

Newsletter

11/2021

In 2021 the Institute continued its collaboration in a number of international and national projects, conducted with governmental bodies or local governmental units, educational institutions and the civil sector. Our mission remained to carry out scientific research on socially relevant topics with the aim of improving various social domains, from education to the improvement of the social position of youth, through the labour market and overcoming gender inequalities in payments and pensions, to the investigation of the consequences of the devastating earthquake that struck in 2020. Indeed, these are only some of the topics we addressed, and for more details we invite you to skim through the pages of the Newsletter or check our web-page, Facebook and Youtube profile. Regarding that the pandemic is still going on, most of our conferences and seminars were held online or in a hybrid mode. Thus, we organized the international conference **Youth Work in Flux**, in collaboration with the University of Rijeka, University of Ljubljana, Croatian Youth Network, Croatian Debate Society and the GOOD Initiative. We were the co-organizers of the international **Communication Management Forum 2021** in collaboration with the Edwards Bernays University College and the Institute for Tourism. Also, we co-organized this year's **VIII National Congress of the Croatian Sociological Association**. In the first half of 2021 we conducted a total of 12 competitive international projects, of which three projects financed under the **European Social Fund**, six projects funded under the **Erasmus +** program, and one project financed under the **MSE Program of Bilateral Cooperation with Slovenia**, one under the EU program **Rights, Equality and Citizenship** and the multi-year **International Social Survey Program**. Regarding the national projects, in this year we started with two research projects financed

by the Croatian Science Foundation, the research project **"The role of personality, motivation and socio-emotional competences in early-career teachers' occupational well-being (TeachWell)"**, and the research project **"Changes in the Organization of the Educational Process caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic: Effects on Educational Experiences, Well-being and Aspirations of Pupils in Croatia (EWACHange)"**, respectively. The implementation of previously started CSF projects also continued: **"Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism"**, **"The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)"** and **"Quality of living in the Housing Estates of the socialist and post-socialist era: a comparative analysis between Slovenia and Croatia"**. We enriched our publishing activity with new editions. Therefore in the Special Editions we published the following editions: **"Summarized results of gender pay and pension gap surveys"**, **"Diminished settlements in the Republic of Croatia: Historical-demographical-anthropological perspectives"**, **"Research on political literacy of high school graduate students in the Republic of Croatia: A research report for 2021"** and **"On underrepresented and vulnerable groups of students: Contributions to the improvement of the social dimension of higher education in the Republic of Croatia"**. Two regular yearly numbers of the journal **"Sociology and Space"** were published, and a thematic issue dedicated to the COVID-19 pandemic. We were involved in many other scientific research projects and activities that are not highlighted here, however, they are described in the proceeding pages of the Newsletter. Finally, 2021 is the year in which we celebrate an important jubilee - **20**

years of the activity of the ISRZ Centre for Educational Research and Development. The anniversary will be celebrated on 28th September 2021 in Novinarski dom by presenting our selected recent projects and a discussion on the existing state and developmental perspectives of the educational system.

Editorial Board

Ongoing projects in 2021.

International projects

In the first half of 2021 the Institute conducted 12 competitive international projects financed under the European Social Fund, EU Program *Rights, Equality and Citizenship* i *Erasmus+*, MSE Program of bilateral cooperation with Slovenia, and the international program ISSP. The projects are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Competitive international ISRZ projects in 2021

Program	Project title	Coordinator	Principal Investigator from ISRZ
European Social Fund	METER to a better climate (Network for Education, Transition, Adaptation and Development)	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
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: applied curriculum for debate based youth work	Croatian Debate Society	Nikola Baketa
Erasmus +	EUROPE GOES LOCAL – Supporting Youth Work at the Municipal Level	Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes	Marko Kovačić
Erasmus +	The Art of Ethics in Youthwork	National Association of Youth Workers (NAPOR), Serbia	Marko Kovačić
MSE Program of Bilateral Cooperation with Slovenia	Comparison of national and religious identities of secondary school students in Croatia and Slovenia	ISRZ, School of Economics and Business, University of Ljubljana	Lana Peternel
EU program Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC)	Equal rights – Equal pay – Equal pensions	Ombudsperson for Gender Equality of the Republic of Croatia	Mirjana Adamović
International Social Survey Programme	International Social Survey Programme (ISSP)	ISRZ	Branko Ančić

National projects

CSF research projects

In 2021 we started the implementation of the following projects:

- ***Changes in the Organization of the Educational Process caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic: Effects on Educational Experiences, Well-being and Aspirations of Pupils in Croatia (EWACHange)***, HRZZ-IP-CORONA-2020-12 – Research Project, PI: Boris Jokić;
- ***The role of personality, motivation and socio-emotional competences in early-career teachers' occupational well-being – (TeachWell)***, HRZZ – Research Project, PI: Iris Marušić.

We also continued with the implementation of the following projects:

- ***Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism***, HRZZ – Installation project, PI: Nikola Petrović;
- ***The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)***, HRZZ-IP-CORONA-2020-04 – Research Project, PI: Branko Ančić;
- ***Quality of living in the Housing Estates of the socialist and post-socialist era: a comparative analysis between Slovenia and Croatia***, HRZZ-IPS-2020-01 – Bilateral project, PI: Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac.

In 2021 we continued with the following **CSF projects coordinated by other institutions** in which ISRZ researchers participate as **individual collaborators**:

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

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

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

CSF – Installation project *“Sustainable fishery: Social relations, identity and common management of fishery resources in the Adriatic (SOCFISH)”*, PI: Dražen Cepić (Department of Sociology of The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zadar); ISRZ team: Branko Ančić, PhD;

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

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

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

MSE research projects

In 2021 the Institute conducted four projects funded under the Ministry of Science and Education (MSE) Programme Agreement for multi-year institutional financing of scientific activity (VIF):

- ***Strengths and weaknesses of specific development of tourism on larger Adriatic islands: The example of the City of Hvar*** – PI: Jelena Zlatar Gamberozić, PhD
- ***The continuation of the project “Educational aspirations of pupils at transitional periods of Croatian elementary education: nature, determinants and change (COBRAS)”*** – PIs: Boris Jokić, PhD and Zrinka Ristić Dedić, PhD

- **Research on political literacy of high school graduate students** – Pls of the third wave: Nikola Baketa, PhD, Jelena Matić Bojić, PhD, Marko Kovačić, PhD, Kosta Bovan, PhD (Faculty of Political Science)
- **Renewal of the Zagreb city core after the 2020 earthquake from tenants' perspective** – Pl: Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD

Other national and international projects

In the first half of 2021 the Institute was either a coordinator or partner on seven 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 the first half of 2021

Project title	Coordinator	Partner/s – Collaborator/s	Funded by
Programme of comprehensive renewal of the historical centre of Zagreb (Development of a sectorial sociological study)	Institute for Physical Planning of the City of Zagreb	ISRZ (URSRC)	Institute for Physical Planning of the City of Zagreb
Current practice of issuing and implementation of diploma supplement in Croatia	ISRZ (CERD)	-	Ministry of Science and Education
City for Youth – A model of certifying Croatian cities based on local policies	Association of Cities in the Republic of Croatia (UGRH)	ISRZ (CYGS)	Association of Cities in the Republic of Croatia (UGRH)
Development of a study on the social dimension of higher education in Croatia	ISRZ (CERD)	-	Ministry of Science and Education
National monitoring of effects of COVID-19 pandemic and 2020 earthquake on the organization of educational processes and well-being of pupils and educational professionals in Croatia	ISRZ (CERD)	-	Ministry of Science and Education
Assessment of quantitative needs for education and employment of professionals in the early childhood education system	ISRZ (CERD)	-	Ministry of Science and Education
Assessment of institutional and structural determinants of the registration for State Matura and success in it	ISRZ (CERD)	Ministry of Science and Education, the Institute of Economics Zagreb	-

International collaboration, mobility and study visits

International conference 'Youth Work in Flux'

The Institute, in collaboration with the University of Rijeka, University of Ljubljana, Croatian Youth Network, Croatian Debate Society and the GOOD Initiative organized a conference on youth work **"Youth Work in Flux: an Academic Point of View on Youth Work Training and Education"** in Rijeka, from 15 to 17 June 2021. The conference was held in the hybrid mode as part of the Erasmus + project "Supporting Evidence-based Education of Youth Workers". A total of 138 participants attended the conference. They were from Croatia, Slovenia, UK, Italy, Finland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russia, Belarus, Spain, Estonia, the Netherlands and Belgium. The attendees were greeted by Leo Staković (CYN), Antonija Gladović (AMPEU), Željka Josić (Central State Office for Demography and Youth), prof. Monika Kalin Golob (University of Ljubljana), Boris Jokić (Institute for Social Research in Zagreb) and prof. Snježana Prijić-Samardžija (Dean of the University of Rijeka). Invited lectures were held by Howard Williamson, PhD (University of South Wales) and Tomi Kilakoski, PhD (Finnish Youth Research Network). A total of 18 papers focused on youth work were presented at the conference; prof. Bojana Ćulum Ilić (University of Rijeka) presented the project **Supporting Evidence-based Education of Youth Workers**; while prof. Tomaž Deželan and prof. Marko Radovan (University of Ljubljana) presented the research **Digital competences of Slovenian youth: implications for youth work practice**. A round table titled **Youth Work – yesterday, today, tomorrow? – A retrospective of youth work in Croatia** was organized by the Croatian Youth Network within the conference. Also, a **World Café** of the GOOD Initiative, Centre for Peace Studies and Forum for Freedom in Education was held under the title of **Quality of informal educational programs for youth**, and a round table of the Croatian Debate Society titled **Civic education in youth work – examples of good practice**.

Marita Grubišić-Čabo



"Youth Work in Flux" conference

Mirjana Adamović participated in the Social Policy Association Annual Conference

Mirjana Adamović, PhD participated in the Social Policy Association (The Professional Association for Lecturers, Researchers, and Students of Social Policy in the UK and Internationally) Virtual Annual Conference. It was held from 7 to 9 July 2021 on the topic of **Global challenges – national social policy responses**. She and her colleagues Ivan Radačić, Rašeljka Krnić and Tihana Štojs Brajković held two presentations on the regulation of prostitution in Croatia, addressing the following topics: "Public policy actors' views on prostitution: between violence and work" and "Policy actors' views on legislative models: against criminalization of sex workers". Book of abstracts is available [here](#).

Youth in Contemporary Society – Lifelong learning program

The Institute, in collaboration with the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Rijeka and the University of Ljubljana, implemented the second generation of the lifelong learning program **Youth in Contemporary Society** in the year 2020/2021. The program gathered 30 participants from Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy and Lithuania, carefully selected among as many as 136 received applications. The selected participants are professionals already involved in youth work, or interested in working with/for youth as a special social group. The program encompassed three modules covering the most important youth work topics – youth research, youth work, and youth and community development. The lecturers were: Nikola Baketa, Ivan Cerovac, Nadja Čekolj, Bojana Čulum, Tomaž Deželan, Marita Grubišić-Čabo, Anja Gvozdanović, Vlasta Ilišin, Marko Kovačić, Sunčana Kusturin, Ana Maskalan, Vjeran Pavlaković, Dunja Potočnik, Marko Radovan, Sanja Smojver-Ažić, Renato Stanković and Nebojša Zelić. The program lasted for 15 weeks, from February to June 2021.

Events (co)organized by the Institute

VIII National Congress of the Croatian Sociological Association

VIII National Congress of the Croatian Sociological Association titled **"Croatian Society and COVID-19 Pandemic: Crisis as an Opportunity?"** was held on 20 and 21 May 2021. This year congress' main topic was the global crisis induced by the COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on the ways in which the society responded to it. Among ISRZ researchers, the presenters at the congress were Teo Matković, Branko Ančić, Marija Brajdić Vuković, Lana Peternel, Nikola Baketa, Jelena Zlatar Gamberozić, Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, Mirjana Adamović, Nikola Petrović, Filip Fila, Adrijana Šuljok, Saša Puzić, Josip Šabić and Iva Odak. Moderators of particular sessions were Branko Ančić (Program Committee) and Anja Gvozdanović (Organizational Committee). The congress was held online, and the recordings of all sessions are available [here](#). Book of abstracts is available [here](#). Also, Branko Ančić was again elected President of the Croatian Sociological Association.



"Youth in Contemporary Society" program

Communication Management Forum 2021

International conference „**Communication Management Forum 2021 - Post-pandemic world: A bad picture or a good opportunity**“, organized by Edward Bernays University College, Institute for Social Research in Zagreb and Institute for Tourism, was held virtually, on 19 and 20 March 2021. The forum gathered more than 250 authors with 100 presentations from the neighbouring countries, but also from Spain, Turkey, Russia, India and the UK. The participants had the opportunity to exchange opinions on the post-pandemic world, within a multidisciplinary scientific debate and with a particular focus on possible scenarios of social development after the pandemic.

A forum within the ESF project 'Work Fit for People' held

Within the project “**Work Fit for People**“, co-financed by the EU under the European Social Fund, a forum was held problematizing the topic of “**Fixed-term employment as a new normal: is there a future for secure and quality jobs**“. The forum was organized by the project main beneficiary, Union of Autonomous Trade Unions of Croatia. The speakers at the forum were Darko Šeperić and Ana Miličević Pezelj From the Union, and Katarina Jaklin, ISRZ Assistant at the project, presenting the survey on the quality of employment of fixed-term employees. The recording of the forum is available [here](#). The results were also presented in the Croatian Radio Television TV show Studio 4 by Teo Matković, PhD, principal project investigator for ISRZ.

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac participated in the First Croatian Conference on Earthquake Engineering

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD participated on behalf of the ISRZ sociological team and presented results of the **Sociological study of the pilot-project Blok 19** – at the conference **Urban Renovation Wave Triggered by Earthquake**, organized by the Institute for Physical Planning of the City of Zagreb within the First Croatian Conference on Earthquake Engineering (1CroCEE) at the Faculty of Civil Engineering of the University of Zagreb. The collaboration project within the Programme of compre-

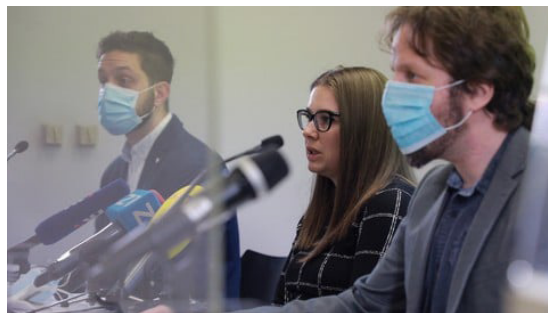
hensive renewal of the historical centre of Zagreb was presented at the conference, in the form of 12 sectorial studies, among which is also the sociological one, led by A. Svirčić Gotovac.

Dinka Marinović Jerolimov and Filip Fila participated in the 14th ISORECEA conference

Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD and doctoral student Filip Fila, together with Nikolina Hazdovac Bajić, PhD (Institute 'Ivo Pilar') held a presentation at the 14th ISORECEA conference (International Study of Religion in Eastern and Central Europe Association), which was held online. The presentation was titled “Comparative study of non-religiosity: Croatia, Slovenia, and the Czech Republic”. By using the ISSP (International Social Survey Programme) data of 2018, the authors tried to describe and explain differences in the non-religiosity and the perception of religion's public role in three selected cases.

Results on youth political literacy presented

In May 2021 results of the “**Research on political literacy of high school graduate students**” were presented at the Faculty of Political Science. It is a long-standing project of the Institute, in collaboration with the GOOD Initiative, Gong, Faculty of Political Science, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Rijeka and the University of Graz, within which youth political competence is examined periodically since 2010. The findings of the third wave of the research (2021) were presented to the public by Jelena Matić Bojić, PhD and Nikola Baketa, PhD, who are together with Kosta Bovan, PhD the authors of the [research report](#). Besides the findings and methodology section, the report includes a list of all researchers who designed and conducted the research in previous waves: 2010, 2015 and 2021.



Public presentation of the research on political literacy youth

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac and Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić held a visiting lecture at the Department of Sociology of the University of Zadar

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD and Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD held a visiting lecture titled "Urban renewal as a transformation of urban (post-socialist) space: Two examples from Zagreb". The lecture was held in May 2021 via Zoom platform, within the module Urban Sociology at the Department of Sociology in Zadar, whose principal lecturer is Željka Tonković, PhD.

Ana Maskalan presented at the conference Simone de Beauvoir: New Perspectives for the 21st century

Ana Maskalan, PhD participated in the international conference "Simone de Beauvoir: New Perspectives for the 21st century", which was organized by the Institute for Philosophy in Leuven from 2 to 4 June 2021. The title of her presentation was "I Didn't Ask for It": Women of Former Yugoslavia vs. The Invisibility of Rape. In her lecture she referred to the online initiative "I Didn't Ask for It" from the perspective of feminist philosophy of Simone de Beauvoir, and the socio-political context that makes her unique. [Book of abstracts](#).

Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić participated in e-colloquium 'Tourism and Housing'

Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD participated in the e-colloquium "Tourism and Housing" organized by the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and the journal "Mjera" from Dubrovnik. Her lecture was titled "The comparison of developmental tendencies of tourism on the examples of Brač and Hvar – what's next?", where she compared existing directions of tourism development on two islands and outlined possible directions of further development. [Book of abstracts](#).

METER to a better climate partners' meeting held

Principal investigator and ISRZ coordinator of the project [METER to a better climate \(Network for Education, Transition, Adaptation and Development\)](#) Branko Ančić and ISRZ project assistant Tomislav Cik participated in the fifth meeting of project partners in Pula in June 2021. The meetings were organized by the main beneficiary Society For Sustainable Development Design (DOOR) and gathered 14 participants from seven CSOs from Pula, Slavonski Brod, Zagreb and Zadar (*Eko-Zadar, Ecological Society of Slavonski Brod-BED, Terra Hub, Green Istria, Forum for Freedom in Education, Institute for Political Ecology and Green Action*) and two scientific research institutions (*Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing of the University of Zagreb* and *Institute for Social Research in Zagreb*). The project is co-financed by the EU under the European Social Fund, the Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Republic of Croatia, and the City of Zagreb. The meetings included presentations of action plans aimed at climate change adaptations and energy sustainability, along with key strategic documents for the implementation of green transition on the local level. Also, many examples of successful international and national good practices of advocating for green policies were presented. The second day of the meeting was dedicated to the reflection on the finished and current project activities, and the conceptualization of the forthcoming project activities, such as the creation of guidelines for the development of public policies, the scientific research and the analysis of the social impact of the conducted activities. Also, during the second day the project partners presented the project '*METER to a better climate*' in the program of the *Radio Rojc*.

Tomislav Cik



ESF project "METER to a better climate" - partners' meeting

Panel of the CSF project IDEU at CES 2021

A panel discussion "Comparison of Supranational Identity-building and Disintegration of Socialist Yugoslavia and the European Union" was held as part of the virtual conference of the Council for European Studies (CES) on 22nd June 2021. The panel was organized within the CSF project *Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism*, and was addressing a rarely employed comparison of the EU and socialist Yugoslavia as examples of supranational political entities. In the four presentations the questions of lessons learned from the Yugoslav disintegration were problematized, along with similarities and differences in the process of building a supranational identity, questions of women's position and their rights in the building of both entities, as well as the question of distribution and determinants of self-identification as Yugoslavians and Europeans. Ivan Obadić (Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb) presented the paper "The dissolution of Yugoslavia and the crisis of the European Union: What can we learn?" Stevo Đurašković (Faculty of political Science, University of Zagreb) and Nikola Petrović (ISRZ) presented the paper titled "The EU Identity Crisis: The Lessons from Socialist Yugoslavia Unlearned?" Ana Maskalan (ISRZ) held a presentation titled "Place of women's rights in supranation building: Comparison of socialist Yugoslavia and the European Union". Nikola Petrović and Filip Fila (ISRZ) and Marko Mrakovčić (Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka) presented the paper titled "Yugoslavs and Europeans compared: Supranational polities and supranational identification".

Boris Jokić participated in the WHO meeting on education during the pandemic

Boris Jokić, PhD, Director of the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb participated in the meeting of the World Health Organization (WHO) on education during the COVID-19 pandemic held on 2nd July 2021. Boris Jokić was, along with Minister of Science and Education prof. Radovan Fuchs and Deputy Director of the Croatian Institute of Public Health Ivana Pavić Šimetin, part of the team who presented the Croatian model and research related to the influence of the pandemic on the educational system. Boris Jokić presented preliminary results of the ISRZ project *National monitoring of effects of COVID-19 pandemic on the educational system*, which is implemented collaboratively with the Ministry of Science and Education. Based on the findings, collected in 160 primary and secondary schools, pupils assessed that the pandemic had most effect on the weakening of their motivation for learning, while conversely, it had a positive effect on their digital skills. In addition, the pandemic had the most negative effect on the mental condition of pupils, their extracurricular activities and hobbies, and practising sports. This was a third meeting organized by the WHO, which gathered leading world experts around the topics of models and measurements for mitigating risks and controlling the outbreak, strategies of testing in school environments, vaccination strategies and recommendations of the TAG work group. More information can be found at the [link](#).



WHO meeting on education during the pandemic

Iva Odak held a lecture on education, social inequalities and poverty

Iva Odak, PhD held a lecture titled 'Education, social inequalities and poverty' within the newsreporting education dedicated to the writing on the social position of the poor. The education is part of the project '[I to je pitanje kulture?](#)', focused on the strengthening of systematical reporting on the access to and participation in the culture of various vulnerable groups. The education is coordinated by Đordana Barbarić, defectologist and president of the Association MoST. The project is carried out by the Association for Promoting Cultures Kultur-treger, Books.hr and the Kurziv platform. The project was co-financed by the EU under the European Social Fund. The aim of the project is to raise public awareness on the challenges that vulnerable groups are facing, and to contribute to the affirmation of their cultural needs and increase their social inclusion. The project is focused on the young, blind, those with impaired vision, migrants, poor and the Roma, as groups in which cultural participation is refracted in specific ways.

Saša Puzić presented a study on the social dimension in higher education in Croatia

On 7th July 2021 the final conference of the Erasmus+ project "**SIDERAL – Social and International Dimension of Education and Recognition of Acquired Learning**" organized by the Ministry of Science and Education was held. Saša Puzić, PhD as a plenary lecturer presented the study "[On underrepresented and vulnerable groups of students](#)", which was written by the ISRZ research team: Saša Puzić, Nikola Baketa, Branislava Baranović, Margareta Gregurović, Teo Matković, Mirta Mornar, Iva Odak and Josip Šabić. The study encompasses analyses related to the social dimension of higher education in Croatia: an overview of recent research on underrepresented and vulnerable groups of students, analysis of existing national policies and strategic documents of higher education institutions, and the analysis of student experience in order to identify studying obstacles arising from their belonging to a vulnerable group of students.

Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić presented research results on tourism development in the city of Hvar

Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD held a presentation of results of the project [Strengths and weaknesses of specific development of tourism on larger Adriatic islands: The example of the City of Hvar](#) in the Hvar City Library premises on 27th July 2021. The results indicate that tourism in the city of Hvar develops whimsically, and without a plan and control. This results, among other things, in an overuse of island resources, which leads towards losing the direction of development. It can be said that it is characterised by a combination of various types of tourism that develop independently. In the case of Hvar these are mostly elite, mass, sports, cultural and party tourism, pointing to a lack of a clear strategy for tourism development or a planned vision of the location as a tourist destination. In conclusion it needs to be pointed out that the city of Hvar needs to direct itself mostly towards sustainable development (it is most often that elite and cultural tourism are mentioned, and agricultural tourism), and that it is crucial to develop a strategy that would be focused on a clear vision of development. It is these types of tourism that are pointed out in the new Developmental strategy of tourism of the city of Hvar and considered crucial, just like sustainability. Since the pandemic showed that a smaller number of tourists is actually more favourable for this space, it remains to be seen if the new strategy will be implemented and how, and what consequences will the new ideas for tourism development have both for the city and for the whole island.



Presentation of project results in the Hvar City Library

Branko Ančić and Lana Peternel participated in a working group for the outlining of the document 'Long-term developmental vision of Banija'

The presentation of the document 'Long-term developmental vision of Banija' was held in Glin, on 7th July 2021. The document was outlined by a working group consisting of members of the Economic Council of the Croatian President and external experts from domains of economy, sociology, anthropology and urban planning. Branko Ančić, PhD and Lana Peternel, PhD were involved in the drafting of the document, and the occasion of its presentation was attended by President of the Republic of Croatia Zoran Milanović, representatives of the local governmental and self-governmental units, industry, non-governmental organizations and higher education institutions from the Sisak-Moslavina region.

Exhibition 'Youth – A neverending fight'

An exhibition *Youth – A neverending fight* was created and set up by the ISZR in collaboration with the Library 'Božidar Adžija' in Zagreb. The exhibition consisted of a number of publications problematizing youth and testi-

fying on the *etos* of many generations of youth, primarily from the rich tradition of the ISZR youth research, and other materials from which it can be learned more about the way of living and values of youth in Croatia. The exhibition was created with the aim of fostering debate on the position of youth in Croatia and as a possible incentive to some future youth researchers or practitioners.

Boris Jokić and Zrinka Ristić Dedić presented results of the National monitoring of effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and 2020 earthquake

The ISZR in collaboration with the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia carries out the research project *National monitoring of effects of COVID-19 pandemic and 2020 earthquake on the organization of educational processes and well-being of pupils and educational professionals in Croatia*. Boris Jokić, PhD and Zrinka Ristić Dedić, PhD (project PIs) presented the first results to the Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenković, the Croatian President Zoran Milanović, and to the media and the broader public.



Presentation of results of "National monitoring of effects of COVID-19 pandemic and 2020 earthquake on the organization of educational processes and well-being of pupils and educational professionals in Croatia" to the Croatian Premier and President

Publishing

In the first half of 2021 the total scientific production of the Institute included 1 authored book and 16 scientific papers. All papers were published in journals indexed in Web of Science and/or Scopus.

The Institute publishes the *"Science and Society"* Edition and the *"Special Editions"*, and the scientific journal *"Sociology and Space"*.

In the *Special Editions* the following publications were published:



Dugački, Vlatka; Peternel, Lana; Škiljan, Filip. *Nestala naselja u Republici Hrvatskoj: povijesno-demografsko-antropološke perspektive*. Zagreb: Plejada: Institut za društvena istraživanja u Zagrebu: Institut za migracije i narodnosti, 2021.

Baketa, Nikola; Bovan, Kosta; Matić Bojić, Jelena. *Istraživanje političke pismenosti učenika završnih razreda srednjih škola u Republici Hrvatskoj: istraživački izvještaj za 2021. godinu*. Zagreb: Institut za društvena istraživanja, 2021. [Full text](#).



Puzić, Saša; Baketa, Nikola; Baranović, Branislava; Gregurović, Margareta; Matković, Teo; Mornar, Mirta; Odak, Iva; Šabić, Josip. *O podzastupljenim i ranjivim skupinama studenata: prilozi unaprjeđivanju socijalne dimenzije visokog obrazovanja u Republici Hrvatskoj* / [urednik Saša Puzić]. Zagreb: Ministarstvo znanosti i obrazovanja: Institut za društvena istraživanja, 2021.

[Full text](#).

Publication 'Summarized results of gender pay and pension gap surveys' presented at ISRZ web-site

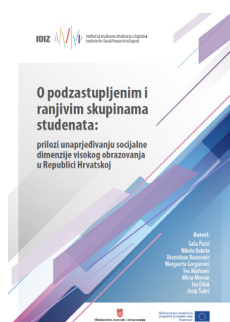


A publication titled *"Summarized results of gender pay and pension gap surveys"* was published in ISRZ Edition *Special Editions* (eds. Josip Šipić and Mirjana Adamović). The publication brings the main results of a research on gender gap in payments and pensions, gender prejudices at the labour market and juggling of work and family obligations conducted within the European project *"Equal rights – Equal pay – Equal pensions"* – *Expanding the scope of implementation of gender equality actions and legal standards towards achieving gender equality and combating poverty in Croatia* (Project coordinator is Ombudsperson for Gender Equality of the Republic of Croatia). The majority of ISRZ's activities consisted of 3 questionnaire surveys conducted on convenience samples of private and public companies and institutions active in finance and insurance, health and social care, and processing industry, their employees working in leading and managing positions, as well as pupils of vocational secondary schools who are in education for these professions. The authors of the publication are: Mirjana Adamović, Marita Grubišić-Čabo, Ana Maskalan, Dunja Potočnik and Josip Šipić.

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Research report 'Diploma supplement in Croatia – Perspectives of higher education institutions on the content, use and digitalization'

A research report *"Diploma supplement in Croatia – Perspectives of higher education institutions on the content, use and digitalization"* was published within the project *"Current practice of issuing and implementation of diploma supplement in Croatia"*, which is carried out by the ISRZ for the Directorate for Higher Education of the Ministry of Science and Education. The project principal investigators are Zrinka Ristić Dedić and Boris Jokić. A total of 109 out of 127 higher education institutions participated in the study. A total of 1116 diploma supplements were collected, along with attitudes of 105 HE



[Full text](#).

institutions regarding the content, use and digitalization of diploma supplements.

Main research findings:

- High response of HE institutions points to the importance of the topic
- Support of HE institutions to the digitalization of diplomas and diploma supplements
- Structure of diploma supplements determined by the Croatian normative framework and European recommendations is largely respected
- High accordance between HE institutions, yet space for further alignment and improvement of certain elements
- Insufficient use of diploma supplements for the continuation of education and employment, especially in Croatia

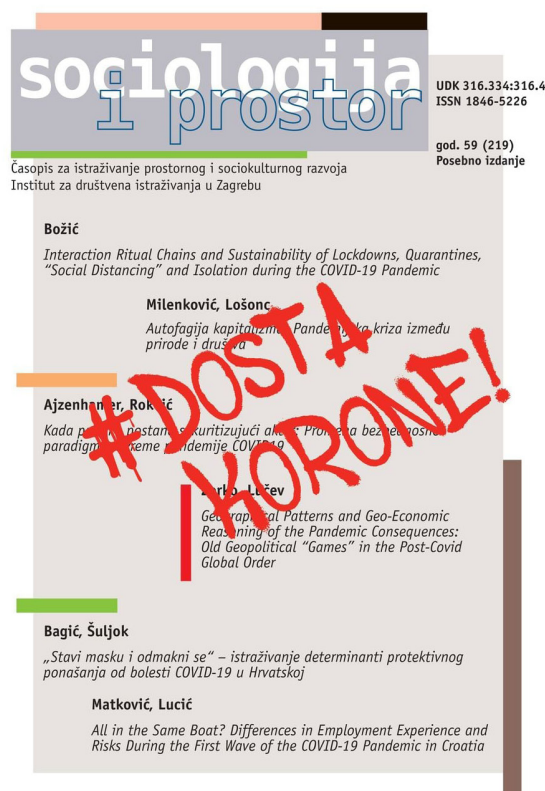
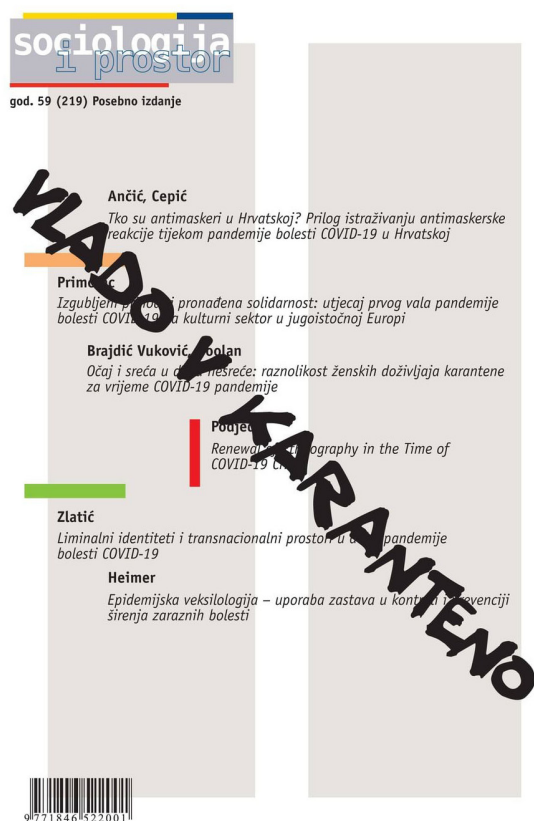
Need for a more intensive and systematical promotion of quality and utility of this important document.

Based on the conducted study and analyses of various technical solutions for the digitalization of diplomas and diploma supplements in particular EU countries, **a concept and technical specification for a platform for the digitalization of diplomas and diploma supplements** is designed within the ISRZ project.

Journal 'Sociology and Space'

In April 2021 a special thematic issue of the *Sociology and Space* was published (Vol. 59, No.1 219), which includes texts of some of the leading authors from the domain of social sciences and humanities on the topics related to the social response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the first half of 2021 two regular yearly numbers were published, and are available at the [ISRZ web-page](#) and at [Hrčak](#).



Thematic issue of the journal 'Sociology and Space'

Forthcoming events

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

The Editorial Board of the 'Sociology and Space' journal announces the call for **"The best student paper in 2021"**. The aim of this competition is to instigate publishing of the best papers by the new generation of authors in the domain of spatial research from the aspects of various scholarly branches and disciplines. The Editorial Board of the journal therefore invites students of all levels of undergraduate and postgraduate studies of Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science, Architecture and related disciplines to submit their papers on various aspects of the spatial issues. The Call is open to various perspectives addressing spatial and environmental topics, and there are no pre-set topics. The works are expected to reflect the problems that people and communities are facing on the local, regional and global level. The qualitative and quantitative studies are equally acceptable, along with case studies, reviews of best practices, etc. There is no limit to the number of authors, however, it is compulsory that the first author of the paper will not have defended a Ph.D. thesis until the end of 2021. The deadline for the submission of papers is 1st October 2021. The paper will be published in Vol. 59. No 221 of the journal: The author of the selected paper will receive a financial award and a free subscription to Sociology and Space. The papers are submitted via the journal's [user portal](#) and are sent electronically to the email addresses: ankica@idi.hr, lanapeternel@idi.hr and/or sip@idi.hr under the title "The best student paper 2021".

Twenty years of the ISRZ Centre for Educational Research and Development

The Centre for Educational Research and development is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2021. Although educational research have a long tradition at the Institute, the establishment of a separate unit within the ISRZ in 2001 created an opportunity for systematical and comprehensive scientific research in this domain. In its initial phase the Centre dealt with key questions on the macro-level of the educational system: national curriculum, organizational structure of the educational system, sys-

tem of internal and external assessment of the quality of education and educational achievements of pupils, system of teacher education, and transformation of higher education in Croatia. In the period after 2007 a continuity of exploring the aforementioned five main areas was kept, however, new research domains were introduced, in accordance with the involved researchers and the recognized needs of the educational system. In the period from 2013 till the present day many national and international projects were conducted in the Centre, and the main research topics were crystallized into the following: monitoring of access to education and participation in it, gender and social dimension of education, educational and professional paths, professional competences and teachers' motivation, educational and life experiences of children and youth, and so on.

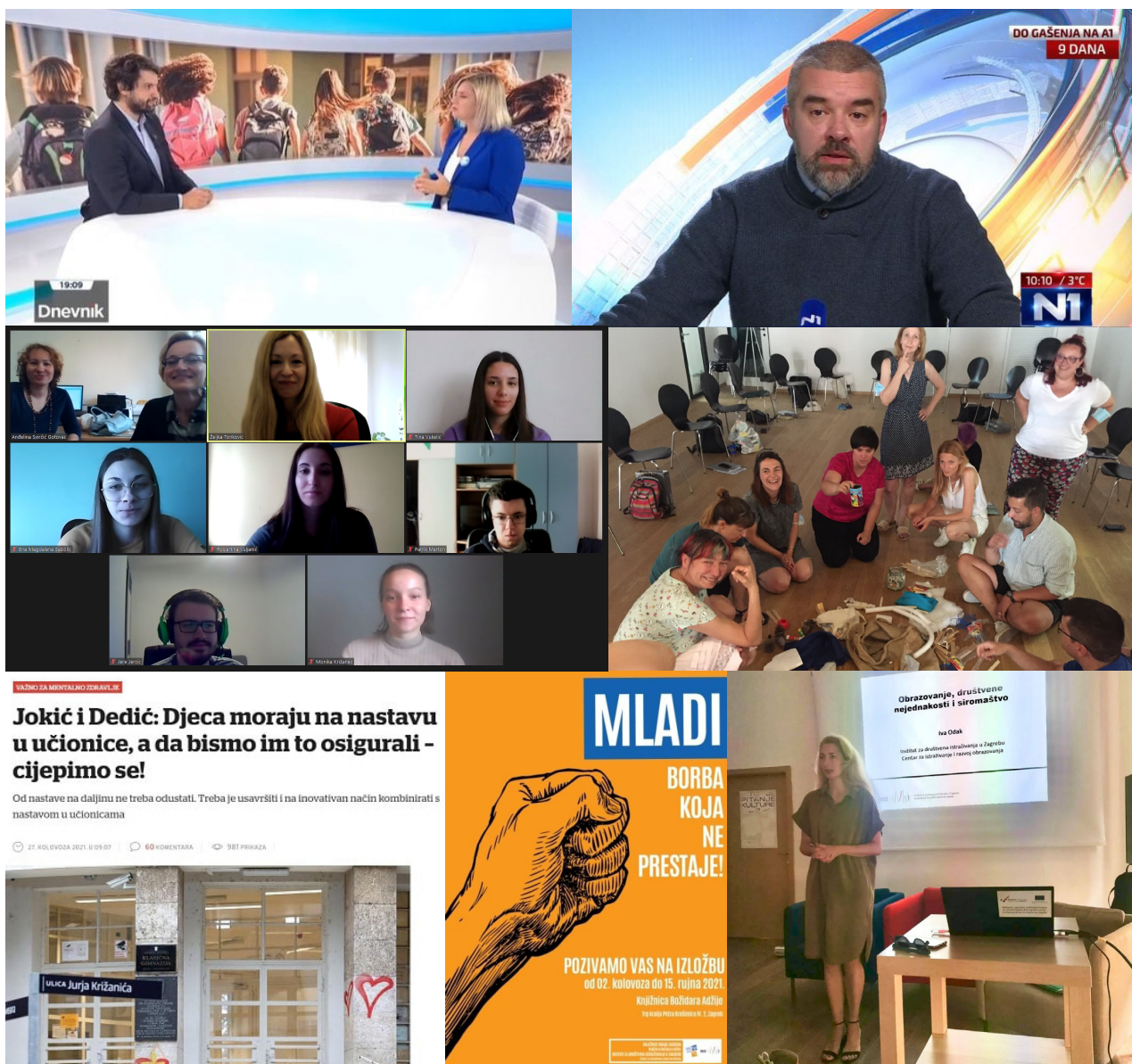
Since its establishment until today, the Centre has developed into a leading point of observing educational phenomena and exploring the Croatian educational system. Currently, there are 11 researchers participating in scientific research projects of the Centre, and a number of associates from other scientific research institutions. The educational research we conduct stand out due to their interdisciplinary character and methodological versatility that spans from the use of large data bases created within large international projects in education and populational data bases collected within the Croatian educational system, through mixed-method research on various samples, to in-depth qualitative research and case studies. During its existence the Centre established collaboration with numerous scientific research and educational institutions in Croatia and abroad, as well as state agencies and non-governmental institutions in the area of education, while also becoming a member of a number of international networks in the area of education. Since 2012 the Centre has been the organizer of the biannual scientific conference days of educational Sciences. The Centre has its own educational function aiming primarily to educational professionals in primary and secondary schools, and it participates in an array of popularization activities for the professional and general public. Moreover, the Centre gave an important contribution to the establishment of a new interdisciplinary field of educational sciences in 2009, in which still nowadays junior researchers are profiled and promoted.

An outstanding social contribution of the Centre is the fact that its researchers were active as key initiators and creators of numerous reform processes in education. The scientific-research of the Centre was a basis for the introduction of external evaluation of educational achievements at the end of secondary education (State Matura) in 2009. The scientific and professional expertise of the Centre served as a basis for the drafting of the Strategy of Science, Education and Technology (2012 – 2014), and in the period from 2015 to 2016 the Centre's researchers designed and managed the process of Comprehensive Curricular Reform of Early and Pre-school,

Primary School and Secondary School Education in the Republic of Croatia.

The 20th anniversary of the Centre for Educational Research and Development will be celebrated on 28th September 2021 in Zagreb, in Novinarski dom (Perkovčeva 2, Zagreb) by presenting selected recent projects of the Centre, followed by a discussion on the existing state and perspectives of the educational system's development.

Zrinka Ristić Dedić



Edited by Tana Morić and Stjepan Tribuson

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