

Newsletter

9/2020

Editorial

On 21st April 2020 we celebrated the 56th anniversary of the establishment of our Institute. Despite having completely different plans for marking the celebration – actively, by organizing a scientific conference, ceremonially, by awarding recognitions and prizes to our most successful employees, and leisurely, by taking a field trip, the threatening circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic and the devastating earthquake that hit us in Zagreb on 22nd March, prevented us from pursuing our plans.

Nevertheless, after the MSE recommendation for all the institutions in the system to let their employees work from home to prevent the outbreak of the disease, we reacted promptly, adapted and organized our work through the shifts of the director and administrative services, and mostly through working from home. This way we enabled the continuation of our regular work on projects, although with a somewhat changed agenda.

Also, recognizing the need to provide our expertise in helping to solve various aspects of the crisis caused by the pandemic and the earthquake in Zagreb, we carried out a series of activities:

- Creation of a series of videos titled “How to learn better, faster and easier?” for primary and secondary school pupils with the purpose of developing the ‘learning to learn’ competence. The materials are reproduced on the Institute’s YT, and the official distance learning channels of the Ministry of Science and Education (HTV3, RTL, Sportska televizija and YT of The School for Life).
- Organization and implementation of online teaching within various courses delivered by our researchers at Croatian universities.

- Implementation of regional webinars for youth and youth workers, based on ISRZ youth studies, within the collaboration with the National Association of Youth Workers regarding youth work in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Implementation of a sociological study within the “Programme of comprehensive renewal of the historical centre of Zagreb”, coordinated by the Institute for Physical Planning of the City of Zagreb and the City of Zagreb.

- Involvement in an open interdisciplinary expert platform obnovi.hr, initiated by UHA (Croatian Architects’ Association) to gather in one place scientific and other works on Zagreb and the topic of urban renovation and revitalization.

- Announcement of the international call for contributions to the special thematic issue of the journal **Sociology and Space** dedicated to the various consequences that the COVID-19 pandemic had on the society, and to the trends, assessments and coping strategies regarding the Zagreb earthquake of 22nd March 2020, and the interactions of these two events.

- Initiation of a series of sociological texts in collaboration with the Croatian Sociological Association, within the Public Sociology series, on various social aspects of the pandemic – the texts are published on the CSA website and Facebook profile.

- Participation in a forum dedicated to the social aspects of the pandemic, in collaboration with the Office of the European Parliament in Croatia.

- Organization of a pilot-study with secondary schools in Zagreb on pupils’ needs and coping with the challenges of online classes in March 2020.

• Organization of an online qualitative research titled “My life during the pandemic” (within 48 hours the questionnaire was answered by 418 respondents) – the research served to prepare the methodology of the project submitted to the CSF call, and was selected for financing.

• Application of two projects to the IPCORONA-20202-04 call of the Croatian Science Foundation, and the joining of many external collaborators coming from numerous institutions and universities. The project led by Branko Ančić “*The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)*” was selected for financing, and its implementation has started.

• Individual involvement of our researchers to additional two CSF projects, submitted to the same IPCORONA-20202-04 call. One of them was selected for financing. It is the project led by Prof. Dinka Čorkalo Biruški from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb.

• The topic of the consequences of the COVID-19 and the earthquake in Zagreb was also addressed in some other projects currently implemented at the ISRZ.

We believe that by these endeavours and efforts we showed in the best possible way how important it is for us as a public research institute to contribute to the development of the society and scientific research activity by prompt reactions to current events, thus fulfilling our public role.

Director

Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD

Ongoing projects in 2020

International projects

In the first part of 2020 the Institute carried out nine competitive international projects financed by the EU programmes *Rights, Equality and Citizenship* and *Erasmus+*, MSE programmes of bilateral cooperation with Slovenia, and the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP). The projects are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Competitive international ISRZ projects

Programme	Project title	Coordinator(s)	Principal Investigator from ISRZ
MSE programme of bilateral cooperation with Slovenia	Comparison of national and religious identities of secondary school students in Croatia and Slovenia	ISRZ, School of Economics and Business, University of Ljubljana	Lana Peternel
EU programme Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC)	Equal rights – Equal pay – Equal pensions	Ombudsperson for Gender Equality of the Republic of Croatia	Josip Šipić
International Social Survey Programme	International Social Survey Programme	ISRZ	Dinka Marinović Jerolimov
Erasmus +	Hand in Hand: Social and Emotional Skills for Tolerant and Non-discriminative Societies (A Whole School Approach)	Educational Research Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia	Iris Marušić
Erasmus +	Support to better knowledge in youth policy – YouthWiki Croatia	ISRZ	Marko Kovačić
Erasmus +	Supporting Evidence-based Education of Youth Workers (SEEW)	ISRZ	Nikola Baketa
Erasmus +	Innovate debate: applied curriculum for debate based youth work	Croatian Debate Society	Marko Kovačić
Erasmus +	The Art of Ethics in Youthwork	National Association of Youth Workers (NAPOR), Serbia	Marko Kovačić
Erasmus +	Europe Goes Local	Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes	Marko Kovačić

National projects

Research projects funded by the CSF

In 2020 the Institute began the implementation of two projects financed by the Croatian Science Foundation. These are the following projects:

- **Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism (IDEU)**; CSF – Installation project; Principal Investigator Nikola Petrović, PhD;

- **The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)**; HRZZ-IP-CORONA-2020-04 - project Principal Investigator Branko Ančić, PhD.

Project “Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism (IDEU)”

The CSF Installation project **“Integration and disintegration of the European Union: Dynamics of Europeanism and Euroscepticism (IDEU)”** started on 24th February 2020, and will last five years. The Project Principal Investigator is Nikola Petrović, PhD. 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 his-

torical 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. Members of the project team are Ana Maskalan, PhD (ISRZ), Ivan Obadić, PhD (Faculty of Law in Zagreb), Marko Mrakovčić, PhD (Faculty of Law in Rijeka), Stevo Đurašković, PhD (Faculty of Political Science), Višeslav Raos, PhD (Faculty of Political Science) and Filip Fila, doctoral candidate (ISRZ). The project was **publically presented** on 12th May 2020 via Youtube within the 7th virtual Kliofest – Festival of History.



Presentation of the CSF project IDEU at Kliofest – Festival of History

Project “The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)”

Within the HRZZ-IP-CORONA-2020-04 call, opened by the Croatian Science Foundation as a response to the outburst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the project **“The social resilience of Croatian society in the midst and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (SOCRES)”** was approved for financing. The Principal Investigator is Branko Ančić, PhD. The SOCRES project is guided by the question what is it that strengthens the capacities of individuals, groups, communities and organizations, or the society in general, to positively respond to threats and negative impacts of catastrophes such as the COV-

ID-19 pandemic. The theoretical strongholds of the project are debates on the notion of social resilience, which is referring to the capacities of human communities to withstand external shocks to its social infrastructure and to recover from them. The project explores three determinants of social resilience: social relationships and network structures; knowledge, narratives and media frames; social metabolism and institutional capacities. Since social resilience is a multidimensional concept, it requires an interdisciplinary approach and analyses of various scales and empirical sources. In this project we will be drawing on sociological concepts, but also bringing them together with insights from political economy and ecological economics. We will also be drawing on existing data and research instruments whilst building on them and enriching them. Different methods will be combined: interviews, observations, questionnaires and analysis of secondary data. Our respondents will be the general public, but also experts, politicians and activists. An overarching outcome of our analyses will be to have a better understanding of the coping, adaptive and transformative capacities of Croatian society during a crisis situation such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The project team members include, besides the PI and ISRZ researchers Marija Brajdić Vuković, PhD, Adrijana Šuljok, PhD and Lana Peternel, PhD, also 21 researchers from 10 institutes or faculties from Croatia or abroad.



Branko Ančić, PhD at the ceremony of awarding CSF grants, on behalf of the awarded SOCRES project.

Photo: Croatian Science Foundation.

In 2020 our researchers joined the following CSF projects coordinated by other institutions:

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

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

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

and continued the collaboration on the following projects:

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

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

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

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

Research projects funded by the MSE

In 2020 the Institute conducted three projects financed under the Ministry of Science and Education (MSE) Programme Agreement for multi-year institutional financing of scientific activity (VIF):

• **Comparison of determinants of tourism development in Povelja, a settlement on the island of Brač, in 2009 and 2019** – principal investigator: Jelena Zlatar Gamberožić, PhD

• **The continuation of the project “Educational aspirations of pupils at transitional periods of Croatian elementary education: nature, determinants and change (COBRAS)”** – principal investigators: Boris Jokić, PhD and Zrinka Ristić Dedić, PhD

• **Evaluation of the projects financed by Croatian Science Foundation: scientometric approach** – principal investigator: prof. Maja Jokić, PhD

Other national and international projects

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

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

Project title	Coordinator	Partner/s – Collaborator/s	Funded by
Programme of comprehensive renewal of the historical centre of Zagreb (Development of the sectorial sociological study)	Institute for Physical Planning of the City of Zagreb	ISRZ (URSRC)	Institute for Physical Planning of the City of Zagreb
‘School Strike 4 Climate Croatia’	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb	ISRZ (URSRC)	University of Zagreb
Philosophical Legacy of Milan Polić	Faculty of Teacher Education, University of Zagreb	ISRZ (CYGS)	University of Zagreb
Professional Socialization of Junior Scientists into Teaching (PROSO)	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences University of Rijeka	ISRZ (CRISIS)	University of Rijeka
Academic Profession in Knowledge Society (APIKS)	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences University of Rijeka	ISRZ (CRISIS)	University of Rijeka
Development of a study on the social dimension of higher education in Croatia	ISRZ (CERD)	-	Croatian Ministry of Science and Education

International cooperation, mobility and study visits

Bilateral cooperation between Croatia and Slovenia

Project "Comparison of national and religious identities of secondary school students in Croatia and Slovenia"

This project is a 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 a qualitative upgrade to the ISSP quantitative methodological approach. Based on existing collaboration, this research is focused 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. In addition, the interrelations between the ethnic and national identities, and the European identity are explored within the project. 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. Croatia and Slovenia also have 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 important 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 leader for Croatia is Lana Peternel, PhD and for Slovenia Tamara Pavasović Trošt, PhD (School of Economics and Business of the University of Ljubljana).

Incoming mobility

Ana Ljubojević, PhD from the University of Graz is staying as a visiting researcher at the Institute's Centre for Youth and Gender Studies. In the period from June 2019 until November 2020 her host is Prof. Vlasta Ilišin, PhD. The mobility is part of the Marie Skłodowska Curie project "Normalizing a Difficult Past? Cultural trauma and collective memory in Austria and Croatia".

Professors Emeriti

Professor Vlasta Ilišin, PhD was awarded the honorary title of Professor and Researcher Emerita, by the Decision of the Institute's Scientific Council in June 2020. She has been continuously active in scientific research work since the beginning of the 1980s. Her research interest has dominantly been focused on empirical research of the young population. She also explored the Croatian political elite, primarily the parliamentary one. She participated in carrying out 32 research projects (of which 4 international): in 12 as a project leader, and in 20 as a collaborator. She published more than 150 scientific and professional papers, of which a third in English. Her scientific publications include 20 (co)authored and (co)edited books, 30 journal papers and 66 chapters in monographs and collections. She was a member of editorial boards/councils in a number of political and sociological scientific journals and other publications. She participated in numerous national and international scientific and professional conferences, and in graduate and postgraduate courses at the University of Zagreb. She was the Director of the Institute (2007 – 2011), and the first Head of the Institute's Centre for Youth and Gender Studies (2015-2018).

Doctorates

In 2020, Marko Kovačić, PhD obtained doctorate at the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Public Administration by defending the thesis titled "Vidik moči v procesu oblikovanja politike mladih na Hrvatskem [The Aspect of Power in Youth Policy Formulation in Croatia]".

Acknowledgements

At the ceremony of celebrating the International Religious Freedom Day, held at the University of Zagreb on 26th January 2020, the Croatian Association for Religious Free-

dom awarded the 'Doctor Branko Lovrec' Award to Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD for her long-standing work on promoting dialogue between religion and society.



The 'Doctor Branko Lovrec' Award to Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD for the contribution to promoting dialogue between religions and society

Events (co)organized by the Institute

Collaboration Agreement between ISRZ and Education and Teacher Training Agency signed

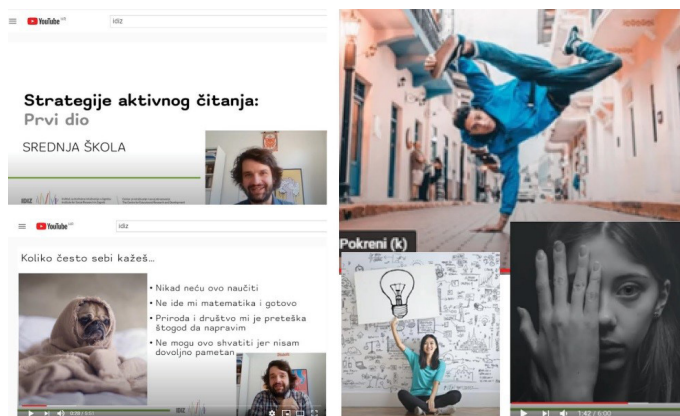
Director of the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb Dinka Marinović Jerolimov, PhD and Director of the Education and Teacher Training Agency Dubravka Brezak Stamač, PhD signed on 13th July 2020 a collaboration agreement between the two institutions, which will be implemented in the domain of education and other mutual or separate professional activities. The signing was attended by Iris Marušić, PhD, President of the Institute's Scientific Council, Zrinka Ristić Dedić, PhD, Head of the ISRZ' Centre for Educational Research and Development (CERD), and Jasna Laura, Secretary of the Agency.



Signing of the collaboration agreement between ISRZ and the Education and Teacher Training Agency

Initiation of the CERD-ISRZ online school during lockdown

Due to the closure of schools caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning with 16th March 2020 the formal education of all primary and secondary school pupils in Croatia was taking place online only. In such extraordinary circumstances the Centre for Educational Research and Development (CERD-ISRZ) dedicated its efforts to supporting educational professionals and pupils of primary and secondary schools. The CERD-ISRZ thus developed for the Ministry of Science and Education a series of educational video materials for pupils, with the aim of instigating the 'learning to learn' competence. Video materials are available at the Institute's Youtube channel and the Youtube channel of the School on the Third Programme. The online school was developed by Boris Jokić (initiator of the initiative) and collaborators Zrinka Ristić Dedić, Iris Marušić, Josip Šabić, Ivana Jugović, Mirta Mornar and Nikola Baketa. Besides creating a series of educational videos, in the period between 26th and 30th March 2020 CERD-ISRZ conducted a questionnaire survey with pupils of the 18th and 5th Grammar School, and the Administrative High School on their experiences regarding the newly occurring situation and their needs related to online learning at home. The research aimed to help schools to adjust their existing approaches to online schooling and think of additional school activities and tools that can empower pupils under these severe circumstances. The research results are presented in the [Report](#).



CERD-ISRZ educational videos for online school

Promotion of the book "The 'Learning to Learn' Competence"

On 10th March 2020, just before the official announcement of stricter measures and banning of public gatherings aimed at suppressing the coronavirus pandemic, the Institute held a public promotion of the book "The 'learning to learn' competence: theoretical foundations and research in the Croatian context", published in the Institute's 'Science and Society' Edition. The presentation took place in the Bogdan Ogrizović Library in Zagreb, fully adhering to the health protection and safety measures. The book was presented by one of the editors, Iris Marušić, PhD and the reviewers Prof. Daria Tot, PhD and Associate Prof. Daria Rovin, PhD. To inform the broadest possible scientific and professional public about the knowledge at the basis of defining and developing of this competence, the editors decided to publish the book digitally and enable free access to the full text at the Institute's [web-site](#).



Promotion of the ISRZ publication "The 'learning to learn' competence"

Initiation of an open expert platform on the renovation of Zagreb

Shortly after the Zagreb earthquake, the Croatian Architects' Association (UHA) in collaboration with other institutions initiated an open expert platform on the renovation of Zagreb. The platform connects diverse and interdisciplinary professional and scientific papers and other materials related to the research of Zagreb and its renovation, revitalization and related topics, within the scope of urban matters. The Institute also joined the platform (Anđelina Svirčić Gotovac, PhD and Jelena Zlatar Gamberozić, PhD). Our Institute forwarded the links to the Repository of published papers and to the "Sociology and Space" journal. More information is available [here](#).

Publishing

In the first part of 2020 the total scientific production of the Institute included 16 scientific papers, of which 8 scientific papers and 8 scientific chapters. Out of the total number of works, 8 papers were published in journals indexed in Web of Science and/or Scopus, and 8 chapters were published in reviewed books.

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

Journal "Sociology and Space"



We are particularly proud that the journal "Sociology and Space" has a new visual identity as of the first number in 2020 (Vol. 58, No.1 216). The new design was developed by Professor Ivan Doroghy from the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Zagreb. Thus, the journal's cover now has full titles of papers, besides the names of all authors. Furthermore, the

journal is printed on recycled paper. In the first part of 2020 two regular yearly numbers were published, which are available at the Institute's web-site and at the Hrčak national portal of scientific and professional journals.

Call for authors' contributions to the thematic issue of "Sociology and Space"

Regarding the extremely complex social and economic circumstances occurring as the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Editorial Board of the journal 'Sociology and Space' sent out a call for contributions to the new thematic issue of the journal, dedicated to various aspects of interactions between the social, psychological, health-related, economic and global consequences caused by the coronavirus pandemic. Besides the papers on the trends, assessments and ways of coping with the pandemic, the call also refers to the papers addressing the consequences of the devastating earthquake that hit Zagreb on 22nd March 2020, and the works that explore the interactions of these two events. The call is open until 1st October 2020. More information [here](#).