

Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, The University of British Columbia

**Post-socialism, Shame, and Gender at the Crossroads:
Post-Soviet Traders Reflect on Ideals of Labor in an Era of Transnationalism**

Despite significant ethnographic research on neocapitalism in the former Soviet Union, the widescale movement of people across borders in the region has received little attention. Long-standing socialist moral frameworks coupled with long closed borders in the region, make Russia a vibrant locale for exploring how a surge of unprecedented border crossing since the early 1990s is interwoven with new ideational worlds. This essay draws on the narratives of women shuttle traders making frequent trips to Istanbul, Turkey as a locus for exploring shifting forms of subjectivity--including about citizenship, gender roles, and shame--that have emerged in the context of post-socialist Russia.