

Newsletter

12/2021

Editorial

Despite the pandemic that largely marked the year 2021, the year behind us was exceptionally successful for ISRZ. Four research associates were employed at the Institute, and two scientific advancements to the positions of senior research associates were successfully carried out. In the preceding year we also employed 6 assistants, and one assistant left the organization. In the beginning of the year, our Director Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD got retired, to be soon elected emerita following the decision of the Scientific Council. Thus, 2021 has been the year of intensive personnel revitalization, providing preconditions for Institute's further development. In 2021 we conducted as many as 30 research projects, of which 12 were accepted on competitive national and international calls. We especially point out that 5 projects of the Croatian Science Foundation were carried out at ISRZ. None less valuable are other projects, financed by either international or national funds, nor those carried out under the Programme Agreement. From the social perspective, it is important to notice that Institute's researchers reacted promptly and adequately to great personal and social challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and the earthquake that struck Croatia. Besides ongoing projects, in 2021 we submitted another 9 project proposals to competitive international and national calls. Intensive work on projects was followed by scientific production. We published 32 papers, of which 8 papers in journals and books in the first (Q1) and 4 in the second (Q2) quartile. We also published five scientific monographies. The year 2021 was marked by the signing of two new collaborations: with the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Belgrade and the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory of the University of Belgrade. The Institute was a (co)organizer of five conferences, of which some had international participants.

In addition, at the Symposium organized by ISRZ in December, almost all Croatian scientific research projects that explore the consequences of the pandemic on nationally representative samples were jointly presented. Our researchers participated actively with as many as 100 presentations at international and national scientific and professional conferences. Our activity in higher education teaching, and in the mentoring of candidates in higher education was also strong. The journal 'Sociology and Space' continued with its regular and high quality activities, and in this year a special issue was published, dedicated to the social consequences of the pandemic. The work of the ISRZ Editions was also intensive, though a number of special editions. The work of the Institute and its employees was intensively covered in the media, and in 2021 we registered a few hundred media appearances and news about our work. The scientists' work is not possible without high quality Professional services, who in 2021 performed all the tasks entrusted and participated very intensively in many professional training courses. Finally, the Managing Board of the Institute also deserves acknowledgement, for their monitoring of the Institute's work and providing support to our activities.

Boris Jokić, PhD

Director

Ongoing projects in 2021

National and international competitive projects

In 2021 the Institute conducted a total of 30 projects, of which 16 competitive national or international projects financed by the Croatian Science Foundation, European Social Fund, and EU program *Rights, Equality and Citizenship* and *Erasmus+*. The projects are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. ISRZ national and international competitive projects

Project title	Program/financed by	Coordinator	Principal Investigator (ISRZ)
The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)	Croatian Science Foundation – research project CORONA	ISRZ	Branko Ančić
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)	Croatian Science Foundation – research project CORONA	ISRZ	Boris Jokić
The role of personality, motivation and socio-emotional competences in early-career teachers' occupational well-being (Teach-Well)	Croatian Science Foundation – research project	ISRZ	Iris Marušić
Quality of living in the Housing Estates of the socialist and post-socialist era: a comparative analysis between Slovenia and Croatia (HESC)	Croatian Science Foundation – bilateral project with Slovenia	ISRZ	Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac
Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism (IDEU)	Croatian Science Foundation – installation project	ISRZ	Nikola Petrović
METER to a better climate (Network for Education, Transition, Adaptation and Development)	European Social Fund	Society For Sustainable Development Design (DOOR)	Branko Ančić
Thematic Network Lifelong Education Accessible to All (TEMCO)	European Social Fund	Institute for the Development of Education (IDE)	Iva Odak, Saša Puzić
Work Fit for People	European Social Fund	Union of Autonomous Trade Unions of Croatia	Teo Matković
HAND IN HAND: Empowering teachers across Europe to deal with social, emotional and diversity related career challenges	Erasmus +	Educational Research Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia	Iris Marušić
Support to better knowledge in youth policy – YouthWiki Croatia	Erasmus +	ISRZ	Marko Kovačić
Supporting Evidence-based Education of Youth Workers (SEEW)	Erasmus +	ISRZ	Nikola Baketa
Innovate debate: applied curriculum for debate based youth work	Erasmus +	Croatian Debate Society	Nikola Baketa
EUROPE GOES LOCAL – Supporting Youth Work at the Municipal Level	Erasmus +	Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes	Marko Kovačić
The Art of Ethics in Youthwork	Erasmus +	National Association of Youth Workers (NAPOR), Serbia	Marko Kovačić
Equal rights – Equal pay – Equal pensions	EU program Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC)	Ombudsperson for Gender Equality of the Republic of Croatia	Mirjana Adamović
Comparison of national and religious identities of secondary school students in Croatia and Slovenia	MSE Program of Bilateral Cooperation with Slovenia	ISRZ, School of Economics and Business, University of Ljubljana	Lana Peternel

CSF project 'The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)'

Although research into catastrophes has a long history in social sciences, they are mostly focused on localized natural disasters like floods, earthquakes and tornados, or on localized terrorist attacks, as was the case with terrorist attacks in the US on 11 September 2001. In this regard, and for a global coverage, the COVID-19 pandemic is among more recent challenges in this domain, both in terms of adequate conceptual tools and research methods. Additionally, existing insights from research on the virus spread, e.g. SARS in 2003, indicate that although epidemiological measures and strategies were largely effective in controlling the virus spread, the epidemic had negative political, ethical and socioeconomic effects. In other words, in the case of virus epidemics, the mentioned catastrophes had multifold negative consequences. The SOCRES project is guided by the question what is it that enhances the capacities of individuals, groups and organizations, or society in general, to deal with threats and negative effects of catastrophes such as COVID-19 more competently. The project explores three broadly set determinants of social resilience: (1) social relationships and network structures, (2) knowledge, narratives and media frames, and (3) social metabolism and institutional capacities. The project gathers an interdisciplinary team of researchers from Croatia and abroad, who tried to shed light on various social aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic, an event that is a completely new experience for all involved parties, equally experts and the broader public. Project's principal investigator is Branko Ančić, PhD. More information can be found at the [link](#).

CSF 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)'

During last two years, the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly changed the educational processes in the Republic of Croatia. The organisational changes induced by the pandemic influenced core aspects of educational

processes, particularly in setting educational priorities, curriculum delivery, assessment practices, the teaching and learning environment and support. Changes to these educational processes have potentially had (and will likely continue to have) strong effects on the lives of pupils at different educational levels. The EWACHange project is a comprehensive scientific exploration of the profound changes in Croatian education caused by the pandemic, and to assess the educational and psychosocial effects of this implementation on pupils, with particular emphasis on changes to pupils' educational experiences, wellbeing and educational aspirations. Special emphasis in the project is placed on the exploration how changes in the organisation of educational processes induced by the pandemic affected three vulnerable groups: pupils with disabilities and learning difficulties, pupils from disadvantaged socioeconomic contexts and gifted pupils. Its findings will be relevant not only as a retrospective account of exceptional societal and educational events, but also prospectively as a source of insight and recommendations for the future. Research findings will enable the design and implementation of system-level policy measures that could ameliorate the disruption of regular schooling and empower pupils, educational workers and parents to successfully master crisis situations in the future. Project's PI is Boris Jokić. More can be found at the [link](#).

CSF project 'The role of personality, motivation and socio-emotional competences in early-career teachers' occupational well-being (TeachWell)'

Initial years of teaching are a critical period in teachers' career characterized by stress and high rates of attrition. The provision of adequate support to teachers during their early-career is important for the development of their professional competence in a complex school environment and for their plans to remain in the profession. Recent studies underline the important role of personality, motivation to teach, and socio-emotional competences in relevant teacher outcomes. Together, these affective-motivational characteristics form a substantial aspect of teacher professional competences. The TeachWell project is designed to examine the joint contribution of these characteristics to positive outcomes

such as enthusiasm for teaching, job satisfaction, work engagement, planned persistence in the profession, and low burnout of teachers in their early-career. These outcomes together form the occupational well-being of early-career teachers and represent the focal point of the proposed research. The overarching aim guiding this study is to explore the relationship between early-career teachers' affective-motivational characteristics and their occupational well-being. It is expected that the study will result in a conceptual framework that may direct future research in this domain. The recommendations arising from the study will serve in designing the educational policy measures for supporting the occupational well-being of early career teachers and their decision to remain in the profession. This is particularly important for the Croatian context, increasingly facing the problem of employing and keeping teachers in the profession. Project's PI is Iris Marušić, PhD. More about the project can be found at the [link](#).

CSF project 'Quality of living in the Housing Estates of the socialist and post-socialist era: a comparative analysis between Slovenia and Croatia (HESC)'

In this research project the focus is on housing estates built under the socialist political and economic system and the subsequent transition to a market economy system (the post-socialist period). The hypothesis is that the changed social circumstances that characterize the post-socialist period have brought the residents new expectations regarding the quality of living, which (may) consequently mean that housing estates from the socialist period have become less attractive to live in, because the residents have higher expectations or demands for a better housing standard and better quality of the residential environment due to changed values with regard to quality of living in housing estates. The hypothesis is tested in two countries, Slovenia and Croatia, which share the same foundation for the emergence of the large housing estates built during the socialist period. Despite mutual differences, the large socialist-era housing estates in both countries still represent an important type of the housing environment, or a significant proportion of the total housing stock. Neither of these countries has adopted a national strategy for regenerat-

ing large housing estates, nor guidelines to ensure a better quality of the housing and living environment. This research project's ultimate goal, therefore, is to define—from the quality of living perspective—guidelines and recommendations for the appropriate regeneration of housing estates from the socialist period and the design of new housing estates that can be used both in Slovenia and Croatia. This research is also particularly important methodologically, because of using participatory data collection methods: participatory action research, user-led research, and an open democratic forum. It is the lack of public participation in defining problems and solutions that has been a frequent (and frequently criticized) problem in post-socialist countries. Project's PI for Croatia is Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD. More about the project can be found at the [link](#).

CSF project 'Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism (IDEU)'

The question of EU disintegration is becoming increasingly important and there is a growing number of research on the topic, both theoretical and empirical. In this project, the development and dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism will be compared based on an interdisciplinary approach and by employing innovative comparative methodology and for this purpose seldom employed sociological theories. The ideas of Europeanism and Euroscepticism are crucial for understanding the processes of integration and disintegration in the times of intensive social polarization. As part of the project, we plan to conduct qualitative comparison of carriers of Europeanist and Eurosceptic ideas coming from political and intellectual elites in five Member States from different phases of the EU enlargement process (Germany, UK, Spain, Poland, and Croatia). Further on, we will carry out a quantitative comparison of the way in which historical trauma influenced the success of Eurosceptic parties in all EU Member States. The results should contribute to the comprehension of the influence that different historical experiences had on various visions of European integration in divided European societies. The comparison of political and intellectual actors engaged in building supranational identities and their adversaries, in socialist Yugoslavia and the EU,

should provide a deeper understanding of integrational and disintegrational processes in supranational organizations. The research and dissemination activities of the project should contribute to the de-ideologization of European integration and European identity debates within the scientific and broader community. Project's PI is Nikola Petrović, PhD. More about the project is available at the [link](#).

ESF project 'METER to a better climate (Network for Education, Transition, Adaptation and Development)'

The overall aim of the project "METER to a better climate (Network for Education, Transition, Adaptation and Development)" is to establish a permanent thematic network of civil society organizations (CSOs), local self-government units and scientific research organizations that will, by being involved in all phases of the public policies development, contribute to the transition into a low-carbon society adapted to climate changes without energy poverty. Through permanent collaboration, new skills and capacities of CSOs for argument-based advocacy will be developed, while scientific research organizations and local self-government units will be empowered regarding the methods of informing and involving the interested public. The representatives of the academic community and scientific research organizations will ensure the transfer of knowledge to the representatives of CSOs and will introduce them to the technical, socioeconomic and expert background of the issues that CSOs are dealing with when advocating in the domain of climate changes. Working jointly on scientific research, public opinion polling and writing professional and scientific papers, the collaboration between the academic and scientific research community and CSOs will be strengthened, whereby enabling the reinforcement of the CSOs' capacities for argument-based advocacy. This model will be continued in the long term through the permanently established collaboration within the METER network. Project coordinator is the Society For Sustainable Development Design (DOOR). Project's PI for ISRZ is Branko Ančić, PhD. More about the project can be found at the [link](#).

ESF project 'Thematic Network Lifelong Education Accessible to All (TEMCO)'

The project aims to contribute to solving the non-existence of coordinated and effective agency of civil society organizations (in collaboration with other stakeholders) in shaping the public policies for addressing social inequalities in lifelong education in Croatia. The purpose of the project is to strengthen the capacities of civil society organizations (CSOs) for achieving an effective dialogue with public administration and scientific community in designing and implementing public policies for ensuring a lifelong education accessible to all, thereby creating a precondition for reducing educational inequalities in Croatia. The researchers will, together with other members of the Network, analyse the problems and identify their possible causes, i.e. the factors that affect educational inequalities. Research reports and articles will be a basis for defining possible recommendations on the level of public policies. The term "lifelong learning" denotes a concept that views education as a lifelong learning process, which begins with formal education and lasts throughout life. Project coordinator is the Institute for the Development of Education (IDE). Project's PIs for ISRZ are Iva Odak, PhD and Saša Pužić, PhD. More about the project can be found at the [link](#).

ESF project 'Work Fit for People'

The project aims to improve the capacities of trade unions in the area of protection of rights and improvement of working conditions of fixed-term employees. By implementing this project, the Union of Autonomous Trade Unions of Croatia, the coordinator, strives to respond to the increasingly worsened quality of jobs in Croatia, degradation of workers' rights and demographic crisis. The activities by which the concept of 'work fit for people' is trying to be reached and popularized include scientific research, advocacy and proposing recommendations, organizing of public debates and forums, informing of the public on working conditions in Croatia and the EU, and publishing of expert reports. The Institute contributes by leading the research element, in which, through secondary analyses, a questionnaire survey and qualitative methods, the knowledge on discrimination, needs and working conditions of fixed-term employees

and seasonal workers are acquired, while seeking possible ways to improve the rights of precarious workers. Principal Investigator and coordinator of this element on behalf of the Institute is Teo Matković, PhD. More about the project can be found at the [link](#).

E+ project 'HAND IN HAND: Empowering teachers across Europe to deal with social, emotional and diversity related career challenges'

The main goal of the project is to support the development of teachers' social and emotional competencies as well as their diversity awareness (SEDA) in order to equip them for the complexities of working with increasingly diverse classes and to enable them to deal flexibly with new challenges. The project also puts teachers' well-being at the centre by highlighting how developing SEDA competencies simultaneously fosters self-care for teachers, giving a central role to the voices of teachers. The development of teachers' SEDA competencies will be supported with the professional development programme called HAND: Empowering Teachers System that consists of: a) HAND: ET programme, as a set of innovative participatory activities and learning experiences, and b) continuous supervision, monitoring and support. By innovatively integrating the diversity awareness with the social and emotional competencies, the programme will equip teachers with the competencies to meet challenges of teaching in diverse societies, preventing them to leave the profession too early, empowering them to monitor and plan their career and supporting their own as well as their students' well-being. The HAND: ET Programme will be tested by using a quasi-experimental design with control groups (before-after effects) in Slovenia, Croatia, Sweden, Austria, and Portugal, with primary and lower secondary teachers being the direct target group. Additionally, principals and school counsellors will also be included in the programme. This project also aims to contribute to the formation of a comprehensive EU teacher policy by providing EU and country-specific recommendations. Within the project, the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb (Croatia) will be responsible for implementing the HAND: ET in Croatia and will support the upscaling of the results on the

national policy level. The project coordinator is the Educational Research Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia. Project's PI for ISRZ is Iris Marušić, PhD. More about the project can be found at the [link](#).

E+ project 'Support to better knowledge in youth policy – YouthWiki Croatia'

Project *Support to better knowledge in youth policy – Youth Wiki Croatia* is focused on establishing a codified system of national youth policy monitoring. The European Commission addressed launching the Youth Wiki, an online encyclopedia of all member states' national youth policy as one of the priorities within its youth policy framework. Therefore, the goal of this project is to collect, systematize and analyze data clustered into nine subfields of European youth policy. Research team members will analyze overall youth policy in Croatia using given European methodology and write a report which will serve as a national report on youth policy at the EU level. With this project, the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb and its Center for Youth and Gender Studies has become a focal point for national youth policy monitoring. The Croatian Youth Wiki page is available [here](#). Project's PI is Marko Kovačić, PhD.

E+ project 'Supporting Evidence-based Education of Youth Workers (SEEW)'

Through laying the groundwork for the professionalisation of youth work and delivering a set of outputs related to the evidence-based education and training of youth workers, the project will strengthen capacities of youth workers and contribute in the long term to the overall quality of youth work provision in project partner countries (Croatia and Slovenia). Existing research and recommendations for youth work policies, both at the EU and national levels, have pointed to the need for quality education and training of youth workers as one of the preconditions for achieving quality youth work. The project activities include a research of youth workers' education and training needs in Croatia and Slovenia. This will be achieved by mapping the existing education and training opportunities for youth workers, by identifying and analysing the existing training activities and programmes in both project partner countries, by

mapping and analysing the existing study programmes which train youth workers in Europe, with the aim to help identify contemporary trends in youth work education and training and the educational pathways for youth workers across Europe. The project coordinator is ISRZ. Project's PIs are Nikola Baketa, PhD and Marko Kovačić, PhD.

E+ project 'The Art of Ethics in Youthwork'

The project aims to improve the quality and recognition of youth work through advancing ethical frameworks on policy and practical level, in Europe and beyond. The specific objectives of the project include the raising of awareness of youth workers and policy makers on importance of ethics for recognition of youth work and the increasing of quality of youth work by introducing innovative supporting methods and tools related to ethics in youth work. The project shall build capacities of youth workers by increasing their competences for moral and critical reasoning. The project is expected to result in the creation of synergies among European and partner countries through exchange of practice and establishing cooperation in the field of youth work. The project raises awareness on importance of ethic in youth work and how ethic influences quality and professionalization of youth workers. In addition, the project will develop cooperation among stakeholders and institutions on local, regional and international level. All implemented activities will be widely promoted online and in media in order to have the largest impact possible on youth work and educational society in Europe and Australia. The project coordinator is National Association of Youth Workers (NAPOR), Serbia, and ISRZ is one of partners. Project's PI for ISRZ is Marko Kovačić, PhD.

REC project 'Equal rights – Equal pay – Equal pensions'

The project deals with the nearly invisible topic of gender pay and pension inequalities, resulting in social and economic insecurity of women. The project is aimed at ensuring the standards, measures and actions that will contribute to raising awareness about the problem of pay and pension gaps between men and women with a view to reducing the risk of poverty for women. Tar-

get groups are representatives of competent authorities, public and private companies, trade unions and high school students at the national and local levels. The project will provide us with new knowledge that will enable a better understanding of the causes and consequences of the pay and pension gaps. As part of project activities an educational program was created, a national legislative framework was drafted, and a series of national campaigns was organized with a view to raising awareness about this problem. The research results were presented in the [publication](#). The project coordinator is the Ombudsperson for Gender Equality of the Republic of Croatia, and ISRZ is one of partners. Project's PI for ISRZ is Mirjana Adamović, PhD.

Bilateral project 'Comparison of national and religious identities of secondary school students in Croatia and Slovenia'

This project is a self-standing research study based on a qualitative sociological and anthropological insight into diverse identities of secondary school pupils in Croatia and Slovenia. The bilateral collaboration between Slovenia and Croatia includes an upgrade to the ISSP quantitative methodological approach, consisting of mutual qualitative research. Based on existing collaboration, this research will focus on two mutually connected research concepts – the national and the non/religious identity of the young, and their development among youth in both countries. The aim of the project is to enrich scholarly knowledge on the national identity of youth in Croatia and Slovenia through the prism of their personal non/religiosity. The interrelations between the ethnic and national identities, and the European identity, will be explored. The existing knowledge, acquired from various research, suggests that both countries share many contextual similarities (besides the common historical experience during the previous system and country, they share close demographic characteristics and the political and cultural development in the previous decades), and significant specific differences that contribute to different outcomes regarding the construction of various social identities of the young. One of them is religiosity, which is much underrepresented among the young in Slovenia, while among the young in Croatia it is a rather

significant characteristic of individual and social identification. Hence, our research questions are focused on the dominant cultural values in both milieus that shape the specificities and connectedness of the national and non/religious identity in Croatia and Slovenia. Project's PI for Croatia is Lana Peternel, PhD.

National projects

During 2021 the Institute conducted 8 national projects, financed by competent state bodies (Ministry of Science and Education), local government units (cities and municipalities), educational institutions or civil society organizations. The projects are listed in Table 2.

Table 2. ISRZ national projects

Project title	Program/financed by	Coordinator	Principal Investigator (ISRZ)
Development of a study on the social dimension of higher education in Croatia	MSE	ISRZ	Saša Puzić
Current practice of issuing and application of diploma supplement in Croatia and development of a concept and technical specification for a platform for the digitalization of diplomas and diploma supplements	MSE – call within the TRACER project	ISRZ	Zrinka Ristić Dedić, Boris Jokić
Design and introduction of Civic Education in secondary schools	University of Rijeka	ISRZ	Boris Jokić
Evaluation of the program programa 'City/municipality – Friend of children' from children's perspective in 2021: Cities Duga Resa and Daruvar and municipalities Kostrena, Virje, Belica, Mala Subotica, Dekanovec, Stari Jankovci and Raša	Cities/municipalities included in evaluation	ISRZ	Zrinka Ristić Dedić
Assessment of quantitative needs for education and employment of professionals in the early childhood education system	MSE	ISRZ	Teo Matković
Availability of upper secondary education programmes in Croatia 2013-2021	MSE	ISRZ	Teo Matković
City for Youth – A model of certifying Croatian cities based on local policies	Association of Cities in the Republic of Croatia (UGRH)	Association of Cities in the Republic of Croatia (UGRH)	Marita Grubišić-Čabo
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	Institute for Physical Planning of the City of Zagreb	Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac

MSE research projects

In 2021 the Institute carried out 7 projects financed under the Ministry of Science and Education (MSE) Programme Agreement for multi-year institutional financing of scientific activity (VIF):

- **National monitoring of effects of COVID-19 pandemic on the organization of educational processes and well-being of pupils and educational professionals in Croatia** – Pls Boris Jokić, PhD and Zrinka Ristić Dedić, PhD
- **International Social Survey Programme** – Pl: Branko Ančić, PhD
- **The continuation of the project “Educational aspirations of pupils at transitional periods of Croatian elementary education: nature, determinants and change (COBRAS)”** – Pls: Boris Jokić, PhD and Zrinka Ristić Dedić, PhD
- **Assessment of institutional and structural determinants of application for and success at State Matura exams** – Pl: Teo Matković, 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)
- **Strengths and weaknesses of specific development of tourism on larger Adriatic islands: The example of the City of Hvar** – Pl: Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD
Renewal of the Zagreb city core after the 2020 earthquake from tenants’ perspective – Pl: Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD

Individual collaboration of ISRZ researchers on other institutions’ projects

In 2021 ISRZ researchers participated as **individual collaborators** in the following projects:

CSF – IP-CORONA-04-2020 – *“(Re)building society: A longitudinal study of post-corona social recovery in Croatian general population (ReSPoC)”* – Pl: 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”* – Pl: 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”* – Pl: Tijana Trako Poljak, PhD; ISRZ team: Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD;

CSF – Installation project *“Sustainable fishery: Social relations, identity and common management of fishery resources in the Adriatic (SOCFISH)”*, Pl: 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)”* – Pl: 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)”* – Pl: 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”* – Pl Luka Boršić, PhD (Institute of Philosophy); ISRZ team: Ana Maskalan, PhD;

UNI Rijeka project *“Professional Socialization of Junior Scientists into Teaching (PROSO)”*; ISRZ team Marija Brajdić Vuković;

UNI Rijeka project *“Academic profession from within: challenges of changes in the academic profession (APIKS)”*; ISRZ team Marija Brajdić Vuković;

UNI Zagreb project *“Aims of Croatian public policies”*; ISRZ team Marko Kovačić, PhD and Nikola Baketa, PhD.

Conferences organized by ISRZ

We celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Centre for Educational Research and Development

The Centre for Educational Research and Development (CERD) celebrated its 20th anniversary on 28th September 2021 in Novinarski dom in Zagreb. The guests were greeted by a representative of the Ministry of Science and Education, Boris Jokić, PhD, Director of the Institute, and Zrinka Ristić Dedić, PhD, Head of the CERD. In the opening words it was pointed out that CERD developed from its establishment in 2001 until today, into a leading place for observing educational phenomena and exploration of the educational system in Croatia, by conducting a series of important scientific research and developmental projects. Important social contribution of the Centre was realised through the agency of its researchers as key initiators and creators of numerous reform processes in education. Scientific research work of the Centre served as a basis for the introduction of self-evaluation of schools and external evaluation of educational achievements at the end of secondary education (State Matura) in 2009. Besides that, 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 the Centre's researchers designed and managed the process of Comprehensive Curricular Reform (2015 - 2016). A short history of the establishment and activity of the centre was presented by prof. Branislava Baranović, PhD, one of Centre's founders,

and its Head from the establishment till 2011. Current research activities were presented by Iris Marušić, PhD, Iva Odak, PhD and Boris Jokić, PhD. The third part of the program was dedicated to the important topic of social influence and impact of educational research in the professional and general public, and the political sphere. Former Centre's collaborators and colleagues, nowadays working in various institutions and being active in various domains of social life, participated in the discussion moderated by Iris Marušić, PhD. These colleagues are: Karin Doolan, PhD, Lana Jurko, Danijela Dolenec, PhD and Ana Dasović.

Symposium 'Social resilience: lessons from the Croatian context during the pandemic'

Symposium *"Social resilience: lessons from the Croatian context during the pandemic"*, organized by ISRZ, was held on 14th December 2021. It gathered researchers of different profiles who offered to the public their insights on the effects of the pandemic on the society. The results of social sciences research projects financed under the Croatian Science Foundation COVID-19 calls were presented at the Symposium, along with other valuable research endeavours. Researchers from various Croatian HE institutions and public institutes opened in their presentations and discussions the questions of resilience and vulnerability of the society and individuals, of social recovery, of life taking place online and offline, and of the psychosocial benefits and mental health of individuals and various social groups. The recording of the very well attended Symposium is available at the [link](#).



20th anniversary of the Centre for Educational Research and Development



Symposium 'Social resilience: lessons from the Croatian context during the pandemic'

International collaboration, mobility and study visits

Agreement on collaboration between ISRZ and the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Belgrade signed

ISRZ and the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Belgrade signed an Agreement on mutual collaboration in Belgrade in December 2021. Two institutions shall collaborate in promoting scientific, academic and professional collaboration in the areas of mutual interest and of use to both institutions. The Agreement provides a framework for instigating collaborative scientific research activities, better understanding of global processes of the economic, educational, cultural and social environment, and the increase of the quality of scientific work and higher education. The activities envisioned by the collaboration include mutual collaboration in projects, institutional exchange of scientists and staff, co-organization of conferences, symposia, seminars, professional and scientific workshops, publishing of mutual publications, and other activities of mutual interest. The Agreement was signed by the Institute's Director Boris Jokić and the Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Belgrade Danijel Sinani.

Agreement on collaboration between ISRZ and the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory of the University of Belgrade signed

Representatives of the Institute signed an Agreement on mutual collaboration with the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory of the University of Belgrade in Belgrade in December 2021. The Agreement opens up the opportunities for regional collaboration and joint participation in projects. Both Institutes foster multidisciplinary, while being mutually complementary, regarding that ISRZ is primarily oriented towards empirical research, while IFDT is characterised by a rich theoretical orientation. On behalf of the ISRZ the signing of the Agreement was attended by the Director Boris Jokić, Ana Maskalan (CYGS), Zrinka Ristić Dedić (CERD) and Branko Ančić (CRISiS). The URSRC was also presented, although its members were not attending the meeting. The Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory was presented by the Director Gazela Pudar Draško, and coordinators of particular IFDT laboratories: Jelena Čeriman (GenLab),

Irena Fiket (ActiveLab), Bojana Radovanović (SolidCare), Marjan Ivković (CriticLab), Sanja Iguman (PerspectLab), Milivoj Bešlin (JugoLab), Ivan Nišavić (EduLab), as well as other members of the labs who were at the meeting.



Signing of the Agreement with IFDT in Belgrade

ISRZ became a member of the European Network for Housing Research (ENHR)

ISRZ, or its Urban/Rural and Science Research Centre respectively, will in the next three years be a member of the European Network for Housing Research (ENHR) at the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment, Delft University of Technology. The Network currently has around 700 members representing almost every European country, and a significant number of non-European. The Network provides a framework for around 25 work groups, gathers an active group of doctoral students, organizes a large international annual conference, while instigating smaller conferences and seminars every year. More about the Network can be found [here](#). Current CSF project "[Quality of living in the Housing Estates of the socialist and post-socialist era: a comparative analysis between Slovenia and Croatia](#)" is dealing with the thematically related questions of housing and housing policies, and therefore the membership in this Network will be very useful. ISRZ's five-member team includes: Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD (PI), Jelena Zlatař Gamberožić, PhD, Mirjana Adamović, PhD, Ratko Đokić, PhD and Anamaria Klasić. Also, in the most recent issue of the [ENHR Newsletter](#) the mentioned project was presented.



HESC Team

A meeting of the ISRZ staff and Harry Walker of LSE held

Harry Walker, PhD, and anthropologist working as a professor at the London School of Economics and Political Science visited the Institute in November 2021. He met with our researchers, with whom he discussed the possibilities for mutual collaboration. Harry Walker plans to conduct a qualitative research in Croatia, on the topic of inequalities and injustice and the ways in which they are experienced in everyday settings. Nevertheless, Dr. Walker dealt in his last project with the topic of social, cultural and cognitive basis of moral judgements in western Amazonia. He explored the mentioned topics within the ERC project **Justice, Morality, and the State in Amazonia (JUSTAM)**.

Filip Fila and Nikola Petrović participated in the international UACES 2021 conference

As part of the 51st annual UACES conference (University Association for Contemporary European Studies) Filip Fila, Višeslav Raos and Nikola Petrović presented the paper titled "Centrist Populisms of Central and Eastern Europe: New Challengers for Domestic Elites as Well as for Brussels Elites?" The paper was written as part of the activities on the IDEU project ("**Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism**") and is dealing with an under-explored relationship of centristic populism towards the European Union.

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić and Ratko Đokić were awarded for the best presentation of the ICHUE 2021 conference

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD, Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD and Ratko Đokić, PhD participated in the **ICHUE 2021: International Conference on Housing and Urban Environments**. At the conference, the authors were also awarded for the best presentation, for the paper titled **Affordable Housing in the Context of Inadequate Housing Policies in Croatia**. The conference was held in Paris via an online platform, on 18th and 19th November 2021. The presentation is a result of working on

the CSF project "**Quality of living in the Housing Estates of the socialist and post-socialist era: a comparative analysis between Slovenia and Croatia**".



Certificate of Best Presentation Award to HESC Team

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac and Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić participated in the 3rd Conference on Urban Planning and Regional Development

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD and Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD, together with Jana Vukić, PhD participated in the **3rd Conference on Urban Planning and Regional Development: Urban – Rural Connectivity and Regional Development**. The conference was held online, on 23 November 2021 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, organized by the Association of Engineers Consultants (UKI). Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac talked about the **Possibilities of a more balanced development of Croatian urban space compared to the EU context**. Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić and Jana Vukić presented the paper **Sustainability dimensions in rural and urban tourist destinations of selected Adriatic islands**.

Incoming mobility

Katarina Polajnar Horvat, PhD was staying at the Institute from 1 to 31 December 2021. She is a Research Associate of the ZRC SAZU Anton Melik Geographical Institute in Ljubljana. Katarina Polajnar Horvat stayed at the Centre for Research in Social Inequalities and Sustainability as a visiting scholar. During the visit she conducted qualitative field research in Zagreb and on the island of Krk within the **Invisible life of food waste** project dealing with the exploring of ecological behaviour and practices in urban and rural areas.

Emeriti

Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD was elected into an honorary title of emerita, based on the decision of the Institute's Scientific Council in March 2021. Her scientific interest has since the beginning of her scientific career been focused on Sociology of Religion. Her academic papers prove that she approaches the complex phenomenon of religion integrally, encompassing both theoretically and empirically its various religious-structural, sociostructural and cultural-value dimensions and aspects. Her comparative analyses in the researching of traditional church religiosity are a significant contribution to the understanding of religious changes in traditional Croatia, and beyond. Her comparative analyses of non-religiosity in the Croatian society are additionally emphasized. Scholarly contribution of Dinka Marinović Jerolimov encompasses also the insights on minority religiosity, which she wrote about in two books (one co-authored) and a number of papers, encompassing the topic also in the post-socialist context, explorations of the youth – religiosity relation, religious (multiconfessional) education, legal regulation of religious communities, and religion and health. The scientific opus of Dinka Marinović Jerolimov is an inevitable contribution to integral understanding and explanation of the religious situation and changes in Croatia, and in Central and Eastern European countries. Publishing in international publications, participating actively in international conferences, leading of and collaborating in international projects and associations point to the scientific affirmation of Dinka Marinović Jerolimov also in international terms. In the ISRZ she was President of the Scientific Council from October 2011 to October 2015, and Director from 2017 to 2020. During her mandate she contributed significantly to the Institute's development, which by its relocation to a unique location and by the employment of junior researchers got a new developmental momentum.

Events (co)organized by the Institute

Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić participated in the 9th Symposium Anatomy of Islands

Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD participated in the 9th Symposium Anatomy of Islands, held on Lastovo from 27 to 29 September 2021. This year's symposium was ti-

tled 'Islands and crises – Resilience and sustainability of island communities. Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić held the presentation *'Sustainability and resilience of Adriatic islands – examples of various directions of tourist development'*. She presented examples of various places on Brač (Povlja, Bol and Postira) and Hvar (city of Hvar), and the ways in which they respond to challenges in tourism through four sustainable development dimensions: ecological, economic, cultural and social. These four examples demonstrated various 'stages' of sustainability and the ways in which it can be enlarged and envisioned through various actions and a combined top-down and bottom-up approach of citizen participation. In addition, in the case of Hvar it was demonstrated how the COVID-19 pandemic influenced last year's tourist season, and its further influences were outlined. Due to a significantly decreased number of tourists, ecologically positive consequences for the city of Hvar were pointed to, as well as the need for a further vision of development towards island sustainability.

ISRZ signed the MoU of the Croatian Open Science Cloud Initiative (HR-OOZ)

The Institute signed the Memorandum of Understanding of the Croatian Open Science Cloud Initiative (HR-OOZ), thus becoming the Initiative's 20th member. The HR-OOZ Initiative is the result of joint work of numerous stakeholders in the science and higher education system in Croatia. The HR-OOZ Initiative has managed to bring together key stakeholders in creating required preconditions for the implementation, realization, and promotion of open science in the Republic of Croatia. The appointed representatives in the Council of the HR-OOZ Initiative are Marija Brajdić Vuković, PhD as a Council member, and Marko Kovačić, PhD as a deputy Council member. Teo Matković, PhD is the representative of our Institute in the Working Group for drafting the proposal of the National plan and policies for open science. More can be found at the [link](#).

Boris Jokić and Zrinka Ristić Dedić presented results of the project on the effects of the pandemic and the earthquake on the educational system in the Croatian Parliament

Boris Jokić, PhD and Zrinka Ristić Dedić, PhD attended the 25th session of the Education, Science and Culture Committee of the Croatian Parliament. They presented

results of the project in which they are principal investigators, and in which the effects of the pandemic and the earthquake on the educational system are explored.

Ivana Pikić Jugović held a lecture on gender stereotypes in classroom

Ivana Pikić Jugović, PhD held a lecture titled “How to overcome gender stereotypes in classroom?” at the conference organized within the project “Equality is “In” - Stereotypes are “Out”- Teachers for Future Generations – Let’s Enhance Equality”. Within the lecture she explained how gender stereotypes shape pupils’ educational choices, success and motivation, and what the role of school is, in adopting gender stereotypes. The guidelines for overcoming gender stereotypes at the level of the whole educational system were suggested, and practical advice for both male and female teachers were given. The lecture was held on invitation by the Institute for Research and Education Zaposlena mama, which coordinates the project, in collaboration with the City of Zagreb and the Association for the Affirmation of Women’s Potentials (AFA) from Serbia. More about the conference can be found at the [link](#), about the project [here](#), and the educational platform is presented [here](#).



Ivana Pikić Jugović held a lecture on gender stereotypes in classroom

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac participated at the online panel discussion at the UNIC City Laboratory ‘Green Zagreb’

Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD was invited as a speaker at the online panel discussion within the UNIC City Laboratory: Green Zagreb, and the course Social Work in Organizing the Community: The Second Cycle of City Laboratories, addressing the vision of Zagreb as Green Zagreb. The panel discussion was held under the title of IV. Mobility and Access to Green Areas, on 12th November 2021. The panel discussed the dimension of mobility and access to green areas within which the focus was on the adaptation of green areas to blind and visually impaired persons in the city district Novi Zagreb – zapad, more specifically in Park mladenaca [Park of the Newlyweds]. More about City Laboratories can be found [here](#) and about the UNIC project [here](#).

Boris Jokić, PhD participated at the presentation of the Proposal for Civic Education Curriculum to high school principals of Primorje-Gorski Kotar County

Boris Jokić, PhD participated at the presentation of the Proposal for Civic Education Curriculum to high school principals of Primorje-Gorski Kotar County. The presentation was held on 1st December 2021 in Rijeka, where the implementation of the new curriculum has begun this year, as a pilot project in Rijeka’s First Croatian High School. The Proposal for the new curriculum, titled “School and Community”, was developed jointly by the Centre for the Studies of Peace and Conflicts of the University of Rijeka, Rijeka’s First Croatian High School and ISRZ. After the pilot project will have finished, the Proposal for Civic Education Curriculum will be presented to the Education and Teacher Training Agency, to be included as an elective subject.

Significant Personnel Reinforcement of ISRZ

During 2020 and 2021 the Institute experienced a significant personnel reinforcement by employing associates and assistants, and 1 post-doc. The new colleagues are mostly employed in associate positions on ISRZ projects financed by the Croatian Science Foundation. Nevertheless, expert associates are employed on projects financed by the European Social Fund, Ministry of Science and

Education and UNICEF. The following colleagues joined the ISRZ team: Josip Bilić, Tomislav Cik, Filip Fila, Marita Grubišić-Čabo, Anamaria Klasić, Dora Petrović, Jana Šimon (assistants), Ratko Đokić (post-doc) and Katarina Jaklin, Andrea Grus and Marina Orhanović (expert associates).



ISRZ Personnel Reinforcement

Publishing

In 2021 the total scientific production of the Institute included 5 books (4 authored and 1 edited), and 31 scientific paper, of which 28 scientific papers and 3 scientific chapters. 28 papers were published in journals indexed in Web of Science and/or Scopus, and 2 in books of internationally recognized scientific publishers.

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

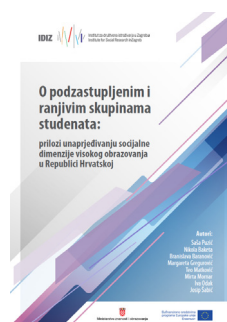
In the *Special Editions* the following publications were published:



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](#).

Journal 'Sociology and Space'



In 2021 we published all three regular annual numbers of "Sociology and Space" and one thematic number dedicated to the COVID-19 pandemic. Altogether, 26 original scientific papers were published, 6 preliminary communications, 4 review papers, 2 reviews (of books and publications), 1 in memoriam and 2 professional papers. The journal is available at the [Institute's web-pages](#) and at [Hrčak](#).

Forthcoming events

In the forthcoming months we plan to organize *Open Day ISRZ* and the scientific conference *Days of Educational Sciences 2022*, along with many other events. We invite you to follow our [web-pages](#) and our [Facebook profile](#) to stay informed about all the activities that we prepared for you.

Everyday life at the Institute...



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