la Espada, and Pontones). Bellaterra Edicions. https://www.bellaterra.coop/es/libros/comunales

Fotta, M. & Gay y Blasco, P. (2024) **Ethnographic Methods in Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Research: Lessons from a Time of Crisis**. 1st ed. Martin Fotta & Paloma Gay y Blasco (eds). [Online]. Bristol: Bristol University Press. https://library.oapen.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.12657/86379/1/9781529231878.pdf

New articles by CNP members

Briske, D. D., Cromsigt, P. G. M., Davies, J., Fernández-Giménez, M. E., Luizza, M. W., **Manzano, P., Singh, R. (2025). Pastoralism Can Mitigate Biodiversity Loss on Global Rangelands**, *BioScience*;, biaf158**,** https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/biaf158

Pastoralism is a key strategy for achieving the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Sixty-seven percent of biodiversity hotspots and 38% of key biodiversity areas include rangelands, yet international conventions rarely recognize this biodiversity. Four synergies between pastoralism and conservation include working lands conservation, continuation of vital disturbance regimes, connectivity via transhumance corridors, and community-led governance. Leveraging these synergies can help mitigate biodiversity loss by creating a conservation network of working lands and protected areas. This requires viewing pastoralists as an asset and recognizing grazing and fire as ecological disturbances vital to biodiversity. Greater inclusion of rangelands and sustainable pastoralism in global frameworks can enhance biodiversity targets.

Bugalho, M.N., Pérez-Barbería, F.J., Pereira, J.M.C. *et al.* (2025). **Does re-wilding contribute to biodiversity conservation in Mediterranean cultural landscapes?**. *Ambio* https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-025-02266-x

Debate has arisen on using “re-wilding” to promote biodiversity conservation. Strict non-intervention to restore “wilderness” may be conceptually inconsistent in human-shaped landscapes. Many high-biodiversity ecosystems, often misclassified as “pristine”, were shaped over millennia of human use, a context rarely acknowledged by re-wilding. Rural abandonment in Europe is viewed as a chance for biodiversity gains, yet management neglect may favor forest species over open-habitat species. In Mediterranean regions, where cultural ecosystems hold high conservation value, neglect may reduce biodiversity and increase wildfire risk under climate change. Using three Mediterranean case studies, we argue that wilderness-focused re-wilding can have unintended negative consequences. While recognizing diverse re-wilding

concepts, we stress the need for context-specific strategies where active management remains essential.

Chatty, D. (2025). **Mobile Indigenous Peoples and the Quest for Human Rights**. Nomopolis, 3. https://nomopolis.org/nomopolis-03-mobile-indigenous-peoples/

This article summarizes the state of international law and policy regarding mobile peoples in a non-jargonistic way. Mobile indigenous peoples (pastoralists, swidden farmers, and hunter-gatherers) have long managed their lands sustainably. Yet many have been displaced, forced to settle, and restricted from mobility essential to their livelihoods and cultures, leaving them impoverished and undermining their identities. While international law increasingly recognizes their rights, national policies, conservation agencies, and corporate actors often fail to uphold them. The Dana Declaration and Dana +20 manifesto articulate these rights, yet mobile indigenous peoples remain marginalized in both policy and practice.

Clarke, G. (2025). **Mobility and permanence in the nomadic architectural traditions of Africa and Northern Siberia**. Built Heritage, 9, 65. https://doi.org/10.1186/s43238-025-00225-9

This paper examines how mobility and permanence shape vernacular architectural design, contrasting nomadic architectures rebuilt at each camp with mobile dwellings like tents, whose physical form travels with their occupants. In the first, design patterns endure millennia while buildings decay quickly; in the second, continual repair allows the tents themselves to last centuries. Across both, the design, rather than the physical fabric, is the key to understanding and conserving these traditions. Drawing on 16 years of fieldwork, the study combines historic building survey techniques with architectural design methods to create a multi-level record of structures, occupation patterns, and the cultural values nomadic peoples assign to their buildings.

Howarth, A. L. (forthcoming). **It's only a matter of time**: **Eviction, uncertainty, and socio-temporal disorientation in an urban Travellers' camp.** Current Anthropology.

The article will come out early next year. Please contact the author directly if you'd like to receive a pre-publication copy: anthony.howarth@ageing.ox.ac.uk

Despite accounts focusing on either the past or future temporal orientations of Travellers, Gypsies, and Roma, the concept of presentism tenaciously persists. Through enduring uncertainties arising from the threat of eviction—a situation that threatened their ability to sustain bio-social reproduction thereby blocking their future horizons—a Traveller family experienced a period of socio-temporal disorientation.

Maru, N. (2025). **The pace of pastoral mobility: Exploring adaptations to climate and socio-economic change in Western India.** Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space, 8(3), 887–908. https://doi.org/10.1177/25148486251322634

Mobility is regarded as central to pastoralist livelihoods and land-use systems. But how do pastoralists enact, embody and experience mobility? How can we understand pastoralism through, beginning with mobility rather than places of origin and destination? And what arenas of action can such thinking open up?

Shah, R., & Maru, N. (2025). **Mobility, milieu and the ethos of care: Exploring the rabari camel-pastoralist kinship of Western India.** Landscape Research, 1–20. https://doi.org/10.1080/01426397.2025.2517757

Written together with Rhea Shah, this paper throws light on how mobility is practiced as a unique form of care by the Rabari pastoralists of Gujarat. Experiencing the landscape as a relational, affective and temporal 'milieu,' multi-species mobility is co-constituted, embodied and enacted as an inextricable relationship between the pastoralists, the animals and the environment. Such an understanding of landscape, mediated through the practice of mobility, activates particular forms of care and reciprocity towards the environment and all beings, human and more-than-human.

NEW JOURNAL

Please join us in celebrating the new journal *The State of Sápmi!*

The State of Sápmi journal tackles socio-political issues within Sámi society and provide analysis and perspectives on Sámi rights. The first two issues draw on community perspectives and data from the Indigenous Navigator surveys conducted in Finland, Norway, and Sweden. Together, they highlight how constitutional recognition, self-determination, and rights related to reindeer husbandry are implemented – or undermined – in practice.

The first issue is written by Eirik Larsen, head of the human rights unit at the Saami Council, and focuses on Sámi constitutional recognition, the right to self-determination, and free, prior and informed consent (FPIC). The analysis shows a wide gap between international commitments and domestic implementation. https://iwgia.org/en/resources/publications/5840-stateofsapmi012025.html

The second issue, by Ole-Anders Turi, research fellow at Sámi Allaskuvla (Sámi University of Applied Sciences), examines Sámi reindeer husbandry through the lens of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). The findings reveal that land encroachment, weak consultation processes, and insufficient protection of grazing areas continue to challenge Sámi reindeer herders. https://iwgia.org/en/resources/publications/5841-stateofsapmi022025.html

This project is a collaboration between the Saami Council, IWGIA, and Sámi Allaskuvla (Sámi University of Applied Sciences), and is funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF RANGELANDS AND PASTORALISTS IYRP2026

The UN International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP2026): https://iyrp.info/ launched officially on December 2nd, at the FAO in Rome. You may watch the webcast here https://www.fao.org/webcast/detail/iyrp-2026-opening-ceremony/en

To keep everyone's email count down, we have chosen not to forward general emails about IYRP2026. We are sure many of you are already on the same mailing lists! However, if you are leading or participating in specific IYRP2026 initiatives, please let us know – we would be glad to share information about those activities with our community.

If you are seeking more information about IYRP2026 or are interested in contributing, we encourage CNP members to join IYRP2026 working groups (see: https://iyrp.info/working-groups) by contacting the coordinators. We also encourage members to produce content – such as blogs, commentaries, or summaries of their published papers – that highlights the issues pastoralists face, or to help facilitate the participation of pastoralists in IYRP2026 initiatives.

Please let us know about the work that you are doing and we'll be very happy to disseminate it on our platforms.

PERSPECTIVES ON PASTORALISM FILM FESTIVAL

The Perspectives on Pastoralism film festival is organized by CELEP in preparation for and during the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP2026). Check out the fantastic range of films, including films directed and produced by pastoralists and/or by CNP members. Some of the films can be watched online: https://www.pastoralistfilmfestival.com/films/.

Perspective on Pastoralism film Festival webpage: https://www.pastoralistfilmfestival.com/

CELEP webpage: https://www.celep.info/

If you are interested in organizing a screening, please contact the organizers: https://www.pastoralistfilmfestival.com/contact/

CNP MEMBERSHIP

If you haven't filled out the CNP registration form yet, please do so here: https://forms.gle/mcughSNQE4qMwoSRA

The form updates members' basic information and gathers suggestions on the commission's role and functioning.

Feel free to share this form with your graduate students, colleagues and friends interested in all things nomadic.

CNP WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA – Contribute to the Commission!

Check out our website, nomadicpeople.info (https://nomadicpeople.info/), and our social media:

- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/nomadicpeoplescommissioniuaes/
- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/IUAES.nomadic
- Website: https://nomadicpeople.info/
- Linkedin Group: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13857950/

Feel free to use the Commission to increase the visibility of your research and your advocacy on behalf of pastoralists. We welcome contributions from members, such as news, publications, fieldwork reports, upcoming events, ongoing initiatives, as well as information on grants and research opportunities.
Send us a short blog (up to 1000 words) and a photo to nomadicpeoplesiuaescommission@gmail.com.

The next newsletter comes out in the Spring 2026. In the meantime, we wish you a happy New Year – and invite you to enjoy this photo essay on the 2025 Traveller Community's London Christmas Drive: https://www.theguardian.com/world/gallery/2025/dec/08/the-traveller-communitys-london-christmas-drive-in-pictures

Preparing tea in the evening in Jidda, Oman, 1981. Photo by Dawn Chatty.