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Valentina Isaeva received her PhD in sociology of culture from St. Petersburg University (Russia) in 2015. Currently she is an associate researcher at the Sociological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Isaeva's main research interests are related to the sociological study of religious conversion, sociological theories and methodologies, as well as historical sociology. She is the leader and participant of several research projects and author of articles on the theory of religious conversion, the adaptation of Buddhism in new sociocultural contexts, the biographical method in sociology, and processes of religious conversion in the Russian Empire.

Alexandra Kasatkina defended her candidate of sciences dissertation at the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography (Kunstkamera) of the Russian Academy of Sciences in 2019. After a one-year postdoc at the University of Zurich, she is now a postdoctoral researcher at HSE University (St. Petersburg), working on a collective project on the social anthropology of late Soviet institutions. In addition, she continues to study the ethnographic aspects of research interviews and everyday conversations within theoretical and methodological frameworks of linguistic anthropology and ethnography of speech. Kasatkina has published several articles on everyday discourse in garden associations. She has coauthored, with her colleagues from the series of the Obninsk projects, articles about ethnographic collaboration in the field and the ethics of a collective research project involving digital archiving.

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Anna Petrova is a PhD student and a research assistant at the Laboratory for Environmental and Technological History of the Center for Historical Research at HSE University (Saint Petersburg, Russia). Her research interests include Russian and European technological history, Soviet textile industry, Soviet consumption and materiality, and the Cold War. Currently she is a participant in two research projects: "Material World of Late Soviet Society in the Cold War: Technological Innovations in Production and Representation of Mass Consumer Products" (Russian Science Foundation) and "Industrial Evolution of the Forestry Industry in Old Industrial Regions: The Case of the Urals in the Second Half of the Twentieth Century" (HSE). Previously Petrova participated in the project "Representations of the Natural, Industrial, and Cultural Heritage and Strategies for Actualization the Past" (HSE). She is a member of the group of early career scholars Tensions of Europe.

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Svetlana Yaroshenko received her candidate of sociological sciences degree from the Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Sciences in 1994. Since 2006 she has been an associate professor in the Department of Comparative Sociology, Faculty of Sociology at St. Petersburg University (Russia). She studies poverty, social exclusion, and new forms of solidarity through the lens of gender and class, analyzing their interaction in the postsocialist context. She has participated in multiple research projects that investigated coping strategies (1998) and employment strategies (1999–

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2010) of Russians in the context of market reforms. Yaroshenko is the author and coauthor of the books (in Russian) *Poverty in Postsocialist Russia* (Komi nauchnyi tsentr UrO RAN, 2005), *Social Regimes of Post-Soviet Production* (Komi nauchnyi tsentr UrO RAN, 2008), *Women's Project: Metamorphoses of Dissident Feminism in the Views of the Younger Generation in Russia and Austria* (Aleteiia, 2011). She is also the author of numerous articles on gender and social inequality in capitalist Russia.