

Newsletter

10/2020

Editorial

We have had a difficult year behind us. The COVID-19 pandemic, the devastating earthquake in Zagreb, and the severe earthquake near Petrinja at the year's end, have had very harsh consequences for many Croatian citizens. Luckily, our Institute was not damaged in the earthquake. We quickly adapted to working from home, adhering to the recommendations of the competent ministry. We spent a significant amount of programme funding for an urgent purchase of additional computer equipment. We organized ourselves in continuous shifts of the management and professional services, and the regular attendance of researchers according to daily schedule, thus combining work from home and from the Institute's premises, while complying with all the recommended epidemiological measures. We organized our meetings online, via available platforms. This proved to be a good way of protection. Although a few employees caught the virus in their family settings, the virus did not spread among other employees, because all the infected were adhering to all the recommended measures of self-isolation and disease control. In accordance with our public function, we actively engaged in mitigating the situation and consequences of the pandemic and the earthquake in Zagreb. Also, we immediately engaged in organizing online school for primary and secondary pupils. We reported about that in the previous number of the Newsletter. We continued the work on our ongoing projects. In 2020, the Institute conducted 12 competitive international research projects, and there were a total of 38 projects. We successfully completed the submission of projects to a number of competitive international and national calls.

- We started 3 ESF projects and 1 Erasmus + project, which is a continuation of the previous Erasmus + collaboration within the **Hand in Hand** project;

- In 2020 we began the implementation of two bilateral projects with Slovenia. One is financed by the MSE, and another is a result of the first bilateral competitive call of the CSF and the Slovenian Research Agency: **Quality of living in the Housing Estates of the socialist and post-socialist era: a comparative analysis between Slovenia and Croatia (HESC)** – Principal Investigator for Croatia is Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD.
- We started 3 CSF projects: **Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism (IDEU)**, CSF – Installation project led by Nikola Petrović, PhD; **The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)**, HRZZ-IP-CORONA-2020-04 – Research project led by Branko Ančić, PhD, and **The role of personality, motivation and socio-emotional competences in early-career teachers' occupational well-being – (Teach-Well)**, CSF – Research project led by Iris Marušić, PhD.

We signed a collaboration agreement with the Edward Bernays University College. The result of this collaboration is the joint organization of the international conference **Communication Management Forum 2021**, in March 2021 in Zagreb.

We continued our collaboration with the University of Rijeka and University of Ljubljana, and the result of this collaboration is the co-organization of the international conference titled Youth work in flux: an academic point of view on youth work training and education, in June 2021 in Rijeka, and the enrolment of the new generation of attendees in the lifelong learning programme Youth in Contemporary Society, delivered in collaboration with both Universities.

We successfully passed the process of evaluation of the Institute's implementation of the Human Resources Strategy, which was evaluated as excellent by evaluators from the European Commission. Thus, we acquired the right to continue the use of the "Human Resources Excellence in Research" logo.

In addition, our membership in international networks EERA, ESA, ISA and NEPC was continued.

Within the dissemination part of our scientific research work, we participated in 26 international and 28 national conferences held online. ***The total scientific production of the Institute in 2020 encompasses 2 books, and 42 scientific papers, of which 26 scientific articles and 16 scientific chapters in reviewed books of international and national publishers.*** All of the above is presented in more detail in the Newsletter and at our website.

The ***Sociology and Space*** journal has a new cover design as of this year, and is printed on recycled paper. In addition, there were plenty of papers received within the Editorial board's call for contributions to the special issue dedicated to various individual and social aspects and consequences of the pandemic and the earthquake. All this suggests that in the previous year, despite unfavourable circumstances, we were extremely active in our scientific research work, not just through the understanding and explaining of existing and occurring problems, but also in an attempt to solve them. In the end of the year, and based on the recommendation of the Institute's Scientific Council, the Institute's Managing Board (President Krešimir Nemec, academician and members Associate Prof. Anna-Maria Getoš Kalac, PhD, Vanja Pavlović from MSE, Iris Marušić, PhD and Dunja Potočnik, PhD) unanimously confirmed the appointment of Boris Jokić, PhD as the new Director of the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb. By this appointment the Institute is getting a "new momentum". The change of generations that was happening in previous years following the retirements of our longstanding researchers, resulted in the concentration of the young forces that carry new ideas and new energy, necessary for the drawing up and implementation of various projects in a complex world of extremely precarious working and living conditions, that is, the world filled with various challenges and problems, to which the social scientists need to find scientific

cally based answers. The completion of my mandate as Director happened at the same time as my retirement. After 35 spent at ISRZ, I am very pleased to say that I spent them in an institution that has been marked by academic openness and freedom, continuous striving towards excellence in scientific research work, continuous caring for the people, and in that sense focusing on solidarity as a central value, thus creating a great working environment. All this was proved by the recently conducted internal anonymous questionnaire survey of work contentment at the Institute, conducted among all employees. My contentment is thus greater, since the Institute stays in the hands of extremely hard-working and competent young people.

Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD

Director from 1st January 2017 till 31st December 2020

Ongoing projects in 2020

International projects

The Institute conducted a total of 12 competitive international research projects in 2020. Out of that number, three projects financed by the European Social Fund began in 2020. These are the following projects: "METER to a better climate (Network for Education, Transition, Adaptation and Development)" – Principal Investigator for ISRZ Branko Ančić, PhD; "Thematic Network "Life-long Education Accessible to All" (TEMCO)" – Principal Investigators for ISRZ Iva Odak, PhD and Saša Pužić, PhD and "Work Fit for People" – Principal Investigator Teo Matković, PhD. In all these projects the Institute is a partner in charge of scientific research, while the coordinators are civil society organizations in charge of the coordination and gathering of partners in thematic networks formed with the aim of solving particular social issues. Thus, the "METER" project addresses the combating of energy poverty, the "TEMCO" seeks to strengthen the civil sector in reducing inequalities in education, while the "Work Fit for People" project investigates the circumstances at the labour market, with a special focus on empowering trade unions in the protection of rights and improvement of the position of fixed-term employees. Furthermore, in the previous year we successfully submitted a new three-year project, which will be financed

from the Erasmus + programme. It is the project titled "Hand in Hand: Empowering teachers across Europe to deal with social, emotional and diversity related career challenges". It will be implemented with the Network of Education Policy Centers (NEPC) and additional nine partner organizations coming from various EU countries. The project coordinator is the Educational Research Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia. Also, it needs to be pointed out that this project is a continuation of the "Hand in Hand: Social and Emotional Skills for Tolerant and Non-discriminative Societies (A Whole School Approach)" project, which was implemented with the same partners from 2017 till 2020. Principal Investigator on both projects is Iris Marušić, PhD.

In 2020 we successfully carried out the project titled "Equal rights – Equal pay – Equal pensions" financed by the EU programme Rights, Equality and Citizenship. The Principal Investigator is Josip Šipić, MA. Furthermore, we implemented the International Social Survey Programme, which has been carried out at the Institute continuously since 2005. The ISSP Principal Investigator is Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD. In addition, the implementation of five Erasmus + projects covering the area of youth and youth work studies also continued. These projects' Principal Investigators are Marko Kovačić, PhD and Nikola Baketa, PhD. All international projects that were carried out in 2020 are listed in Table 1. For more detailed information on the content of particular projects, please visit our [website](#) and [Facebook profile](#).

Table 1. International ISRZ projects in 2020

Program	Project title	Coordinator	Principal Investigator from ISRZ
European Social Fund	METER to a better climate	Society For Sustainable Development Design (DOOR)	Branko Ančić
European Social Fund	Thematic Network Lifelong Education Accessible to All (TEMCO)	Institute for the Development of Education (IDE)	Iva Odak, Saša Puzić
European Social Fund	Work Fit for People	Union of Autonomous Trade Unions of Croatia	Teo Matković
EU program Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC)	Equal rights – Equal pay – Equal pensions	Ombudsperson for Gender Equality of the Republic of Croatia	Josip Šipić
International Social Survey Programme	International Social Survey Programme – ISSP	ISRZ	Dinka Marinović Jerolimov
Erasmus +	Hand in Hand: Social and Emotional Skills for Tolerant and Non-discriminative Societies (A Whole School Approach)	Educational Research Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia	Iris Marušić
Erasmus +	Hand in Hand: Empowering teachers across Europe to deal with social, emotional and diversity related career challenges	Educational Research Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia	Iris Marušić
Erasmus +	Support to better knowledge in youth policy – YouthWiki Croatia	ISRZ	Marko Kovačić
Erasmus +	Supporting Evidence-based Education of Youth Workers (SEEW)	ISRZ	Nikola Baketa
Erasmus +	Innovate debate	Croatian Debate Society	Nikola Baketa
Erasmus +	The Art of Ethics in Youthwork	National Association of Youth Workers (NAPOR), Serbia	Marko Kovačić
Erasmus +	Europe Goes Local	Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes	Marko Kovačić

MSE and CSF bilateral projects

In 2020 we started two bilateral projects with the Republic of Slovenia. The project "Comparison of national and religious identities of secondary school students in Croatia and Slovenia" is carried out in collaboration with the School of Economics and Business, University of Ljubljana, and is funded by the MSE Programme of bilateral cooperation with the Republic of Slovenia. Principal Investigator for Croatia is Lana Peternel, PhD. The project "Quality of living in the Housing Estates of the socialist and post-socialist era: a comparative analysis between Slovenia and Croatia" is financed by the Croatian Science Foundation within the programme of Slovenian-Croatian bilateral cooperation. The project is carried out in collaboration with the Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia. Principal Investigator for Croatia is Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD.

National projects

Research projects funded by the CSF

In 2020 we started the implementation of three projects financed by the Croatian Science Foundation in which ISRZ is the coordinator:

- **Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism (IDEU)**; CSF – Installation project; Principal Investigator: Nikola Petrović, PhD;
- **The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)**; HRZZ-IP-CORONA-2020-04 – project; Principal Investigator: Branko Ančić, PhD;
- **The role of personality, motivation and socio-emotional competences in early-career teachers' occupational well-being – (TeachWell)**, CSF – Research project; Principal Investigator: Iris Marušić, PhD.

Interview with Assistant Prof. Branko Ančić, PhD, principal investigator of the CSF project SOCRES

At the HRZZ-IP-CORONA-2020-04 call, announced by the CSF as a response of the scientific community to the COVID-19 pandemic, the financing of the project **"The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)"**, led by Branko Ančić, PhD, was approved. The SOCRES project is guided by the question of what strengthens the capacities of individuals, groups, communities and organizations, or the society in general, enabling them to positively respond to threats and negative impacts of catastrophes, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The theoretical grounds of the project are debates on the concept of social resilience that refers to the capacities of human communities to cope with externally caused shocks to their infrastructure and to successfully recover from them. Besides the project leader and the Institute's researchers Marija Brajdić Vuković, Adrijana Šuljok and Lana Peternel the project involves 21 researchers from 10 institutes and universities from Croatia and abroad.

Below we bring you an interview with the project leader.

- What is the main aim of the SOCRES project?

The COVID-19 pandemic has already resulted, and will continue to result, in ruptures, traumas, adversities, threats, tragedies and significant stress. This pandemic creates new landscapes of inequalities, draws new world maps, and new local political maps and power relations. The overall research aim of this project is to investigate how societies react to these processes, with an emphasis on the characteristics of social resilience in the Croatian society in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and their immediate consequences. The participants of the project research activities will be representatives of the broader public, and experts, politicians and activists.

- In the previous year we witnessed a great change in the way the broader public perceives decisions of the National Civil Protection Headquarters, from an almost 'heroic image' during the first wave of the pandemic, over gradual losing of citizens' trust, to the completely negative attitudes resenting the Headquarters the lack of political neutrality. Could you comment on this?

Our research, which was conducted in autumn within the SOCRES project, showed that 83 % of Croats still have high trust in scientists and their ability to find a therapy or vaccine for the coronavirus. However, the trust in the Government, the National Civil Protection Headquarters and the media decreased. Strongly. According to data, when it comes to managing the coronacrisis, the Government is not trusted by 45 % of citizens, the media is not trusted by 50 %, and the Headquarters by 33 %. As many as 40 % of the interrogated citizens report lower levels of trust in the work of the Headquarters than in the beginning of the crisis in spring. Altogether, it seems that the level of trust in the Headquarters will continue to decrease, primarily because the measures that are brought are not applied consistently and do not apply equally to everyone.

- Since the beginning of the project implementation until today we see that vaccination has begun, whereby around 50 % of citizens do not want to be vaccinated, according to research. What do you think are the reasons for a relatively low response of citizens to vaccination?

Findings of social research nevertheless need to be read more carefully, and we need to be cautious and responsible. Respondents were asked whether they would take the vaccine if the vaccine was available in Croatia, and only 21 % of respondents said they would definitely not be vaccinated, according to some domestic agencies' research. In our research we extensively dealt with this group as well. We used the term «antimaskers», which does not encompass just those who might be against vaccination, but also those who relativize the outbreak of the disease, as well as those who find that corona is utilized as a means of threatening individual freedoms (reflected also in the obligation of wearing a mask). There are less than 3 % of such respondents among our pool, while there is around 14 % of those who say that «the coronavirus is like flu». The remaining 83 % nevertheless find that the pandemic is not a party. Still, here we have an interesting phenomenon. Although the real number of these «antimaskers» is relatively small, the media space that they are getting is almost the same as the one given to those who trust science. Also, the so-called antimaskers' group is much louder and somewhat more visible in the media because of their using of a sensationalist vocabulary, while the opposite side uses argumentation and facts, which are always harder to convey in such a

way that they create a stronger impact on the public. In other words, it takes more time and effort for the public to accept them. Nevertheless, the group of antimaskers is taken altogether a lot smaller in number than the group that trusts science. A text addressing this topic will soon be published in the Sociology and Space journal.

- To conclude, in what way will the SOCRES project contribute to the resilience of the Croatian society to the COVID-19 pandemic?

The term social resilience refers to the ability of a society to withstand external shocks to its social infrastructure and to successfully recover from them (Adger, 2000). The main research goal of this project is to explore the features of social resilience in Croatian society in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and its immediate aftermath. Social resilience is understood as a concept that encapsulates individuals, organizations and communities (or society per se) and their abilities and capacities to absorb, cope with and adjust to threats which can be social and/or environmental in nature. The project shall result in better understanding of sociocultural and institutional preconditions for adaptation to developmental restraints that are specific for 21st century. It will be of interest to policy makers, and to CSOs, especially regarding the specific measures that can be undertaken in relation to the strengthening of the social capital, crisis communication or addressing broader environmental and economic challenges, which contribute to the strengthening of resilience of Croatian society. Such projects are extremely important because they shed light on the social consequences of catastrophies, analysing at the same time their causes and attempting to discover the mechanisms of empowering individuals, groups, organizations or the society as a whole for better coping with the negative consequences and possible threats.



Branko Ančić, PhD - Principal Investigator of the CSF project SOCRES

Photo: Davor Pongracic/Cropix

In 2020 our researchers joined as **individual collaborators** the following **CSF projects coordinated by other institutions**:

CSF – IP-CORONA-04-2020 – “(Re)building society: A longitudinal study of post-corona social recovery in Croatian general population (ReSPoC)” – Principal Investigator: Prof. Dinka Čorkalo Biruški, PhD (Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb), ISRZ team members: Marko Kovačić, PhD, Nikola Baketa, PhD;

CSF – Research project “The influence of internet and social networks on vaccination attitudes and decisions” – Principal Investigator: Željko Pavić, PhD (Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Osijek); ISRZ team member: Adrijana Šuljok, PhD;

CSF – Installation project “Socio-ecological challenges of rural development: objective and subjective indicators of resilience of Croatian rural socio-ecological systems” – Principal Investigator: Tijana Trako Poljak, PhD; ISRZ team member: Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD;

and continued the collaboration on the following projects:

CSF – Research project “Regulation of prostitution in Croatia (ProReg)” – Principal Investigator: Ivana Radačić, PhD (Institute Ivo Pilar); ISRZ team members: Mirjana Adamović, PhD, Josip Šipić and Nikola Baketa, PhD;

CSF – Installation project “Social stratification in Croatia: structural and subjective aspects (STRAT)” – Principal Investigator: Karin Doolan, PhD (University of Zadar); ISRZ team members: Branko Ančić, PhD and Ivana Jugović, PhD;

CSF – Installation project “Formal education in fostering sustainable development (FoROR)” – Principal Investigator: Bojana Čulum Ilić, PhD (University of Rijeka); ISRZ team members: Branko Ančić, PhD and Anja Gvozdanović, PhD;

CSF – Installation project “Croatian women philosophers in the European context” – Principal Investigator Luka Boršić, PhD (Institute of Philosophy); ISRZ team member: Ana Maskalan, PhD.

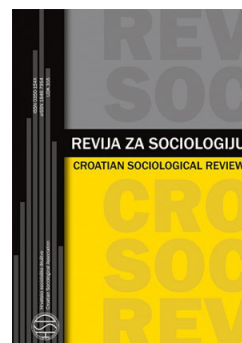
Research projects funded by the MSE

In 2020 the Institute conducted four projects funded under the Ministry of Science and Education (MSE) Pro-

gramme Agreement for multi-year institutional financing of scientific activity (VIF):

- **Comparison of determinants of tourism development in Povelja, a settlement on the island of Brač, in 2009 and 2019** – principal investigator: Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD
- **The continuation of the project “Educational aspirations of pupils at transitional periods of Croatian elementary education: nature, determinants and change (COBRAS)”** – principal investigators: Boris Jokić, PhD and Zrinka Ristić Dedić, PhD
- **Scientometric analysis of CSF projects approved and finished between 2013-2019** – principal investigator: prof. Maja Jokić, PhD
- **Strengths and weaknesses of specific development of tourism on larger Adriatic islands: The example of the City of Hvar** – principal investigator: Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD

Also, after applying to the call of the Ministry of Science and Education Institute’s research team led by Saša Puzić, PhD conducted the competitive research project **“Development of a study on the social dimension of higher education in Croatia”**.



Thematic issue of the Sociological Review, Vol. 50 No. 2, 2020, based on ISRZ research on educational aspirations in primary and secondary schools – CSF project COBRAS

Other national and international projects

In 2020 the Institute was either a coordinator or partner on nine projects in collaboration with educational organizations, national and/or local authorities, and national or international civil society organizations. These projects are listed in Table 2.

Table 2. ISRZ projects with educational organizations, national and/or local authorities, and national or international CSOs in 2020

Project title	Coordinator	Partner/s – Collaborator/s	Funded by
Current practice of issuing and implementation of diploma supplement in Croatia and development of the concept and technical specification of the platform for the digitalization of diplomas and diploma supplements	ISRZ (CERD)	-	Ministry of Science and Education
Preparation for the introduction of Civic Education in secondary schools	University of Rijeka	ISRZ (CERD)	University of Rijeka
Evaluation of the Action Cities / Counties Friends of Children from Children's Perspective in 2020 – Municipalities of Bale, Raša and Strahoninec and the City of Novska	ISRZ (CERD)	-	Cities and municipalities included in the evaluation
Programme of comprehensive renewal of the historical centre of Zagreb (Development of the sectorial sociological study)	Institute for Physical Planning of the City of Zagreb	ISRZ (URSRC)	Institute for Physical Planning of the City of Zagreb
City for Youth – A model of certifying Croatian cities based on local policies	Association of Cities in the Republic of Croatia (UGRH)	ISRZ (CYGS)	Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes
'School Strike 4 Climate Croatia'	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb	ISRZ (URSRC)	University of Zagreb
Philosophical Legacy of Milan Polić	Faculty of Teacher Education, University of Zagreb	ISRZ (CYGS)	University of Zagreb
Professional Socialization of Junior Scientists into Teaching (PROSO)	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences University of Rijeka	ISRZ (CRISIS)	University of Rijeka
Akadska profesija u društvu znanja (APIKS)	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences University of Rijeka	ISRZ (CRISIS)	University of Rijeka

International collaboration, mobility and study visits

Due to the epidemiological situation caused by the COVID-19 disease pandemic, the Institute, like many other scientific institutions, had to transfer its international activities on online platforms from mid-March 2020 on. Many of our planned activities and meetings in person were also moved to the virtual sphere or postponed until further notice (for example, the Days of Educational Sciences conference).

Final conference of the Hand in Hand project

The final conference of the Erasmus+ project HAND in HAND on socio-emotional learning titled ***Do we need a relational revolution in schools? Social, emotional and intercultural competences for inclusive societies*** was held in Zadar, on 28 and 29 January 2020. The outcomes of the project were presented at the conference, with a fo-

cus on the education of teachers and professional school staff, and the implementation of educational policy. Examples from the HAND in HAND programme were presented, and the possible ways of supporting the development of socio-emotional and intercultural competences on the level of classroom, school and the system. More about the Hand in Hand project can be found at [Youtube](#).



Final conference of the Erasmus + project "Hand in Hand", Zadar, 28 - 29 January 2020

Conference 'Women Philosophers in SouthEastern Europe. Past – Present – Future'

Ana Maskalan, PhD was a member of the Organizational Committee of the international video-conference **Women Philosophers in South-Eastern Europe. Past – Present – Future**, organized by the Institute of Philosophy from 15 to 17 December 2020. Ana Maskalan held a lecture titled "Jasenka Kodrnja, philosopher of Croatian tough reality".

Invited lecture of Boris Jokić at the international ACE 2020 conference

Boris Jokić, PhD participated as invited lecturer at the **2nd International Artistic and Scientific Conference "Arts in Lifelong Learning"** where he held a lecture titled "Between Joy and Despair: Arts Education from the Pupils' Perspectives". The conference took place from 18 to 19 October 2020.

Degrowth Vienna 2020

Branko Ančić, PhD participated in the video-conference **Degrowth Vienna 2020 - Strategies for Social-Ecological Transformation**. He held a presentation titled "Restructuring the Third/Corporate Food Regime: How Farmers and the Public are Transforming Food and Agriculture for the Future. Post-COVID-19", written in co-authorship with Susan Andreatta, Mladen Domazet, Robert Hafner, Christina Plank and Lillian Pungas.

Perspectives on Refugee Education

Jelena Matić Bojić, PhD participated in the international conference **Cross-border Perspectives on Refugee Education** with the presentation "Refugee Education in Croatia from Relevant Stakeholders' and Asylees' Perspectives", written in co-authorship with Margareta Gregurović, Dean Ajduković, Dinka Čorkalo Biruški and Drago Župarić-Ilijić.

Transformation of Work: narratives, practices, regimes

Teo Matković, PhD and Katarina Jaklin participated in the international video-conference **Transformation of Work: narratives, practices, regimes** with the presentation

"Who cares for carers? Employment security and well-being of ECEC workers", written in co-authorship with Jelena Ostojić, Iva Ivšić and Marko Lucić.

22nd Psychology Days in Zadar

At the **22nd Psychology Days** in Zadar, held between 1 and 3 October 2020, a four of our researchers from the Centre for Educational Research and Development participated with their presentations. In their presentations, Iris Marušić, PhD, Ivana Jugović, PhD, Josip Šabić, PhD and doctoral student Mirta Mornar addressed various aspects of the teaching profession.

55. Jahrestagung der Sektion Sonderpädagogik der DGfE

The video-conference **55. Jahrestagung der Sektion Sonderpädagogik der DGfE** was held between 9 and 11 September 2020, in which Saša Puzić, PhD participated with the presentation "Die Bedeutung pädagogischer Orientierungen von Lehrpersonen für schulische Anerkennungsverhältnisse". Co-authors of the paper are S. Vieluf, N. Roczen, B. Nielsen, A. Kozina, A. Miekuz, M. Rožman, N. Eliasson and C. Sälzer.

Croatian Politological Talks 2020: Politics in the age of pandemic

The video-conference **Croatian Politological Talks 2020: Politics in the age of pandemic** was organized on 6 and 7 November 2020 by the Croatian Political Science Association and the Faculty of Political Science of the University of Zagreb. The conference panelists were Nikola Baketa, PhD, Marko Kovačić, PhD, Ana Maskalan, PhD, Adrijana Šuljok, PhD, Branko Ančić, PhD, Marija Brajdić Vuković, PhD, Nikola Petrović, PhD and doctoral student Filip Fila.

3rd European Youth Work Convention

Dunja Potočnik, PhD participated in the **3rd European Youth Work Convention**, held from 7 to 10 December 2020. She held a presentation titled "Unfolding the potential of cross-sectoral cooperation: How to navigate through rapid streams and murky waters of cross-sectoral cooperation in the youth field".

3rd Europe-Western Balkans Youth Meeting

Marko Kovačić, PhD participated in the video-conference **3rd Europe-Western Balkans Youth Meeting**, held on 11 June 2020. The title of his presentation was "Achievements of EU – Western Balkans youth cooperation within the Erasmus+ and EVS/ESC programmes and insights for the future".

7th Young Scholars Forum

Doktoral student Filip Fila participated in the video-conference **7th Young Scholars Forum**, organized by the IDM (Institut für den Donauraum und Mitteleuropa) from 3 to 4 December 2020. The title of his presentation was: "The Visegrad group – a united front against a common European narrative?".

Power, Politics and Social Sciences (100 Years after Max Weber)

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD and Jelena Zlatar Gamberozić, PhD participated in the video-conference **Power, Politics and Social Sciences (100 Years after Max Weber)** held in Banja Luka from 18 to 19 September 2020. In their presentations they addressed urban transformations in Zagreb and the quality of living in it, in the post-socialist period.

Events (co)organized by the Institute

Collaboration Agreement between the Institute and the Edward Bernays University College signed

Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD, Director of the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb (2017-2020) and Damir Jugo, PhD, Dean of the Edward Bernays University College, signed the Collaboration Agreement on behalf of both institutions on 27 October 2020. The Agreement was signed with the purpose of promoting academic, professional and scientific collaboration in the areas of mutual interest. The signing was attended by Lana Ciboci, PhD, Vice Dean for Science and Quality Management of the Edward Bernays University College and Marko Kovačić, PhD from the Institute's Centre for Youth and Gender Studies.



Signing of the Collaboration Agreement between the Institute and the Edward Bernays University College

Institute's implementation of the Human Resources Strategy for Researchers evaluated as excellent

External evaluation of the implementation of the Human Resources Strategy for Researchers in the Institute was conducted in October 2020. A group of evaluators from the European Commission led by prof. Anna Maria Eleuteri carried out a series of online talks with employees of all levels regarding the implementation of the Institute's Strategy and Action Plan. Special emphasis was put on the OTM-R ("Open Transparent and Merit-based Recruitment") employment policy for researchers, employees' professional development, mentoring of junior researchers, working conditions, institutional procedures for quality assurance, etc. Institute's implementation of the Strategy was evaluated as excellent and the Institute was allowed to further use the HR Excellence in Research logo. The implementation of the external evaluation was for the Institute coordinated by Ivana Jugović, PhD, Head of the Committee for Quality Assurance in collaboration with the Institute's Director Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD.



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

HR Excellence in Research Logo

ISRZ's Internal Seminars

In 2020 the tradition of Institute's internal seminars for employees was continued, in which some of the employees present some of the topics from the scope of their expertise, while others have the opportunity to listen and discuss. The aim is to connect Institute's researchers and professional services and strengthen their capacities and knowledge. The first in the series of online seminars was held on 29 September 2020 by Marija Brajdić Vuković, PhD on the topic of qualitative approach to case study. The second was held by Filip Fila, doctoral candidate on the CSF project "Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism (IDEU)", led by Nikola Petrović, PhD. Filip presented comparative studies in sociology, pointing to the traps that researchers are facing when comparing various political entities. As the starting point and example he took the book 'Religious America, Secular Europe? A Theme and Variations' (Berger, Davies, Fokas, 2008). In addition, Filip has already addressed this topic in a graded essay within one of the subjects of the study International Master in Economy, State and Society: History and Society (University College London and Charles University in Prague).

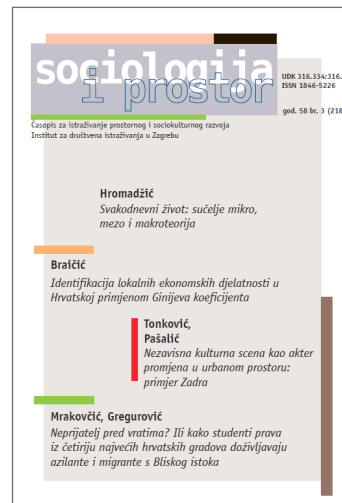
Publishing

In 2020 the total scientific production of the Institute included 2 scientific books (1 authored and 1 edited) and 42 scientific articles, of which 26 scientific papers and 16 scientific chapters. Out of the total number of scientific articles, 24 papers were published in journals indexed in Web of Science and/or Scopus, and 16 chapters in reviewed books. The Institute is the publisher of the **Science and Society Edition** and the **Special Editions**, and the scientific journal **Sociology and Space**.

Journal 'Sociology and Space'

We are particularly proud that the **Sociology and Space** journal has a new visual identity, beginning with the first number in 2020 (Vol. 58, No. 1 216). The new identity was designed by prof. Ivan Doroghy, PhD from the Study of Design at the Faculty of Architecture in Zagreb. The cover now consists, besides the names of authors, of full titles of published papers. Also, the journal is published on recycled paper. In 2020 three regular yearly numbers

were published, and are available at the Institute's [web-site](#) and at [Hrčak](#).



New design of the 'Sociology and Space' journal

Call for the best student's paper of the 'Sociology and Space' journal

Sociology and Space is a leading regional journal for exploring spatial topics from the perspective of urban and rural sociology and related disciplines. As a part of its strategy of promoting quality and visibility of research in that area we announce a call for "The best student's paper in 2021". With this competition we intend to instigate the publication of the best papers of both male and female authors of the new generation in the area of spatial research, from various scientific branches and disciplines. Therefore, the journal's Editorial Board invites students of all levels of graduate and post-graduate studies of Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science, Architecture and related disciplines to send papers on various aspects of spatial issues. The paper will be published in the journal's Vol. 59. No 221. The author of the selected paper will be awarded with a financial contribution and free subscription to 'Sociology and Space'. The papers are sent via the journal's user portal and via e-mail to the address: ankica@idi.hr, lanapeternel@idi.hr and/or sip@idi.hr with the title "The best student's paper in 2021."

More: <https://hrcaj.srce.hr/ojs/index.php/sip/announcement/view/121>.

Forthcoming events

Communication Management Forum 2021

The international conference Communication Management Forum 2021 is titled "The post-pandemic world: a bad picture or a good opportunity?" and is dedicated to a broad spectrum of social issues arising from the new situation induced by the COVID-19 pandemic. The conference will be held virtually on 19 and 20 March 2021. The organizers are Edward Bernays University College, Institute for Social Research in Zagreb and Institute for tourism. More: <http://www.commforum.hr/>.

Youth in contemporary society

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Rijeka initiates, in collaboration with the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb and the University of Ljubljana, the enrollment of the second generation of attendees of the lifelong learning programme **Youth in contemporary society** in the year 2020/2021. The programme is intended for the youth work practitioners who already work or are interested in working with youth as a specific social group. More information about the programme: <https://www.idi.hr/mladi/>.

International conference 'Youth work in flux: an academic point of view on youth work training and education'

The Institute for Social Research in Zagreb and the partners University of Rijeka and University of Ljubljana are the organizers of the conference **Youth work in flux: an academic point of view on youth work training and**

education. The conference will be held from 15th till 17th June 2021 in Rijeka, Croatia. Youth work is slowly but steadily gaining recognition, both among the practitioners and the academic community. It is for the purpose of better understanding what youth work represents that the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb, in collaboration with the Universities of Rijeka and Ljubljana, organizes the conference **Youth work in flux: an academic point of view on youth work.** The aim is to strengthen the epistemic community of youth work scholars and researchers, while instigating academic debate on existing knowledge in the domain, defining further topics that need to be explored, and investigating the possibilities of co-creating the knowledge with actors from the community. We invite all the interested scholars and researchers to submit their abstracts that problematize the theoretical, analytical and methodological models of youth work research, and innovative practices that can be analyzed by employing theoretical strongholds of disciplines related to youth work. More information about the conference, and important dates and guidelines for abstract submission can be found [here](#). The conference is held within the Erasmus + project **Supporting Evidence-based Education of Youth Workers.**

International conference presentations in 2020

In the previous year we participated in 26 international scientific conferences, which were held via video-platforms due to the epidemiological situation. Map 1 displays the planned locations or the places where the organizers of conferences are seated.



Youth in Contemporary Society Logo

Map 1. International conferences in 2020

Banja Luka

Budva

Vienna

Köln

Belgrade

Ljubljana

Berlin

Sarajevo

Bonn

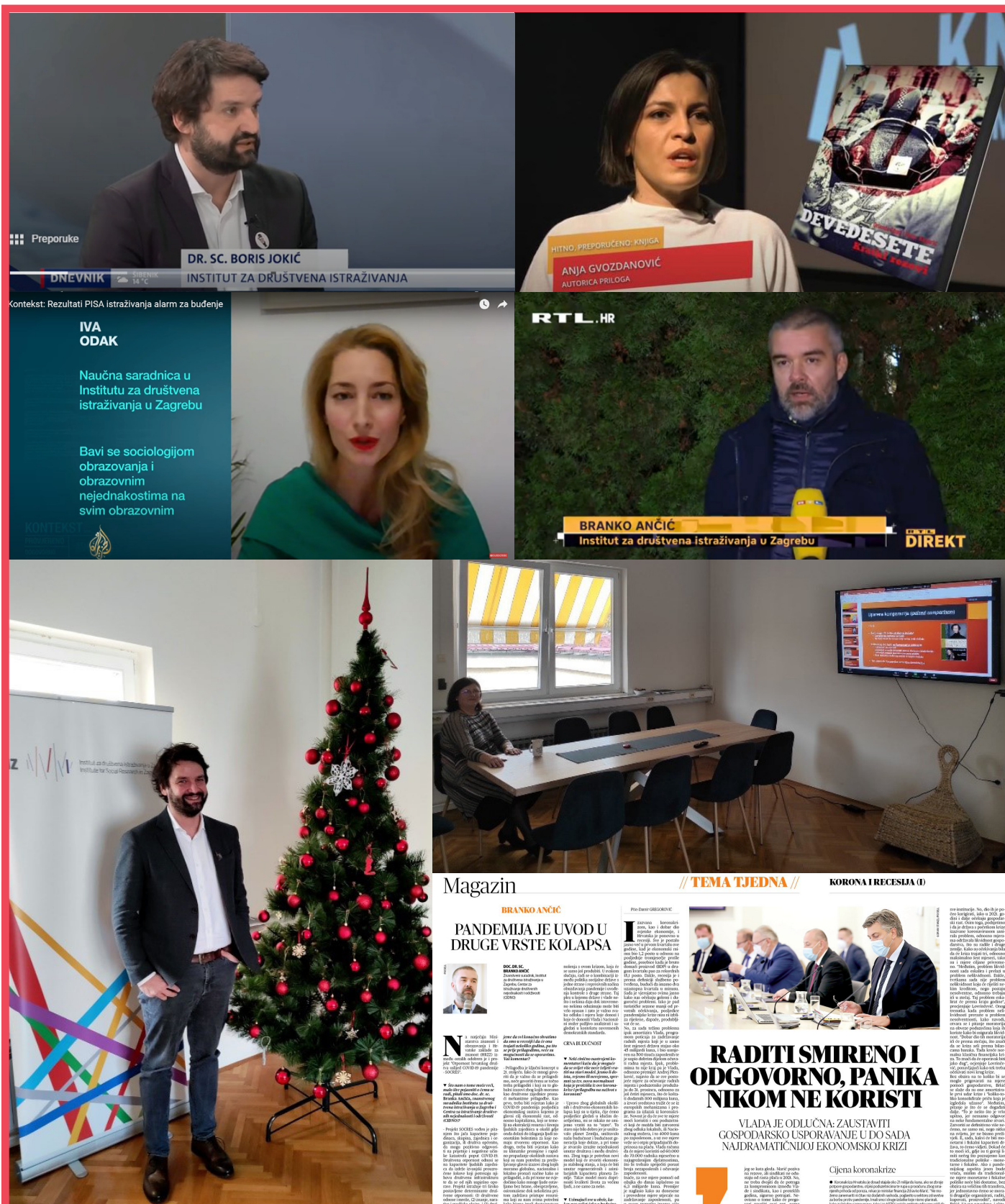
Zadar

Bruxelles

Zagreb



Everyday life at the Institute



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