

Preface

The Association of Croatian Patriots from Osijek has decided to conduct a scientific research in order to change the public misperception of the Homeland War. The research would also show how much the undergraduate students of Josip Juraj Strossmayer University in Osijek know about the causes of the war, the facts and the consequences of the war, e. g. what their prior knowledge is, acquired from the existing curriculum of the history classes. The project *PAX CROATORUM -deteriorated values of the Homeland War* was initiated and extremely well accepted by the public. The project was started with the initial financial means gained after the tender in Osijek-Baranja County, that continuously supports scientific researches of the Homeland War without the political context. In order to conduct this project, the Association of Croatian Veterans started the cooperation with the Ivo Pilar Institute of Social Sciences, e. g. its branch office in Osijek, which has a long, prolific tradition of the research on the Homeland War.

In the first half of this year the Association of Croatian Veterans and the Ivo Pilar Institute of Social Sciences, e.g. its branch office in Osijek conducted a research at seven faculties out of 17 units of Josip Juraj Strossmayer University in Osijek. The Association worked on the technical aspect of the project, whereas the Institute interpreted the data collected. The project was highly supported in the technical and operational way, by the Board of the Association of the Croatian Veterans. I would like to mention especially: Dalibor Križanović, Mladen Matanić, Ante Šimić, Stjepan Španjić. As stated, the research was conducted among the undergraduate students, there were 1091 students who filled in the questionnaire consisted of 30 questions and for each question six answers were stated. The students themselves studied the stated answers out of which only one answer was correct.

The following methods were used; the method of analysis, the method of synthesis, the comparative method, the historical

method, the normative method and the statistical method. The main aim of the project was to obtain high quality information on the essential knowledge of the students about the socio-political system in the SFRY, the Great-Serbian idea on the territory of the SFRY, e.g. the Republic of Croatia, the causes of the Homeland War, the role of the Yugoslav People's Army in the Greater Serbian project, the establishment of the independent and sovereign Republic of Croatia. The results of the research within the project *PAX CROATORUM - deteriorated values of the Homeland War* will be presented to *urbi et orbi*, sending peace messages to Croatia and the world.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to all the participants who helped realize this Project, whose quality and quantity results are presented in this book.

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