

SUMMARY

The basic aim of this book is to explore whether the population of Zagreb bears some of the key features of the post-industrial society.

According to a classing of social development to date, speaking in generalized terms, we can categorize it into three areas: the period of agrarian or pre-industrial society, the period of the industrial society, and the period of the post-industrial society (Turner 2009). Following Bell's classification of »social space« on the area of social structure, the area of politics, and the area of culture, the entire discussion on the (pre)industrial and post-industrial society is linked to the area of social structure, that is, the area that »comprises the economics, technology, and the occupational system« (Bell 1999:12).

Why is it important (for sociologists) to study urban areas in the context of the post-industrial era and why has Zagreb been chosen as the area of study? According to World Bank data (2013), an important feature of today's (post-industrial) societies of the Western civilization is a high percentage of urban population among the total population (<http://data.worldbank.org/topic/urban-development>, accessed: 14 May 2013). In Croatia in 2011, 59.5 % of the total population lived in urban areas, whereas the population of the City of Zagreb comprised 31.0 % of the total urban population of Croatia (<http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.URB.TOTL/countries>, accessed: 29 March 2013; www.dzs.hr, accessed: 29 March 2013). Apart from the high portion of urban population, an important characteristic of the post-industrial era are urban areas as origins of socio-economic modernization (Sassen 2001). The City of Zagreb, at least in terms of Croatia, bears the role of an indispensable presence in socio-economic modernization. For example, from January to September 2012, it covered 37.3 % of total exports and 60.0 % of total imports of Croatia, with 33.7 % Croatian businesses being active in Zagreb (HGK — Croatian Chamber of Economy, Zagreb Chamber, 2012). During this period, enterprise in Zagreb made up 53.4 % of the total income of Croatian enterprise, while 54.5 % of total investment in long-term assets

in Croatia was made in Zagreb (HGK — Croatian Chamber of Economy, Zagreb Chamber, 2012).

Consequently, the research focuses on certain basic social changes in the »social structure« of socialist and post-socialist Zagreb, primarily on the transformation of the economic and educational structure of the population of Zagreb from 1953 to 2011, with the economic structure indicating the social division of labor among the active population. The elements of economic structure are socio-demographic characteristics of the population: activity status, section of industry, and occupation. The element of the educational structure is a socio-demographic characteristic of the population: level of education. The analysis of transformations in the structure of these socio-demographic characteristics has enabled insight into the changes within the economic and educational structure of the population. In the context of the areas to which the research results relate, the economic and educational structure of the population has been analyzed in two levels: on the level of the inner area of Zagreb and on the level of the administrative area of the city. With the aim of shedding further light on the social changes in the area of Zagreb, the change in the economic and educational structure of the employed in the area of Zagreb (in socialism and post-socialism) has also been analyzed. It is important to emphasize that this group comprises the citizens of Zagreb as well as daily and weekly work migrants, that is, inhabitants of the surrounding communities. The economic structure of the employed indicates the division of labor in that group, which we explore by analyzing the transformation in the structure of the socio-demographic characteristic of the »section of industry« of the employed. We explore the educational structure by analyzing the transformation in the structure of the socio-demographic characteristic of »the level of professional education« of the employed.

Research results reveal that the key features of the exposed social changes in the area of Zagreb match certain significant characteristics of the post-industrial society: a) the structure of population according to its activity status indicates an increase of active persons among women; b) the educational structure of the population and the employed marks a shift towards a growing portion of more educated people; c) the processes of deindustrialization and tertiarization have been registered through several indicators (in the structure of the active population and the employed according to the section of industry and in the structure of the active population according to occupation). Research findings have also disclosed that certain processes shown have been continuous and quite long-lasting in the area of Zagreb. For example, the portion of the

employed with a higher and high level of education has been continuously growing since the 1950s, the portion of the employed with a higher and high level of professional education has steadily increased since the 1960s, the portion of people in the tertiary sector has been steadily increasing in the structure of the active population according to the section of industry since the 1950s, the portion of the tertiary sector has been continuously growing in the structure of the employed in the city area according to the section of industry since the 1950s, and it is likely that the portion of active persons with professions in the service sector has continuously increased since the 1960s. We have also assumed that the structure of the active population according to the sector of industry marked (a more significant) decrease in the portion of people in the secondary sector starting in the 1980s; it is likely that the decrease of active population with industrial occupations began in (the second half of) the 1960s, whereas the structure of persons employed in the area of the city according to the section of industry has marked a decrease in the portion of the secondary sector from the 1950s onwards. Furthermore, it has been emphasized that numerous factors are involved in these processes. Despite the fact the processes pertain to the area of »social structure«, they are influenced by factors from all three areas of the »social space«: social structure, culture, and politics. It was not possible to precisely determine to which extent each of the factors influenced these processes in specific periods. Finally, it has been concluded that, in the context of the findings of this paper and the discussion on post-industrial Zagreb as a participant in contemporary economy, it is necessary to find the answers to some additional questions. The first question refers to the ratio of occupations in the sections of industry or the distribution of occupations across the sections of industry. For example, what occupations have formed the section of information and communication industry during post-socialism? Is that structure dominated by occupations from the category of »scientists, engineers, and experts« or the category of »service and trade sector occupations«? Unfortunately, available data fails to provide a clear picture. The second question refers to the ratio of highly educated citizens (or those employed in the city area) with occupations in the productive sector and those with occupations in the non-productive sector. Bearing in mind the vastness and structure of the non-productive sector of Zagreb (the administrative and bureaucratic apparatus of the city, the academic, health, educational, and cultural institutions of the city, and Croatian administrative services), we can assume that this sector comprises a significant portion of all highly educated people. What is the educational structure of the

productive sector then? The third question relates to the structure of the economy of Zagreb in terms of the real need for the highly educated. Considering the fact what is produced in Zagreb and in what manner, to what extent does it actually necessitate highly educated people, that is, how many highly educated people can the economy of Zagreb absorb/use for adequate jobs? What is the role of theoretical knowledge in the economy of Zagreb? In light of this, does Zagreb, to use the words of Castells (2000), mostly perform the role of the «excluded» member of the network (of European cities), merely completing given tasks (of insignificant added value) or does it bear a more demanding role? The fourth question is related to the competence of the Zagreb workforce in the production of high added value. In other words, the question of the compatibility of knowledge and skills that highly educated citizens/workers of Zagreb wield with the knowledge and skills usually needed for jobs in the contemporary economy that demand highly educated individuals.