



FDV

UNIVERSITY
OF LJUBLJANA

Faculty of
Social Sciences

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Decisively Along the Paths of Social Science Research

Catalogue of Research
Centres of the Faculty
of Social Sciences,
University of Ljubljana.



Socijalnoekološki modeli zdravja

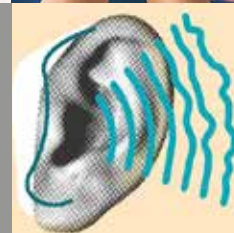


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UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA
Faculty of Social Sciences



CUTTING-EDGE SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCH

State-of-the-art research is one of the foundations of quality of any academic institution. There is no contemporary, outstanding and research-oriented university without teaching that is based on research. Similarly, research is an important feature of career satisfaction for employees, who are the drivers of new ideas and progress in any society. The Faculty of Social Sciences prides itself with one of the largest amounts of research conducted among the members of the University of Ljubljana, so we can be easily labelled as a research faculty. New knowledge that is the result of a highly diverse and interdisciplinary research process significantly contributes to the quality of teaching, so it is more internationally comparable and consequently, also more attractive for local and foreign students on all levels. Our aim is for every researcher to teach and for every teacher to also research.

The Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana celebrated two anniversaries in 2021 – 60 years of existence and 55 years of research that has had a great impact on Slovene social sciences.

The political situation, particularly due to the awareness of how significant it is to be familiar with the social climate, resulted in establishing the first scientific research centres only five years after the College for Sociology, Political Science and Journalism had been founded. In 1966 the Public Opinion Research Centre (today's Public Opinion and Mass Communication Research Centre)

and the Research Centre for Cooperation with Developing Countries (today's Centre of International Relations) that clearly reflected the social and political needs of the time, were the first two centres that were founded. A year later, the Centre for Political Science Research and the Centre for the Study of Religion and Church (today's Centre for the Study of Culture and Religion) were established. With establishing these centres, followed by other ones later, the research process became closely knit with the development of social sciences, Slovenian society and the state. At the same time research became the basis of the education process at the faculty.

Today, the Social Sciences Research Institute comprises 19 socially engaged, internationally active and globally involved scientific research centres encompassing around 220 researchers and lecturers. Social Sciences Data Archives forms an important part of the scientific infrastructure and is the main social science data research centre in Slovenia.

The Social Sciences Research Institute represents an enormous research potential in the field of social sciences. The Institute with its current name was established in 1991 by joining the Institute of Sociology with the FSPN Research Institute. As the research pillar of the Faculty of Social Sciences, it enables a uniform link between research, education and market activities as well as decentralized activities of research centres.

Today, research at the Faculty of Social Sciences is conducted in the fields of social informatics, methodology and information science, social welfare, human resource management, comparative legal research, spatial sociology, public opinion and mass communications, social psychology, strategies and management, political theory, political science research, international relations, European studies, administrative and political processes and institutions, defence and security studies, social sciences terminology and publishing, marketing and public relations, social communications, culture and religion, and science studies.

Under the auspices of the Social Sciences Research Institute, the Faculty of Social Sciences conducts between 150 and 200 research projects annually. In 2022, there were 96 national projects (14 national programmes, 2 infrastructure programmes, 1 applied project, 5 adapted projects within the complementary ERC grant scheme, 33 ground projects, 17 goal-oriented projects, 1 post-doctoral project and 23 market-driven projects). During this year, 75 international projects (11 H2020, 12 COST, 14 Erasmus+, 7 Jean Monet, 6 CESS-DA, 3 Interreg, 4 HoE and 18 other projects) were also undertaken. In addition, researchers from the Faculty of Social Sciences participated in projects related to the National Recovery and Resilience Programme.

Even when it was founded, the Social Sciences Research Institute operated internationally

since the work of the research centres was profoundly global. From the beginning, the number of international projects has been increasing and so has the number of market research studies, which demonstrates the relevance of social science research in Slovenia and abroad. Consequently, significantly more researchers are included in international and professional associations, the number of SSCI and SCOPUS published articles has been increasing and, therefore, also the number of citations in international scientific databases. Lecturers and researchers rank in the top of most cited researchers in various fields of social sciences, which makes us quite proud. Research centres were highly successful dur-

ing Covid as they surpassed the difficulties that arose from the lack of physical forms of research. We conducted a considerable amount of research and published a great number of works in the field of response and resilience to the pandemic and other crises. During this period, the intensity of research processes, effects and consequences of digitalisation and use of social media increased. The scope of interdisciplinary research and research and innovative cooperation not only within social sciences and humanities, but also with natural and engineering sciences expanded as well. At the time of various crises, the faculty began to encourage research in artificial intelligence in social sciences.



The excellence of research work at the Institute is also reflected in the several international journals of the Institute and the researchers many of whom are also editors, members of editorial boards and international associations, or who hold other prominent roles in the international academic sphere. The Institute and its centers should continue to develop further and respond to current national and international challenges.

Prof. dr. Iztok Prezelj,
Dean

RESEARCH CENTRES

1966-2024

Name of the Centre	Head of the Centre	Year of establishment
Public Opinion Research Centre, from year 1970 onwards: Public Opinion and Mass Communication Research Centre	Dr. Niko Toš (until 6/2014) Dr. Brina Malnar (from 7/2014)	1966
Research Centre for Cooperation with Developing Countries	Dr. Vlado Benko Dr. Stanislav Južnič Dr. Janez Škrjanc	1966, 1973 – separated as an independent research establishment (Centre for International Cooperation and Development)
Centre for Political Science Research	Dr. Adolf Bibič (founder, until 1996, also mandates by Dr. Stane Kranjc and Dr. Drago Zajc) Dr. Danica Fink Hafner (from 1997) Dr. Damjan Lajh (from 12/2016)	1967
Center for Religion and Church Studies, now: Centre for Cultural and Religious Studies	Dr. Zdenko Roter (until 1996) Dr. Aleš Debeljak (1996–2008) Dr. Mitja Velikonja (from 2008)	1966
Center for Local Communities and Labor Organizations Study, now: Centre for Spatial Sociology	Dr. Zdravko Mlinar (until 1997) Dr. Drago Kos (from 1997) Dr. Marjan Hočevar (from 1. 10. 2017)	1969
Centre for Social Communications Research, now: Social Communication Research Centre	Dr. France Vreg (until 1986) Dr. Slavko Splichal (from 1986)	1976
Centre for Organizational Studies	Dr. Bogdan Kavčič (until 1993) Dr. Dana Mesner Andolšek (1993–1999)	1977 stopped operating in 1999 (united with Centre for Organisational and Human Resources Research)
Centre of International Relations	Dr. Ernest Petrič (until 1989) Dr. Marjan Svetličič (until 10/2013) Dr. Maja Bučar (until 12/2020) Dr. Anže Burger (from 1/2021)	1981
Centre for Research Activity Study, now: Centre for Social Studies of Science	Dr. Tine Hribar (until 1997) Dr. Franc Mali (from 1997)	1981
Defence Research Centre	Dr. Anton Bebler (until 1987) Dr. France Vreg (until 1990) Dr. Anton Bebler (until 1992) Dr. Anton Grizold (until 2001) Dr. Marjan Malešič (from 2001)	1985
Centre for Philosophical Studies	dr. Slavoj Žižek	1991, 1995 – stopped operating

Name of the Centre	Head of the Centre	Year of establishment
Center for Policy Evaluation and Strategic Studies, Research Centre for Strategy and Governance (renamed from 6/2012 onwards)	Dr. Veljko Rus (until 2001) Dr. Andrej Rus (from 2001)	1989
Centre for Anthropological Research	Dr. Stane Južnič (until 2001) Dr. Vesna V. Godina (from 2001)	1991
Centre for Welfare Studies	Dr. Ivan Svetlik (until 1999) Dr. Srna Mandič (until 9/2021) Dr. Maša Filipovič Hrast (from 10/2021)	1984, 1999 – CDB division, first remains as CDB under the leadership of Dr. Srna Mandič, second part is merged with Centre for Organizational Sciences CPOČV lead by Dr. Ivan Svetlik
Centre for Organisational and Human Resources Research	dr. Ivan Svetlik (until 2008) dr. Miroslav Stanojević (until 12/2020) dr. Aleksandra Kanjuo-Mrčela (until 1/2021)	1999, merged with Centre for Organizational Sciences and divided into Centre for Welfare Studies and Centre for Organisational and Human Resources Research
Centre for Theoretical Sociology	Dr. Frane Adam (from 1991)	1991
Centre for Methodology and Informatics	Dr. Anuška Ferligoj (until 2011) Dr. Gregor Petrič (from 2011))	1992, March 2011 – division of the Centre for Methodology and Informatics into CMI and CDI
Centre for Social Psychology	Dr. Mirjana Ule (until 10/2015) Dr. Tanja Kamin (from 10/2015)	1994
Social Science Data Archive	dr. Janez Štebe	1997
Center for Comparative Corporate and Development Research Research Centre for Comparative Law (renamed from 6/2014)	dr. Rado Bohinc	1997, In 2024 is in transition.
Research Centre for the Terminology of Social Sciences and Journalism	Dr. Tomo Korošec (until 2008) Dr. Monika Kalin-Golob (from 2008)	2004
Center for Critical Political Science Centre for Political Theory (renamed 3/2014)	Dr. Andrej Lukšič (until 9/2013) Dr. Cirila Toplak (from 10/2013)	2006
Centre for the Analysis of Administrative-Political Processes and Institutions (joined with ORC 10/2021)	Dr. Marjan Brezovšek (until 10/2013) Dr. Miro Haček (until 10/2021)	2009
Centre for Social Informatics	Dr. Vasja Vehovar (until 10/2019) Dr. Jernej Berzelak (until 4/2021) Dr. Vasja Vehovar (from 5/2021)	2011
Centre for Marketing and Public Relations	Dr. Dejan Verčič (from 2013)	2013

THE PUBLIC OPINION AND MASS COMMUNICATION RESEARCH CENTRE

The Public Opinion and Mass Communication Research Centre (POMCRC) was founded in 1966 as part of the Faculty of Social Sciences. It is the leading Slovenian survey research institution, particularly in the fields of sociology, political science and public health. Since 1968, the Centre has been conducting annual general social surveys that are the key source of empirical data for the national social science community. Over a period of 55 years, an extensive set of longitudinal indicators has been composed, including indicators of the quality of life, social stratification, value orientations, public health, immigration, political culture, the role of government and media engagement. In addition to designing and fielding national survey projects, the Cen-

tre is a regular partner in a number of widely acclaimed comparative surveys, such as the European Social Survey, World Values Survey, International Social Survey Programme, European Values Survey, Cross-national Survey of Electoral Systems, as well as several other bilateral and multilateral projects. As a result of this participation, the POMCRC has amassed extensive expertise in conducting cross-national survey research, ranging from questionnaire design and translation to comparability issues and reporting, resulting in POMCRC becoming a methodological knowledge hub for both students and researchers.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

- Since 1968, the Centre has carried out *The Slovenian Public Opinion survey (SPO)*, the central infrastructural programme for Slovenian social sciences in the domain of attitudinal data. Surveying public values and orientations in the decades before the transition was a unique historical phenomenon among the societies of the former Eastern bloc. From the outset, the programme's goal was to create and collect a time series of subjective well-being and quality-of-life indicators, and employ them to measure and – if possible – explain general patterns of political, social, cultural and economic attitudes and behaviours of the population. To date, its principal mission remains monitoring relevant structural characteristics and processes in Slovenian society within the broader context of the European and global environment. Data and findings spanning the past five decades are organised and presented in the Centre's comprehensive "Values in Transition" book series.

FOUNDED: 1966

- Since 2006, POMCRC has represented the University of Ljubljana in the role of a partner institution in the *European Social Survey (ESS)* managing consortium. ESS is an academically driven cross-national survey that measures the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour patterns of diverse populations in more than 30 nations. It has been conducted every two years across Europe since 2001. In 2005, the survey was awarded the Descartes prize, which is Europe's top annual science award, for its methodological achievements. In 2013, ESS was awarded the status of a European infrastructure ESS ERIC, with its headquarters at the City University London. POMCRC has conducted all eight rounds of the European Social Survey and manages the central tasks of bibliographic monitoring and academic outreach.

- In 2013, the POMCRC research team received the Prometheus of Science for Excellence in Communication awarded by the Slovenian Science Foundation. This award recognises the Centre's successful efforts to promote empirical social research among scientists, students, policymakers and the general public. This achievement is well reflected in the number of registered users of the European Social Survey based in Slovenia (4,953 in May 2022), which is the highest share per capita among all participating countries and regions. User statistics indicate that 70% of usage is associated with undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, 20% with scientific research, while the remaining share supports policymakers, NGOs and private individuals.

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THE CENTRE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Centre of International Relations (CIR) is involved in interdisciplinary research in the fields

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Petra Roter
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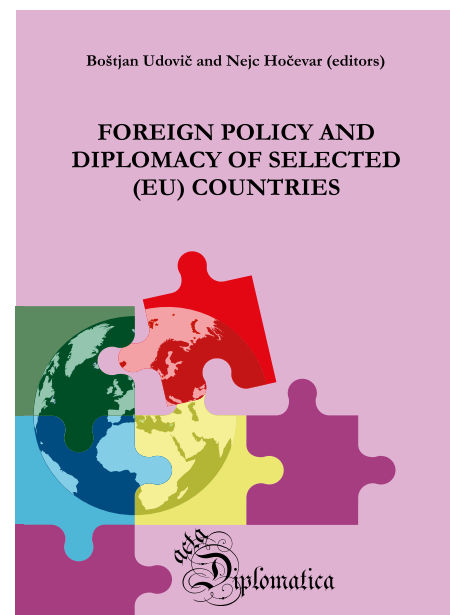
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of international relations (international organisations, international development, regionalism, foreign policy, politics of international law, minority rights, human rights), international economic and business relations (foreign direct investment, international services, innovation policies, institutional economics), diplomatic studies (economic diplomacy, cultural diplomacy, environmental diplomacy, diplomatic law) and European integration (European foreign policy, operations of EU institutions, EU agricultural policy). The CIR has 25 regular members, three of whom are young researchers. The Centre also cooperates with a number of external experts in the areas of international relations, international economic relations and diplomacy.

The Centre for Research of Cooperation with Developing Countries was established in 1966 and

FOUNDED: 1966

after seven years of operation within the Faculty, it became an independent research institute, and then also one of the largest in ex-Yugoslavia. In 1981, the researchers at the Faculty established the Centre for Research of International Relations (today's Centre of International Relations), which continued the work of the previous centre and expanded its operations. Research has focused on the processes of decolonisation, the non-aligned movement, self-determination of nations, and relations with neighbouring countries. Over time, this research also expanded to include the role and importance of peace operations and an increased focus on international economic relations. Following Slovenia's independence, the research focus changed to an extent since research related to Slovenia joining the EU grew in importance. The following chairs of the Centre significantly shaped the operations





of the Centre: Prof. Em. Dr. Vladimir Benko, Prof. Em. Dr. Stanislav Južnič, Prof. Dr. Ernest Petrič, Prof. Em. Dr. Marjan Svetličič and Prof. Dr. Maja Bučar.

The basic framework for the research is provided by the research programme “Slovenia and Its Actors in International Relations and European Integrations”, in which the Centre has been involved since 1999. The programme’s key focus is on deepening the knowledge on the role of Slovenia and its actors in the regional and global dimensions of international relations and the economy through the application of an interdisciplinary theoretical framework and primary research methods. Since 2001, CIR researchers have participated in 30 basic, applied and targeted research programmes financed by the Slovenian Research Agency (SRA). The quality of the research work can be illustrated by data collected by SICRIS: only in the past 5 years, the research group has accumulated more than 9,600 points and has 939 citations in WoS and 1,417 in Scopus, while 26 research articles and 5 books have been acknowledged by SRA as exceptional research achievements. The quality and international recognition of research work is not only reflected in citations, but also in the number of research projects in which CIR researchers have taken part. During the 15 years, the Centre was involved in two 6FP research projects (CONSENT, GARNET), one COST project,

two 7FP projects (SERVPIN, MULTIPART) and two RRP projects. Independently, several Jean Monnet, Erasmus+ and LLP projects, financed by the European Commission, were implemented.

In 1994, the Centre of International Relations and the Slovenian Association of International Relations started publishing a bilingual journal *Revija za mednarodne odnose – Problemi politike, prava in ekonomije*/Journal of International Relations – Issues of Politics, Law and Economy. When the research group transferred to the Centre of International Cooperation and Development (originally from the faculty), their journal Development and International Cooperation was also transferred to CIR. In 1998, both journals merged into the Journal of International Relations and Development (JIRD). The merged journal was of such high quality that it was selected as the official publication of CEEISA – Central and East European International Studies Association. As the owner of the journal, CIR entrusted its publication from 2004 to Palgrave Macmillan Ltd. Today, the journal is classified by WoS/SSCI (Web of Science /Social Science Citation Index) with an impact factor of 1,700 (2022). In addition to JIRD, CIR also publishes and edits two series – CIR Analyses and Acta Diplomatica – and cooperates in editing the book series International Relations and International Law (jointly with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

Interdisciplinarity and the vast spectrum of varied, yet interrelated policies being analysed by the CIR research team are demonstrated in their close integration into various advisory teams at the national and international levels. In Slovenia, members of CIR were involved in preparing several development strategies; in the design of Slovenian foreign policy, preparation of the documentation on the negotiation process for EU accession; preparation of various background documents for legal documents in areas of foreign policy and international development cooperation; in evaluations of different policies and government measures as well as in the planning and implementation of training programmes for public officials. Several of them were appointed to various advisory councils (Council for International Development Cooperation, Council for Science and Technology, Strategic Council for

Foreign Policy, Programme Committee of the Diplomatic Academy, advisor to the President of the Republic of Slovenia) and are members of associations and NGOs in the area of international relations (Slovenian Political Science Association, United Nations Association of Slovenia, SLOGA).

Members of CIR were presiding over or were members of executive committees of the following international associations: World International Studies Committee (WISC), Central and East European International Studies Association (CEEISA), European International Studies Association (EISA), Steering Committee of the Standing Group on International Relations of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), the European International Business Academy (EIBA), the Academy of International Business Central and Eastern European Chapter (AIB-CEE), the European Association of Development Institutes (EADI), the European Association for Research of Services (RESER), the Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA), the COST Action programme, and the Council of Europe (Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities).

Close cooperation with these international institutions and their confidence in the CIR’s capabilities are reflected in a number of international conferences, workshops and guest lectures of eminent experts from the international relations field. Among the more important events, the following should be mentioned: annual conference of the European International Business Academy (EIBA) in 2004, in 2007 the TEPSA pre-presidency conference, in cooperation with the WISC organisation of the second global conference on international studies in 2008, with over 1,000 participants from more than 70 countries, the CEEISA/ISA conference in 2016 with more than 450 participants from 52 countries. In collaboration with the UNDP and the European Commission, CIR has also hosted four lectures in the Kapuscinski series. Every year, the GCIR organizes the Student Conference on International Relations in cooperation with the Globallis student association.

Prepared by: Anže Burger

THE CENTRE FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

The Centre for Political Science Research was founded in 1967 and has the longest tradition among political science-oriented research centres at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Ljubljana. The first head of the Centre was Professor Dr. Adolf Bibič, who is also considered the founder of modern political science in Slovenia. The previous heads of the Centre include Professor Dr. Stane Kranjc, Professor Dr. Drago Zajc, Professor Dr. Danica Fink Hafner, and currently Professor Dr. Damjan Lajh.

The Centre is active in the following areas: Slovenian political system from an international

HEAD:

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Elena Nacevska
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comparative perspective (political institutions, political parties, elections, public administration); public policies and policy analysis; research on the processes of political and public policy decision-making; phenomena of citizenship; research on the history of political ideas in Slovenia and their current (trans-) formation; research on theories and empirical processes of political representation and contemporary problems in the Slovenian and European contexts; research on the development and functioning of civil society, interest groups, policy networks and lobbying; studies on democracy, democratic transitions and breakdowns; impact of the processes of »Europeanization« and globalization on Slovenian politics, both in the state and civil society spheres and on political science in Slovenia. Within the framework of the Centre, theoretical work is complemented by its own empirical research. The special quality of the research lies in the combination of qualitative and quantitative methods as well as in the continuous communication with stakeholders in meetings. In recent years, attention has also been paid to the development of databases in the aforementioned research areas. The Centre attaches great importance to the transfer of research knowledge into university teaching, especially in the study programmes of Political Science - Public Policy and Administration (undergraduate), Political Science - Comparative Public Policy and Administration (Master's), and Policy Analysis, American Studies and European Studies (PhD). This is accomplished in cooperation with primary and secondary schools in Slovenia through EU-funded projects.

The Political Science Research Programme is the basic framework for research work within

FOUNDED: 1967

the Centre for Political Science Research and has been developed and implemented since 1999. It is the only research programme in Slovenia that systematically collects and analyses various forms of data on the dynamics of primarily national institutions, actors and processes, including elections, considering both internal and external variables. Within the research programme, we focus on the development of a political data infrastructure to be able to study Slovenia in a comparative perspective, we analyse political transformations in Slovenia and other countries and the EU, taking into account globalization and de-globalization processes, we combine political science research with interdisciplinary research, we participate in current discussions on factors determining the processes of de-democratization, polarization, radicalization, extremism and related misuse



THE CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND RELIGION

The Centre for the Study of Culture and Religion (CSCR), which is the successor of the Centre for Religion and Church studies, is the third oldest research centre at the Faculty of Social Sciences. This very long period, which is marked by an equally extensive corpus of knowledge assembled by generations of researchers, needs to be celebrated and the future should also be reflected upon. During the past few decades, the research conducted

by the CSCR has undergone two considerable shifts, which, however, did not signify discontinuity, but rather added to the cumulative aspect of the Centre's investigations: the first shift was **from studies of religion towards analyses of hegemonic cultures**, while the second pushed the Centre a step further, that is **towards popular and alternative cultures**, or "ordinary" cultures in Williams' sense of the word. The initial research topics investigated

FOUNDED: 1967

leged position in society, politics and culture. Gradually, after the mid-1980s this research was complemented by studies on postmodernism and the complex relations between the socialist political system and Slovenian cultural nationalism. The need to further diversify the research focus arose in the mid-1990s when Prof. Dr. Aleš Debeljak succeeded Dr. Zdenko Roter as Chair of the Centre.

The first of the aforementioned shifts then took place: as research in topics predominantly related to religious studies were developing further, new topics in cultural studies also emerged. This led to changing the Centre's name. At almost the same time, the Department of Cultural Studies at the FSS was founded in 1994 by the members of the Centre. The Department was the first of its kind in the re-

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Maruša Novak

Aljoša Pužar

Marjan Smrke

Peter Stanković

Ksenija Šabec

Jasmina Šepetavc

Gregor Tomc

Neža Geč

Dejan Jontes

Anja Kolak

Katja Koren Ošljak

Breda Luthar

Tanja Oblak Črnič

Maruša Pušnik

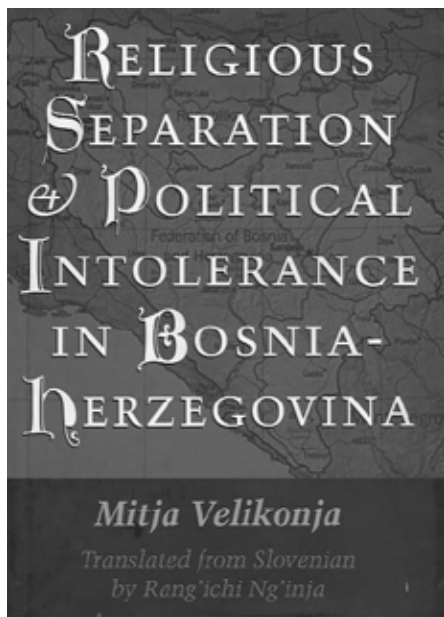
Anamarija Šiša



by the Centre were religious phenomena and the Roman-Catholic Church in Slovenia. Under its founder Prof. Dr. Zdenko Roter, the Centre began its endeavour in scientific research of what was then a profoundly delicate topic in the socialist part of Europe, both for socialist authorities, known for their more or less unfriendly attitudes to religion, and for the religious communities as such, which for the first time in history, were placed in an underprivi-



gion. Ever since, the development of CSCR has been strongly related to the development of the Department in terms of research, teaching, and human resources. In this period, research – and also the Department’s very foundations – revolved around studies of religion, issues related to “high” culture and art; relations be-



tween culture and the nation, postmodern culture and art, literature etc. In the late 1990s, a second shift or a “cultural turn” occurred with

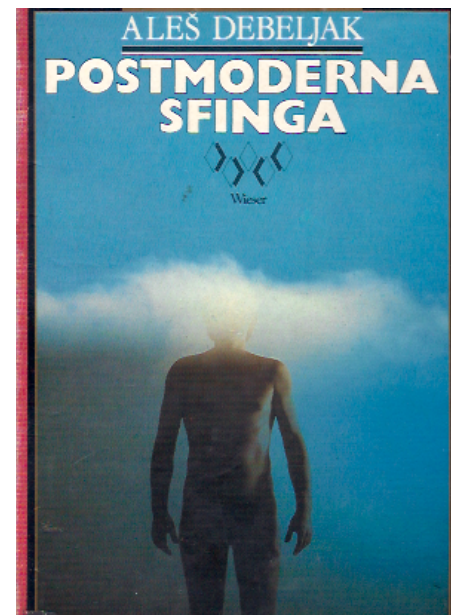
studies of cultures of everyday life, popular cultures, cultural nationalism, cultural aspects of gender studies, and also alternative cultures that began to complement the above-mentioned topics.

Today, research revolves around three inter-related domains and is firmly integrated into both the international and national research environments. **Religious studies research** involves studies of structures and forms of religiosity in post-socialism, the relationship between the state and religious communities, (de)secularisation, new religious movements and reactions to the religious pluralism of contemporary societies. **Cultural studies research** continues to investigate the various dimensions of national culture, its relationship to the common cultural sphere within the EU, literary reflections on the post-socialist transition, popular-folk music, and Slovenian cinematographic past. **Studies in the domain of subcultures and cultures of everyday life** involve Slovenian popular and alternative music, sports, street cultures, food cultures, fashion, multiculturalism, cultures of remembrance, and Balkanite ideologies. As the range of research fields expanded, so did the number of methodologies and approaches, particularly with the shift from quantitative research to the introduction and incorporation of qualitative

research methods. Longitudinal empirical research of the religiosity of Slovenians made a valuable contribution: a special set of research questions on this topic has been included in the Slovenian Public Opinion survey since the very beginning. Gradually, as CSCR developed, this method was joined by other, more qualitative research methods such as interviews, participant observation, semiological analyses, discourse analyses, visual cultural studies, participatory engaged methods and applied-drama methods.

The main challenges that CSCR currently faces are similar to the ones in the past: will it be able to preserve its innovativeness and initiative in both research fields, cultural and religious studies? Will it be able to remain as critical as it was in the 1970s when its research was found disturbing by party politics of the time, or in the 1990s when it was attacked by church ideologists, political converts and nationalists, just as it has been over the past decade, in the climate of repressive tolerance, by proponents of new exclusions, neoliberal politics, cultural nationalism and corporate culture? The work that CSCR performed in the past can serve as an inspiring foundation for securing firm steps in the future.

Prepared by: Mitja Velikonja



THE CENTRE FOR SPATIAL SOCIOLOGY

FOUNDED: 1969

The Centre for Spatial Sociology (CSS) was established in 1969, originally under the name of the (research) Centre for Local Communities and (business) Enterprises (CLC (b)E). Its early activities can be traced back to the 1960s when the Centre's later collaborators carried out the **first Slovenian urban sociological study entitled "People in the New Town" (Velenje)**.

Professor Dr. Zdravko Mlinar was the Centre's founder and a leading researcher until his retirement. From the beginning, the Centre conducted integrative, multi-level and interdisciplinary research into society's spatial organisation. Individual research studies were conceptualised to transcend the borders of sub-disciplinary research into urban sociology, rural sociology, and planning or regionalism; in short, to research the spatial development of society in general. As early as the 1990s, the members of the Centre 'globalised' its research repertoire, focusing on exploring the dialectical intertwining of local

and global conflicts, and on the synergies of networking actors in the emerging virtual information space.

One of the central activities of the Centre in the past decade has been an interdisciplinary study of environmental problems within the framework of the new sustainable development paradigm. Empirical longitudinal study of social values in space, in particular settlement characteristics, spatial mobility and residential preferences of the inhabitants of Slovenia, is also regularly included in research. The study of modern migrations that researchers link to the concepts of spatial and social mobility, has also been strengthened. International integration is also aimed at comparative studies of European and Asian urbanism. The current activity of the Centre is still based on

the integration of various interdisciplinary knowledge about social action in space (architecture, urban design, geography, demography).

However, the current activities of the Centre remain focused on integrating a variety of interdisciplinary skills related to society's operation in the spatial domain. The research group is committed to a humanist and development mission in examining the spatial transformations that are to allow greater autonomy for the stakeholders and overcome the spatial, temporal, sectoral and hierarchical divisions of modern societies. Based on the experience acquired through a series of international scientific research projects, CPS members combine their theoretical knowledge with the practical identification of good practices in the complex interplay of post-modern spatial

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Drago Kos

Franc Trček



and environmental processes. The long-term research carried out by the CPS' collaborators conclusively indicates that the preparation, management and legitimization of interventions in space and the environment necessarily require the involvement of professionals, who are proficient in analysing and researching the 'social constructions' of space and the environment.

The research bibliography of CPS collaborators includes both fundamental research on the spatial dimensions of the social, as well as spatial and environmental analyses at the micro-level of users in the following areas:

- the basic characteristics of socio-spatial development
- the sociological criteria of spatial planning at the local, regional, national and supranational level
- the values and identity of space and affiliation to it
- the integration of spatial and social mobility
 - Spatial integration of migrants
 - Spatial integration/differentiation/hybridisation of home and work
- evaluation of the social effects of interventions in space and the environment
- integration of the spatial system of the European Union
- the impacts of international migration on local development
- public opinion polls on spatial and environmental issues
- the spatial and environmental dimensions of sustainable development
- the impacts of ICT on spatial processes
- the integration of living and working environments
- the (non)complementarity of physical and virtual spaces
- assessing spatial plans in terms of 'social acceptability' and feasibility
- expertise and advice on spatial and environmental conflicts
- exploration of informal operation in space

FORMER ASSOCIATES AND EXTERNAL COLLABORATORS OF THE CENTRE FOR SPATIAL SOCIOLOGY

- Dr Zdravko Mlinar
- Dr Janez Jerovšek
- Dr Jan Makarovič
- Dr Andrej Kirn
- Dr Ida Hojnik
- Dr Pavel Gantar
- Dr Ivan Bernik
- Professor Raimondo Strassoldo, University of Udine
- Dr Veljko Rus
- Professor Henry Teune, University of Pennsylvania
- Dr France Bučar
- Professor Alberto Gasparini, ISIG Gorizia, University of Trieste

A SELECTION OF THE MOST RESOUNDING RESEARCH PROJECTS

- VELENJE 2000 (1983): Residents on the Developmental Problems of the City Municipality of Velenje
- HUMANISATION OF TO WN: Sociological Dimensions of Urban Planning and Self-Management in Nova Gorica (1981–1983)
- SOCIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF KOPER: The Living Environment at the Dawn of the Information Age (1996)

- SOCIAL AND SPATIAL IMPACTS OF HIGHWAYS IN SLOVENIA (1994, 1997, 2002)
- THE SOCIOLOGICAL DIMENSION OF NUCLEAR WASTE DISPOSAL SITING (1996)
- LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIO-SPATIAL ORGANISATION: The Slovenian Experience (1998)
- SOCIO-SPATIAL ANALYSIS OF PREŠEREN SQUARE IN LJUBLJANA: Assessment of the Comments and Suggestions of Citizens at the Public Presentation of the Prešeren Square Project in Ljubljana (2001)
- VALUES OF SPACE AND THE ENVIRONMENT (2004)
- WANTING THE UNWANTED: Effects of Stakeholder Involvement and the Long-Term Management of Radioactive Waste (2008)
- QUALITY OF LIFE IN LJUBLJANA (2010)
- CIVITAS-ELAN: Mobilising Citizens for Vital Cities Ljubljana – Ghent – Zagreb – Brno – Porto (2010–2014)
- ANALYSIS OF USERS' BEHAVIOUR: Living in the Eco Smart House ESH (2016)

Prepared by: Marjan Hočevar



THE CENTRE FOR SOCIAL COMMUNICATION RESEARCH

FOUNDED: 1976

The Centre for Social Communication Research (CSCR) studies the economic, political, social and cultural dimensions of **social communication processes**, especially developmental changes in the field of **mass and especially digital media**, in both national and international contexts. The research programme includes the study of the phenomena of publicness and the public sphere, political communication, journalism, journalistic professionalization and ethics, lifestyles and media consumption, and the history of (Slovenian) media.

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Jernej Kaluža
Tanja Kerševan
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Ilija Tomanič - Trivundža
Igor Vobič
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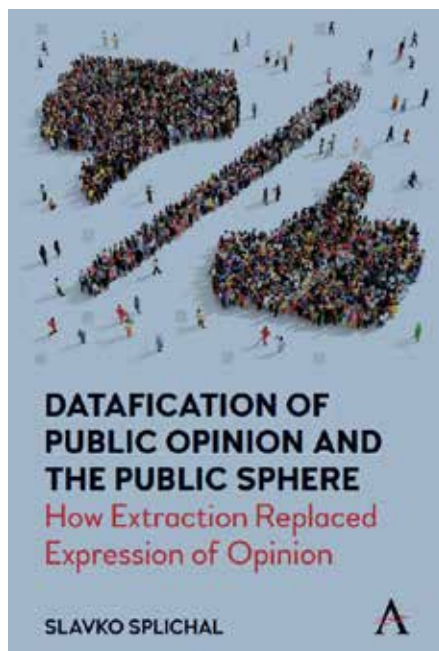
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Vasja Lebarič

The beginnings of the Centre date back to the 1970s, when in 1973 Tomo Martelanc acquired the UNESCO research project "External radio communication and international communication: broadcasts for Yugoslavia". In September 1971, UNESCO adopted an international media research programme, within which one of the most important topics was »research of international communication structures«, and the first project of this programme was carried out in Slovenia. A group of junior researchers formed to carry out the project. The three-year project was completed by publishing the monograph **External Radio Broadcasting and International Understanding: Broadcasting to Yugoslavia** (*Reports and papers on mass communication, no. 81; Paris: UNESCO 1977*). The report, which was the first of its kind in the

UNESCO series »Reports and papers on mass communication«, presented the results of the analysis of 15 foreign propaganda radio stations from 14 countries that broadcast in Yugoslav languages to audiences in former socialist Yugoslavia: basic features of news programmes of individual radio stations, common traits of radio propaganda, differences between radio stations of capitalist and socialist countries, and the possible effects of foreign radio propaganda on Yugoslav listeners and international understanding.

The successful completion of this internationaly resounding project gave rise to the establishment of Ljubljana's communication studies in the world, and was also the reason for the establishment of CSCR, which was initially led by France Vreg (to commemorate the centenary of his birth in 2022, CSCR published a collection of his works, **France Vreg: Demokratično komuniciranje/democratic Communication**), and after his retirement by Slavko Splichal. To date, CSCR has conducted a number of national and international research projects, and research programmes funded by the Slovenian Research Agency; has trained many young researchers and is a member of DESIRE, the Centre for the study of Democracy, Signification and Resistance, which brings together an interdisciplinary group of researchers from the Free University of Brussels, University of Ljubljana, University of Uppsala and affiliate members from other institutions; and is the leading partner in organising the EURICOM international colloquia on communication and culture.

With the financial support of ARRS, the Centre runs the longitudinal research programme



Mass Media, Public Sphere and Social Change, and has been implementing national and international projects since its foundation. The last decade of the Centre's operation has been marked by an increase in the number of researchers, continuing and strengthening the critical research of communication and media by studying the past and present in search of answers to the challenges of the future. The project **The Role of Information Inequalities in the Disintegration of a Multinational Society** (2019-2022) is an example of how the study of communication processes in the former SFRY can offer reflections on current problems, such as the role of journalists, their conception of freedom and responsibility, journalistic independence and media autonomy. **New Ways and Global Patterns of (Re)production of Online News in Modern Society** reflect the inability of traditional media to emerge from the shadow of digital giants such as Google, Facebook and Twitter. This project (2018-2021) was focused on the changes brought about by the platformization of communication in the public and private spheres, and the consequences and opportunities to increase the emancipatory power of the Internet. The issue of digitalization and the use of artificial intelligence, among other key development problems of the media and journalism in Slovenia, is also being examined as part of the latest targeted research project of the Center Media Landscape in Slovenia between Pluralisation and Homogenisation (2022-2025).

The beginnings of the Centre's involvement in the research programmes of the European Commission date back to 2005. In the 6th Framework Programme of the European Commission, the Centre participated in the project **Young People, the Internet and Civic Participation** (CIVICWEB, 2006-2009), carried out by a consortium of research institutes of the universities in London, Lund, Amsterdam, Budapest, Barcelona, Istanbul and Ljubljana. The project analysed the Internet's potential contribution to promoting civic engagement and participation among young people. In a three-year project within the EUROCORES (European Collaborative Research) programme of the European Science Foundation (2007-2010) on the

relationship between journalism and politics, **Political Communication Culture in Western Europe**, research teams in nine countries (Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland) studied the attitudes, norms and values that drive the relationship between political actors and journalists in order to detect the underlying patterns of political communication behaviours in Western democracies. By surveying 300 members of the political and media elites in each country, the study aimed to systematically map out the existing types of political communication cultures in Western Europe and to detect cross-cultural similarities and differences in relations between elites. In the project **Protect - The Right to International Protection: A Pendulum between Globalization and Nationalization** (2020-2023), which was financed by the European Commission within the Horizon 2020 Programme, a consortium of 11 universities from Europe, Canada and South Africa analysed media coverage of international migration and specifically the UN Global Compact on Refugees and the UN Global Compact on Migration, and the functioning of the international refugee protection system.

The **high quality of research** conducted at the Centre is reflected in the publication of numerous monographs and contributions in collected works published by prominent international publishers, as well as articles in international journals such as the *European Journal of Communication*, *Journal of Communication*, *Digital Journalism*, *Journalism*, *Journalism Studies*, *Javnost—The Public*, *Big Data & Society*, *AI & Society*, *Media, Culture & Society* and many others; memberships in editorial boards and councils of scientific journals abroad; and public recognitions of its members. In 1981, the **Boris Kidrič fund prize** was awarded to France Vreg, the founding father of communication research in Slovenia, for his work on public opinion and self-governing democracy, and in 1986 to Slavko Splichal for his study on mass communication between freedom and alienation. In 2000, Splichal received the national **Zois Award for outstanding scientific achievements** in communication research.

Members of the Centre actively participate in **international scientific associations** and the organisation of scientific workshops and conferences. Since 1987, they have co-organised international colloquia of the European Institute for Communication and Culture (EURICOM), taking place partly in Slovenia and partly in other EU countries and in the USA, where in-depth discussions about the media, democracy, journalism, public opinion and related topics, which are also the subject of research at CDK take place. So far, 33 colloquia have been organised with a total of nearly one thousand participants from all over the world. Papers and discussions from colloquia were published in many thematic issues of international scientific journals and in several books. In 1990 and 1995, conferences of the International Association for Media and Communication Research IAMCR/AIERI were organized in Bled and Portorož, in 2014 in Ljubljana the final conference of the European COST action Transforming audiences, transforming societies, and in 2024, the Centre will host the conference of the European Communication Research Association (ECREA) in Ljubljana.

Prepared by: Slavko Splichal



THE CENTRE FOR SOCIAL STUDIES OF SCIENCE

FOUNDED: 1980

The Centre for Social Studies of Science (CSSS) was established in 1980 at the Research Institute of the former Faculty for Sociology, Political Science and Journalism (today's Faculty of Social Sciences /FDV). The Centre's first head was Acad. Prof. Dr. Tine Hribar, but since 1997, the head of CSSS has been Prof. Dr. Franc Mali. CSSS is a small research group in the context of the very diverse R&D activities at FDV. From the beginning, the members of the Centre have been focused on the theoretical and empirical questions of STS (Science, Technology and Society) studies in their R&D activities. The number of the Centre's members has never exceeded three in its 25-year history. The main reason for this is that the R&D activity on the STS topic at FDV has never been institutionally organised as a program group, which in Slovenia enables stable and long-term financial support. As members of CSSS are involved in teaching activities at FDV, they were consistently thematically oriented also to basic epistemological questions of modern scientific development.

In the period 1980-2005, the members of CSSS conducted extensive quantitative empirical sociological investigations into the characteristics of the Slovenian scientific community. A good illustration of such sociological analysis was the longitudinal quantitative survey of a big sample of all Slovenian researchers (entitled: the Relationship between basic, applied and developmental science) performed at different time series. The active involvement of the members of CSSS in various applied and expert projects continued between 1995 and 2010. The focus here was on topics like the national innovation system, indicators for measuring R&D and innovation activity in Slovenia, the functioning of intermediary structures between academic science and the business-enterprise sector, the role of scientific centres of excellence etc. These R&D policy projects, which were strongly oriented to application, led to very productive collaboration with professional colleagues from other research centres at FDV (e.g. Centre for International Relations) and other research insti-

tutes in Slovenia (e.g. Institute for Economic Research). From 2006 onwards, CSSS has intensively cooperated with colleagues from the Centre for Methodology and Informatics at FDV. They cooperated on the following topic: the research on social networks in science and their impact on scientific excellence. At the same time, the members of CSSS engaged as partners in many EU projects (e.g. Ethics in Public Policy-making - the case of human enhancement, Synthetic Biology – engaging with new and emerging science and technology etc.) The cooperation with colleagues from the Centre for Methodology and Informatics and partnership in EU projects contributed to publishing many co-authored scientific articles in highly reputable international STS journals, *i. e. Science and Public Policy, Scientometrics, Nanoethics, Neuroethics, Science Communication, Innovation, etc.*

The strong focus on publishing abroad contributes to the visibility of this small STS research group in the wider international

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JUNE 17th, 18th, 19th

Online
stsitaliaconference.spazioiris.it/login

DIS/ENTANGLING
TECHNOSCIENCE

TRACKS OF THEMATIC STREAM 3
rethinking science, technology and innovation
emerging challenges

TRACK 14
The new role of R&D networks and evaluation processes in the time of "Big science"
Convenors: Franc Mali (University of Ljubljana), Anuška Ferligoj (University of Ljubljana)

scientific arena in the field of STS studies. Their active engagement in international professional associations (EASST, ESA) has also allowed some international events to be held under the CSSS umbrella. For example, CSSS has been the local organizer of SSTNET scientific meetings, i.e. the section of sociologists of science at European Sociological Association twice, in 2002 and 2018. CSSS was also the local organizer of the annual meeting of the international research network Knowledge Navigating Landscape in 2019. From 2017 to 2019, Dr. Jennie Olofsson from Mid Sweden University was a guest researcher (under the framework of Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship) at CSSS.

Prepared by: Franc Mali



THE CENTRE FOR WELFARE STUDIES

FOUNDED: 1984

The main research focus of the Centre for Welfare Studies is the quality of life. The focus on the quality of life has its roots in 1984 with the longitudinal project Quality of Life in Slovenia, which started at the then Institute of Sociology and Philosophy in Ljubljana and continued at the Faculty of Social Sciences after joining the University of Ljubljana. The study of the quality of life and welfare systems has been part of both theoretical and applied research in support of concrete policies in the areas of housing, social security, ageing, community, non-governmental organisations and health at the local, national and international levels. Recently, members of the Centre have been active in the areas that are mentioned below.

The members of the Centre conduct research in the field of social policy and welfare regimes. Within this framework, they conduct important international comparative studies on the development of welfare states. They examine the general changes in the role of

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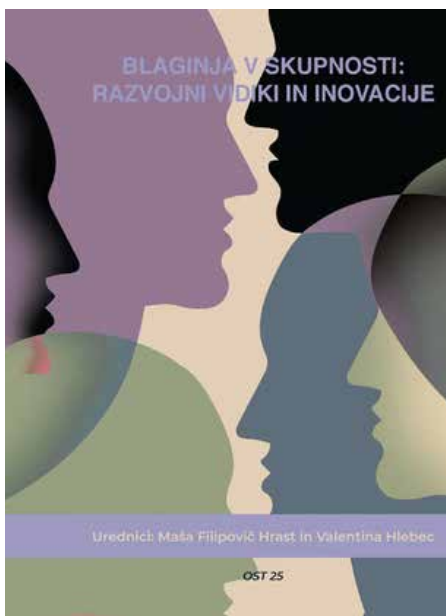
the welfare state and its individual systems, e.g. social security, family policy, care policy and health policy. In addition, they emphasise the importance of examining opinions about the functioning of the Slovenian welfare state, as well as attitudes towards the rights that individuals should have and the inequalities between different groups of beneficiaries. The former was researched in the Our Children's Europe project, conducted within the Norface Welfare States Future (2015-2018) and published in several articles and monographs in Slovenia and abroad.

In addition, the members of the Centre are also particularly active in the field of sociology of ageing, where they conduct research on the quality of life of the elderly, the quality of housing and care for the elderly, care work and gender differences in the care for the elderly. In this area, the Centre has led numerous projects over the past 15 years, including four research projects: Social Integration of the Elderly in Slovenia (2004-2007), Intergenerational Solidarity in Slovenia (2009-2011) and Exploring and Understanding Welfare Determinants of Community Care for the Elderly in Slovenia and Austria (2017-2020), as well as international projects such as the innovative Horizon 2020 intervention project Me-We - Psychosocial Support to Promote Mental Health and Well-being of Adolescent Caregivers in Europe (2018-2021).

Since its inception, the Centre's members have continuously addressed issues of social exclusion and, in particular, housing exclusion and housing policy. High-profile comparative international research has been conducted on

topics such as housing mobility, determinants of housing standards, moving to the first home for young people, the role of home ownership, reasons for moving or staying for older people. The former is evident in the cooperation on several projects such as DEMHOW (2009-2012) and Housing Survey (2005), Innovative Housing for Older People in Slovenia (2015-2018), The Model of Quality Ageing in Place in Slovenia and Public space for the needs of the elderly in large housing estates in Slovenia (2020-2023). Research activities also focus on exploring the situation of the most vulnerable social groups and aspects of social exclusion, including changes in social and housing policies. Of crucial importance is the continuous cooperation with the European Observatory on Homelessness, participation in international projects (e.g. GINI - Growing Inequalities Impacts 2010-2013) and leading research projects such as Homelessness in Slovenia (2020-2023).

In addition, members working in the field of community studies focus on exploring community action, the potential of collaboration to improve the quality of life, and examine community as an essential component of welfare. They study civil society organisations (CIVICUS Civil Society Index 2009; the World Alliance for Citizen Participation and the Centre for Social Investment 2008-2010, Targeted Research Project The Potential of Non-Governmental Organisations in Slovenia for Addressing the Needs of Local Communities 2022-2023). They also study the social economy more broadly, focusing on social entrepreneurship (Update of the mapping of social enterprises and their eco-systems in Europe, European



Commission (2017-2019). In relation to the quality of life issues, members of the Centre address both conceptual dilemmas and determinants of welfare (state, civil society, community, family) and individual aspects, e.g. in the field of sociology of health. Within the latter, members deal with the social determinants of health, health inequalities, health policy, health and civil society organisations, as well as inter-professional cooperation and the inclusion of beneficiaries in health care, and mental health and trauma.

In the field of social informatics, individual members conduct work on the quality of social network measurement, cognitive methods for questionnaires as well as qualitative methodology and mixed method approach.

IMPORTANT RESEARCH RESULTS

The members of the Centre are authors of numerous publications in Slovenia and abroad. They publish in high-ranking journals on individual subject areas (e.g. *Housing Theory and Society*, *Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, *The Journals of Gerontology*, *Journal of International and Comparative Social Policy*, *Journal of European Social Policy*, *Sustainability*, *Journal of Youth Studies*) as well as chapters of monographs published by renowned international publishers (Oxford, Palgrave Macmillan, Elsevier, Routledge and others). Below some of them are highlighted:

FILIPOVIČ HRAST, Maša, SENDI, Richard, HLEBEC, Valentina, KERBLER, Boštjan Kefo. Moving house and housing preferences in older age in Slovenia. *Housing Theory and Society*, ISSN 1403-6096, 2019, vol. 36, no. 1, str. 76-91, RAKAR, Tatjana, CHUNG, Heejung, ZIMMERMANN, Katharina, SCHØYEN, Mi Ah, FILIPOVIČ HRAST, Maša. What and whom are family policies for?: unpacking the meaning of citizens' support for family policy across Europe. *Journal of international and comparative social policy*. Mar. 2022, vol. 38, no. 1, str. 1-14

KAVČIČ, Matic, PETROVČIČ, Andraž, DOLNIČAR, Vesna. Model of acceptance and use of market-ready home-based e-care services: a qualitative study with care receivers and informal caregivers. *International journal of human-computer interaction*. 2022, vol., no., str. 1-15,

KUHAR, Metka, ZAGER KOCJAN, Gaja. Adverse childhood experiences and somatic symptoms in adulthood: a moderated mediation effects of disturbed self-organization and resilient coping. *Psychological trauma*. Nov. 2022, vol. 14, no. 8, str. 1288-1298



RODRIGUES, Ricardo, FILIPOVIČ HRAST, Maša, KADI, Selma, HURTADO MONARRES, Miriam, HLEBEC, Valentina. Life course pathways into intergenerational caregiving. *The journals of gerontology. Series B, Psychological sciences and social sciences*. Jul. 2022, vol. 77, no. 7, str. 1305-1314

LEU, Agnes, HLEBEC, Valentina, RAKAR, Tatjana, et al. The 2021 cross-national and comparative classification of in-country awareness and policy responses to 'young carers'. *Journal of youth studies*. 2022.

Prepared by: Maša Filipovič Hrast

DEFENCE RESEARCH CENTRE

FOUNDED: 1985

Research in the field of defence studies became more organised and systematic with the first empirical research activities conducted in the early 1980s. This led to the establishment of the DRC in 1985. From 1982 to 2023, research in the field of defence studies can be divided into several periods. Each given period is named according to the prevailing social/security circumstances that have strongly influenced the quantity and content of the research work.

In addition to the realisation of its fundamental goal of gathering empirical data, forming new

theoretical concepts and expanding the existing ones, during the first “Yugoslav” Period (1982-1989), the objective of the research was to influence the development of the former defence and security system to make it more reasonable and rational. We examined the phenomenon of hyper-institutionalisation that caused system entropy and alienated the decision-making process in the narrow military-political structures of the former state, which had opposed the declared process of “socialising defence and security” matters. During this period, research mostly focused on the use of armed violence in the international politics of socialist countries, along with the following topics: readiness of young individuals to opt for a profession in the defence or military field; development changes in the defence-security system; and practical topics in the field of civil defence.

During the independence period (1990-1991), the dominant research project was related to the national security of Slovenia. We explored the impact of the political and economic changes on the security of Slovenia, which at that time, was still part of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY). The project also examined possible systemic and organisational security solutions for an independent state in the making. The research focused on identifying views, opinions, beliefs and values on public safety, defence and the military. It also examined the national security models designed and proposed by the various political parties and social movements that were established in Slovenia during the independence period. By doing so, we aimed at identifying a possible model of national security that would be legitimate, rational and efficient. In relation to this,

we conducted a survey among the reserve military officers, establishing the possibility of the vocational integration of this structure into the emerging Slovenian armed forces. At the same time, research of the demilitarisation of Slovenia and its national security was conducted. In the research, we examined the conditions under which demilitarisation would be a viable choice for a state in the making. We also identified the various issues, dilemmas and arguments that informed political decisions. Following the Ten Day War in Slovenia, the first research project focused on the engagement of Territorial Defence members in armed clashes with the Yugoslav People’s Army. Slovenia’s Ten Day War offered researchers a unique opportunity to empirically test our defence-related hypotheses and the immediate post-war research was very much focused in this direction. The established characteristics of the armed conflict and the strengths and weaknesses of the functioning of the Territorial Defence were considered in the development of the Slovenian Armed Forces. The project, which was entitled “The Basis of National Security of the Republic of Slovenia” and concluded the research work of the independence period, was crucial for the creation of a national security system since it was developmentally and practically oriented and took account of theoretical-conceptual, geopolitical, military-strategic, systemic and organisational considerations with regard to the security of a modern state.

The post-independence period of research (1992-1997) brought about research projects that examined the individual fragments of the war for Slovenia, while the analysis was also extended to other areas of the former SFRY that

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Uroš Svete

experienced armed conflicts. This period also marked the continuation of ongoing projects, which became the basis for the formation and consolidation of the national security structures and politics, and also brought more sophisticated topics into the fields of military sociology, particularly the areas of civil-military relations in contemporary society, defence restructuring and conversion, and military profession. The period was also characterised by the internationalisation of the DRC in the early 1990s, as we began to receive international research commissions, as interest in the former SFRY increased considerably as a result of the armed conflicts. In addition, an increasing number of problems were identified arising from the former socialist system and its diversified defence and military apparatus that needed to be explored and practically resolved.

The integrative research period (1998-2001) began with the projects Security Integrations in Europe and the Slovenian Security Policy and NATO, both of which attempted to explain the European security architecture in terms of the processes of European integration and NATO enlargement, the importance of individual security and defence institutions and the role of Slovenia in these processes. Both projects revealed that security cannot be guaranteed solely through a national framework and security efforts cannot focus solely on military problems, but must also take account of a number of non-military threats and security measures. During this period, the inclusion of the DRC research team in international projects was also reflected in the active participation of researchers in international scientific associations, such as ISA, IStA, IUS AFS, IPSA and ERGOMAS. In fact, the amount of international research work undertaken by the DRC rose significantly and nearly exceeded the scope of national research. Efforts persisted in discovering answers to the problems related to developing a national security system in Slovenia as evidenced by projects such as "Slovenian Youth and the Military Profession", "Hierarchy and the Structure of Documents in the Field of National Security", and "Manning the Armed Forces". The latter was used as an expert basis to suspend conscription and introduce an All-Volunteer Force in Slovenia.

The Period of Developmental Research (2002-2007) focused on research within the framework of the national research programme, "Knowledge for Security and Peace". We began researching new fields, such as crisis management, which brought about a theoretical-conceptual, structural and primarily functional approach to the exploration of crises and responses to them. During this period, the project entitled "The Definition and Protection of Critical Infrastructure" identified the most vulnerable structures and processes in the country and formulated proposals for their protection. This period was also marked by commencing new studies of peacekeeping operations and missions in which the participation of the military, the police and civilian functional experts was explored from the perspective of social sciences (especially military sociology). We also studied the importance of intelligence services in contemporary asymmetric warfare and the role of special forms of organisation in this field in recent Slovenian history. During this period of research, projects that examined human resources for the functioning of the defence system continued. Our research focused on the provision of security in Europe, in particular South Eastern Europe and the functioning of the international security structures, especially the division of missions between NATO and the EU.

The final and most recent period has been the crisis period (2008-2023). It brought about the global financial, economic and social crisis, which has limited research opportunities, migrant crisis in Europe that increased securitization of migrations, health crisis triggered by COVID-19 with its security and other social implications, and aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine. This has been a period of fruitful fundamental research, accompanied by important breakthroughs in the field of applied research, financed also by the European Commission. We have also been involved in the following areas: the security sector at the global and national level; the transformation of defence policies and systems; EU's military and civilian crisis management, and conflict prevention; the concept of human security, terrorism and organised crime in the Balkans; the terrorist threat to air traffic in Europe; evacuation in

the case of a nuclear disaster; preparedness for radiological crisis in Europe; political radicalization; energy security, Incident Command System, and military families.

The primary general accomplishments of the DRC since its establishment are its research-based criticism of the defence system in the former SFRY, the creation of a scientific basis for establishing the national security system of Slovenia, its critical evaluation, development and the resolution of practical problems, integration of researchers in international research, and integration of individual members of the DRC in the management of the Slovenian defence system, including the highest position of the Minister of Defence (held by Anton Grizold and Ljubica Jelušič). The DRC members have managed FSS and international scientific associations, participated in the education of post-graduate and doctoral students, and in the scientific publication efforts, among which the following stand out: Jelena Juvan's, Erik Kopač's and Iztok Prezelj's ("Public dilemmas about security measures in the field of civil aviation" published in *Security Journal*, 2021), Marjan Malešič's ("Disaster response from a comparative perspective" published in *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2020), Janja Vuga Beršnak's and Iztok Prezelj's ("Recognizing youth radicalization in schools: Slovenian frontline school workers in search of a compass" published in *International Sociology*, 2021), Rok Zupančič's ("EU peace-building in the north of Kosovo and psychosocial implications for the locals: a bottom up perspective on normative power Europe" published in *Journal of Balkan & Near Eastern Studies*, 2019) and Simona Kukovič's ("How novel coronavirus has shaken public trust in decision-making institutions: comparative analysis of selected European Union members" published in *Journal of Comparative Politics*, 2022). The seven monographs (see photo) published during the period 1992-2021, which summarise the key research findings of DRC since its establishment are a unique and valuable publishing achievement.

Prepared by: Marjan Malešič

THE RESEARCH CENTRE FOR STRATEGY AND GOVERNANCE

FOUNDED: 1989

The Research Centre for Strategy and Governance (RCSG) was founded in 1989. In the first decade of its operation it was known as the Centre for Strategy and Evaluation. With the coming of the new millennium, the name was changed to reflect the shifting emphasis on strategic and governance issues in the public and private sectors. The core research activity is pursuing the long-term research programme entitled Network Governance of Public and Private Sectors in the field of organisational studies. In addition to the core programme, we collaborate in the EU and international research projects, engage in applied projects within the national CRP scheme for the benefit of the government, ministries and other public users, and provide consulting services to organisations in the public and private sectors. The research we conduct relates to questions of network management on the interpersonal, inter-organisational and inter-institutional levels:

Thematic area: Personal networks and civil society

Personal networks and social capital of the general public are explored from the perspective of

HEAD:

Andrej Rus

MEMBERS:

Laura Mrčela
Hajdeja Iglič
Helena Kovačič
Tibor Rutar
Marko Orel
Nina Bandelj

their potential for the public's participation in the civil society and political sphere, collaboration within local communities and engagement in new forms of work. Our research projects have focused on the dynamics of network formation, changes in values with an emphasis on trust and tolerance, political behaviour and interpersonal political communication, problems of social integration in the context of social inequality, and new forms of work and collaboration (co-working, research collaboration).

Thematic area: Inter- and intra-organisational networks

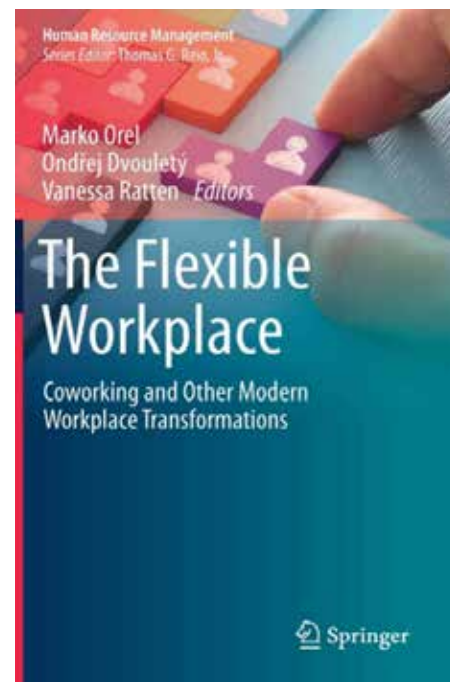
Private sector organisations use the network approach for everything from supply chain management, the management of strategic alliances to new product development and marketing. State institutions are moving away from models inspired by new public management that combine bureaucratic and market controls to new forms of governance that are based on the coordination of networks of heterogeneous actors with diverging interests, values and competencies. Our research projects in this subject area address questions of the transformation of the welfare state and the development of new public management, privatisation and corporate governance of state-owned companies, inter-organisational learning, the development of small and medium-sized companies, leadership competencies and business process redesign in the public and private sectors.

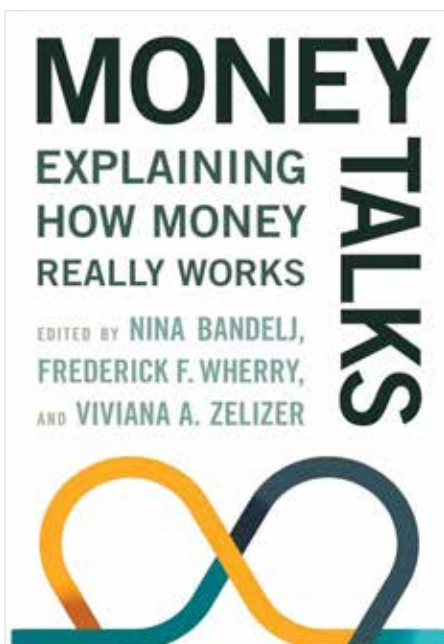
Major achievements

Research

Members of the RCSG have published numerous books, book chapters, articles in domestic and international journals, and opinion pieces in

daily newspapers. Some of the book titles are the following: *Social State and Welfare Society, Values of Slovenians and Europeans; Privatization and Human Rights; Social Capital, Corporate Governance, and Managerial Discretion; From Communists to Foreign Capitalists; Economic Sociology of Work, Rational Choice and Democratic Government; Capitalism for Realists: Virtues and Vices of Modern Economy, The Flexible Workspace*. In addition to numerous book chapters, the members published papers in *American Sociological Review, International Sociology, American Behavioral Scientist, East European Politics and Society, Social Forces, Research Policy, Teorija in praksa, Zdravstveno varstvo, Družboslovne razprave* etc.





Teaching.

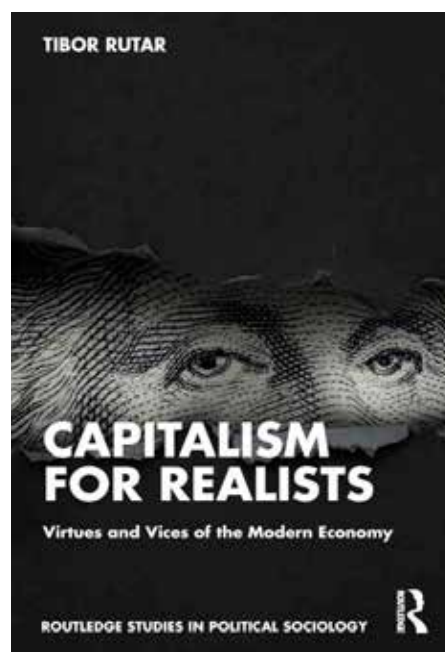
Members are engaged in teaching in various study programs and Universities (University of Ljubljana, University of Maribor, University of California Irvine, Prague University of Economics and Business). One of the lasting legacies of this research centre was the scientific master's programme Management of Non-profit Organisations that has trained hundreds of students who today hold key positions in the public and private sectors. We also mentored 11 doctoral students at the University of Ljubljana and several more at other universities. The head of the research program has also coordinated the Erasmus Mundus joint degree programme on Comparative Local Development with five partner universities.

Social impact and stakeholder relations

Members of the CSG have maintained a high public profile by engaging in public debates and advising key decision-makers. In the decade following the political transition in the 1990s, the research centre was the key intellectual forum for understanding the transformation processes of the welfare state and the public sector. As the emphasis shifted to privatisation and the governance of state-owned enterprises, the members worked with policymakers to improve corporate governance in practice. Recently, in the shadow of the economic crisis, we have been working with relevant stakeholders to show how collaboration and the formation of strategic coalitions can lead to the mobilisation of social resources. In the good tradition of public sociology, some of the members

work with civil society organizations in the area of financial consumer protection rising public awareness and debate by publications in the media. Another measure of the social impact is the election of one of our, now former, members to the permanent post of the Higher Judge in the Administrative Court of Slovenia and the election of two members to the State Council in the periods 1997–2002 and 2007–2012. Our program director has served as the president of Slovenian Sociological Association from 2020 to 2023.

Prepared by: Andrej Rus



THE CENTRE FOR METHODOLOGY AND INFORMATICS

For over three decades, the Centre for Methodology and Informatics (CMI) has been playing an important international role in addressing scientific questions at the junction of social science methodology, statistics and informatics. With its research activities, the CMI has contributed considerably to the development of today's highly prominent fields of network analysis, data science and Internet studies. The Centre's establishment was initiated in 1992 and for a long time led by Prof. emeritus Anuška Ferligoj, recipient of the Zois Award, and affiliated with

HEAD:

Gregor Petrič

MEMBERS:

Sara Atanasova

Marjan Cugmas

Neža Geč

Tina Kogovšek

Anja Kolak

Luka Kronegger

Bojana Lobe

Andrej Mrvar

Špela Orehek

Kristina Rakinič

Damjan Škulj

Lovro Šubelj

Fabio Ashtar Telarico

Eva Vrtačič

Aleš Žiberna

ASSOCIATE MEMBER:

Anuška Ferligoj

the Institute of Social Sciences at the Faculty of Social Sciences (University of Ljubljana). The CMI is also in charge of the Social Science Methodology, Statistics and Informatics Programme Group. Currently, the research centre hosts 19 researchers.

The CMI's research activities can be divided into four main subject areas, where recent important scientific publications are also highlighted below:

Network analysis the group deals with all aspects of (social) network analysis, from the measurement of social networks (both with classical survey approaches and scraping online data), the development and evaluation of methods for the analysis and graphical representation of networks (in particular, methods for the discovery of clusters and the simplification of networks, and methods for the discovery of key authors and publications), to the application of network analysis in the field of scientific collaboration, digital technologies. Inseparable from the above is the development of software for network analysis, including the 'blockmodeling' software library for the R programming language and the internationally acclaimed Pajek software package, which allows the analysis of very large networks and is used by the most prestigious universities and large companies worldwide.

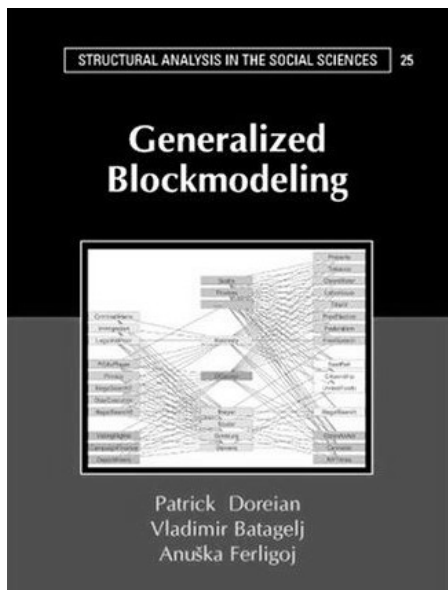
- Cugmas, M., & Žiberna, A. (2023). Approaches to blockmodeling dynamic networks: A Monte Carlo simulation study. *Social Networks*, 73, 7-19.
- Doreian, P., Batagelj, V., & Ferligoj, A. (Eds.). (2020). *Advances in network clustering and blockmodeling*. John Wiley & Sons.

FOUNDED: 1992

- De Nooy, W., Mrvar, A., & Batagelj, V. (2018). *Exploratory social network analysis with Pajek: Revised and expanded edition for updated software* (Vol. 46). Cambridge university press.

Measuring and explaining phenomena in the information society: researchers at CMI work on innovative methodological approaches to information society research, including improving survey designs, optimising response in online surveys, developing and validating measurement instruments. The researchers study the above in the context of eHealth and online health communities (the quality of online health information, impact of internet application usage on patient-doctor relationship, empowerment process), social aspects of information security (the role of organiza-





tional structures and process in information security behavior), children's activities on the Internet (digital well-being and the co-presence of digital technologies in interactions and communication), and digital cultures.

- Petrič, G., Cugmas, M., Petrič, R., & Atanasova, S. (2023). The quality of informational social support in online health communities: A content analysis of cancer-related discussions. *Digital health*, 9.
- Atanasova, S., Kamin, T., & Petrič, G. (2018). The benefits and challenges of online professional-patient interaction: Comparing views between users and health professional moderators in an online health community. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 83, 106-118.
- Orehek, Š., & Petrič, G. (2021). A systematic review of scales for measuring information security culture. *Information & Computer Security*, 29(1), 133-158

Developing the integration of quantitative and qualitative research approaches: involving an iterative combination of both approaches in offline and online environments. This type of methodological research is carried out in the context of the above-mentioned research on children and young people in the digital society and in the context of research on social processes in online health communities.

- Lobe, B., Morgan, D., & Hoffman, K. A. (2020). Qualitative data collection in an era of social distancing. *International journal of qualitative methods*, 19, 1609406920937875.

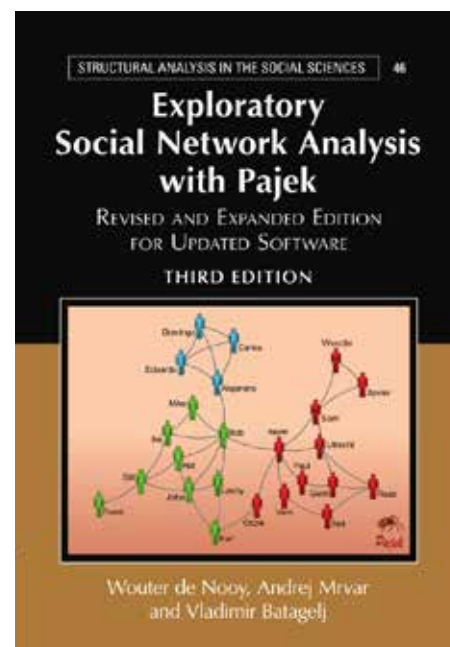
Development of mathematical models in social sciences: development of Markov chains in discrete time, development of generalised models of risk and the uses of such models in social sciences. The publication of a pioneering paper in the *Applied Mathematics and Computation* journal that stimulated intensive research in a field that has come to be known as inexact Markov chains in continuous time, should be mentioned here.

- Škulj, D. (2015). Efficient computation of the bounds of continuous time imprecise Markov chains. *Applied mathematics and computation*, 250, 165-180.
- Škulj, D. (2022). Normal cones corresponding to credal sets of lower probabilities. *International Journal of Approximate Reasoning*, 150, 35-54.

Members of CMI regularly publish their research findings at international scientific conferences and the most reputable journals and publishers in the field (e.g. Cambridge University Press, *Social Networks*, *Scientometrics*, *The Information Society*, *Journal of Mathematical Sociology*, *Applied Mathematics & Computation*, *Cyberpsychology, Social Networking*, *Behavior*, *Computers in Human Behavior*, *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*, *PloS One*), in addition, they place particular emphasis on the wider dissemination of scientific knowledge through participation in:

- the organisation and implementation of a number of study programmes in Slovenia (the Social Informatics study programme at FDV on all three study levels, the MSc and PhD inter-faculty studies in Statistics),
- organisation and collaboration in a range of international schools (e.g. ECPR Summer and Winter School in Methods and Techniques),
- organisation of international conferences (e.g. EUSN, IFCS, ESRA, SloNet annual meetings).

The research centre also plays an important integrative role at the Faculty of Social Sciences since members regularly collaborate on the basis of the developed methodological findings and solutions with other research centres at the Faculty as part of national or international projects (collaboration is especially strong with the Centre for Social Studies of Science, Centre for Political Science Research, Centre for Social Psychology, Social Communication Research Centre, Centre for International Relations). The CMI members also collaborate with a number of national (e.g., NIJZ, MedOverNet) and international institutions (e.g., KnowBe4) and actively participate in national and international projects.



Members' activities also involve membership in editorial boards of reputable scientific journals in the field of social science methodology, statistics and the information society. Members of the Centre have also received numerous national and international awards for scientific excellence.

Prepared by: Gregor Petrič

THE CENTRE FOR SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Centre for Social Psychology (CSP) was founded in 1994 within the Institute of Social Sciences at the Faculty of Social Sciences by Mirjana Ule, the founder of social psychology in Slovenia. Since its foundation, the CSP members have sought to collaborate in the development of emancipatory social sciences that actively advocate for social and political justice. To this end, the Centre carries out basic, applied and developmental research projects analysing macro social issues - the processes, practices and institutions that manifest themselves in the micro spheres of

HEAD:

Tanja Kamin

MEMBERS:

Sinja Čož
Maja Jančič
Dora Matejak
Marjeta Mencin
Nina Perger
Alenka Švab
Andreja Vezovnik
Andreja Živoder
Alja Pehar
Hana Hunjet

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

Tanja Renner
Mirjana Ule
Vesna Leskošek

everyday life and create and sustain social inequalities.

The CSP researchers consider everyday life to be strongly influenced by macro processes and structural conditions (e.g., changes in the labour market, familialisation, health and environmental risks, opportunities to access credible information and communication competences, access to resources, rights and welfare, normalising technologies, etc.) that legitimise asymmetric power relations and create inequalities, stigma and different types of social exclusion. At the same time, everyday life is also considered and explored as a space with emancipatory potential for generating social change. With this approach, CSP strives to:

- analyse and explore social structures (macro level) as they are reproduced at the level of everyday life (micro level) and,
- analyse and highlight people's capacity to cope with socially constructed challenges and highlight ways to overcome them.

Zaradi usmeritve k temam vsakdanjega življenja članice CSP uporabljajo in razvijajo raznovrstne metodologije družboslovnega raziskovanja – kvantitativne in predvsem kvalitativne: skupinske in individualne intervjuje, analize diskurzov, študije primerov, biografije, interakcijske strategije, ki temeljijo na raziskovanju prikrite vsebine in oblik vsakdanjega ravnanja ali konkretnih življenjskih dogodkov, ter njihove povezanosti z analizo odnosov podrejanja in upiranja ter alternativ družbenemu redu.

CSP's main research areas are:

FOUNDED: 1994

- 1. Youth studies:** characteristics and changes of youth and young people, youth values, youth quality of life, socially vulnerable groups of young people, youth participation and youth subcultures, school dropouts.
- 2. Family life, intimate partnerships, and sexuality:** changes in family life courses, transitions to parenthood, motherhood, fatherhood, family life in Slovenia.;
- 3. Studies of everyday life:** studies of lifestyles, studies of gender and sexuality, health care practices, dietary practices, sustainable consumption, body self-images, ideologies of health and illness, poverty, inequality, precarity, etc
- 4. Life course and transition studies:** changes in growing up, transitions from youth to adulthood.
- 5. Studies of discrimination** based on ethnicity, religion, civil status, gender and sexuality.
- 6. Social psychological studies:** identity studies, discrimination and racism studies, psychology of communication and communication competences.

Current CSP domestic and international research projects:

EU/H2020: NEWCOMERS - New clean energy communities in a changing European energy system; ACADEMIC REFUGE - Strategic Partnership to Promote Core Academic Values and Welcome Refugees and Threatened Academics to European Campuses; Inhibiting and Promoting Factors of Adult Population's Response to the Prevention and Health Promotion Programme Together for Health; Everyday life and life course of older people living in poverty; TAP Computer-assisted multilingual analysis



of news discourse with contextual word embeddings; Gender equality in education; JAC-ARDI: Joint Action for Cardiovascular

In 2023, the scientists who presented themselves in the Delo column Scientist Changes the World recommended the book *Zasebno je politično*. Critical studies of everyday life, among the 24 books to read.

Prepared by: Tanja Kamin

THE SLOVENIAN SOCIAL SCIENCE DATA ARCHIVES

Slovenian Social Science Data Archives (Arhiv družboslovnih podatkov – ADP) provides the acquisition, archiving and publication of high-quality research data that hold the potential for a variety of uses. As a national research infrastructure programme, it is part of the Network of Research and Infrastructural Centres at the University of Ljubljana (MRIC UL). ADP implements long-term preservation of relevant, reusable research data, particularly those related to Slovenian society or otherwise relevant to Slovenian social science research, irrespective of geographical boundaries. Since its establishment in 1997, ADP has been archiving and preserving data, as well as making them available for further scientific, educational, and other use. Data acquisition from social science research is implemented in accordance with established standards and recommendations for long-term digital preservation, which ADP proves by obtaining an international CoreTrustSeal certificate (CTS) in adherence to the open science principles.

HEAD:

Janez Štebe

MEMBERS:

Sonja Bezjak
Irena Vipavc Brvar
Polona Mlinarič
Brigita Bočkaj
Maja Dolinar
Ana Inkret
Sergeja Masten
Gregor Žibert
Meta Pirc

The ADP collection comprises over 700 studies which are accessible to the research community and other interested public via an online catalogue. The ADP is one of the few social science data archives in the world whose collection dates as far as the 1960s and can thus enable comparisons over such a long period. In addition to research data, ADP preserves detailed documentation on studies, including descriptions of research methods, research tools, reports, and other relevant materials. Special attention is paid to thematic collections, such as data on the social aspects of the Covid-19 pandemic, and ethnic and migration studies resulting from efforts to increase the transparency of research.

Based on knowledge of the national environment and international experiences in the field of data service and infrastructure, ADP participates in public debates, cooperates in working groups, organises workshops and consultations, and helps prepare guidelines on access to open data in Slovenia, where it has been among the first to implement open science principles. In Scientific Research and Innovation Law (ZZrID, 2021), open science is defined as one of the core pillars and is supported by national, EU and other international strategies. In accordance with open science principles, it can be expected that important and the most interesting publicly funded social science data will be published and become permanently available to researchers for analyses of all kinds of issues. ADP supports the various stakeholders in the research community, inter alia scientific journals, in implementing the open science principles, including citation and accessibility of data, which the findings in scientific publishing are based on.

FOUNDED: 1997

Changing editorial policies of scientific journals is an important contribution to greater transparency of scientific publications.

ADP is actively involved in activities of the Consortium of European Social Sciences Data Archives (CESSDA), a European social science infrastructure consortium, where ADP is the data services provider for social sciences for the Republic of Slovenia and Slovenian research community. CESSDA membership opens up opportunities for collaboration in data work among social scientists, humanists and researchers from other disciplines as well as from other countries. One of the many advantages of cooperation at European level is



Source: <https://eoscfuture.eu/>

the standardised development of services that enable and promote the internationalisation of social science data. The CESSDA Data Catalogue, which includes research descriptions from the national collections of the consortium member countries, is one of them. The CESSDA Data Management Expert Guide training tool and its Research Data Management Plan checklist provide an opportunity to cooperate more effectively in an increasingly integrated European research area. The CESSDA Data Archiving Guide, which has been produced by the European social science data archives to help with the induction of new data archivists, serves a similar function.

Through its active involvement in the international CESSDA consortium, ADP is one of the most advanced data services and infrastructures which shape European and global trends through their activities.

ADP is also involved in a number of international projects funded by the European Commission. These are mostly inter- or trans-disciplinary projects, ranging from the technical development of tools or research infrastructures (SSHOC, TRIPLE, EOSC Future) to the advancement of knowledge among stakeholders in the research community (BY-COVID, RltrainPlus) and support for data re-use in the social sciences (COORDINATE).

ADP colleagues are also involved in the professional activities of the international Research Data Alliance (RDA) and have contributed to the establishment of the RDA Slovenia node.

Prepared by: Sonja Brezjak



SPozNAJ

PODPORA PRI UVAJANJU NAČEL ODPRTE ZNANOSTI V SLOVENIJI

Trajanje / Duration
01/2023 - 06/2026

Sredstva / Total budget
4.031.728,66 EUR

EU sredstva / EU funding
3.999.994,81 EUR

S projektom **SPOZNAJ** bo konzorcij 20 slovenskih javnih raziskovalnih organizacij in **Centralne tehniške knjižnice Univerze v Ljubljani** izvedel prilagoditve svojega delovanja v skladu z načeli odprte znanosti, ki bodo prispevale k dvigu zavedanja in razumevanja pomena odprte znanosti ter spodbudile deljenje raziskav po načelih FAIR. Projekt se izvaja v okviru ukrepov Načrta za okrevanje in odpornost.

*With the **SPOZNAJ** project, a consortium of 20 Slovenian public research organisations and the **Central Technical Library at the University of Ljubljana** will align their operations with the open science principles, which will raise awareness and understanding of the importance of open science and promote the FAIR principles of sharing research. The project is part of the Recovery and Resilience Plan.*

Financira Evropska unija NextGenerationEU

NOC NAČRT ZA OKREVANJE IN ODORNOST

REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA MINISTRSTVO ZA VISOKO ŠOLSTVO ZNANOST IN INOVACIJE

Partneri in sodelavci: 

Source: <https://projekt-spoznaj.si/>

THE RESEARCH CENTRE FOR COMPARATIVE LAW

The Research Centre for Comparative Law (RCCL) employs an interdisciplinary research methodology in co-operation with scholars in Comparative Corporate Law, Comparative Corporate Governance, EU Law, Shareholders Law, Labour and Social Law and Media Law. In addition to contributing to new knowledge, it also transmits research achievements and knowledge to users - mainly to legislators and national strategies developers.

The main objectives of the Centre are developing various bases for governmental strategies and legislative processes, and designing the pedagogical process at the Faculty of Social Sciences (FSS).

The Research Centre for Comparative Law implements basic and targeted ARRS research projects, participates in international projects and in UL FSS program groups.

Here are the phases and results of some of the more recent research projects carried out by the RCCL:

J5-2561 Corporate Governance of Public Services – between Efficiency and Social Responsibility, Period: 1.9.2020 - 31.8.2023, Head: Prof. Dr. Rado Bohinc

The first part of the research covered an analysis of the state of corporate governance in

the field of public services (public institutions, public agencies) in the Republic of Slovenia (empirical and descriptive analysis) and a comparative analysis of the contemporary challenges of effective and socially responsible management.

J7-7229 KORPORATIVNO UPRAVLJANJE DRUŽB V DRŽAVNI LASTI: SODOBNI IZZIVI IN DILEME ZA SLOVENIJO IN EU 1. 2016–31. 12. 2018 (NOSILEC DR. RADO BOHINC)

The first part of the research covered an analysis of the state of corporate governance in the field of public services (public institutions, public agencies) in the Republic of Slovenia (empirical and descriptive analysis) and a comparative analysis of the contemporary challenges of effective and socially responsible management.

The second part of the research project provided an analysis of existing corporate governance models of public institutions and public agencies and developing potential models for more effective and socially responsible management of public institutions (in higher education and health)

The third part of the project is dedicated to drafting concrete proposals for legal instruments and proposals for legislative changes and amendments to the legislation in selected areas. The goal is to improve the organization and corporate governance of individual types of public institutions and public agencies and to implement appropriate organizational and corporate governance models in selected areas of public service delivery.

FOUNDED: 1997

J7-7229 Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises: Contemporary Issues and Challenges for Slovenia and EU, Period: 1.1.2016 - 31.12.2018, Head: Prof. Dr. Rado Bohinc

The research is an in-depth analysis of the main weaknesses at both the normative and implementation levels of corporate governance in state-owned enterprises (SOEs) in Slovenia, and the analysis and identification of good practices in the EU and OECD countries. Particular attention was paid to the OECD Guidelines for Corporate Governance of SOEs.

The project addresses the following issues (among others): ensuring an effective regulatory framework for SOEs (including the demarcation of ownership and regulatory functions of the state); the position and specifics of the state in the role of an owner; equal treatment of shareholders; transparency of operations and data publication; staffing and the position and powers of SOE boards. The research provides concrete institutional solutions and proposals for the development of corporate legislation by introducing the most modern approaches of corporate management of companies in general, and of SOEs in particular.

J5-6820 Socially Responsible Corporate Governance as the Foundation of the new Development Paradigm of Slovenia and EU, Period: 1.7.2014 - 30.6.2017, Head: Prof. Dr. Rado Bohinc

The research is an analysis and comparative review of some of the most successful European and world regions, as well as an analysis of the state and understanding of the social responsibility in companies in the Republic of Slove-

MEMBERS:

Barbara Rajgelj
Matjaž Nahtigal

nia, the EU and the world. It is also an analysis of the role of business ethics and the rule of law in economic and social development, and a comparative analysis within the EU context, assessing the enforcement of the components of Europe's social market economy in the 21st century. There are visions of a competitive economy and economic growth that should be smart, sustainable and inclusive.

The research includes the possibilities of the future Slovenian development model based on experiences, comparative experiences and in the context of dynamic processes of Europeanization and globalization, the plurality of ownership forms (different funds, local communities, employees, small shareholders...). The project also researched the establishment of development alliances of various stakeholders and the presentation of alternative forms of ownership among others, cooperatives and social enterprises.

Titles of some other research projects that have run within the framework of the RCCL in the past years and decades:

- J5-4233 Legal and Economics aspects of corporate governance in the public and private sector as a tool for overcoming economic and development crisis, duration: 2011 - 2014, Head: Dr. Rado Bohinc
- J5-4130 Minority protection and rights as factors of integration and diversity management: Case and comparative studies of countries of Central and South Eastern Europe, duration: 2011 - 2014, Head: Dr. Mitja Žagar
- J5-9156 Legal aspects and information technology support in the process of democratization of governance of public and private legal entities and industrial relations, duration: 2007 – 2010, Head: Dr. Rado Bohinc
- V5-0914 The impact of European corporate law and corporate governance on the competitiveness of the economy, duration: 2005 – 2006, Head: dr. Marjan Svetličič

- L5-0385 Comparative law regulation of the securities market in Europe and the USA, duration: 1998 – 2001, Head: Dr. Rado Bohinc
- V5-0211 Slovenian management and its role in the future, duration: 1999 – 2000, Head: Dr. Rado Bohinc
- J5-9027 Legal regulation of research activity, duration: 1997 – 1999, Head: Dr. Rado Bohinc
- V2-9143 Ensuring system conditions for the development of housing and construction cooperatives, duration: 1997 – 1999, Head: Dr. Rado Bohinc
- P0-0510-0582 Development, comparative law research of corporate and labour relations, duration: 1999 – 2003, Head: Dr. Rado Bohinc

Prepared by: Rado Bohinc



CENTRE FOR ORGANISATIONAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES RESEARCH

The Centre for Organizational and Human Resources Research has more than fifty years of experience in research in the field of sociology and is one of the central research centres of the Institute of Social Sciences at the Faculty of Social Sciences. At the Centre we study work, people and organizations. The multidisciplinary team investigates the operation of labor markets, systems of employment, education, industrial relations and social partnership, economic, non-profit and other organizations in today's changing economy and society. We

HEAD:

Aleksandra Kanjuro Mrčela

MEMBERS:

Branko Bembič

Jožica Čehovin Zajc

Barbara Duvnjak

Tej Gonza

Miroljub Ignjatović

Jasna Jugovič

Andrej Kohont

Tinca Lukan

Barbara Lužar

Aleksandra Milinković

Jasna Mikič Ljubi

Ana Marija Mustafai

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

Anton Kramberger

Miroslav Stanojević

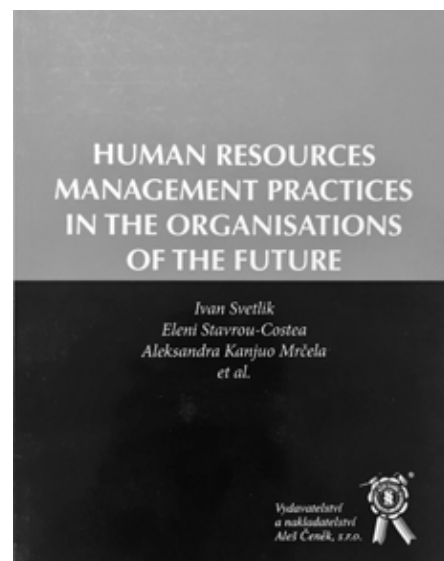
Ivan Svetlik

Dana Mesner Andolšek

collaborate with outstanding researchers from Slovenia and all over the world. We are actively interested in understanding the transformations linked to contemporary trends of digitization and globalization. We study economic inequalities and the gendering of work and the economy. Our scientific results have great practical value and we are respected as analysts and consultants in companies and other organizations, in state and non-governmental institutions in Slovenia and in the international environment. We are particularly interested in the processes of transition from »real socialism« to a market economy, which overlap with the processes of Europeanization of »post-communist societies«. Within the framework of various domestic and international projects, we primarily focus on determining the nature and intensity of changes in several intertwined areas and levels: organizational and HR structures in companies and their marketing strategies, corporate social respon-

FOUNDED: 1999

sibility, public policies and balancing paid employment with family responsibilities and private life, including care obligations.



In recent decades, there has been a more noticeable deregulation and flexibilization of the Slovenian labour market. Empirical research and international comparisons have shown that employment relations in Slovenia are comparatively strong/above average flexible. A relatively high level of job security (numerical »rigidity« of organizations) and this adequacy of cooperativeness of workers and their unions within companies enables the development of (internal organizational) functional flexibility. This is combined with an increased use of fixed-term employment and other forms of precarious work - the main substitutes for the »missing«

numerical flexibility of companies. The result of these processes is that the Slovenian labour market is increasingly more segmented, where young people participate above-average. At the centre, we determine the dimensions and dynamics of labour market segmentation and identify the developmentally optimal ways of overcoming it. Data that is the subject of analysis is obtained through our own field work, from national statistical sources (LFS, SORS, SPO) and from international databases (EUROSTAT, OECD, EUROFOUND, EIGE).

PROJECTS:

Research Program group. A research program group that deals with the research and coordination of projects that are primarily anchored in the field of sociology of work

operates within the framework of the centre.

Eurofound - Centre members have been collaborating with the European Foundation for the Improvement of Working and Living Conditions, a tripartite EU agency from Dublin since 2004. **CRANET** – Since 1999, the Centre has been included in the Cranet network, which analyses the management of human resources at the level of organizations. The Centre's research group participates in this network as an exclusive Slovenian partner. In addition to these more long-term projects, members of the Centre are involved in a number of national and international research projects.

Prepared by: Aleksandra Kanjua Mrčela



RESEARCH CENTRE FOR THE TERMINOLOGY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND JOURNALISM

FOUNDED: 2004

The Research Centre for the Terminology of Social Sciences and Journalism was established at the Faculty of Social Sciences in 2004, combining the fields of linguistic research, narrower lexicology and terminology with links to conceptual spheres of social sciences, disciplines and activities, and media texts research. The Centre's researchers are involved in the teaching process at the Faculty of Social Sciences, they collaborate with the industry and other academic institutions as speakers and lecturers and cooperate with other similar institutions in several linguistic and social science research projects.

In 2012, as part of UL FDV, the Centre became a member of Centre for Language Resources

HEAD:

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MEMBERS:

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Marijana Budeč Staničič

Larisa Gabrovšek

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Santiago Martin

Matej Šetinc

Jaroš Štekl

Tina Lengar Verovnik

Nataša Logar

Marko Milosavljević

and Technologies UL (CJVT UL), i.e. unit of the University of Ljubljana that develops language resources and tools according to six pillars: language description, standardization, technologies, terminology, multilingualism and speakers with special needs. The Centre operates within the Network of infrastructure centers of the University of Ljubljana.

IMPORTANT PROJECTS:

“Communication in Slovene” (2007-2013) project was partly financed by the European Union, the European Social Fund, and the Ministry of Education and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia. It was carried out within the operational program Human Resources Developmental priorities: improvement of the quality and efficiency of educational and training systems. Materials for more than a billion words for the “Gigafida corpus” of written texts were collected and managed within CD-TPR. The corpus was completed in 2012 and until 2019 it was the most relevant collection of texts of its kind in the Slovenian language. In 2019, this role was taken over by the updated Gigafida 2.0.

The applied research project “Terminological databases as a basis of professional knowledge: model for the systematization of terminologies (TERMIS)” was co-financed by ARRS, Slovenian Chamber of Commerce and Pristop. It started in 2007 with a less ambitious goal – the corpus of Slovenian texts on public relations KoRP, which has been freely available from the start. Since then, the idea has grown beyond its initial boundaries, and today a terminological database that could serve as a model for the systematization of terminologi-

es in other fields is available at the Termania web portal. The database was built between 2011-2013 with the help of state-of-the-art lexicography tools and over 50 experts from public relations and related fields.

Current research studies about professional and teaching language of higher education started as part of the Ministry of Culture's calls for tenders: “Comparative study on the language used in higher education in the Republic of Slovenia (2012)” and “Slovenian as a professional language at Slovenian universities: an overview of the situation and breakdown of the meaning, method and the possibilities of its greater inclusion (2014)”. They prepared the initial considerations for the language policy of public Slovenian universities. The monograph Language policy and languages of higher education (2014) was based on previous research. In 2023, the CRP Governance of language policy in higher education: overview, good practices and actions was completed, reviewing progress in this area ten years after the first study and proposing some actions.

In the past six years, Nataša Logar participated in two projects financed by ARRS. The leader of the project “Slovenian scientific texts: sources and description” was Tomaž Erjavec from the Jožef Stefan Institute, and four other institutions participated as partners. Duration: 2016-2018. The project resulted in the creation of a corpus for Slovenian universities called KAS, and the Aleks collection, which displays general technical words (e.g. table, hypothesis) in their typical text environment. You are welcome to find out more about Aleks on the Termania portal.

Project “Collocations as a Basis for Language Description: Semantic and Temporal Perspectives” (Kolos). Duration: 2017-2020. Iztok Kosem (CJVT UL) was the leader of the project. The project researched four topics: statistics for measuring collocation relationships, semantic sets or categories of collocation, the role of collocations as a distinguishing characteristic between semantically related words (e.g. synonyms) and the role of collocations in detecting semantic and related changes in the use of words over time. Indirectly, the new knowledge acquired by Kolos, is also used in the opensource Collocation Dictionary of Modern Slovene.

Project “Development of Slovene in a Digital Environment (RSDO)”, financed by the Slovenian Ministry of Culture. Duration: 2020–2023. The project encompasses six sections: 1. language resources, 2. speech technologies, 3. semantic resources and technologies, 4. machine translation, 5. terminological portal and 6. maintenance of the infrastructure center. Among the results of the project is an improved opensource version of the translator for the language combination English - Slovenian (and vice versa). The leader of the project is Simon Krek from Jožef Stefan Institute, FDV is represented by Nataša Logar and Maja Jančič.

“EMBEDDIA: Cross-Lingual Embeddings for Less-Represented Languages in European News Media”. The project was co-financed by the European Union within the Horizon 2020 program. Duration: 2019-2023. Project leader at UL FDV: Marko Milosavljević. The EMBEDDIA addressed challenges by leveraging innovations in the use of cross-lingual embeddings coupled with deep neural networks to allow existing mo-

nolingual resources to be used across languages, leveraging their high speed of operation for near real-time applications, without the need for large computational resources.

EurOMo: Euromedia Ownership Monitor: The project was co-financed by the European Commission. Duration: 2021-2022. EurOMo was carried out by a consortium of 15 higher education and research institutes and coordinated by the University of Salzburg. Project leader at UL FDV: Marko Milosavljević. Objectives of the Project: The European Democracy Action Plan, presented by the European Commission in December 2020, intends to empower citizens and make EU democracies more resilient. As part of this plan, it expects to enhance transparency in ownership and control of news media.

“DIACOMET: Fostering capacity building for civic resilience and participation: Dialogic communication ethics and accountability”: The project is co-founded by the European Union within the Horizon Europe program. Duration: 2023-2026. Project leader at UL FDV: Marko Milosavljević. The project will be implemented by a consortium of 10 mainly academic partners under the coordination of Vytautas Magnus University. The goals of the project: To create a concept of dialogical ethics of communication that will offer a framework for an inclusive model of accountability mechanisms, in which there is both media accountability and civic accountability, guided by a new type of Civic Code of Good Communication Conduct (CGC).

“Media Pluralism Monitor (MPM)”: The project is supported by a grant awarded by the European Commission to the Centre for Media Pluralism

and Media Freedom (CMPF) at the European University Institute. Duration: 2018-2023. Project leader at UL FDV: Marko Milosavljević. The project covers 32 European countries. MPM is a research tool designed to identify and monitor to assess the potential weaknesses in national media systems that may hinder media.

Tina Lengar Verovnik participated in the fundamental research project »Youths' media repertoires«. All members of the research team were from the University of Ljubljana, the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Education. They investigated how elementary school, high school, and undergraduate students were growing up in a highly digitized everyday life are shaping themselves into media prosumers. The research goal of the project was to create a typology of media consumption and media preferences or media repertoires among young people.

“FU-TURA, practices and challenges for sustainable public administration«: An interdisciplinary team connected students, a mentor from practice, a pedagogical mentor (one from the Faculty of Administration and the other one from the Faculty of Social Sciences that is Tina Lengar Verovnik) and a coordinator at the Faculty of Administration. Within the framework of the sustainable goal of the UN »quality education«, the focus was on the innovative (student-adapted) presentation of content about the modern challenges of sustainable education in the field of public administration and the writing of professional texts on this topic. Duration: 11/11/2022-10. 2. 2023.

Prepared by: Monika Kalin Golob, Nataša Logar, Marko Milosavljević

THE CENTRE FOR POLITICAL THEORY

Centre for Political Theory – formerly Centre for Critical Political Science – was founded in 2006 at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Ljubljana. Prior to 2006, most members of the Centre for Political Theory were active researchers at the Centre for Political Science Research.

The first Head of the Centre for Political Theory was Assoc. Prof. Andrej Lukšič. At present, the Centre is managed by Prof. Cirila Toplak.

The Centre's principal research orientation includes studies of current phenomena and historical contexts pertaining to political concepts such as democracy, e-democracy, citizenship, civic education, globalisation and its impact on society and politics, migrations, political systems, political culture, political ecology,

political discourses, political metaphors, policy analysis, new polity, global social movements, biopolitics, political implications of modern technologies etc.

In these times of accelerating socio-economic transformations, constant reflection and good intellectual interaction in all fields of political and social life are of key importance. The Centre for Political Theory, therefore, cooperates with Slovenian and foreign researchers and academic and other institutions addressing similar topics, in particular in the Balkans and the Mediterranean region. Members of the Centre regularly present their research results at national and international conferences and other academic events organised by the International Political Science Association (IPSA), the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), the American Political Science Association (APSA), and the Central European Political Science Association (CEPSA) and the Balkan Political Science Association (BPSA) currently presided by the Head of the Centre. Students are also welcome to participate in our research projects, especially doctoral candidates.

In addition to the expertise in the above mentioned areas within political science and social sciences in general – members of the Centre have the advantage of a very broad theoretical background, ranging from contemporary political theories, theories on democracy, ideology and power to theories on discourse, citizenship, the state and institutions. The Centre for Political Theory thus plays a major part in the development of theoretical and analytical political science in Slovenia and, via regular interventions in the (social) media, promotes

FOUNDED: 2006



political theory in the academic environment and among the public by demonstrating its extraordinary applicative potential and value. With this aim in view, we published a collection of scientific texts entitled *Political Science Reflections: Scientific Production of the Centre for Critical Political Science 2009-2010*. Recently, members of the Centre published influential scientific monographs such as Cirila Toplak, *European Continentalism – A History of Europeanization*, and Tomaž Pušnik, *Mobile European Union* in 2016, as well as Igor Lukšič, *Between Servants and Revolutionaries. The Emergence of Political Doctrines in the Slovene Territory* in 2019. At the 100th anniversary of the University of Ljubljana Igor Lukšič edited a scientific monograph *The Role of the University of Ljubljana in the Transformation of a Nation into a State*. At the 60th anniversary of the Fac-

HEAD:

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MEMBERS:

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Andrej A. Lukšič
Igor Lukšič
Jernej Pikalo
Tomaž Pušnik
Žiga Vodovnik
Blaž Vrečko Ilc
Karla Tepež

ASSOCIATE MEMBER:

David Ellerman

ulty of Social Sciences and political science research in Slovenia in 2022 the members of the Centre contributed to the special issue of the scientific journal *Theory and Practice* entitled *Humanisation of Politics*.

International Summer School of Political Ecology was first organized in 2018 with the financial support of the Slovenian Eco Fund and the Ministry of the Environment, and has since 2020 been included in the project LIFE IP CARE4CLIMATE. The LIFE project aims at raising awareness, education and training of key stakeholders and incentives to implement measures by which Slovenia is to decrease greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. In addition to the Centre for Political Theory, project partners include Association for Sustainable Development Focus, Umanotera – Foundation for Sustainable Development, Institute of Ecology, EkoKolektiv and the Institute Journal for Critique of Science. In 2022 the summer school resulted in an e-collection entitled “Political Ecology at Work. Theory in Everyday Practice and Everyday Practice in Theory” edited by the member of the Centre Andrej Lukšič and the graduate student Karla Tepež.

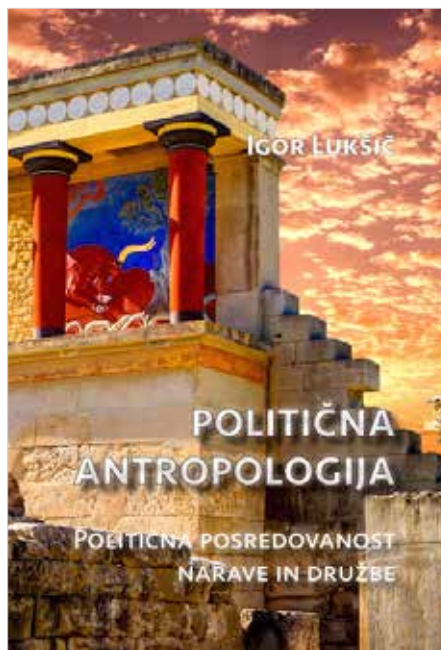
In 2018 the Centre for Political Theory hosted an international scientific conference entitled “Regional Political Traditions as Inspirations – Self-management and Self-organizing”, attended by the most eminent political theorists from the region of former Yugoslavia.

Despite limiting pandemic measures in 2021 the Centre held two well-attended public debates: “Words are Deeds – Public Debate on Impact and Consequences of Covid 19 Pandemic”, and “Anthropocentrism Slovenian Way”.

Since 2006, the Centre for Political Theory successfully completed a number of national, bilateral and international research projects. The research fields where we were most successful include the use of information and communication technologies in political processes, civic education and political participation of youth. In 2010 and 2011, the Centre contributed to the improvement of civic education in Slovenia by an extensive research project entitled

“Citizen(ship) in the New Era: Civic Education for a Multicultural and Globalised World”, coordinated by Jernej Pikalo and financed by the European Social Fund via the Slovenian Ministry of Education and Sport. The project aimed at providing adequate scientific foundations for the development of new approaches to citizenship and civic education to be used at all levels of the educational process, in order to form competent and empowered citizens, who are aware of their position in contemporary society.

Important international references of the Centre for Political Theory also include the project “Inherit”, coordinated by Andrej Kurnik in 2013 and 2014, which facilitated comparative critical reflection on ideological aspects and the political instrumentalization of cultural heritage. Coordinated by Žiga Vodovnik, the bilateral Slovenia-USA project entitled “Communities and Crossroads: Comparative Analysis of Political and Security Aspects of Hawai’i and Slovenia” in 2013 and 2014 enabled members of the Centre for Political Theory to directly connect scientific research with the teaching process and successfully collaborate with the Defence Research Centre at the Faculty of Social Sciences in implementing original and relevant interdisciplinary research, which explicitly addressed the impact of globalisation



At the end of its first decade, the Centre was engaged in international research projects co-financed by the European Commission: *Polipedia – Online Civic Education; Engaging the Youth – Building the Future: Teaching European Democratic Citizenship; A Partnership for Youth: Towards New Learning Pathways for Better Employability of Young Active Citizens; Stand Up for Your Career: An Innovative Humour-based Approach to Teaching and Learning EU Topics, and an Evening with the Ombudsman: Empowering Rural Communities through Knowledge on Fundamental Rights*, which included successful cooperation with the Ombudsman of the Republic of Slovenia.

In 2022, the Centre for Political Theory acquired a basic scientific research project funded by the Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS) for the first time. The project *Outside the Ballot Box: Youth perceptions and practices of political participation* is coordinated by Marinko Banjac. To address the decrease of political participation of youth in formal political processes as one of the fundamental indicators of the crisis of representative democracy, this project builds on the contemporary orientation of “researching with youth” which places young people at the centre of research, gives them a voice, and treats them as active participants who give key contributions to understating of youth political participation beyond mere elections. Simultaneously, at the Centre for Political Theory we also carry out the project *Be an Active EU Teacher: Enhancing the Teaching of the EU through Teacher Trainings*, funded by Erasmus+ Jean Monnet programme. The project runs parallel to the introduction of a new cross-curriculum topic Active Citizenship in Slovenian secondary schools.

We are currently working on acquiring programme research funding and joining project consortia in EU scientific research programmes. Despite the unfavourable local and global conditions for research in social sciences, the Centre for Political Theory is among active research Centres at the Faculty of Social Sciences and the leading reference point for political theory in Slovenia.

Prepared by: Cirila Toplak

THE CENTRE FOR SOCIAL INFORMATICS

The Centre for Social Informatics (CSI) was founded in 2011 and currently hosts 26 researchers from a wide range of disciplines, as required by the complex interaction between information and communication technologies and contemporary society. It is one of the larg-

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Simona Hvalič Touzery
Jerneja Laznik
Lea Lebar
Katja Lozar Manfreda
Andrej Motl
Izidor Natek
Ajda Petek
Andraž Petrovčič
Jure Plaskan
Andreja Praček
Marko Puschner
Mojca Šetinc
Tanja Šterk
Katja Trebežnik
Marina Trkman
Urška Valentič
Robert Vodopivec
Avis Wisteria

est centres at the Faculty of Social Sciences and is distinguished by its volume of research as well as its scientific excellence (publications, citations). The activities of the Centre are linked to the broader field of social informatics, which deals with the interaction between information and communication technologies and contemporary societies. Research areas include: online survey methodology and the use of new technologies for data collection and analysis in social sciences in general, safer Internet use, social media, digital inequalities, ambient technologies, usability of websites and mobile applications, etc.

THE “INTERNET RESEARCH” PROGRAMME

Since January 2015, CSI members have been working on the “Internet Research” programme (programme group P5-0399) led by Prof. Dr. Vasja Vehovar. The members of the programme group study the Internet as an object and as a tool of social science research. In the first area, they conduct basic and applied research on (1) the relationship between social and digital inequalities and the determinants of digital inclusion of vulnerable social groups; (2) the development of models of acceptance of assistive technologies for independent living of the elderly at home, which include both the perspective of the elderly and their informal caregivers; (3) the safe use of the Internet among adolescents. The second area includes multidisciplinary studies aimed at developing (1) online survey methodology with a focus on better understanding the determinants of survey response quality; (2) new approaches in social science methodology based on combining multiple survey modes and combining probability and non-probability sampling designs; (3) innovative approaches to

FOUNDED: 2011

studying the user experience on different digital devices and interfaces. Since 2015, members of the programme team have published more than 130 original scientific papers in the most prestigious international journals, led 9 basic and 4 applied research projects funded by ARRS, participated in 25 international projects and received 5 awards from national and international organisations.

WEB SURVEY METHODOLOGY AND THE 1KA TOOL



CSI researchers are some of the world leaders in the field of web survey methodology. They have conducted pioneering research in the field (since 1996), they continuously publish in top journals, and have written the leading global textbook on web survey methodology (Web Survey Methodology, Sage 2015). For the purpose of their research work, they have developed the 1KA web survey tool, which provides comprehensive support for the research process of surveying. 1KA is primarily an open source application that provides a web survey service. In over more than a decade of development, it has gained a large number of installations and a large number of users. It supports the administration of around 4 million questionnaires per year. Since 2021, Arnes and the corresponding ministry allow the education and research sector to use it free of charge on the domain (1KA.arnes.si), which is also the location of the 1KA tool where most of the surveys are carried out.

In the field of online survey methodology, CSI has carried out several basic or applied re-

search programmes to develop state-of-the-art approaches in this area.

In the field of online surveys, several expert meetings aimed at the general public have been held in recent years under the name Web Survey Day, as well as several consultations on online panels and combined survey methods aimed at research methodologists, mainly from the Statistical Office, the National Institute of Public Health and the University of Ljubljana.

SAFER INTERNET USE



CSI has been running a European project on safer internet use under different names since 2005. The project is currently called the Safer Internet Centre and is implemented in cooperation with the Arnes Institute, the Slovenian Association of Friends of Youth and the MISSS Institute (Youth Information and Counselling Centre of Slovenia), and is funded by the HaDEA Agency of the European Commission and the Slovenian Government's Office for Information Security.

The Safer Internet Centre offers two main services:

- Since 2005, Safe.si (www.safe.si) has been acting as a national awareness centre for children and teenagers on safe use of the internet and mobile devices. Our activities are aimed at four target groups: children, adolescents, parents and professionals (teachers, social workers, youth workers, etc.). The vision of the project is to achieve a high level of awareness on these topics among the selected target populations by providing them with up-to-date, verified information and advice on the safe use of new technologies in Slovenia.
- Spletno Oko (<https://www.spletno-ok.si/>) is a hotline for anonymous reporting of child

sexual abuse videos on the Internet. The hotline's mission is to contribute to the reduction of child sexual abuse material on the Internet in cooperation with the police, Internet service providers, web portals and other interested governmental and non-governmental organisations.



In addition to the activities of the Safer Internet Centre, CSI has participated in several European projects addressing the prevention of online violence, including the Odklikni! (EC DG JUST), which produced several manuals (for police, justice and professionals working with young people) and a curriculum for working with young people, the Cybersafe project (EC DG REC), which developed an educational web-based tool to detect, raise awareness, respond appropriately and prevent online violence, and the Cybewag MOOC (Erasmus+) to educate teachers on online violence. The Centre also participates in the international project TRACeD (CERV-2021-DAPHNE) to tackle online violence against girls, which has conducted qualitative research on the topic among children, adolescents, students, professionals, parents and teachers, as well as organised training for teachers, parents, children and adolescent girls on the topic of gender-based online violence. The project also aims at providing educational materials for these target groups and to develop an online platform for responding to online violence against girls. In addition to the above, CSI has also worked extensively on the issue of hate speech online.

FACTORS INFLUENCING THE USE AND IMPACT OF ICT-BASED ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Another important area of CSI's work is the study of factors influencing the (willingness to) use and impact of ICT-based assistive technologies among different population segments, especially the elderly. The implications

of the use and acceptance factors of e-care and e-health services have been or are being studied in the framework of four ARIS projects (L5-7626, L5-9337, J5-1785, J5-4578), five international projects (i-evAALution, ITHACA, COOP4HEALTHCARE, D-CARE, COST Action NET 4 Age-Friendly), and two national evaluation pilot projects funded by the MoH.

SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES



CSI is the national coordinator of the H2020 StR-ESFRI3 project, which supports the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI). It is a four-year project that provides support, tools and expertise to ESFRI - a forum that brings together decision-makers, funders and the scientific community to identify common investment priorities for pan-European research infrastructures (RIs) and ensures their implementation, sustainability and translation into practice. In this context, it focuses in particular on the preparation of the ESFRI Roadmap, the scientific landscape analysis, the impact assessment and the monitoring of RIs. In addition, the project will also support policy-making related to the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) and the European Research Area (ERA).

Prepared by: CSI members

THE CENTRE FOR MARKETING AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

FOUNDED: 2013

Established in November 2013, the Centre for Marketing and Public Relations (CMPR) is concerned with theoretical and applied research in **marketing, public relations, marketing communications and advertising**. It conducts research projects for Slovenian companies and other organisations and contributes to the development of Slovenian and international profession. CMPR organises international scientific meetings such as the traditional annual International Public Relations Research Symposium, BledCom.

Fields of research include: marketing, public relations, advertising, social media, integrated (marketing) communication, corporate communications, corporate social responsibility, B2B communication, strategic communications, governmental and political communication etc.

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Maja Jančič

Samo Kropivnik

Klement Podnar

Urška Tuškej Lovšin

Ebru Uzunoglu

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

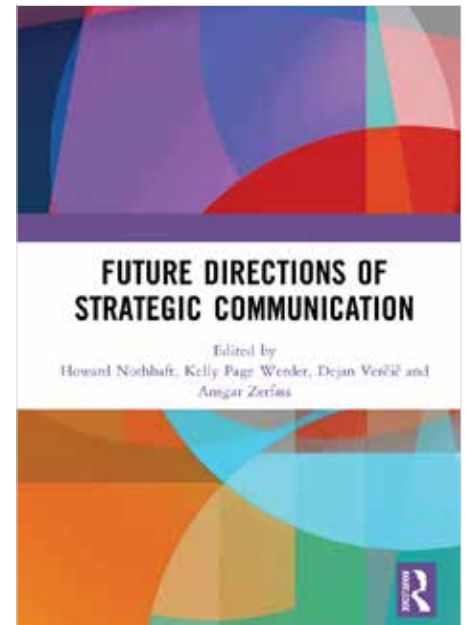
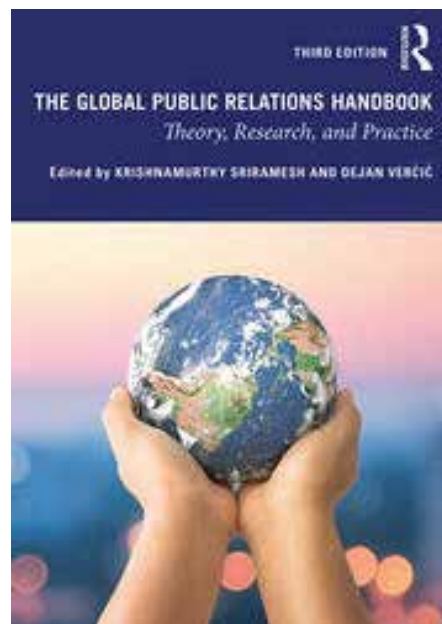
Zlatko Jančič

Borut Marko Lah

Mitja Vrdelja

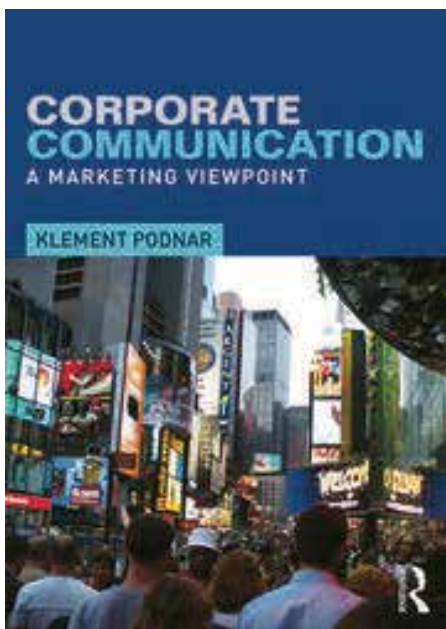
Saška Terseglav

THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM, BLEDCom, organized by the Centre for Marketing and Public Relations, is the oldest conference in the field of public relations research and has attracted more than 2,600 participants from 55 countries and 6 continents in the 30 years of its existence. Outputs of the symposium have been published in 11 books. *The Global Public Relations Handbook* received two awards from the American Communication Association (NCA), three editions of the book were published by Routledge, and the book was also translated into Spanish. In addition to the books (*Public Relations Research, Perspectives on Public Relations Research, Public Relations and Communication Management in Europe, Public Relations in Asia, Public Relations Metrics, Culture and Public*



Relations), the lectures from the conference were published as articles in special issues of the most prestigious scientific journals in the field of public relations (Public Relations Review, Journal of Communication Management, Journal of Political Marketing and Journal of Public Affairs) and in conference proceedings. More information is available at: www.bledcom.com

THE EUROPEAN COMMUNICATION MONITOR (ECM) is the most extensive study in the field of strategic communication in the world and has been running continuously for fifteen years. Among the founding members of the research group is also the Head of the Center for Marketing and Public Relations Prof. Dr. Dejan Verčič. The findings of the research



were published in the book *Communication Excellence: How to Develop, Manage and Lead Exceptional Communications*, which was translated from the English original into Croatian, Chinese, Slovenian and Spanish. Reports and other information about the study are available at www.communicationmonitor.eu.

Among the published scientific contributions of the members of the Centre for Marketing and Public Relations, we wish to highlight the English edition of the book *Corporate Communication: A Marketing Viewpoint* (2011) by the author Prof. Dr. Klement Podnar, which was published in 2015 by the Routledge publishing house under the title *Corporate Communication: A Marketing Viewpoint*. The book highlights basic concepts that not only represent the possible tools for managing

corporate identities and their communication, but also open up new issues in the modern development of corporate communication.

In 2015, Prof. Dr. Dejan Verčič was named an honorary member of the Croatian Association for Public Relations. In 2016 he received the Pathfinder Award of the American Institute of Public Relations (IPR) for his original work in the field of international public relations and in 2019 he was awarded the title of Distinguished Scholar by the European Association for Teaching and Research in Public Relations (EUPRERA).



In 2021, Prof. Dr. Klement Podnar received the Faculty of Social Sciences' award for outstanding achievements in the field of scientific research. In 2022 the recipient of this award was Prof. Dr. Urša Golob Podnar.

Prof. Dr. Klement Podnar, Prof. Dr. Urša Golob and Assoc. Dr. Urška Tuškej received awards from the Emerald publishing house for two contributions:

- Tuškej, Podnar, Golob, 2016: Emerald Citations of Excellence Award (for the most influential and most cited contributions in the field; for the article »The role of consumer-brand identification in building brand relationships«).
- Tuškej, Podnar, 2018: Emerald Literature Award (for excellence and outstanding contribution to science; for the article »Consumers' identification with corporate brands: brand prestige, anthropomorphism and engagement in social media«).

Prepared by: Dejan Verčič