



UDC: 316.74:2

Mitja VELIKONJA: ON TRAILS AND NEW PATHS OF RESEARCHING CULTURE AND RELIGIONS

Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, Vol. LI, No. 2-3, pg. 201-211

The article summarises in a concise and analytical way the history of the Centre for Cultural and Religious Studies from its establishment in 1967 in both the academic and broader socio-historical contexts. In addition, it considers its future development within the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Ljubljana, and consequently also the development of religious and cultural studies in Slovenia in general. After introducing other articles in this special issue, it in particular explains the research results of the Centre (and fields of study that remain unresearched), the connection with the development of the Department of Cultural Studies, its past and present members and its international cooperation and successes.

Key words: sociology of religion, religious studies, cultural studies, Faculty of Social Sciences Ljubljana, Prof. Dr. Zdenko Roter, Slovenia

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UDC: 316.74:2

Marjan SMRKE: THE DISSIDENT CENTRE FOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, Vol. LI, No. 2-3, pg. 261-283

This article discusses the principal characteristics that typify the study of religion conducted within Slovenia's Centre for Research of Religion and Church, which was later renamed the Centre for Cultural and Religious Studies within the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Ljubljana. The Centre was established in 1967 amidst a post-WWII discussion on the institutionalisation of the study of religion across Europe. Herein, the development of the Centre's theoretical and methodological approaches in the study of religion, together with the topics on which it focused, are presented within the socio-historical contexts of a socialist society and thence a post-socialist transitional society in which it operated, as well as contrasted with similar institutions in other European countries. In both of the mentioned eras - as is revealed herein - there existed a palpable tension between the Centre and its milieu. This paper also introduces the Centre's most important accomplishments together with its future prospects in an era of increasingly pervasive neoliberal policies and newly emerging competition with regard to research.

Key words: Centre for Research of Religion and Church / Centre for Cultural and Religious Studies; history of the sociology of religion; comparative religion and religious studies in Slovenia

UDC: 316.723

Peter STANKOVIĆ: CULTURAL STUDIES AT THE CENTRE FOR CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, No. 2 3, pg. 284–305

Cultural studies are nowadays one of the most important academic fields that deal with culture. One research institution that contributed most to introducing cultural studies to Slovenia is Center za preučevanje culture in religije (the Centre for Cultural and Religious Studies) at Fakulteta za družbene vede (the Faculty of Social Sciences), University of Ljubljana. The work of this centre is presented in the article. The most important achievements of its researchers include the continuous research of youth subcultures, popular music, memories, soccer, nostalgia, eating practices, films, happiness and graffiti. The relatively small group of researchers has in this context achieved a lot, especially by way of connecting these topics to the analysis of various symbolic connections between Slovenia, the Balkans and Europe. However, this does not mean there are no research topics still waiting to be tackled by the team. Among them are different aspects of sexual identities and new technologies in relation to new ways of spending free time.

Key words: cultural studies, Centre for Cultural and Religious Studies, research, Slovenia, the Balkans, Europe

UDC: 316.723-053.6(410:497.4)

Gregor TOMC: POP YOUTH. A COMPARISON OF YOUTH SUBCULTURES IN CULTURAL STUDIES OF GREAT BRITAIN AND SLOVENIA IN THE 20th CENTURY

Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, Vol. LI, No. 2-3, pg. 306–323

The author discusses some key approaches to understanding youth in modern societies (generational identity, peer groups, communitas, moratorium) and differences in the social construction of youth in part-modern (fascism, Nazism, communism) and modern states (political democracies). He then discusses the difference between cultural studies of youth in Great

Britain after the Second World War and research of youth in the context of socialism as well as in the context of political democracy in Slovenia. During socialism, the hegemonic approach to social science was class analysis and, as a result, youth was perceived as an ideological construct. There was no interest in research into youth lifestyles. The first research of youth subcultures was only carried out in the 1990s. In the concluding discussion, the author explains this research lag with the underdeveloped cultural industry, the smallness of the Slovenian cultural space and the conservatism of its cultural milieu.

Key words: youth, youth subcultures, cultural studies, cultural industry, pop culture, socialism, democracy

UDC: 316.74:316.347

Ksenija ŠABEC and Mirt KOMEL: "WE, THE OTHERS AND WE-OTHERS":
A SHORT GENEALOGY OF IDENTITY CULTURAL STUDIES IN SLOVENIA
Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, Vol. LI, No. 2-3, pg. 324-347

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The article unfolds the development of Identity Cultural Studies at the Centre for Cultural and Religious Studies of the Social Sciences Institute from the historical perspective of Cultural Studies, Slovenian as well as European where Cultural Studies first emerged and were further developed until today when they have become an established and inherent part of contemporary Cultural Studies research. The brief analytical insight into past and existing research demonstrates that Slovenian Cultural Studies were developed especially as an attempt to answer questions involving ethnical, national and, later on, global identity dilemmas.

Key words: Cultural Studies, identity, ethnicity, nationality

UDC: 316.7:303.1

Nena MOČNIK: THE RESEARCHER AS ACTIVIST AND ENGAGED
METHODOLOGICAL APPROACHES
Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, Vol. LI, No. 2-3, pg. 348-364

This article summarises certain key issues and deficiencies in the established methodological approaches of contemporary cultural studies, particularly in the context of ethically questionable research topics and vulnerable individuals or groups. Concepts of participatory and engaged methodological practices, based on mutual, non-hierarchical participation

and the interest of the researcher and the researched group, are presented. Through active participation in the research process, participants become more receptive in understanding their own context and, in particular, they become empowered to recognise their abilities and resources. Through the process they learn how they collect and use the obtained research knowledge. The last part is a concrete example of using applied drama as a performative method within participatory and engaged methodologies.

Key words: participatory action research, applied drama, vulnerable groups

UDC: 316.7:316.454.3(4)

Hajdeja IGLIČ: SOCIAL SOURCES OF COLLECTIVE IDENTIFICATION:
THE CASE OF EUROPEAN IDENTITY

Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, Vol. LI, No. 2-3, pg. 374-390

The article discusses the social sources of collective identification. The main goal is to assess the relevance of three different sociological theories of collective identification, namely the theory of collectively possessed knowledge (Shils, 1991), the theory of nested identities (Calhoun, 1994) and the theory of ultimate community (Deutsch, 1966), for understanding the contemporary processes of European identity formation. In accordance with different theoretical frameworks, the empirical analysis of sources of European identification include the variables of social capital as measures of social integration, institutional trust and mobilisation through political networks, and cognitive competence. The results of the study confirm the importance of social networks for the strength of collective identification, and the role of political mobilisation through political parties, movements and discussion networks for selective identification with either immediate or distant collectivities. Cognitive competence theory does not seem to play a role in explaining the variations in the strength of European identification.

Key words: collective identification, European identity, social capital, cognitive competence, institutional trust, political networks

Milena BEVC, Marko OGOREVC: EMIGRATION OF YOUNG SLOVENIAN RESEARCHERS AND THEIR EMPLOYMENT MOBILITY WITHIN THE COUNTRY

Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, Vol. LI, No. 2-3, pg. 391-414

We analyse the extent of emigration, profile of emigrants and employment mobility among young Slovenian scientists/researchers in the 2004-2009 period (methodology and results). Our analysis is based on a survey of all research organisations in Slovenia that was conducted at the end of 2009 and start of 2010. Young researchers represent 35-36% of total emigration among researchers and one-third of the total employment mobility of researchers within the country. The characteristics of a typical emigrant among young researchers are: a man, a doctor of science, from natural and technical sciences, and 32 years of age. The paper also presents the views of general managers of research organisations about both programmes of young researchers, the emigration of these researchers and their employment prospects within Slovenia.

Key words: young researchers, emigration, employment mobility, research organisations, Slovenia, 2004-2009 period

UDC: 316.45:321.7(497.4)

Žiga VODOVNIK: DEMOCRATISATION AND THE NEW SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, Vol. LI, No. 2-3, pg. 415-433

The article offers a theoretical reflection on the processes of democratisation in Slovenia, noting the new social movements as a key player initiating and directing the democratic transformation, although we can detect their marginalisation after the consolidation of the »new« or »bourgeois« civil society. The new chronotope of the analysis further shows that the role of social movements was a necessary but not a sufficient condition for political, economic and social changes since during the second phase of the democratisation a political detachment is already underway, culminating in a definitive break with the political elites (old and emerging) already before independence. The key point of contestation and divergence is identified in the opposing understandings of democracy and the democratisation process itself.

Key words: democracy, democratisation, Slovenia, social movements, civil society

Marko ČEHOVIN and Miro HAČEK: CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE STATE
ADMINISTRATION'S POLITICISATION IN SLOVENIA

Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, Vol. LI, No. 2-3, pg. 434-457

Even though some level of politicisation is pressed into the »genetic material« of administrative system, the majority of experts agree that a system with high levels of politicisation is less efficient because a large share of individuals do not have the chance to develop to their full potential. The negativity of politicisation is even more devastating in smaller states like Slovenia since those states have a limited set of human resources available. On the basis of a detailed analysis of the state administration' politicisation in Slovenia, the authors can confirm that the level of politicisation is quite high; after the country's accession to the European Union (2004) and adoption of so-called saving laws (2010-2013) this politicisation trend is even strengthening. Despite the formal existence of mechanisms of a meritocratic state administration system, politicians play an increasingly decisive role in the employment and advancement of civil servants, and are in total control of the appointment and dismissal of high-ranking civil servants. The predominance of politicians in their relationship towards civil servants can be changed via relatively simple changes to formal normative acts and so the authors also propose seven priority proposals to bring about less politicisation.

Key words: politicisation, state administration, public administration, civil service, politicians, formal and material politicisation

UDC: 613-053.9(497.4)

Simona HVALIČ TOUZERY: HEALTH, WELL-BEING AND LIFE
SATISFACTION OF THE OLDEST OLD IN SLOVENIA

Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2014, Vol. LI, No. 2-3, pg. 458-474

In public health and social discussions, results pertaining to the young old are often extrapolated to the oldest old, yet their characteristics do not follow the exponential trend found in surveys of the oldest old. The purpose of this article is to point out these differences in terms of health, well-being and life satisfaction. The present analysis is based on the SHARE Wave4 international study (2011). We analysed 1,306 Slovenian older people in terms of bivariate analysis. We found that self-perceived health was associated with age ($p=0.000$). The oldest old have several health conditions ($p=0.000$),

difficulties concentrating ($p=0.000$), are lacking energy ($p=0.001$) and are more limited in daily and instrumental activities ($p=0.000$). A positive attitude to life declines with age.

Key words: older people, oldest old, health, well-being, life satisfaction, health care, SHARE

UDC: 342.7(100)"20"

Saša TKALEC: THE THEORETICAL REFLECTION ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE 21st CENTURY

Teorija in praksa, Ljubljana 2013, Vol. L, No. 5–6, pg. 475–493

The article highlights the importance of human rights theory in the globalised world, contrary to the predominant legal discourse and emphasis on implementation of the existing international human rights law. The article is based on the supposition that the quest for a single, uniform and everlasting human rights theory, especially the foundationalist approach to human rights, cannot assure their universality in the globalised world. By considering three types of social transformation – related to globalisation processes and relevant to the protection of human rights – the article argues for the plurality and co-existence of different theoretical approaches to human rights. The latter would make the ontology of human rights theory correspond better to the contemporary social reality and would make better use of the potential it carries.

Key words: human rights, globalisation, human rights theory, foundationalism, social transformation