

SUMMARY

The proceedings *Nacionalne manjine u Hrvatskoj i Hrvati kao manjina – europski izazovi / National Minorities in Croatia and Croats as a Minority – European Challenges* contain eighteen papers in which authors from various scientific disciplines present and analyze the position of minorities in Croatia and the Croatian minority in other countries.

The first paper is by the historian Albert Bing, *Nacionalne manjine i državno osamostaljenje Hrvatske / National Minorities and Croatian State Independence*, in which individual aspects of minority issues are discussed from a broad perspective in reference to the redefinition of international relations in the late 1980s and early 1990s. In addition to the historical circumstances, emphasis is placed on the ambivalent attitude of Croatian policies toward the minority issue during that period: on the one side, there is a tendency toward the development of a Croatian version of national homogenization based on the reduction of the national content to an ethno-confessional identity code, and on the other there is the tendency to adopt modern solutions for regulating the status of minority nations. The important factors for determining the status of minorities were the effects the circumstances of war and transition, and the correlation of the activities of the political and intellectual elites (from Croatia and from the territory of the former Yugoslavia) and individual representatives of the international community.

In the paper by the lawyer Antonija Petričušić, *Dvadeset godina manjinske politike u Hrvatskoj: kako i kamo dalje? / Twenty Years of Minority Policies in Croatia: How and Where to Next?*, the author asserts that despite the numerous laws that standardize and reinforce the fact of the multiethnicity and multiculturalism of Croatian society, social practice indicates intolerance and even xenophobia in a large part of the Croatian society. The author further explains that the long-term effective and sustainable minority policy in Croatia can only be achieved through changes in political attitudes of all or at least the majority of Croatian citizens. The civil political culture, that has yet to take hold in our country, would primarily enhance the qualities of our still relatively young democracy. Moreover, the civil political culture would be characterized by recognition of the fact of the multiethnicity of the Croatian society and respect for the rights of all social groups, including ethnic minorities, to be represented in government institutions, to have the right to make proposals and exert influence on the creation of all policies, in short to be equal members of the political and social communities.

A historian from Serbia, Zoran Janjetović, in the paper *Nacionalne manjine u Jugoslaviji 1945.–1955. / National Minorities in Yugoslavia, 1945–1955*, discusses questions of interethnic relations and national minorities and how they were resolved during the

first ten years of postwar Yugoslavia. Namely, the author claims that the minorities, on the one hand, had many rights that they did not have in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, but that at the beginning of the socialist period some of them were subjected to reprisals for their conduct during World War II and in this respect there is some gradation of guilt. Retribution soon gave way to the inclusion of the minorities in the new social system. Difficulties arose from both the minorities and also the ruling party. Therefore, according to the author, integration did not progress as desired and there was a tendency for many members of minorities to emigrate to their countries of origin.

In the fourth paper, *Spomen-obilježja (spomenici) poslijeratnih logorskih stradanja hrvatskih Nijemaca, 1945.–1947. / Memorials (Monuments) to the Post-War Suffering of Croatian Germans in Camps, 1945–1947*, the historian Vladimir Geiger analyzes the manner and places for commemorating the suffering of Croatian Germans in the camps of post-war Yugoslavia. Geiger states that the memorials have been raised so far in 1993, 1996, 1999, 2003 and 2010 on three sites where Croatian Germans suffered in camps (Velika Pisanica, Valpovo and Krndija), the locations of the largest camps for the members of the German minority in the territory of Croatia after World War II. However, he points out that there are no memorials in Josipovac near Osijek, Šipovac near Našice, Pusta Podunavlje in Baranja and Tenja/Tenjska Mitnica near Osijek, the sites of postwar internment camps for Croatian Germans, where, according to present knowledge, many of the incarcerated lost their lives. Stressing the need and necessity for memorials to human suffering, Geiger cautions that this should not be approached on the basis of improvisation or without consulting historians, artists, art historians and museum professionals.

Renata Trischler, Executive Director of the Association of the German Minority in Croatia, in the paper *Njemačka manjina u Hrvatskoj – prošlost i perspektive / The German Minority in Croatia – Past and Perspectives*, states that during the past 20 years the German minority in Croatia has experienced a certain renaissance in this region. Considering the fact that since the cessation of the activity Kulturbund in 1941 and the abolition of German national groups after the end of World War II, until 1990 the remaining members of the German/Austrian minority in Croatia did not have the possibility for organizing into associations to foster their culture, traditions and customs. Since 1990, the author points out that there has been a new era in which, during only a few years, several associations have been organized in the territory of Croatia with the aim of representing members of the German and Austrian minorities. In the paper, the author also points out that for various political reasons, the Germanic minority is divided formally into the German and Austrian minorities, despite the fact that at the time when the members of these minorities immigrated to the territory of Croatia, the political/legal and state-building entities known as

Germany and Austria did not exist. The author particularly emphasizes the basic problem that occurs in the minority communities in Croatia, which is the question of identity, the sense of belonging to one's minority group that lacks the most important element of identity, a common mother tongue, because for political reasons in the second half of the twentieth century, the remaining Germans were not in a position to cultivate the German language as their mother tongue. The author notes that through the activities of the Association of the German Minority in Croatia with headquarters in Osijek, the largest association that brings together the members of the German and Austrian minorities, the remaining members of the German/Austrian minorities in Croatia have the opportunity to cultivate the language, culture and traditions of their ancestors in this region but also the task of fighting daily for reaffirmation and the elimination of the prejudice that began at the end of World War II when the Germans in this region bore the burden of collective guilt for the crimes that Germans committed during the war.

In the article *Češka i slovačka manjina preko prepreka socijalizma do izazova globalizma / The Czech and Slovak Minorities through the Barriers of Socialism to the Challenges of Globalism*, the author Vlatka Dugački discusses the problems and tasks confronted by members of the Czech and Slovak minorities in Croatian lands during the period from the end of World War II to the creation of the independent Republic of Croatia and how they are prepared to welcome future European challenges.

In the paper *Slovinci u Zagrebu i djelovanje društva Slovenski dom u Zagrebu s posebnim osvrtom na pokušaj osnivanja slovenske škole 1946. godine / Slovenians in Zagreb and the Activity of the Association of the Slovenian House in Zagreb, with Particular Attention to the Establishment of the Slovenian School in 1946*, the author Filip Škiljan writes about the Slovenian minority in Zagreb, how it immigrated and presents census information, concluding that Slovenians have strongly influenced various aspects of life in the city of Zagreb. The author particularly addresses the question of the number of Slovenians in the city of Zagreb, the activities of Slovenian cultural associations in the city from their founding to the present, and within these topics the establishment of the Slovenian school in Zagreb in 1946.

In the paper *Židovski identitet/i u Hrvatskoj nakon Drugog svjetskog rata: kratak pregled / Jewish Identity/ies in Croatia after the Second World War: A Brief Overview*, the historian Naida Mihal Brandl discusses the process of rebuilding the Jewish community after the Shoah/Holocaust in Croatia. Viewing history from the perspective of its Jewish actors and in the broader Jewish context, the author explores the relationships among Jewish identity, politics and ideology in the context of the socialist state and changes in the (self)definition of Croatian Jews, stratification within the community and the opting of the majority of the survivors to leave Yugoslavia.

Danijel Vojak, a historian and expert on Roma, in the paper *Romi u Hrvatskoj od 1990-ih do danas: marginalna skupina ili... / Roma in Croatia from 1990 to Today: A Marginal Group or...* states that the Roma population has lived in the territory of Croatia for over six centuries and consequently has participated in its numerous political-administrative and territorial changes. The paper is focused on an analysis of the social situation of Roma in the period after 1991. In this context, the author presents their demographic development, economic and social circumstances, and analyzes the relationship between the non-Roma and Roma populations.

In the paper *Poljska manjina u Hrvatskoj 1945.–2015. / The Polish Minority in Croatia, 1945–2015*, the historian Slaven Kale presents the Polish minority with reference to its demographic, cultural and religious development in Croatia. Particular emphasis is placed on how the activity of Poles in Croatia affected the relationship between the Federal National Republic of Yugoslavia/Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Polish People's Republic, as well as between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Poland.

The sociologist Dragutin Babić in the paper *Nacionalne manjine i članstvo Hrvatske u EU-u / National Minorities and Croatian Membership in the EU* analyzes the attitudes of members of national minorities (Czechs, Slovaks, Hungarians and Serbs) regarding what they expect from Croatian accession to the European Union. The European integration processes involve Croatian cooperation with the European Union and its institutions but also the control of these processes by the EU. The views of persons questioned are presented in an appendix obtained through empirical research (surveys) conducted in Eastern Slavonia, Western Slavonia, Zagreb, Dalmatia and the Croatian highlands.

In the paper *Udio nacionalnih manjina u javnom sektoru Republike Hrvatske: stanje 2011. / The Share of National Minorities in the Public Sector in the Republic of Croatia: The Situation in 2011*, the psychologists Stanko Rihtar and Renata Franc together with the historian Ljiljana Dobrović analyze the share of the national minorities in the public sector in the territories of the five Croatian counties where they are most prevalent on the basis of the results of quantitative research, anonymous surveys conducted in early 2011 in 148 institutions. Views are also presented on their working and general situation in society, knowledge and the level of satisfaction with the laws that regulate labor and position in society, including assessments of the possibilities for the preservation of identity and political representation. In order to gain deeper insight into this issue, in the appendix are the results of the quantitative study supplemented and compared with those obtained by a complementary, qualitative procedure, as well as opinions collected via structured interviews with representatives of 29 minority associations, councils and communities.

In the paper *Hrvati u Srbiji – osnovne značajke demografske (biološke) strukture / Croats in Serbia – Basic Characteristics of the Demographic (Biological) Structure*, the demographer Dražen Živić analyzes the most important features of the demographic (biological) structure of the census responses of Croats in Serbia. In this context, selected indicators of biological structures (coefficients of masculinity and femininity, coefficients of youth and old age, aging index, average age, the structure of the total population according to working capacity and the structure of the female population according to fertility) were calculated, analyzed and interpreted, relying on the available and comparable results of the 1991, 2002 and 2011 censuses. The aforementioned are significant indicators of the level of demographic aging as the most significant factor in the depopulation processes among the Croatian population in Serbia and essentially determine tomorrow's demographics. At the same time, through comparative analysis the author points to the similarities and differences in the demographic (biological) structures of the populations of the Croats and Serbs as well as other national minorities in Serbia.

The director of the Institute for the Culture of Vojvodina Croats, Tomislav Žigmanov, in the paper *Hrvati u Vojvodini nakon 2000. godine kao teme znanstvenih i publicističkih radnji u Srbiji i Hrvatskoj – osnovne činjenice i sadržajne sastavnice / Croats in Vojvodina after the Year 2000 as the Subjects of Scientific and Journalistic Works in Serbia and Croatia – Basic Facts and Substantive Components*, analyzes scientific and journalistic works published in the form of independent monographs or articles in scientific and professional journals and proceedings that refer to the social position of the Croatian community in Vojvodina after the year 2000, i.e., after the fall of the regime of Slobodan Milošević. The author differentiates between two types of writings: in the first group are works signed by persons from outside the Croatian community in Vojvodina, which he designates as the external-thematization of the social position of Croats in Vojvodina, and the second group consists of works whose authors are Croats from Vojvodina, which he designates as auto-thematization. Thus divided, the works are subjected to comparative analyses, with the main objective of determining how and to what extent the social position of Croats in Vojvodina has been elaborated.

In the article *Transnacionalni etnički aktivizam: slučaj Hrvata u Srbiji / Transnational Ethnic Activism: The Case of Croats in Serbia*, the sociologist Mario Bara speaks about campaigns by Croats in Serbia for cultural representation and protection of minority rights. After the breakup of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the transformation of the former republican borders into international borders, the Croats in Serbia became a national minority without recognized status until 2002. In order to preserve and develop their own national identity, they resorted to alternative channels

of influence, bypassing the boundaries of the nation states. This involved various actors (individuals, associations) who share common interests with the goal of influencing state policies. One of these interests is reflected in activities to prevent the destruction of the core identity of Croats in Vojvodina. Advocacy networks, citing the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia that guarantees the welfare and protection of Croats in other countries, attempt to secure influence on the country of domicile, especially when it comes to a project for the building and institutionalization of the Bunjevac nation, assisted by state institutions of the Republic of Serbia.

In the article *Nacionalna svijest i ideološki sindrom „protektivnog socijalizma“ bunjevačkih Hrvata u Vojvodini / National Consciousness and the Ideological Syndrome „Protective Socialism“ of the Bunjevac Croats in Vojvodina*, Zlatko Šram attempts to determine (1) the latent structure of Croatian and Bunjevac national consciousness, (2) the latent structure of the ideological syndrome of “protective socialism” and (3) the correlation between the dimensions of national consciousness and the ideological syndrome of protective socialism. The research on which the article is based was performed using a sample of 484 adult Bunjevac Croats in Subotica.

The Croatist Sanja Vulić in the article *Hrvatska manjina u Slovačkoj i hrvatski jezik očima Petra Tažkoga / The Croatian Minority in Slovakia and the Croatian Language through the Eyes of Petar Tažky*, examines the life and work of the Croatian writer Petar Tažky, who writes in the Burgenland literary idiom although he was not born in one of the four existing Croatian villages in Slovakia. Based on a knowledge of the Ikavian-Ekavian Chakavian dialect, Tažky accepted the Burgenland literary idiom in which he writes poetry and short prose works, from sketches to stories, and also his journalistic texts, with reliance on the contemporary standard Croatian language when necessary. A large part of his journalistic, scholarly and literary work is devoted to the Croatian minority in Slovakia.

The final article is by the historian Castilia Manea-Grgin, *Nekoliko kontroverzi u vezi s rumunjskim Hrvatima od početka 1990-ih do danas / Several Controversies in Connection with Romanian Croats from the Early 1990s to the Present*, in which the author discusses several controversies found in scholarly and journalistic works in connection with the Krashovani Croats of Romania since the beginning of the 1990s. They are the largest group (more than 95%) of the approximately 5,500 Romanian Croats. Some of these controversies are not new but had begun in the nineteenth century and continued to today, concerning their origins and when and where they arrived in their present homeland. Other controversies mentioned emerged within the context of the new conditions at the beginning of the 1990s, caused by the fall of communism in Romania and the former Yugoslavia, the establishment of the Republic of Croatia, and concern the issue of Croatian citizenship and representation in the Romanian Parliament.