

## *Overview of Status in the Field of Addiction in the General Population of the Republic of Croatia: Results of Research Conducted in 2023 and Analysis of Trends of Use in the Period 2011 – 2023*

The book entitled *Overview of Status in the Field of Addiction in the General Population of the Republic of Croatia: Results of Research Conducted in 2023 and Analysis of Trends of Use in the Period 2011 – 2023*, authored by Renata Glavak Tkalić, PhD, Ines Sučić, PhD, Anja Wertag, PhD, Katarina Perić Pavišić, PhD, Josip Razum, PhD, and Mara Šimunović, PhD, and co-published by the Ivo Pilar Institute of Social Sciences and Croatian Public Health Institute, presents the methodology and results of a national study on the prevalence and trends of substance use in the Republic of Croatia. The research was conducted in 2023 in collaboration of the Pilar Institute and Croatian Public Health Institute as part of the project *Substance Abuse in the General Population of the Republic of Croatia: 2023*. It represents the fourth survey of the prevalence and patterns of substance use in the general population of the Republic of Croatia, carried out in 2023 on a large, representative sample of citizens aged 15 to 64 (N=4,988). The study is based on a methodology developed by the European Union Drugs Agency, enabling the monitoring of trends in substance use in the Republic of Croatia over the period from 2011 to 2023 as well as comparison with data from other countries.

The book presents data on the prevalence and patterns of use of tobacco, e-cigarettes, alcohol, sedatives and tranquilizers, illicit drugs (cannabis, cocaine, ecstasy, amphetamines, methamphetamines, LSD, and heroin), as well as new psychoactive substances. It also includes data on behavioral addictions (gambling, video gaming, and social media use). The book also presents data on attitudes toward people who use drugs, drug-related policies, risks associated with substance use, as well as data on the perceived availability of drugs in the Republic of Croatia. The results are presented for the entire sample, the subgroup of young adults (aged 15 to 64), by gender and age, and according to the level of urbanization of the settlements in which the participants lived (large cities, small and medium-sized cities, and rural areas). The publication provides a comprehensive overview of the state of addiction in Croatian society and represents a valuable source of information for professionals and policymakers working in the fields of prevention, treatment, and harm reduction related to substance use.

The reviewers of the book are Prof. Neven Ricijaš and Associate Professor Zrnka Kovačić Petrović, PhD.