But, it is not only about goods and money. To circulate are first of all men. In the fifteenth century the immigrants of Slav origin (schiavoni, morlacchi), or Albanians were filling the demographic gap left by the plague of mid-fourteenth century, and by the famine. It is not only about the need for manpower in the fields or around the livestock: during the late Middle Ages and the early modern period circulate lawyers and other educated people, craftsmen, masons, maestri di intaglio, goldsmiths, artists, who mastered techniques, aesthetic taste, and cultural heritage. Among them, as Moroni emphasises, are also men travelling across the Adriatic for religious reasons. In the increasingly strict Italian Catholicism, a centre as Loreto became emblematic of the rise and the image of the Church. A sanctuary of European importance, it attracted many pilgrims, among whom outstanding personalities and young members of the clergy, ready to serve the cause of the Counter-Reformation and its militant spirit. A reference point was the Collegio Illirico founded in Loreto in 1580, temporarily closed during the crisis at the end of the century, but again in function in 1627 by will of Urban VIII. The cities of the western Adriatic coast proved to be of a great importance for the Catholics living in the area under the Ottoman rule or in its immediate vicinity. There was, for example, a constant call of the clergymen from Ragusa to assist the communities of merchants scattered in the Balkan interior, and many of them were educated in the Collegio Illirico of Loreto (more than 700 between 1628 and 1796), or in that of Fermo, founded in 1663, which must have had not less than 200 pupils (but the numbers are not complete). The first works in the Cyrillic were printed in Ancona. The Marche was the region where men of importance for the religious history of Italy and the Balkans were educated, such as Nicolò Bobadilla, who spent long time in Zadar and Dubrovnik. The image of the Adriatic after the expansion of the Ottoman state provided by this book proves to be quite complex: neither the Koiné, nor the “zone of frontier”, as interpreted by Alberto Tenenti.

The composition of the articles collected in this volume reflects a comprehensive perspective on the ground of changing views and topics. Any scientific work, in fact, should also be valorised on the basis of the research lines it opens, and it is certain that many issues of the Adriatic in the early modern period, pertaining to the economic or cultural history, will remain on the agenda for further research. What strongly emerges is the interest paid to the families who migrated between the two shores in pursuit of economic and personal ambitions, or stayed in one place, but still continued to maintain connections with the opposite coast. Notably with regard to the seventeenth and eighteenth century, there still remain a number of topics to be researched concerning the process of the economic decline of the Adriatic area and the inter-Adriatic exchanges.

Luca Andreoni


Together with the National and University Library in Zagreb (Nacionalna i sveučilišna knjižnica), the Library of HAZU (Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts) is rightly credited with being a custodian of the Croatian librarian treasure. This institution of national importance for the culture of written word has recently celebrated its 150th anniversary, in the same year as HAZU, its parent institution. Thus this great jubilee occasioned the publication of this splendidly furnished and clearly structured
catalogue of the incunabula and books from the sixteenth century. The author of this publication, Tamara Runjak, librarian who leads the Collection of old and rare books of the HAZU Library, has presented to the public her rich research experience in a catalogue of 491 books, carefully compiled according to modern principles of the librarian scholarship. This work formally crowns the three-year scientific project “Organisation, preservation and usage of Croatian librarian heritage”, completed back in 2004. The results have also been submitted to public review electronically via internet, given that by the time of the catalogue’s printing 2,500 items could already be accessed via digital catalogue on the web site http://katalog.hazu.hr.

As academic Anica Nazor, editor of the publication, emphasised in the foreword, this catalogue is a valuable supplement to the book Inkunabule u NR Hrvatskoj (Incunabula in the National Republic of Croatia) edited by Josip Badalić and published in 1952. New discoveries, mainly the result of the work on unclassified books, have finally come to light here, providing fresh additions especially with regard to the books printed in the Glagolitic. Among the latter, the famous Misal po zakonu rimskoga dvora, printed in the Glagolitic in 1483, the oldest Croatian printed book and also the first missal not written in Latin in these parts, is undoubtedly of great monumental value. This is further enhanced by the fact that the Library houses two of only eleven extant copies. However, although the research continues, one cannot but conclude that a point has been reached when new findings are hardly to be expected, at least not of ground-breaking nature that would fundamentally change the objective assessments submitted in this catalogue. This has been asserted by the catalogue author herself, underlining in the foreword that “the rich collection of the old and rare books includes 13,700 volumes dating from the beginning of the sixteenth to the middle of the nineteenth century” (p. 4). Therefore, a finishing touch on the current collection may be expected in future, and no new additions, particularly not spectacular titles.

Although both brief forewords, that of the editor and author of catalogue, have been translated into English and submitted to foreign public, the true international leaning of the work lies primarily in the fully spelt out Latin, Greek, German and Italian titles. Namely, despite the Library’s national significance, it owes much of its international standing to the works of foreign authors housed in it. The exploration of the meandering paths that these books passed until given or purchased they finally entered the Library’s safe raises a host of interesting questions, just as important for the local history of small communities. Thus, for example, an acquisition of two incunabula was made from Gian Tommaso Gožinić of Rab, a collection of sermons of St. Augustine (Sermones ad heremitas) and of an Italian conventual, friar Roberto Caracciolo from the fifteenth century (Sermones fratris Roberti), while the descriptions and supplementary illustrations of the Glagolitic missals may lead one to speculate on diverse circumstances underlying the successful activity of the Glagolitic printing houses in Rijeka and Senj.

That books know of no boundaries has been confirmed not only in terms of valuable acquisitions from various sources, but in terms of their content as well: the catalogue author also singles out as “significant for the cultural history of these parts the three Orthodox liturgical works written in Old Slavic and printed in the church Cyrillic script: Oktoih petoglasnik (1537), Beogradsko četveroevandelje (1552) and Triod cvjetni (1566)” (p. 4). Those in search of the Protestant streams will be attracted by the collection of works of Matija Vlačić Ilirik, which includes 68 titles in German and Latin, as well as two copies of catechisms of Primož Trubar from 1575 and 1584. Although Vlačić and Trubar are the authors whose work on the spreading of the Reformation was best felt in these parts and have thus drawn the attention of many theologians and church historians (Dominican Serafin Marija Cerva in the first half of the eighteenth century tried even to rebut Vlačić’s Labin origin and link him to...
Šumet, part of Dubrovnik’s Astarea), the HAZU Library also houses a very rich selection of the works of other Protestant authors, often in German, such as the postils of Martin Luther printed in Wittenberg in 1562. Naturally, the books of Catholic provenance are most represented, from church histories and sermon collections to exegetic and moral-theological treatises. Counterpointed to the theologically-based books are those dealing with natural sciences, from *Geography* of the famous ancient astronomer and cartographer of Alexandria, Claudius Ptolemy, whose works were zealously studied by medieval thinkers, to numerous treatises from the field of medicine, botany, alchemy. Classical philologists will equally enjoy in browsing through the centuries of word culture here represented by the Renaissance editions of the works of Cicero, Caesar and Suetonius, to historiographic and linguistic treatises dating from the late antiquity and the Middle Ages to the period of Humanism. Lastly, those in pursuit of legal topics should at least glance during their first visit to the HAZU Library at the first print of the Statute of Zadar, published in Venice in 1564 in the printing house of Domenico de Farris.

Equally appealing is the catalogue’s wealth of illustrations, facsimiles, as well as the meticulously prepared indexes. Thus all the books from Vlačić’s collection have been separately compiled under *Flaciana* subheading. Apart from standard description, we can enjoy in their visual presentation which offers a most faithful view of their production. The four separate indexes appended to the catalogue enable the reader’s orientation and conclusions: index of authors and other persons, index of titles, index of printing houses by place, and subject index. The indexes are juxtaposed with the arrangement of the catalogue itself, divided into three major theme groups: incunabula, Croatian books of the sixteenth century (which includes the mentioned *Flaciana* subheading) and sixteenth-century foreign books. Besides Vlačić’s books, many works from the legacy of Marko Marulić are also housed here.

The fact that the development of Croatian culture is virtually inconceivable without the profound influence of Dubrovnik has been made clear on the pages of this catalogue. The anecdotes about the visit of Ivan Kukuljević Sakcinski to the Dubrovnik libraries, notably to the already renowned library of the Franciscan Friary, during which he was suspected of unlawful possession of some items not for personal use but for a general cause and donation to the then JAZU, are elucidated here through a survey of books pertaining to Dubrovnik of various authors. From the two copies of the famous incunabulum *De natura caelestium spirituum* by Duro Dragišić across diverse works of Držić and verse collections of Jakov Bunić, Andrija Ćubranović, Dominik Zlatarić and Dinko Ragnina to *La Storia di Raugia* by Serafino Razzi, Italian Dominican, every researcher and adherent of Croatian heritage will here find most interesting and useful material and no doubt be indebted to the librarian for her strenuous efforts on this time-consuming task. Moreover, the catalogue allows individual approach in terms of the works’ arrangement by theme, here compiled in alphabetical order. According to such a provisional division of books by the Dubrovnik authors, besides poetry there are also books dealing with theology (Arkandoe Gozze Oblišić, *Rosario*; Bazilije Gradi, *Libarze od dievstva i dievickoga bitya*; idem, *Trattato della verginità*), philosophy (Nikola Gozze, *Dello stato delle republiche, Dialogo d’amore, Dialogo della bellezza*; Miho Monaldi, *Dell’havere et della metafisica and Irene, overo della bellezza*), history (Ludovik Crieva Tubero, *De Turcarum origine*). The author of the catalogue has furnished the most represented authors with short biographies, preceded by the survey of the works.

The entries also include some of the earlier catalogues published by the librarians of Dubrovnik, among which, in addition to brief notes on the description of some incunabula housed in the library of the Dominican Friary penned by Kosta Vojnović, the name of Mato Bete stands out. Considering that it has been almost fifteen years now since the publishing of the catalogue entitled *Rukopisi Znanstvene knjižnice Dubrovnik* (The Manuscripts of the Scientific Library of Dubrovnik), we may rightly hope that this catalogue of the rarities of the HAZU Library in Zagreb will further the research and classification of the valuable literary heritage housed in our immediate vicinity.