

ISRZ Newsletter

5/2016

Editorial

As a newly elected Director, appointed on 1st January 2017, I am pleased to conclude that in the previous year the Institute achieved results in accordance with its mission, vision, strategic goals and the annual plan of scientific research activity. We usually report about the results of our scientific research work in the past year in the *Institute Newsletter*.

We structurally reorganized the Institute by forming 4 centres: besides the already existing Centre for Educational Research and Development (CERD), we established the Centre for Research in Social Inequalities and Sustainability (CRISIS), the Urban/Rural and Science Research Centre (URSRC) and the Centre for Youth and Gender Studies (CYGS). The centres form a flexible network of researchers who collaborate on various joint projects in which they gather around the same research topic and cooperate interdisciplinary.

In 2016 we carried out a total of 27 international and national research projects financed by the Croatian Science Foundation, the MSE through the Program Agreement and the Bilateral Cooperation, the Horizon 2020, the European Social Fund, the European Commission, and various bodies of national or local administration. We also implemented our projects as leaders or partners by engaging external associates and in collaboration with educational and civil society organizations from Croatia and abroad. We completed 9 projects, continued 18 of them, and started 3 new projects.

In addition to publishing in journals and books indexed in the Web of Science and/or Scopus databases and other internationally relevant databases or reviewed

books, we published 4 books in our Science and Society Edition and in the Special Editions: *"Transformation of urban and rural systems in Zagreb and Podgorica during the transition period"*; *"Religion and health: religious community as a social resource"*; *"Philosophy and creativity: theoretical portraits of Croatian philosophers"* and *"From subjects towards citizens: youth civic competence development"*.

The three regular yearly numbers of the journal *Sociology and Space* were also published, and are available at the Institute web-site: <http://www.idi.hr/en/izdavastvo/casopis-sociologija-i-prostor/> and the Hrcak portal of Croatian scientific journals <http://hrcak.srce.hr/sociologija-i-prostor?lang=en>.

The researchers presented 45 works at 25 scientific conferences in Croatia and abroad (Ireland, Canada, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia, Serbia, Sweden and Great Britain). We organized the *3rd Days of Educational Sciences* conference entitled *"Educational Change: Challenges and Expectations"*, and the final conference of the ESF project *"New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth"*, and with the European Sociological Association and the Croatian Sociological Association we co-organized *The 12th International Study of Religion in Eastern and Central Europe Association (ISORECEA)* conference entitled *"Religion and Non-Religion in Contemporary Societies: Theoretical, Empirical and Methodological Challenges for Research in Central and Eastern Europe and Beyond"* which was held at the University of Zadar.

Within the framework of our current projects our researchers developed their knowledge and skills through the study visits abroad (Great Britain, Germany, Austria),

and through attending the SIENA Winter School (Zurich) and the methodological workshop (Great Britain). As a part of the ESF project *“New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth”* Dr. Marek Mikuš from the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology (Halle, Germany) stayed at the Institute as a visiting scholar.

The Institute researchers continued their participation in the higher education courses at the Universities of Zagreb, Split and Rijeka, the Catholic University of Croatia and the University of Ljubljana.

We continuously aim at applying competitive international and national research projects, and publishing our scientific production in prominent international and national scientific journals and publications. Therefore, in 2017 we expect the outcomes of the submitted applications to a number of calls within the Horizon 2020, the Erasmus+, the ESF, while continuously applying to other international and national calls.

I am convinced that in 2017 we shall be successful in our scientific research, shall improve our scientific production, and broaden and develop our scientific, professional and educational collaboration with the institutes and universities in Croatia and abroad, and continue our successful collaboration with the various civil society organizations and the national and local bodies of administration.

Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, Ph. D. , Director

Projects in 2016

Research projects funded by the MSE

During 2016 nine projects were carried out at the ISRZ under the multi-year institutional financing of the scientific activity Program Agreement by the Ministry of Science and Education (MSE). The following projects were financed:

- **Dimensions of sustainable development of the island of Brač: example of Bol** – principal investigator: Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, Ph. D.

- **Social Protagonists of Scientific and Technological Development** – principal investigator: Adrijana Šuljok, Ph. D.
- **Secondary school pupils’ civic competence, prejudice and discrimination experiences** - principal investigator: prof. Branislava Baranović, Ph. D.
- **Identity and body in the advertising messages** – principal investigator: Mirjana Adamović, Ph. D.
- **The “learning to learn” competence – a theoretic and research synthesis** – principal investigator: Iris Marušić, Ph. D.
- **Quality of living of the scientific population in Croatia** – principal investigator: Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, Ph. D.
- **Course choice, educational achievements and family background: horizontal differences in the higher education system** – co-principal investigators: Saša Puzić, Ph. D. and Iva Košutić, Ph. D.
- **Needs, problems and potentials of youth in Croatia** – co-principal investigators: prof. Vlasta Ilišin, Ph. D. and prof. Vedrana Spajić Vrkaš, Ph. D.
- **Urban revitalization of the city centre on the example of Ljubljana** – principal investigator: Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, Ph. D.

More information about the ISRZ projects financed by the Program Agreement can be found at our web-site: <http://www.idi.hr/en/projekti/>.

Research projects funded by the CSF

In 2016 we completed the project financed by the Croatian Science Foundation (CSF): *“Social identities, higher education access and course choice”* whose principal investigator was prof. Branislava Baranović, Ph. D. and we also continued the implementation of three other CSF projects: *“Modernity Stress, Youth and Migration”* (principal investigator Irena Martinović Klarić, Ph. D.), *“Research activity, collaboration and orientation in social sciences in Croatia and other post-socialist European countries (RACOSS)”* (principal investigator

prof. Marija Maja Jokić, Ph. D.) and the CSF installation project ***“Educational aspirations of pupils at Transitional Periods of Croatian Elementary Education: Nature, Determinants and Change (COBRAS)”*** (principal investigator Boris Jokić, Ph. D.) We briefly presented these projects in the previous issues of the ISRZ Newsletter.

International Projects

Projects co-financed by the ESF Funds

ESF project “New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth”

In 2016 we finished the implementation of the competitive ESF project ***“New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth”*** co-funded by the European Union through the European Social Fund. On the occasion of the project completion we organized the international final conference entitled ***„Greening the Economy: a Colouring or a Reseeding”*** which we briefly present in the section ***Events (co)organized by the Institute.***

ESF project “Natural sciences are IN”

The ESF project ***“Natural sciences are IN”*** was carried out in collaboration of the Centre for Educational Research and Development of the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb with the “Matija Antun Reljković” Secondary School in Vinkovci and the Departments of Biology and Physics of the “J. J. Strossmayer” University in Osijek. The project was co-financed by the EU through the European Social Fund. Its duration was from October 2015 till October 2016. The aim of the project was to create a stimulating educational environment in the “Matija Antun Reljković” Secondary School in Vinkovci by raising teachers’ competences within the area of natural sciences, as well as to promote natural sciences by creating two new curricula for noncompulsory school activities within the subjects of biology and physics. The pupils were provided the conditions for better quality education, by which they would also achieve better results in (the higher level of) the State Matura. Also, an interest for natural science subjects among the pupils was encouraged, which would contribute to an increase in the

number of students enrolled in the natural science university programmes. To ensure the implementation of high quality modern teaching, 20 teachers attended the necessary training and were supervised by the experts from partner institutions by which their knowledge and competences were improved, while some of them (7 teachers) used the acquired knowledge and competences in creating the new noncompulsory curricula, which will be carried out in accordance with the clearly defined educational outcomes oriented on students, i. e. on knowledge and skills acquisition. The role of the partner researchers from the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb was to provide expert support in the implementation of the project activities by designing the questionnaire for pupils, implementing two training seminars for teachers and evaluating the created curricula.

IPA projects

IPA project “Divided Past – Joint Future”

The IPA project ***“Divided Past – Joint Future”*** has been carried out at the Institute since 1st January 2016 and will last till 1st January 2020. The project is financed by the European Commission through the programme ***Cluster: Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2004-2015.***

The project aims to provide recognition of civil society as an important social factor with strong capacities for the implementation of peace building and reconciliation, in order to strengthen stability and security in the process of EU integration of the various countries of the Western Balkan. The Institute for Social Research is in this project responsible for the development and coordination of research about perception and behavior of different actors in the process of peace building and reconciliation in the Western Balkan. It includes the following activities: methodological design of comparative research, training of researchers, coordination of local partners who will conduct research, analysis of qualitative and quantitative data resulting from research and development of research reports. The project coordinator is the Youth Communication Centre Banja Luka, while the ISRZ is the project partner. The leader of the ISRZ project team is Anja Gvozdanović, Ph. D. and the ISRZ team members are Mirjana Adamović, Ph. D. and Marko Kovačić, MA.

Horizon 2020

Project “Investigating the impact of the innovation union (I3U)”

The Innovation Union has the main objective to strengthen the European innovative potential, and sets 13 general objectives and 34 specific (policy) commitments associated to the objectives, and aimed at stimulating innovation. The objective of the project **“Investigating the Impact of the Innovation Union (I3U)”**, financed by the EU programme Horizon 2020, is to deliver a system of assessment for the commitments. The approach starts from the evaluation of the state of achievement of the individual commitments, but puts crucial emphasis on their effects in the innovation system as a whole, as well as on the economy-wide effects of innovation. The basic idea is to retrace the entire chain of effects of the commitments, from their implementation to their final impact in terms of competitiveness, growth or employment. In November 2015 the Institute of Economics, Zagreb has subcontracted the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb (ISRZ) regarding the realization of a specific task related to „Open Access to Research Results and Research Information Services“ (within WP5 „Promoting Openness and Capitalizing on Europe’s Creative Potential“). Due to the specific knowledge needed in the realization of this task, it is undertaken by the ISRZ Urban/Rural and Science Research Centre (URSRC) team led by professor Maja Jokić, Ph. D. The project runs until February 28, 2018. More information about the project: [http://www.eizg.hr/en-US/Investigating-the-Impact-of-the-Innovation-Union-\(I3U\)-1444.aspx](http://www.eizg.hr/en-US/Investigating-the-Impact-of-the-Innovation-Union-(I3U)-1444.aspx)

International Social Survey Programme – ISSP

International Social Survey Programme – ISSP is the oldest on-going international project from the area of social sciences which started in 1984 and in which participate 53 countries (www.issp.org). Since 2005 Croatia has been represented by the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb and has since conducted 10 various research modules on the national representative sample of adult citizens of Croatia: **Role of Government, Leisure Time, Sports, Health, Social Inequalities, Religion, Environment, Family and Changing Gender Roles, Citizenship,**

Work Orientations. The main aim of the **ISSP** is to ensure the international comparative context of research, while gaining insight into changes by repeating the thematic blocks within certain periods of time. The research team are: principal investigator prof. Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, Ph. D., prof. Ankica Marinović, Ph. D., Branko Ančić, Ph. D., Adrijana Šuljok, Ph. D. and Marija Brajdić Vuković, Ph. D. (Centre for Croatian Studies of the University of Zagreb). During 2016 a field questionnaire research for the Module **Work Orientations** was conducted on the national representative sample and the preparations for the Module **Role of Government** were undertaken. The project leader prof. Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, Ph. D. attended the meeting of the network of leading international projects **Synergies for Europe’s Research Infrastructures** in the **Social Sciences (SERISS)** in London as the ISSP representative. She also attended the mid-term meeting of the Steering Board of the ISSP in Zurich. In addition, prof. Dinka Marinović Jerolimov and the project member Branko Ančić, Ph. D. participated at the annual ISSP general meeting and the project Steering Board meeting in Kaunas, Lithuania, where they discussed the **Social Networks** Module which will be conducted for the first time in 2017. The meeting also initiated preparatory activities for the **Religion** Module which will be conducted during 2018. Additional information and the project database is available at the project website: <http://www.gesis.org/en/issp/home/>.

Bilateral project “Transitional transformation of the capitals, Zagreb and Podgorica, as a system of settlements”

The Institute for Social Research in Zagreb and the Faculty of Philosophy in Nikšić finished the bilateral project **“Transitional transformation of the capitals, Zagreb and Podgorica, as a system of settlements”** in 2016. The project was supported by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia and the Ministry of Science in Montenegro. The purpose of the project was to collect relevant data on social changes in urban and rural areas of two capital cities, Zagreb and Podgorica, mainly in the last two decades, which affect the way and quality of life of their residents. The research team for Croatia were: the project leader Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, Ph. D. and members Jelena

Zlatar Gamberožić, Ph. D., Branimir Krištofić, MA and Nataša Bokan, Ph. D. (Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb). The research team for Montenegro were: the project leader prof. Slobodan Vukićević, Ph. D. and members Rade Šarović, Ph. D., Goran Čeranić, Ph. D., Predrag Živković, Ph. D. and Obrad Samardžić, MA, all from the Faculty of Philosophy in Nikšić, University of Montenegro. In 2016 the qualitative and quantitative data analysis of the collected material was published as a joint publication *“Transformation of urban and rural systems in Zagreb and Podgorica during the transition*

period”. The promotion of the book was held on 19th December, 2016 which we briefly present in the **Book Promotions** section.

Other projects

In 2016 the ISRZ participated as the coordinator or the partner on 8 projects in which we collaborated with the national and/or local authorities, educational organizations and the national and international civil society organizations. These projects are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. ISRZ projects with the national and/or local authorities, educational organizations and the national and international CSOs.

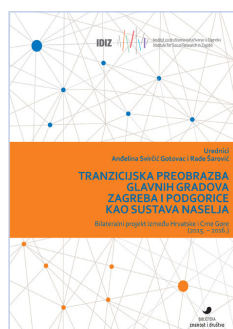
Project title	Project leader	Partner/s	Financier/s
Evaluation of the Action Cities / Counties Friends of Children from Children's Perspective	ISRZ – Centre for Educational Research and Development (CERD)	-	Cities / Municipalities: Bedekovčina, Bjelovar, Crikvenica, Čabar, Fužine, Kanfanar, Lokve, Ozalj, Samobor, Sv. Križ Začretje and Zlatar Bistrica
Mid-term evaluation of the Erasmus+ programme	ISRZ – Centre for Research in Social Inequalities and Sustainability (CRISIS)	-	Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes
GOOD Initiative: Towards Civic Education in Croatian Schools	GOOD Initiative	ISRZ – Centre for Youth and Gender Studies; Center for Peace Studies; Forum for Freedom in Education; GONG; Croatian Debating Society	Open Society Foundations
Neka se glas mladih čuje	NGO UMKI	ISRZ – Centre for Youth and Gender Studies; Croatian Youth Network; NGO alfa Albona	Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes
„About learning 2015/2016” – a survey on pupils’ learning to learn’ competence among students of fourth and eighth grade of primary schools in the Krapina-Zagorje, Međimurje, Varaždin and Zagreb County	ISRZ – Centre for Educational Research and Development (CERD)	The County Professional Council of Pedagogues of primary schools of the Krapina-Zagorje, Međimurje, Varaždin and Zagreb County	Krapina-Zagorje, Međimurje, Varaždin and Zagreb County
Participatory management of natural resources	ISRZ – Centre for Research in Social Inequalities and Sustainability (CRISIS)	-	DOOR – Society for Sustainable Development
Time for GOOD education?	GOOD Initiative	ISRZ – Centre for Youth and Gender Studies; Center for Peace Studies; Forum for Freedom in Education; GONG; Croatian Debating Society; NGO RODA – Parents in Action; NGO „Korak po korak”; Croatian Youth Network	Open Society Initiative for Europe
Urban Implementation of CLLD Methodology as a Tool for Social Inclusion of Young People	LEADER Network of Croatia	ISRZ – Centre for Youth and Gender Studies	Ministry for Demography, Family, Youth and Social Policy

Publishing

In 2016 the total scientific production of the Institute was 4 scientific books (2 authoring and 2 editorial) and 32 scientific papers of which 15 were published in the journals indexed in the Web of Science and/or Scopus, while 17 in the journals indexed in other internationally relevant bases or reviewed books.

The Institute for Social Research in Zagreb is the publisher of the Edition "Science and Society" and the "Special Editions", as well as the scientific journal "Sociology and Space".

In 2016 within the Edition "Science and Society" the ISRZ published the following books:



Transformation of urban and rural systems in Zagreb and Podgorica during the transition period / ed. Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac and Rade Šarović. – Zagreb: Institute for Social Research, 2016 – 249 p.

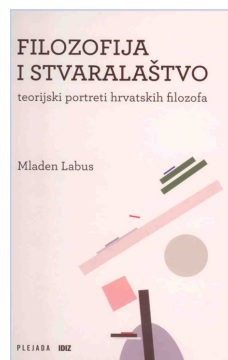
Full text: <http://www.idi.hr/en/izdavastvo/knjige-i-studije/znanost-i-drustvo/>



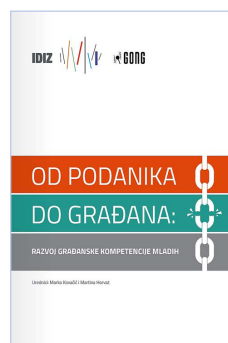
Ančić, Branko. Religija i zdravlje: vjerska zajednica kao socijalni resurs. [Religion and health: religious community as a social resource] – Zagreb: Institute for Social Research, 2016 – 181 p.

Full text: <http://www.idi.hr/en/izdavastvo/knjige-i-studije/znanost-i-drustvo/>

Within the "Special Editions" the following publications were issued:



Labus, Mladen. Filozofija i stvaralaštvo: teorijski portreti hrvatskih filozofa. [Philosophy and creativity: theoretical portraits of Croatian philosophers] – Zagreb: Plejada: Institute for Social Research, 2016 – 168 p.



Od podanika do građana: razvoj građanske kompetencije mladih [From subjects towards citizens: youth civic competence development.] / ed. Marko Kovačić and Martina Horvat. – Zagreb: Institute for Social Research : GONG, 2016 – 266 p.

Full text: <http://www.idi.hr/en/izdavastvo/knjige-i-studije/posebna-izdanja/>

Journal Sociology and Space

In the three regular yearly numbers of the journal "Sociology and Space" for 2016 a total of 5 original scientific papers, 5 preliminary communications, 3 review articles, 1 professional paper, 7 reviews of books and publications and 1 In memoriam were published. The journal is available at the ISRZ web-site: <http://www.idi.hr/en/izdavastvo/casopis-sociologija-i-prostor/> and at the "Hrčak" portal of Croatian scientific journals: <http://hrcak.srce.hr/sociologija-i-prostor?lang=en>.

Events (co)organized by the Institute

Final conference of the ESF project "New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth"

The final conference of the project co-financed by the European Social Fund *"New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth"* was held in Zagreb on 23rd and 24th September 2016. The conference entitled *"Greening the Economy: a Colouring or a Reseeding"* gathered nearly fifty participants who were informed about the project results and who discussed sustainability and green economies within the local, national and international contexts. In addition to the national researchers, at the conference were also present international experts who attempted to answer the questions concerning the (im)possibilities of contemporary economic system to provide well-being to most of the citizens, the limits and boundaries of the ecological system, the green economy and its significance in everyday life, as well as the ways, opportunities and obstacles for changing people's values and behaviours in order to contribute to the stability of the global ecological system. This was the final conference of the ESF project on green economies on which collaborated the members of the ISRZ team Branko Ančić, Ph. D. (project leader), Lana Peternel, Ph. D., Nikola Petrović, Ph. D., Katarina Grbavac, MA and Jelena Puđak, Ph. D. (Institute for Social Sciences "Ivo Pilar"). The book of abstracts is available at the following link:

http://www.idi.hr/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/GTE_Knjiga_sazetaka.pdf.

In addition, the conference participants were given a handbook *Degrowth* which consists of workshops intended for working with young people on the topics of sustainability teaching and understanding. Furthermore, a documentary about green economies, which was produced within the project, is available at the ISRZ Youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vz1yHQ7cy08&t=48s>



The team of the ESF project *"New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth"*



The final conference of the ESF project *"New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth"*

3rd Days of Educational Sciences

The scientific conference **3rd Days of Educational Sciences** was held on 20th and 21st October, 2016. The conference enabled collaboration and networking, as well as exchanging knowledge and research results of more than 200 researchers and other interested participants from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Slovenia and Great Britain. This year's conference topic was *Educational change: challenges and expectations* and

it included a series of presentations on various educational topics, such as students' motivation, educational aspirations and choices, higher education, creativity in education, teaching methods, STEM education and inclusive education. Within the conference programme two plenary sessions were held by eminent experts in the area of educational research: prof. Slavko Gaber, Ph. D. from the Faculty of Education, University of Ljubljana, who discussed the question of sustainability of educational changes on the example of educational reform in Slovenia and prof. Izabela Sorić, Ph. D. from the Department of Psychology, University of Zadar, who gave an overview of the latest research and theories of emotions in education, with an emphasis on the guidelines for further research of the *"emotional side of education"*. The conference also included discussing the practices and challenges of the minorities' education in the multi-ethnic communities in Croatia within the round table of the same title, while the other round table problematized the Croatian Comprehensive Curricular Reform and the challenges and expectations it imposes to educational researchers, but also to teachers and students. The conference programme included two symposia: one about the education for democratic citizenship and the other which was intended to promote mental health and prevention of problematic behaviour within the school environment. At the conference was also presented the programme and the achievements of the School of Creativity "Novigrad Spring". Furthermore, the conference was an opportunity for the Network of Education Policy Centers (NEPC), a longtime ISRZ partnering institution, to celebrate its 10th anniversary. The Book of abstracts is available at the following link: http://www.idi.hr/doz2016/program_en.html.



The scientific conference *3rd Days of Educational Sciences*

Open Day ISRZ 2016

Open Day of the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb was held on 12th December, 2016. Mirjana Adamović, Ph. D., a Research Associate at the Institute and editor-in-chief of the ISRZ Edition "Science and Society" and the "Special Editions", gave a short opening speech after which she presented the Institute's publications in 2016. The Open Day programme continued with a structured dialogue with the youth in which the position of youth within the contemporary Croatian society was discussed and the recommendations for the improvement of their status and overall well-being were suggested. The participants in the discussion were: Marko Kovačić, M. A. (ISRZ – Centre for Youth and gender Studies), Morana Makovec (Ministry for Demography, Family, Youth and Social Policy), Tamara Puhovski (ProPuh Policy Solutions), Katarina Brajdić (Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes) and Kristijan Orešković (political science student from the University of Zagreb). The programme continued with the two presentations of the findings of the ISRZ most recent research. The first one was about attitudes and prejudices towards immigrants among high school students in Zagreb and the Zagreb County. The presentation was based on the research findings collected and interpreted during 2016 by Saša Pužić, Ph. D., Jelena Matić, M. A. and prof. Branislava Baranović, Ph. D. (ISRZ – Centre for Educational Research and Development) and Ajana Löw, Ph. D. (Department of Psychology, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb). The second presentation, by the

ISRZ researchers Nikola Baketa, Anja Gvozdanović, Ph. D. and Iva Košutić, Ph. D., was about the political attitudes of the Croatian senior highschool students in correlation with their educational programmes. The presentation was based on the findings of the comprehensive nationally representative survey which was conducted in 2015. The final presentation of the Open Day was by Ana Maskalan, Ph. D. (ISRZ – Centre for Youth and Gender Studies). She presented the philosophical idea of Utopia, its historical development, contemporary status and future perspectives. The programme of the Open Day ISRZ 2016 was closed with the projection of the short documentary film *“Green economies”* which was filmed as a part of the ISRZ project *“New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth”* which was co-financed by the European Social Fund. The project team were: Branko Ančić, Ph. D. (project leader), Lana Peternel, Ph. D., Nikola Petrović, Ph. D., Jelena Puđak, Ph. D. (Institute “Ivo Pilar”) and Katarina Grbavac, M. A. Open Day ISRZ 2016 was financially supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Book promotions

Od podanika do građana: Razvoj građanske kompetencije mladih [From subjects towards citizens: youth civic competence development.]

The promotion of the book *“Od podanika do građana: razvoj građanske kompetencije mladih”* [From subjects towards citizens: youth civic competence development.], edited by Marko Kovačić and Martina Horvat, was held on 8th November, 2016 in the *Bogdan Ogrizović Library* in Zagreb. The book contributes to the comprehensive analysis of the civic competence of youth in Croatia and the neighbouring countries. It was presented by the editors Marko Kovačić and Martina Horvat and prof. Vedrana Spajić-Vrkaš from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities in Zagreb with Eli Pijaca Plavšić from the Forum for Freedom in Education. The second promotion of the book was held in Rijeka, on 5th December, 2016 and in it participated Marko Kovačić, Nikola Baketa, prof. Vlasta Ilišin, prof. Berto Šalaj, Lana Golob and Orijana Marušić Štimac.

Transformation of urban and rural systems in Zagreb and Podgorica during the transition period

The promotion of a joint publication *“Transformation of urban and rural systems in Zagreb and Podgorica during the transition period”*, published as a result of the bilateral cooperation between Croatia and Montenegro (2015-2016), was held on 19th December, 2016 in Zagreb. The book was published in the ISRZ Edition “Science and Society”. It was presented by Mirjana Adamović, editor-in chief of the “Science and Society” Edition and the reviewers Saša Poljanec Borić, Ph. D. (Institute “Ivo Pilar”) and prof. Sreten Vujović (Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities in Belgrade) with the co-editor of the edition and the principal investigator of the bilateral project team for Croatia Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, Ph. D. (ISRZ Urban/Rural and Science Research Centre).

International cooperation, mobility and study visits

12th ISORECEA and ESA conference in Zadar

In collaboration between the Department of Sociology of the University of Zadar, the Croatian Sociological Association and the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb the 12th ISORECEA conference (**The International Study of Religion in Eastern and Central Europe Association**) entitled *“Religion and Non-Religion in Contemporary Societies: Theoretical, Empirical and Methodological Challenges for Research in Central and Eastern Europe and Beyond”* was held in Zadar from 21st till 24th April, 2016. The conference was co-organized by the European Sociological Association as the mid-term conference of their Research Network 34 (**Sociology of Religion**). The conference was focused on the topic of religion and non-religion in contemporary societies. These topics are becoming more and more significant within the scope of social sciences, since the dynamics between religion and non-religion is crucial for understanding the role of religion in contemporary societies and the different views on the role of religion, as well as the various models of the religion - state relations. The Central and the Eastern Europe are especially important

places for examining this relation due to the position of atheism during the period of socialism, but also because of the fact that within these societies the image of religion varies greatly, from the countries very highly religious to the highly non-religious countries. What is the impact of these facts on the role of religion in public life, on the definition of the rights of the minority communities, on the social status of certain social groups regarding their non-religion, to what extent and in which aspects is religion present in the everyday lives of the citizens, etc.? All of these were the topics discussed at this conference, and the interest in it is confirmed by the 102 participants from 25 countries from Europe, North America, South Korea, India and Pakistan. Besides the above mentioned, the fact that the conference was held for the second time in Croatia (it was previously held in Zagreb in 2001) indicates the trust in the Croatian scientists that have been very active in the Association for years, and it was the occasion for further promotion of the Croatian science and research from different disciplinary scopes. The ISORECEA especially fosters interdisciplinarity and thus the conference gathered not only sociologists, but also psychologists, ethnologists, cultural anthropologists and geographers. The conference was held as a part of the 40th anniversary of teaching sociology at the University of Zadar. In addition, during the 1970s for the first time at any Croatian university the same Department started teaching Sociology of Religion as a separate course, which was an additional reason for choosing the University of Zadar as the place for organizing the conference.

COBRAS project team in Cambridge, UK

From 26th to 30th of September, 2016, the members of the project ***“Educational aspirations of pupils at transitional periods of Croatian elementary education: nature, determinants and change (COBRAS)”***, Boris Jokić, Zrinka Ristić Dedić, Josip Šabić and Jelena Matić, participated at the methodological workshop entitled ***“Structural Equation Modelling with Mplus”***, organized by the Psychometrics Centre, University of Cambridge, UK. Among other topics, the workshop covered the topic of multilevel modelling that is intended to be used in the analysis of the project quantitative data.



The COBRAS team at the University of Cambridge

Srebrenka Letina at the SIENA Winter School in Zurich

Srebrenka Letina, Ph. D. attended the SIENA Winter School – ***Longitudinal analysis of social networks***, from 15th to 19th February, 2016. The workshop was organized by ETH Zurich, Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences, Chair of Social Networks. The workshop introduced to the participants the analysis of longitudinal, group-centered network data by way of stochastic, actor-based models, using the program RSiena. The winter school was taught by Per Block, Zsolt Boda and Christoph Stadtfeld with Tom Snijders.



The participants and teachers of the SIENA Winter school in Zurich, February, 2016

The specific topics of the workshop were: Introduction to SIENA and R software, Estimation strategies, Selection and Influence Models, Model selection, Two-Mode networks, Network co-evolution, Comparison with other statistical methods, and Multi-group analysis.

More at: <http://www.social-networks.ethz.ch/education/siena-winterschool-on-longitudinal-social-network-analysis.html>.

Study visits of the ESF project "New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth" team members in the UK, Germany and Austria

As part of the project **"New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-Being of Youth"**, four researchers, members of the project team, participated in study visits in the UK, Germany and Austria during 2016. Thus, Nikola Petrović, Ph. D. attended the University of Nottingham, Lana Peternel, Ph. D. stayed at the Max Planck Institute, and Branko Ančić, Ph. D. visited the University of Cardiff. In September 2016, Branko Ančić, Ph. D. and Jelena Puđak, Ph. D. (Institute "Ivo Pilar") stayed at the Vienna University of Economics and Business. During their stay at the University of Vienna the project mentor Mladen Domazet, Ph. D. (Institute of Political Ecology) joined the two researchers. Together they held several meetings at various academic institutions with the aim of establishing future scientific co-operation. An important outcome of the study visits was the arrival of Dimitrios Xenias, Ph. D. from Cardiff and Petr Jehlička, Ph. D. from the Open University (UK) to the final project conference held in Zagreb, in which they also participated. Furthermore, as of November 2016, Marek Mikuš, Ph. D., a social anthropologist from the Max Planck Institute in Halle, Germany, with whom Lana Peternel, Ph. D. collaborated during her study visit, has stayed at the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb as a visiting scholar, which makes this project the basis for the future cooperation and projects of the Institute.

Study visit of Marek Mikuš from the Max Planck Institute to the ISRZ

An opportunity to collaborate with Marek Mikuš, Ph. D. from the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle emerged as a part of the project **"New Paradigms in Sustainability Research: Green Economy and the Well-being of Youth"**, funded by the European Social Fund. This collaboration resulted in the study visit of the

researcher to the Institute's Centre for Research in Social Inequalities and Sustainability (CRiSIS).

Marek Mikuš is a social anthropologist who is currently a postgraduate student at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology within the Research Group **Financialization** in Europe and Asia, led by prof. Chris Hann, Ph. D. His research interest is the social, economic and political transition in the former Yugoslavia. He earned his doctorate at the London School of Economics in 2014, and in his work he explored the role of civil society in the political and economic transition of post-socialist Serbia. In 2016 he published a paper in the Social Anthropology journal entitled **"The Justice of Neoliberalism: Moral Ideology and Redistributive Politics of Public Restructuring in Serbia"**.

Within the framework of the moral economy theory, Marek Mikuš is focused on the social and political consequences of household debt in Croatia in the context of the credit boom and the financial crisis over the last ten years. His research interests are focused on household debt as an aspect of the broader process of financialization characterized often by unfavorable debt and/or over-debt of certain social classes, and within the context of questionable legal regulation and the role of public institutions. Such an approach includes a field study of various forms of debt, i. e. credit debt and social relations, for example in the housing quarters built immediately before and during the credit boom in Zagreb. Also, in the Marek Mikuš' research, an emphasis is put on discursive and political practices of various actors involved in the work of the banking sector and the activist associations which represent the households in debt.

In the period until April 2017, our colleague Marek Mikuš will present his work as a part of the dissemination activities of the Centre for Research in Social Inequalities and Sustainability.



Marek Mikuš, Ph. D.

International conference presentations in 2016

In 2016 we participated in 25 international scientific conferences in Croatia or abroad, which is presented in Map 1.

Budapest, Hungary

Cambridge, UK

Cavtat

Dublin, Ireland

Dubrovnik

Jurata, Poland

London, UK

Ljubljana, Slovenia

Montreal, Canada

Novi Sad, Serbia

Osijek

Piran, Slovenia

Portorož, Slovenia

Rijeka

Stockholm, Sweden

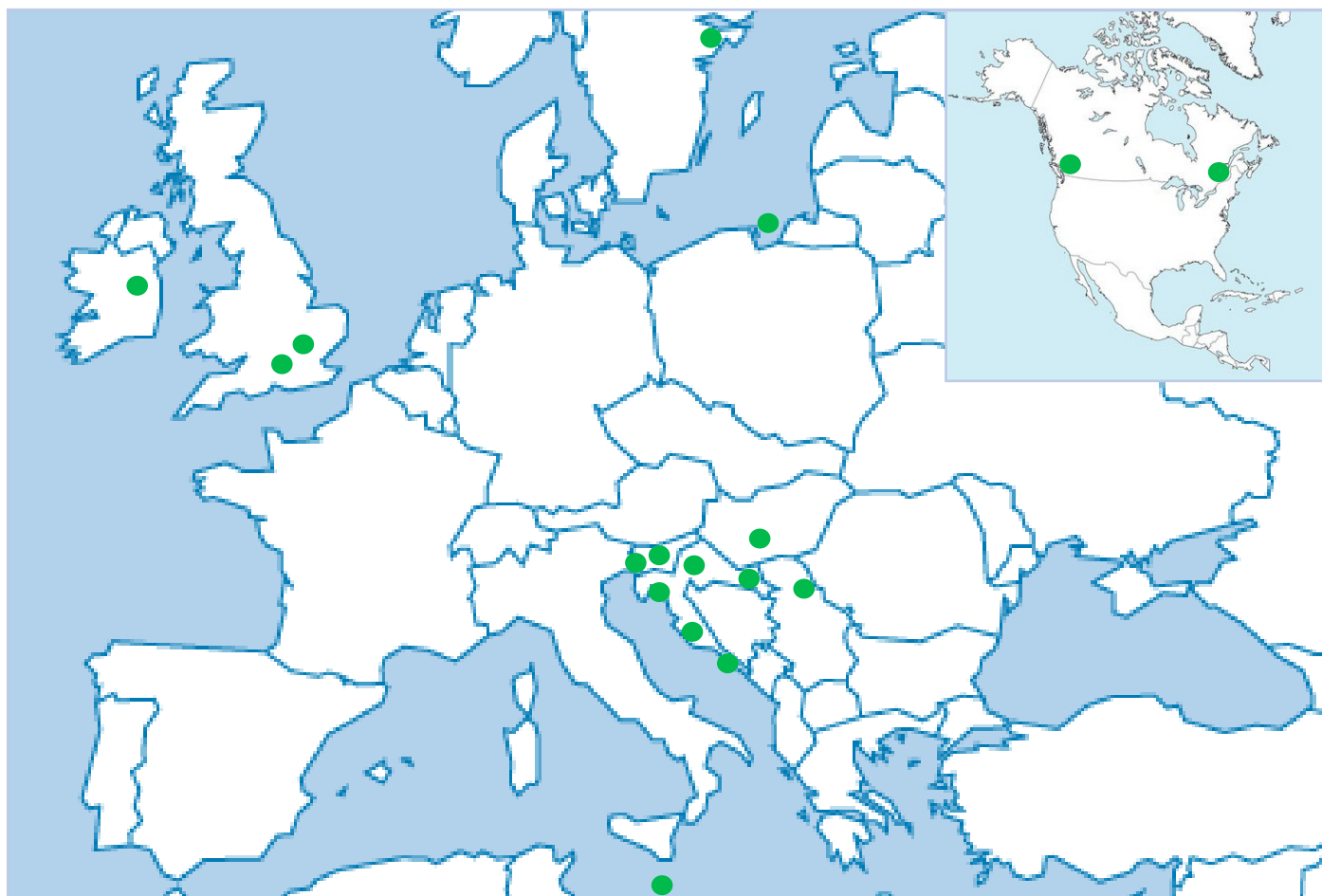
Valetta, Malta

Vancouver, Canada

Zadar

Zagreb

Map 1. International conference presentations in 2016



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