

EDITORIAL

The first congress of Croatian archivists has been certainly the most important meeting in the archival profession in Croatia 2001. From the point of view of *Arhivski vjesnik* that event has double significance. As it is our duty to present up this event on our pages as a specific image of the current situation of the archival service in Croatia, so the congress papers – taken into consideration the quality and the problem area included – at the same time fitted excellently into some of the present and past editorial guidelines. The entire records continuum (from their creation till the point of their use), the integration of the archival service and records management, the adjustments of the archival service to the more demanding IT requirements of our environment and consistent with it the protection and guarantee of accessibility to the records created nowadays, are only few main points among these guidelines.

In this volume we published fifteen articles previously presented at the Congress. The leading article outlines the current situation of the Croatian archival service, its organisation and the main preconditions for the further development as well as the link between the archives and the records management. Some viable and developmental issues are questioned in separate supplements of the first plenary session: how to redefine the educational programs of the basic archival high education, do we need specialised archives in the field of science and education, economy, mass media etc., the condition of the archive buildings in Croatia and preservation of the records written on the acid paper and its protection from the rapid deterioration. The thematic block of the Congress on cooperation between the archives and the creators gave us the picture of soundly elaborated records management system. The new international standard for records management has been presented as well as the methodology of classification systems development based on the functional principle with implemented records schedules. In that block is also the article on protection and keeping of private archives of political parties, religious communities, associations etc. From the third plenary session are articles on the role of the metadata in records management, conditions and creation the sound metadata system and changes of records management systems in the information society and digital revolution as well as the legal aspects relating to the authenticity of records in the electronic environment. Furthermore, in the presentation of the hybrid reprography system some questions are raised on the most cost effective and efficacious reproduction techniques of the records, and characteristics of the film material, mainly on the triacetate media, points out the systematic changes which took place in the protection of the film material. On the example of the State Intellectual Property Office

is presented a partial adjustment of the records management to the modern technological achievements.

Apart of the articles-congress papers, in this volume you can read the article on the role of archive buildings in the prevention and protection of records, the proposal of the classification plan of the parish archives and an article on the history of counties of the Independent State of Croatia (NDH) 1941-1945.

Thanks to the former editor in chief, mr. Miljenko Pandžić during whose mandate *Arhivski vjesnik* has become a serious archival journal, extended and renewed Editorial Board is committed to follow up the conception of the journal from 1990.

The archivistics will be further promoted as an independent scientific discipline. The archival theory and praxis remain our focal point with the particular emphasis on the modern trends of the new media and IT development, with crucial influence on the profession and modern records management. It is followed by history of institutions and related disciplines. Neither the records nor the historical articles and discussions without previous relation to the history of institutions are published in the *Arhivski vjesnik*. We would like to read in the journal more articles on theory, polemically articles and discussions (it is not possible that the entire profession has the same opinion about all the issues in the profession), more bibliography is most welcome on particular fields on research, or some valuable individual professional works.

Rejuvenated and reinforced by our foreign colleagues taking part in the International Editorial Board, equipped with their valuable knowledge and experience we sincerely hope to keep the place of the most important journal in its field in Croatia, leveled with the journals with international reviews.

Editorial Board