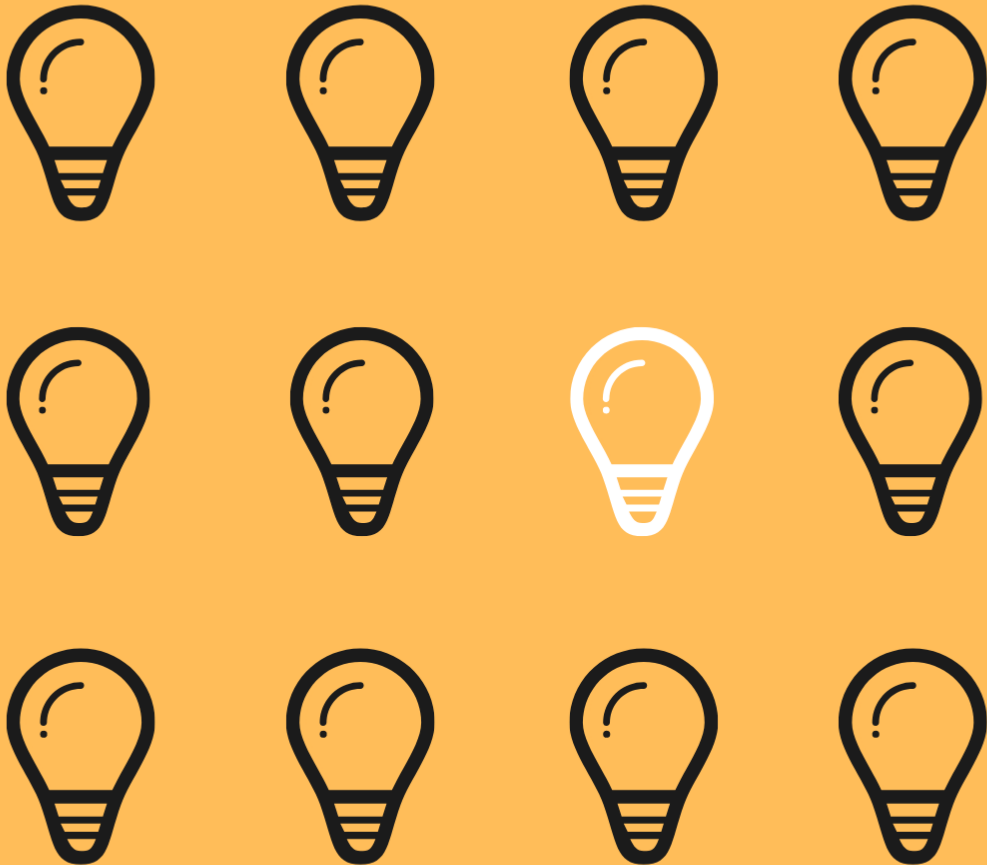




SCHOOL OF ADVANCED SOCIAL STUDIES



RESEARCH

PORTFOLIO

2019

AVGUST 2019

School of Advanced Social Studies is independent research-oriented higher education institution in the field of social sciences, located in Nova Gorica (Slovenia), on the western border of Slovenia with Italy, and close to both Austria and Croatia.

The School's strategic vision and thematic focus on high-level applied research in specific areas of EU studies is shaped, first, by the intercultural space in which it is located, secondly, by the transnational character of the region, which has traditionally nurtured strong cross-border linkages and, finally, by the region's successful, smart and inclusive transformation from traditional industrial and rural region to one with high value-added industry and tourism, in which knowledge played the key role.

The activities of the School are guided by strategic orientations towards interdisciplinary, internationalisation, excellence and applicability in teaching and research. During the short period after its founding in 2006, the School has managed to attract and consolidate a highly qualified and ambitious team of mostly younger researchers and university teachers. In terms of measurable scientific achievements, this is currently one of leading social science institution in Slovenia. SASS has full accreditation for BA and MA courses as well as for doctoral studies in Sociology.

SASS is providing degree-awarding courses at undergraduate, masters and Ph.D level in social sciences and in psychotherapy. Currently the school has 350 students at all levels of study, 55 members of academic staff and 8 members of administrative staff.

SASS is not only internationally connected leading national centre of excellent social science education and research, it is also strongly embedded in local, regional and national environment by conducting high-level basic research and relevant applied research for businesses and public administrations at local and national levels.

Although it is a HEI, it strongly depends on revenues from research and various EU-funded projects. SASS has traditionally received majority of its funding on a project basis and has extensive experience with management and implementation of EU co-financed projects.

SASS has extensive experience with management and implementation of EU co-financed projects. SASS is embedded in relevant international research networks, and it is hosting the National Committee of the UNESCO-sponsored programme, "Management of Social Transformations" (MOST2).

Some of the recent international and [EU co-funded projects](#) include:

- ◆ 2019-2022 Erasmus+, KA2 - Capacity Building in the field of Higher Education. Labs of Innovation and Business for Young Actors of start UP - Libya Up.
- ◆ 2019-2022 Erasmus+, Jean Monnet Centre of excellence. Strategic observatory for Europe 2030.
- ◆ 2019-2022 Erasmus+, Jean Monnet Chair. European Transnational Governance for Sustainable Development.
- ◆ 2019-2022 Interreg Central Europe programme. Social Entrepreneurship as an Enabling environment for Migrants' Employment and Integration, SEE ME IN.
- ◆ 2018-2021 Interreg Danube Transnational programme. Fostering Innovation in the Danube Region through Knowledge Engineering and Intellectual Property Rights Management, KnowING IPR.
- ◆ 2018-2019 Interreg Adrion programme. FOST INNO - Fostering tourism innovation system in Adriatic-Ionian Region.
- ◆ 2017-2019 Interreg Central Europe programme (2nd call - 2016). Technologies, Competences and Social Innovation for Work Integration Social Enterprises, INNO WISEs.
- ◆ 2018-2020 Erasmus+. Learning mobility of Individuals. Mobility projects for higher education, training and youth with partner countries – MSUPE – Moscow State University for Psychology and Education.
- ◆ 2017-2019 Erasmus+. Learning mobility of Individuals. Mobility projects for higher education, training and youth with partner countries – Lebanese American University, Beirut, Lebanon.
- ◆ 2016-2017 Erasmus+. Learning mobility of Individuals. Mobility projects for higher education, training and youth with partner countries – American University of Beirut, Lebanon.
- ◆ 2012-2014 Making Migration Work for Development - Policy tools for strategic planning in SEE regions and cities – MMWD. Strategic project co-funded by the South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme, through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA).
- ◆ 2013-2015 ESF co-financed project “Quality Assurance in Higher Education”.
- ◆ 2012-2015 ESF co-financed project “Innovative scheme”.
- ◆ 2012-2015 ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. A comprehensive internationalized faculty quality system – CFSK.

- ◆ 2012-2013 ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. Chaos theory.
- ◆ 2012-2013 ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. Global trends in everyday life: The challenges of individualisation.
- ◆ 2012-2013 ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. Computer analysis of qualitative data.
- ◆ 2012-2013 ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. Cloud computing.
- ◆ 2012 ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. The creation of conditions of regional and local development.
- ◆ 2012 ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. Computer simulation of processes.
- ◆ 2012 ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. Mixed crowd and benchmarking data.
- ◆ 2012 ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. Decision support system
- ◆ 2012 ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport. CRIPREDE in action.
- ◆ 2014 European national elites and the crisis - International comparative research on the impact of financial crisis on the attitudes of national elites toward European Union.
- ◆ EUVox 2014. Online application sponsored by the Directorate-General for Communication of the European Parliament and Open Society Initiative for Europe, designed to compare the positions of EU citizens and major political parties of each EU country participating in the election to the European Parliament 2014.
- ◆ 2015 ESF - The Slovene Human Resources and Scholarship Fund. Creative way to practical knowledge 2nd opening:
 - Interpersonal relationships and transparent communications
 - Renovation of the business model of training employees for the services of Chinese guests
 - Social entrepreneurship in Slovenia: the driver and blocking its development
- ◆ 2014 ESF - The Slovene Human Resources and Scholarship Fund. Creative way to practical knowledge 1st opening:
 - Online communication tools in production technology
 - Documental systems for protection of intellectual property
 - Process simulator for key enabling technologies

A series of **bilateral research projects** with:

- ◆ 2018-2020 The role of cultural and creative industry in the promotion of tourism: case study Slovenia and Bosna and Herzegovina.
- ◆ 2018-2020 Testing of reward model with tips in Montenegro and Slovenia.
- ◆ 2016-2018 St. Petersburg State University, Russia. Social transformations in Central and Eastern Europe in a comparative perspective.
- ◆ 2016-2017 University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA. Experiencing individualization, global changes and technological development: exploring narratives of young transnational students.
- ◆ 2016-2017 Harvard University, Cambridge, USA. Intellectual elite as guardian of collective memory: comparison of American and Slovenian situations.
- ◆ 2016-2017 Univerzitet Mediteran, Bar, Montenegro. Developing gambling tourism within a tourist destination: experiences from Montenegro and Slovenia.
- ◆ 2015-2016 Santa Clara University, USA. Search for the justice in relation to the integrity (with emphasis on the educational system): Comparison between Slovenia and US.
- ◆ 2014-2015 Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Sociology, Russia. Systems and agency in social and political transformations: Slovenia and Russia in Comparative Perspective.
- ◆ 2014-2015 Faculty for tourism, Mediterranean University, Montenegro. The development of integrated and sustainable tourism offer of Slovenia and Montenegro for Far Eastern Market (China).
- ◆ 2013-2014 University of Kyiv, Department of Social Structure and Social Relations. Ukraine. Comparing Demographic Trends and Labour Market Fluctuations in Slovenia and Ukraine during the period 2000- 2014.
- ◆ 2013-2014 Institute of sociological, political and juridical research, Macedonia. Specifics of the Political Steering of Market Economy in Macedonia and Slovenia: A Comparative Analysis.
- ◆ 2012-2013 College of Political, Administrative and Communication Sciences, Babes Bolyai University, Political Culture in Slovenia and Romania: Situation, Developments, Perspectives Romania.

Other **national projects**:

- ◆ 2019 – 2022 Research project co-financed by the Slovenian Research Agency: “Advancing social and environmental sustainability: Exploring and predicting responsible behaviour in Slovenia (Project J5-1788)”.
- ◆ 2019 Municipality of Nova Gorica, Municipality Brda: Research for identification of user’s needs for the establishment of the network “Hiša dobre volje”.
- ◆ 2019 Student’s innovative projects for social benefits:
 - Development of a “Training of social skills for persons with mental health problems”
 - It begins in the family.
- ◆ 2019 Project work with business sector in local and regional environment – Po kreativni poti do znanja 2017-2020 - financed by ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (3 projects):
 - Stress the stress - with the technique TRE to less stress
 - Fishing tourism in Slovenia on rivers and lakes
 - Design of the mobile app for children of separated parents (II)
- ◆ 2018 Project work with business sector in local and regional environment – Po kreativni poti do znanja 2017-2020 - financed by ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (4 projects):
 - Planning of strategy for the development of tourism for the elderly and physically disabled persons
 - Visual communications for the improvement of youth users experience
 - National awareness raising on facing depression
 - Design of the mobile app for children of separated parents
- ◆ 2018 Student’s innovative projects for social benefits:
 - Development of a “Training of social skills for persons with mental health problems”
- ◆ 2018 Ministry of Culture, Republic of Slovenia. Evaluation of the yearly program call for co-funding of media content in 2017.
- ◆ 2017 Student innovative project for social benefit: Web counselling to students with problems. (Financed by ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport)

- ◆ 2017 Municipality of Tolmin: Research on the effect of festival tourism in the municipality of Tolmin
- ◆ 2017 Project work with business sector in local and regional environment – Po kreativni poti do znanja 2016/2017 - financed by ESF and Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (5 projects):
 - Innovative approaches to ensuring responsible and pluralistic media in Slovenia
 - Development of an online personal psychosocial counsellor
 - Development of a help programme in case of addiction to computer games
 - Planning of strategy for sustainable development of tourism in the region
 - Trauma today and in the past – Innovative methods in trauma treatment.
- ◆ 2017 Radio 1. Market research for Radio 1.
- ◆ 2017 Ministry of Culture, Republic of Slovenia. Evaluation of the yearly program call for co-funding of media content in 2016.
- ◆ 2016 Youth centre Nova Gorica. Analysis of the research of youth programmes in the Municipality Nova Gorica.
- ◆ 2016 Ministry of Culture, Republic of Slovenia. Evaluation of the yearly program call for co-funding of media content in 2015.
- ◆ 2015-2016 Public Library Nova Gorica. General contentment of library services.
- ◆ 2015-2016 Supreme Court Slovenia. General contentment measuring of the judiciary on Republic of Slovenia.
- ◆ 2015 Ministry of Culture. Analysis of media space in Slovenia.
- ◆ 2015 Slovenian Research Agency. Promoting the employment of young PhDs.
- ◆ 2015 Employment service of Slovenia. Training in work place.
- ◆ 2015 Slovenian Research Agency. UNESCO programme MOST.
- ◆ 2013 Ministry of labour, family, social affairs and equal opportunities. Market analysis of student work in Slovenia
- ◆ 2011-2012 Ministry of Defence. The safety culture, protection of classified information and the protection of critical infrastructure in the Municipality.
- ◆ 2009-2014 Slovenian Research Agency. Infrastructure program Slovenian pulse.
- ◆ 2009-2016 Slovenian Research Agency. Research group Democracy and Development.

- ◆ 2008-2010 Slovenian Research Agency. Regionalisation and the Slovenian education system - social and administrative aspects.
- ◆ 2008-2010 Slovenian Research Agency. The formation of processes for involvement of local public in the process of nuclear facilities placement .
- ◆ 2007-2008 HIT d.o.o. Analyses and calculations of social costs of gambling in Slovenia
- ◆ 2007-2013 HIT d.d.
 - Providing regularly updated overview of research in the field of gambling
 - Gambling and social environment: the case of Nova Gorica
 - The analysis of public discourse and public opinion
- ◆ 2007-2010 Ministry of Defence. Public opinion research projects.

Within the national funding scheme for excellent researchers, the long-term SASS research programme “Democracy and Development” has been continually supported by the Slovenian Research Agency from 2009. Moreover, the SASS “Slovenian Pulse” programme has collected longitudinal survey data on the Slovenian public opinion for the last six years.

Research activities conducted by the SASS are held at four institutes

Institute for Advanced Social Studies

Head of the institute: [prof. Matevž Tomšič](#)

Institute combines a variety of theoretical aspects and empirical approaches referring to social science research. On the one hand, it is based on the broad focus of social transformations in the contemporary world combining both macro and micro perspectives and combining the cultural, social, political and economic aspects. On the other hand, it also carries out research work in the sphere of politics, dealing with its cultural, structural and actional aspects. It is oriented toward different political phenomena as determined by value orientations, institutional settings and activities of political agents. The research focus is on multi-level governance that encompasses local, regional, national and global (also European) level. In addition, it is oriented toward four global trends: upgrading of the rationality of organizations, individualisation, spread of instruments activism, universalisation of ideas and institutional practices of sustainability and human rights.

Its methodological approaches are based on triangulation and thus include the combination of:

- quantitative methods, including especially using survey data, official statistics and indices in regression models, hierarchical regression models, factor analyses, cluster analyses, network analyses as well as content analyses of different texts, especially from the media;
- qualitative methods, such as interviews, focus groups and discourse analyses;
- comparative methods (based on survey data, statistics and indices, analysed through fuzzy sets

The National Institute of Psychotherapy

Head of the Institute: assist. prof. Jana Krivec

Institute is focused on practical and research activities in the field of psychotherapy, counselling and the preparation and implementation of prevention and education programs. The National institute of psychotherapy was funded in 2007 by the School of Advanced Social Studies. The basic activity of the Institute is to develop psychotherapeutic practice and research activities in the field of psychotherapy and the preparation and implementation of prevention and education programs. Via its own Centers of Psychotherapy and Psychosocial Support the Institute offers individual, group, family and partner psychotherapy, psychosocial support, information and expert advice for people in need and additional preventive and educational programs and supervision in educational institutions, health care, voluntary sector work in the field of social protection and other clients. Experts from a variety of psychological, psychotherapeutic and medical fields work at the Institute. The long-term professional and scientific aim of the Institute is the establishment of national and international connections as well as research and project work. It refers to working with families, organizations and individuals in the field of mental health (prevention and treatment), psychosocial counseling, clinical psychological diagnosis, neuropsychological diagnostics, aching interpersonal relationships, parenting problems and difficulties of growing up, mental distress, etc.

We are interested in applying for all project calls whose scope broadly aligns with our scientific interests. You are kindly invited to express your interest for collaboration at: projektna.pisarna@fuds.si

The list of researchers in an alphabetical order

Dadiana Chiran

Education

2016 - PhD Fellow in Sociology; School of Advanced Social Studies in Nova Gorica, Slovenia

2013 - MA Degree in Interdisciplinary Research and Studies on Eastern Europe (MIREES), University of Bologna, Faculty of Political Sciences 'Roberto Ruffilli'

Dissertation: "Roma-minority economic empowerment. An analytic assessment of the nexus between the welfare state efficiency and the poverty entrapment. Perspectives from Hungary and Romania."

2011 - BA in Modern Applied Languages – Specialized terminology, University of Bucharest, Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literature.

Research interests

- Rational economic voting and cultural effects in Eastern Europe and the Balkan.
- The relationship between party success, party life-cycle and socio-economic context in CEE and the Balkans.
- Other influencers of voting behaviour: clientelist accountability, programmatic accountability.
- Party de-alignment.

Publications

- Roma-minority economic empowerment. An analytic assessment of the nexus between the welfare state efficiency and the poverty entrapment. Perspectives from Hungary and Romania.', Institute for Cultural Relations Policy (ICRP), ISBN 978-615-5432-00-2
- Brokerage of Electoral Currency and the Effects of Clientelist Linkage in CEE Transitional Political Processes, East European Politics and Societies (under review)

Erika Džajić Uršič

Education

2017: Dr in Sociology, School of Advanced Social Studies, Nova Gorica, Slovenia. Thesis: Morphogenesis of Industrial Symbiotic Networks.

2011: MSc Engineering and Management, University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia. Thesis: Investment elaborate for the construction of a public-private Investment study for the construction of a public-private Home of pensioners.

2009: BSc in Engineering and Management, University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia. Thesis: Analysis of the partnership relationship between Intra Lighting, d.o.o, and Marchiol, d.o.o, in the development of new light technology.

Research Interests

- Socio-economic factors of industrial symbiosis
- Computer intensive methods and applications
- Software modelling of industrial symbiosis networks
- Combination of qualitative and quantitative methods of industrial symbiosis networks analyses.

Publications

- Mileva-B., Biljana, Rončević, Borut, Džajić Uršič, Erika. Modeling and evaluation of the possibilities of forming a regional industrial symbiosis networks. Social sciences, ISSN 2076-0760, 2018, vol. 7, iss. 1. <http://www.mdpi.com/2076-0760/7/1/13/pdf>, doi: 10.3390/socsci7010013. [COBISS.SI-ID 2048488723]
- Mileva-B., Biljana, Džajić U., Erika, Rončević, Borut. Modelling and development of industrial symbiosis networks in a regional industrial area with DEXi. V: RODIČ, Blaž (ur.). Book of Abstracts. Novo mesto: Faculty of Information Studies. 2017. <http://itis.fis.unm.si/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/ITIS-2017-Book-of-Abstracts.pdf>. [COBISS.SI-ID 2048481299]
- Džajić U., Erika, Rončević, Borut. Industrial symbiotic networks in the information society: research challenges and perspectives. V: RONČEVIĆ, Borut (ur.), TOMŠIČ, Matevž (ur.). Information society and its manifestations: economy, politics, culture. Frankfurt am Main [etc.]: Peter Lang, cop. 2017, doi: 10.3726/b10694.

- Mileva-B., Biljana, Džajić Uršič, Erika, Rončević, Borut. A model for evaluation of appropriateness of industrial symbiosis networking based on DEX. *Energy, Environmental and Structural Engineering Series*, ISSN 2227-4359, 42). [S. l.]: WSEAS, cop. 2015, p. 118-123.

Tea Golob

Education

2015 - PhD in Sociology from School of Advanced Social Studies in Nova Gorica (Slovenia). Dissertation title: Towards key factors influencing identifications with the EU: a dialectical relationship between transnational social fields and national frames

2010 - MA in European joint programme (CREOLE) conducted by University of Maynooth (Ireland) and University of Ljubljana (Slovenia). Thesis title: Slovene and Irish returned emigrants and their descendants

2007 - BsC in Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology from University of Ljubljana (Slovenia).

Research interests

- Social theory, with a special emphasis on micro aspects, agency-structure relations,
- reflexivity, responsibility, narratives,
- Transnational processes, socio-cultural factors of development, reflexive deliberation and instrumental identifications
- Qualitative research methods

Publications

- Golob, Tea, Makarovič, Matej. Student mobility and transnational social ties as factors of reflexivity. *Social sciences*, ISSN 2076-0760, 2018, vol. 7, no. 3, pp. 1-18
- Golob, Tea; Makarovič, Matej (2017). Self-organisation and development : a comparative approach to post-communist transformations from the perspective of social systems theory. *Europe-Asia studies*, vol. 69, iss. 10, pp. 1499-1525
- Golob, Tea. 2016 Living beyond the nation : European transnational social fields and identifications. Frankfurt am Main: P. Lang,
- Golob Tea, Makarovič Matej, Suklan Jana (2016) National Development Generates National Identities. *PLoS ONE* 11(2): e0146584. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0146584
- Golob, Tea (2015). Constructions of identities in the light of emergent relationship between social structure and individual deliberations. *Annales, Series historia et sociologia*, vol 25 (2), pp. 295-304.

- Makarovič, Matej, Golob, Tea (2013). Increasing fluidity of identifications in the context of individualisation : identification with the European Union. *International social science journal* pp. 1-13. doi: [10.1111/issj.12052](https://doi.org/10.1111/issj.12052)

Petra Kleindienst

Education

2018 - PhD in Sociology, School of Advanced Social Studies, Nova Gorica, Slovenia (title of dissertation: The role of educational system in development of the democratic political culture)

2014 - M.A. in Law, European Faculty of Law, Nova Gorica, Slovenia

2011 - B.A. in Law, European Faculty of Law, Nova Gorica, Slovenia

Research interests

- constitutional law
- human rights and human dignity
- democracy
- political culture
- political socialization
- educational system

Publications

- Kleindienst, Petra, Tomšič, Matevž. 2018. Človekovo dostojanstvo kot del politične kulture v novih demokracijah: postkomunistična Slovenija. *Bogoslovni vestnik : glasilo Teološke fakultete v Ljubljani*, ISSN 0006-5722. [Tiskana izd.], letn. 78, [št.] 1, str. 159-172.
- Kleindienst, Petra. 2017. Understanding the different dimensions of human dignity : analysis of the decision of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia on the "Tito street" case. *Danube: law and economics review*, vol. 8, no. 3, str. 117-147, doi: 10.1515/danb-2017-0009.
- Kleindienst, Petra, Tomšič, Matevž. 2017. Human dignity as the foundation of democratic political culture: legal and philosophical perspective. *Law, culture and the humanities: a publication of the Association for the study of law, culture and humanities*, str. 1-20, doi: 10.1177/1743872117738229.

- Kleindienst, Petra. 2016. The impact of educational institutions and democratic system. *International journal for innovative research in multidisciplinary field*, ISSN 2455-0620, vol. 2, no. 11, str. 165-170.
- Kleindienst, Petra. 2016. Narava človekovega dostojanstva = The nature of human dignity. *Raziskave in razprave*, ISSN 1855-4148, vol. 9, no. 1/3, str. 195-232.
- Kleindienst, Petra, Tomšič, Matevž. 2015. *Human dignity as the basis of democratic political culture*. V: STROUHAL, Jiri (ed.). *Economics, law and political science: proceedings of the 4th International Conference on Economics, Political and Law Science (EPLS '15)*, Rome, Italy, November 7-9.

Jana Krivec

Education

2012 - PhD in Psychology, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts. (Doctoral thesis title: Cognitive processing of information: The case of playing chess.

2004 - B.A. in Psychology, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts.

Research interests

- DM techniques in social studies, especially in the field of psychology
- Cognitive psychology
- Stress and psychology

Publications

- M. Gams, J. Krivec. Demographic analysis of fertility using data mining tools. *Informatica*, Vol. 32, no.2, pp.147-156.
- J. Krivec, M. Guid, and I. Bratko. Identification and Characteristic Descriptions of Procedural Chunks. *ComputationWorld conference: Cognitive 2009*, November 2009. IEEE Computer Society, 2009, pp. 448-453.
- J. Krivec, M. Gams. Data Mining Techniques for Explaining Social Events. V *Knowledge-Oriented Applications in Data Mining*, Kimito Funatsu (Ed.), 2011. ISBN: 978-953-307-154-1, InTech.
- KRIVEC, Jana, GOLOB, Tea. Psychosocial approach to migrants: current state, issues and improvement possibilities. *Innovative issues and approaches in social sciences*, ISSN 1855-0541, May 2017, vol. 10, no. 2, str. 42-61.
- IQBAL, Azlan, GUID, Matej, COLTON, Simon, KRIVEC, Jana, AZMAN, Shazril, HAGHIGHI, Boshra. *The digital synaptic neural substrate: a new approach to computational creativity*, (Springer briefs in cognitive computation). [S. l.]: Springer, cop. 2016. XV, 119 str.

Matej Makarovič

Education

1999 - PhD in Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Thesis: Coordination of complexity as a problem of societal evolution.

1995 - MA in Sociology and Politics, Lancaster University, UK. Thesis: Political subsystem in postcommunist modernisation.

1993 - BA in Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Thesis: Political system in a decentric Society.

Research Interests

- Reflexivity and responsibility in contemporary social contexts
- Transformations of social systems and individual identities and values in the national, European and global contexts
- Challenges of transnational and national governance in complex social systems
- Social entrepreneurship

Publications

- Golob, Tea; Makarovič, Matej (2018). Student mobility and transnational social ties as factors of reflexivity. *Social sciences*, vol. 7, no. 3, pp. 1-18
- Golob, Tea; Makarovič, Matej (2017). Self-organisation and development: a comparative approach to post-communist transformations from the perspective of social systems theory. *Europe-Asia studies*, vol. 69, iss. 10, pp. 1499-1525
- Makarovič, Matej; Prijon, Lea; Rek, Mateja; Tomšič, Matevž (2016) The Strength of Pro-European consensus among Slovenian political elites. *Historical social research*, 2016, vol. 41, no. 4, pp. 195-213
- Danilova, Elena; Makarovič, Matej; Zubkovich, Alina, eds. (2015). Multi-faced transformations: challenges and studies. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
- Makarovič, Matej; Šušteršič, Janez; Rončević, Borut (2014). Is Europe 2020 Set to Fail? The Cultural Political Economy of the EU Grand Strategies, *European Planning Studies* 22(3), pp. 610-626.

Janja Mikulan Kildi

Education

2018/2019: Fulbright Foreign Student Program (Visiting Researcher) at the Temple University; Philadelphia, USA

2014 – ongoing: PhD Fellow in Sociology; School of Advanced Social Studies in Nova Gorica, Slovenia

2014 - M.A. in World Studies; Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana; Slovenia

2009 - B.A. in Political Science; Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana; Slovenia

Research interests

- Democracy and authoritarianism
- Politics of the Middle East and North Africa
- Conflicts and security
- International humanitarian aid

Main publications

- MAKAROVIČ, Matej, MIKULAN KILDI, Janja. *"Clash of civilizations" under scrutiny : towards explanatory context for understanding the impacts of Islam on democracy : lecture at the 8th Slovenian Social Science Conference on "Contemporary social transformations: Reflecting inter-cultural encounters", Piran, Slovenia, 15.-17. September 2016.*
- MIKULAN KILDI, Janja. Crisis mapping for more inclusive humanitarian information management in the ICT era. V: RONČEVIČ, Borut (ur.), TOMŠIČ, Matevž (ur.). *Information society and its manifestations: economy, politics, culture.* Frankfurt am Main [etc.]: Peter Lang. cop. 2017
- MIKULAN KILDI, Janja, CEPOI, Victor. The importance of the political order for peace. *Journal of aggression, conflict and peace research*, ISSN 2042-8715, 2017, vol. 9, iss. 1, str. 24-37, ilustr.
- MAKAROVIČ, Matej, MIKULAN KILDI, Janja. Towards a model explaining the political (in)stability and variety of regimes in the post-Soviet region. *Comparative sociology*, ISSN 1569-1322, 2017, vol. 16, iss. 1, str. 66-101

Nevenka Podgornik

Education

2012 - PhD in Sociology, 2012, at the School of advanced social studies, Nova Gorica. Thesis: The merits of reality psychotherapy doctrine with socio-anthropological perspective.

2001 - M.A. in Anthropology, ISH - Institutum Studiorum Humanitatis, Faculty for graduated humanity studies Ljubljana. Thesis: Socio-cultural background of the manifestation of psychic crises

1996 - B.A. in Social Work-Mental Health, the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Work. Thesis: From the concepts of family therapy to the development and implementation of workshops on family and for people with brain injury.

2011 - Reality therapy psychotherapist, 2011, The William Glasser Institute and The European Association for Reality Therapy

2011 - The European Certificate of Psychotherapy, 2011, The European Association for Psychotherapy

Research interests

- Psychotherapy and counselling
- Mental health
- Sociology of gender
- Addiction to the internet and other electronic media
- Sociology of Social Policy
- Non-profit sector

Publications

- Podgornik, Nevenka. 2019. Mental health in modern society. AuthorHouse : UK
- Podgornik, Nevenka. 2016. Psihične krize sodobnega človeka : sociološko - antropološka perspektiva in vpogled v psihoterapevtsko prakso. Vega : Ljubljana.
- Podgornik, Nevenka. 2012. Depression : a socio-cultural way of manifesting women's psychological crises. Anthropological notebooks, year 18, no. 2.
- Ambrožič, Olga, Podgornik, Nevenka. 2018. Uvajanje otrok v vrtec : študija primera. Pedagoška obzorja : časopis za didaktiko in metodiko, let. 33., št. 2

- Kovačič, Andrej, Ovačič, Andrej, Podgornik, Nevenka, Pristov, Zorica, Raspor, Andrej. 2017. Mobbing in a non-profit organisation. Organizacija : revija za management, informatiko in kadre. Vol. 50, no. 2

Tjaša Stepišnik Perdih

Education

2016 - PhD in Marital and Family Therapy, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Theology (Doctoral thesis title: Physiological measures of emotions and their role in the process of marital and family therapy).

2007 - B.A. in Social Pedagogy, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Education

Research interests

- Trauma and dissociation
- Stress and psychosomatics
- Body-oriented therapeutic techniques and physiological measures
- Mental health, prevention and promotion
- Psychotherapy and psychosocial counselling

Publications

- Rapuš Pavel, J., & Stepišnik Perdih, T. (2007). Characteristic of youth transfer to a social status void. In Dekleva, Rapuš Pavel & Zorc (Ed.), *Transitions to Labour Market – A Choice or a Necessity?* (pp. 104 –123). Ljubljana: Faculty of Education.
- Stepišnik Perdih, T. (2011). Birth Order and Personality Traits. *Social Pedagogy*, 15(3), 223-242.
- Stepišnik Perdih, T. (2017). Physiological dimensions of emotions in the Bible. *Theological Quarterly*, 77(1), pp. 221-227.
- Stepišnik Perdih, T. (2018). Dissociative symptoms in young adults in Slovenia. In Suresh, P. (Ed.), *Proceedings of The IRES International Conference, February 20th-21th, 2018, Rome, Italy. The Institute of Research Engineers and Scientists (IRES)*, pp. 10-13.

Primož Rakovec

Education

2018: PhD in Sociology from School of Advanced Social Studies. (Disertation title: The Impact of Internal Dialogue on Car Drivers Aggressive Driving)

2015: M.A. in Psychosocial Counselling, 2015, at School of Advanced Studies,
1997: B.A. in Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences.

Research interests

- Internal Dialogue,
- Reflexivity,
- Psychosocial Counselling,
- Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy.

Publications:

Krivec, Jana in Rakovec Primož. 2018. "Kognitivno-vedenjski profil stresne izkušnje med slovenskimi študentkami in študenti." *Kairos: slovenska revija za psihoterapijo* 12 (1/2): 67-86.

Andrej Raspor

Education

2010 - PhD. in Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Faculty for Social Sciences Kardeljeva ploščad 1000 Ljubljana, SI Slovenia, Thesis: Impact of Tipping on Workers' Motivation: Comparison Between the Hospitality and the Gaming Industry

2003 - Bachelor of Organizational Sciences, University of Maribor, Faculty of Organizational Sciences, Kranj

2001 - BA in organization, University of Maribor, Faculty of Organizational Sciences Kranj

Research interests

- Organization Theory,
- Strategic planning,
- Quality Management and Business Excellence,
- HRM ,
- Tourism,
- Project and time management,
- Western Balkans and China.

Publications

- Macuh, Bojan, Raspor Andrej, Sraka Marko, Kovačič Andrej. 2018. Media exposure and education of first to six grade children from Slovenia-parent opinions. *International Journal of Cognitive Research in Science, Engineering and Education*, 6(3), 49-58.

- Macuh, Bojan, Raspor Andrej. 2018. Andrej. Duhovna oskrba starejših v domovih za starejše. *Bogoslovni vestnik: glasilo Teološke fakultete v Ljubljani*. 78(2), 641-660.
- Kovačič, Andrej, Macuh, Bojan, Raspor Andrej, Sraka Marko, Škabar Matjaž. 2018. Starši kot medijski opismenjevalci osnovnošolskih otrok prve in druge triade. *Pedagoška obzorja : časopis za didaktiko in metodiko*, 33(2), 20-37,
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- Kovacič, Andrej, Podgornik Nevenka, Pristov Zorica & Raspor Andrej. 2017. Mobbing in a Non-Profit Organisation. *Organizacija*, 50(2), 178-186.

Mateja Rek

Education

2008 - PhD in Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana

Thesis: The role of social capital in formation of transnational European civil society

2003 - M.A. in Management of non-for-profit organisations, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana

2000 - B.A. in Communication studies – Market Communication, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana

2000 - B.A. in Cultural Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana

Research interests

- (media) construction of reality
- media literacy
- social change and development
- cross-cultural analysis
- active citizenship
- global/ transnational civil society

Publications

- Rek, Mateja; Makarovič, Matej; Škabar, Matjaž. 2017. Identifying complex cultural conditions of globalization in late modernity: a fuzzy set analysis of 30 countries. *European Journal of Science and Theology*, 13 (1), 173-188.
- Rek, Mateja; Ozvatič, Tanja. 2017. Using the specific affect coding system to observe affective behaviour in public speaking. *Research in social change*, 9 (1), 28-48.
- Rek, Mateja. 2016. Unwanted behaviour among youth: influence of digital media consumption. *Innovative issues and approaches in social sciences*, 9 (3), 122-135.
- Kovačič, Andrej; Rek, Mateja. 2016. Factors increasing media exposure of preschool children. *The new educational review*, 45, 249-257.
- Rek, Mateja; Makarovič, Matej; Škabar, Matjaž. 2015. (Un)certainty in the knowledge society. *Comparative sociology*, 15 (5), 613-634.
- Rek, Mateja. 2015. Researching the role of civil society and media in curbing corruption: a need for a more in-depth interdisciplinary approach. *Innovative issues and approaches in social sciences*, 8 (1), 60-76.
- Makarovič, Matej; Rek, Mateja. 2014. Power and Influence-Based Political Participation in European Democracies. *Sociológia* 46 (6), 686-705.

Borut Rončević

Education

2003 - PhD in Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Thesis: Models of developmental strategies.

2000 - MA in European Social Policy Analysis, international consortium programme conducted at National University of Ireland, Maynooth (Ireland), Roskilde University (Denmark), University of Ljubljana (Slovenia). Thesis: Entrepreneurship: The role of structural funds facilitating SME development.

1999 - BSc in Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Thesis: The impact of the third sector in contemporary welfare states.

Research Interests

- Sociological theory and economic sociology, with a special emphasis on social systems theory and cultural political economy.
- Particular research topics include socio-cultural factors of development, regional systems of innovation, ethnicity/minorities and social costs of gambling.
- Research employed a variety of research methods, including fuzzy-set qualitative comparative analysis, statistical analysis, interviews and focus groups, as well as media content analysis.

Publications

- F. Adam, I. Bernik, B. Rončević, A Grand Theory and a Small Social Scientific Community: Niklas Luhmann in Slovenia, *Studies in East European Thought* 57(1) (2015), 61-80.
- M. Makarovič, J. Šušteršič, B. Rončević, Is Europe 2020 Set to Fail? The Cultural Political Economy of the EU Grand Strategies, *European Planning Studies* 22(3) (2014), 610-626.
- D. Modic, B. Rončević, Regional Systems of Innovations as Social Fields, *Sociology and Space* 49(191) (2011), 313-333.
- M. Makarovič, B. Rončević, Towards the Strategies of Modern Societies: Systems and Social Processes, *Innovation: The European Journal of Social Sciences* 23(3) (2010), 223-239.
- F. Adam, B. Rončević, Social Capital: Recent Debates and Research Trends, *Social Science Information* 42(2) (2003), 155-183.

Matevž Tomšič

Education

2002 - PhD in Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Thesis: Stabilisation of democracy and developmental performance of post-socialist societies.

1999 - MA in Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Thesis: Formation of political elites in postsocialist societies.

1996 - BA in Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. Thesis: Culture or politics: dilemmas of intellectuals in central and eastern Europe.

Research Interests

- Quality of governance.
- The role of political actors, especially political (and other) elites.
- The character of political system.
- Democratisation and societal development.
- Media content analysis.

Publications

- Makarovič, Matej, Tomšič, Matevž. Resilience of pro-European consensus among political elites in crisis: "old" and "new" EU member states compared. In: Conti, Nicolo, Göncz, Borbála, Real-Dato, Jose (eds.), *National political elites, European integration and the Eurozone crisis*. New York, Routledge (2018).

- Kleindienst, Petra, Tomšič, Matevž. Human dignity as the foundation of democratic political culture: legal and philosophical perspective. Law, culture and the humanities: a publication of the Association for the study of law, culture and humanities (2017).
- Tomšič, Matevž. Decline of elite consensus and destabilisation of political space in East-Central Europe. Corvinus journal of sociology and social policy 8 (3) (2017).
- Tomšič, Matevž. Elites in New Democracies, Peter Lang, Frankfurt am Main (2016).
- Tomšič, Matevž, Prijon, Lea. Person-based politics in Italy and Slovenia: Comparing cases of leadership's individualisation. International Social Science Journal 64(213/214) (2013).
- Tomšič, Matevž, Vehovar, Urban. Quality of governance in "Old" and "New" EU member states in a comparative perspective, Sociológia 44(3) (2012).