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## 6th Alps Adria Conference of Psychology Rovereto, Italy, October 3-5, 2002.

Alps Adria Conference of Psychology is being held every third year in one of the member-countries of the region. It is usually not organized around specific topics but includes all areas of psychological inquiry. It was also the case this time in Rovereto, Italy. As usual, presentations of new findings, psychological viewpoints and conceptions, as well as discussions on psychological practice within the region were taking place through keynote lectures, symposia, round tables, paper and poster presentations. According to the Author Index from the Abstract book, 230 authors participated in the Conference. 120 presentations were held within the 5 categories mentioned above. The Conference Program speaks of presence of almost all topics covered by psychology (e.g. from "*Lonely Faust*" to "*Web learning systems: How can videos influence learning*").

The most prominent places on such conferences are always taken by invited lectures. Here are the names of the lecturers and the topics given in Rovereto. Klas Brenk and Valentin Bucik from Ljubljana gave presentation on the studying and doing psychology in smaller countries (like Slovenia, Croatia, Austria); János László from Pecs gave a talk on the relationship between narrative psychology and postmodernistic society; Aljosha Neubauer from Graz talked about psychobiology of human intelligence; Carlo Umiltá from Padua spoke on the fundamentals of consciousness, its possible sources and relations with implicit and explicit knowledge. Dean Ajduković from Zagreb delivered lecture on the psychosocial programs as an answer to destabilization of society; as the topic was rather attractive it was mentioned in local newspaper thereafter.

Whole the enterprise around the Conference was characterized by easygoing manner, that is, the organizers never showed being upset very much due to the changes in program schedule and rooms. Everything was being worked out *ad hoc* and with no complications nor nervousness. Overall, the Conference was very well organized thanks for the most part to Professor Remo Job and ever-present Daniela Selvatico.

Croatian attendants were probably the most numerous group at the Conference taking into account the number of active participants: nearly 30 Croatian participants visited Rovereto. It should be noted that Croatia was included in part in the organization of the Conference, as well. Namely, the Abstract book was edited in Zagreb (at the Department of Psychology) and printed by 'Naklada Slap'. Furthermore, a part of the Abstract book was devoted to *Review of Psychology* as an international journal of Croatian Psychological Association, which is primarily focused on papers coming from Alps-Adria region.

I believe that those who visited Rovereto enjoyed it, for at least two reasons. In my opinion, the Conference was successful, and on the other hand, one could enjoy her/his stay and see many interesting things outside the framework of psychology, as well. Namely, Rovereto is a city with roughly 60 000 inhabitants. It is located in the valley of the river of *Adige* and is rather rich and beautiful town. *Alto-Adige* or *Südtirol* is a region that formerly belonged to Austrian-Hungarian empire, and after World War II became a part of Italy. Because of the specific history and the fact that many German-speaking inhabitants reside in the area, the region possesses a rather high level of autonomy. One of the most impressive features of the region is the dominance of trailing plant, i.e. vineyards as agriculture, which stretch out for several dozens of kilometers along the river of Adigo. The quality of (end) products resulted from these vineyards could have easily been checked by visiting some of the numerous wine producers. Reasonable prices as well as consistent and solid quality were the most important attributes. Tested! If no psychological meeting is going to be held soon in the area, and you happen to find yourself there, do not hesitate to check it anyway!

It was decided that the next Alps-Adria Conference would be held in Croatia. Professor Manenica took on the burden of organization, and we all look forward already to the next meeting in the year of 2005 in Zadar.

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