

The 6th International Congress of Maritime History IMEHA

Ghent, 2 – 6 July, 2012

The town with a rich maritime tradition, Ghent, hosted the congress organised by the International Maritime Economic History Association (IMEHA). The first meeting of experts in the maritime history was held 20 years ago in Liverpool, and was followed by meetings in Amsterdam and Rotterdam, than in Esbjerg, on the island of Corfu and in Greenwich. This year IMEHA congress was organised by Ghent University any city authorities of Ghent and Antwerp, including harbour authorities of both cities and



▲ Harbour and city view

▲ Dio gradske luke



◀ Ghent, Church of St. Michael including part of Het Pand Dominican monastery

◀ Gent, dio Het Pand samostana s crkvom Sv. Mihaela

the KBC Bank. The majority of congress activities, distributed to 71 sessions, have been held in the premises of the Ghent University in the Het Pand, an old Dominican monastery located in the very heart of the city. All parallel sessions included more than 300 participants from all over the world, not exclusively from the academia society related to university teaching of the broad area of maritime history subjects but also members of cultural circles, such as museum employees or antiquarian dealers. Including their vast practical experience the focus of the whole congress was set on the interdiscip-

linary approach to the topic in question. Moreover, the participants insisted on transnational and global character of maritime history, namely comparing the sea fare within the framework of the world history.

The Organizing Committee offered the participant an insight into local history and rich local naval tradition by visits to several museums. The inaugural and welcoming session on the first day took place in the STAM city museum of Ghent, including the museum tour. On the third day we travel to Antwerp to hold part of our programme there, including visit to harbour authorities (Red Star Line)

and the new building of the MAS (Museum Aan de Stroom). Local civil and harbour authorities presented the development of the Antwerp city harbour, including its history, development, functioning, capacities and further projections of the second largest European cargo harbour. The KBC bank also hosted the round table, chaired by the high IMEHA officials. The extensive discussion on the future of the society and the teaching of the maritime history engage younger generation of researchers who participated in rethinking of position of society within the new trends in academia as well in publishing sector, concerning the further positions of IJM (International Journal of Maritime History) as the official journal of the IMEHA society.

Due to the forthcoming revitalisation of the human and other capacities of both the society (IMEHA) and its journal (IJMH), a great number of participants vigorously discussed preferred editing policies of the journal and criticized limited access throughout new media.

Šesti međunarodni kongres povijesti pomorstva IMEHA

Gent, 2. – 6. srpnja 2012.

Nakon prethodnih pet kongresa, održanih unazad dvadeset godina u Liverpoolu, Amsterdamu i Rotterdamu, Esbjergu, na Krfu i u Greenwichu, u srpnju 2012. održan je u belgijskom gradu s dugom pomorskom tradicijom, Gentu, šesti u nizu međunarodnih kongresa povijesti pomorstva u organizaciji International Maritime Economic History Associationa (IMEHA). Domaćin je kongresu bilo Sveučilište u Gentu (Universiteit Gent) u suorganizaciji s gradskim upravama gradova Genta i Antwerpena, lučkim vlastima oba grada i bankom KBC. Većina se kongresnih aktivnosti, podijeljenih u čak 71 radnu sjednicu, održala u zgradi sveučilišta u samom srcu grada Genta, u dominikanskom samostanu Het Pand. U radu paralelnih radnih skupina sudjelovalo je gotovo 300 izlagača iz cijeloga svijeta. Sudi-onici nisu bili isključivo pripadnici akademske zajednice vezani uz visokoškolsku nastavu pomorstva i njegove bogate povijesti. Važno su mjesto zauzeli i pripadnici kulturnog života, poput muzealaca ili čak antikvara, koji su iskustvom obogatili saznanja sudionika kongresa. Osnovno obilježje većine izlaganja bio je interdisciplinarni pristup tematici, a izlagači su se fokusirali na transnacionalan i globalni karakter povijesti pomorstva, posebno u relacijama pomorstva i svjetske povijesti.

Organizacijski odbor omogućio je sudionicima da se upoznaju s lokalnom povijesti i bogatom pomorskom tradicijom kroz posjete nekoliko muzeja. Prvog dana kongresa otvorenje i prijem dobrodošlice ugostio je Gradski muzej Genta (STAM), nakon čega je uslijedio obilazak te reprezentativne institucije. Trećeg dana kongresa

organiziran je jednodnevni posjet Antwerpenu, gdje je program nastavljen posjetom gradskoj luci (Red Star Line) i novom zdanju gradskog muzeja Antwerpena (MAS). Predstavnici lokalnih vlasti, ali i voditelji luke detaljno su predstavili njezin razvoj, njezinu povijest, funkcioniranje, kapacitete i planove daljnjeg razvitka te druge najveće prekrajne luke u Europi.

U Antwerpenu je organiziran i okrugli stol, kojem su predsjedatelji bili najistaknutiji članovi upravljačke strukture Društva (IMEHA), na temu budućnosti nastave povijesti pomor-

stva. U otvorenoj su diskusiji raspravljani najnoviji trendovi, kako oni u nastavnim procesima tako i u izdavaštvu. U fokusu je bio časopis Društva (International Journal of Maritime History – IJMh) i njegova uređivačka politika, te problematika otežanog pristupa časopisu putem novih medija. Naime, zbog predstojeće promjene gotovo cijele upravljačke strukture i samog društva (IMEHA), ali i časopisa

► Antwerp, MAS
(Museum Aan de Stroom)
► Antwerpen, Muzej MAS
(Museum Aan de Stroom)

▼ Harbour and city view of Antwerp
▼ Pogled na dio gradske luke
Antwerpena



The last day of the congress Ghent University also hosted the IMEHA Annual General Meeting.

Among other participants, Croatia was represented by two Croatian representatives. Maja Krželj from the University of Split presented her work *Observed long-term changes in marine animal population in the Adriatic Sea* within the programme of the session *Human-Marine environment and ecological interactions from the Late Medieval period until the present*, while the other paper was included in the 45

working session *Empires and their battles for the seas: shifting alliances and interests*. Dubravka Mlinarić from the Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies from Zagreb presented a paper *Multiple Bordering and Multiple Interests in the Early Modern Eastern Adriatic Navigation: Perspective of a Cartographer*.

Cartography as the central topic or navigation or other kind of maps as predominant historical archival sources for research were used by several researchers. I would like to emphasize the work of Corradino Astengo from

the Genoa University, named *Portolan Charts and the Art of Navigation*. The author set the focus on the practical purpose of the medieval navigation maps of the Mediterranean Sea.

The most successful papers will be published in next issues of the IJMH or RIMH (Research in Maritime History). The next 7th IMEHA international congress will take place in Melbourne, Australia, at the Murdoch University, as announced at the closing ceremony of Ghent IMEHA international congress.

Dubravka Mlinarić ■

10th UN Conference on Geographical Name Standardization

New York, July 31 – August 9, 2012

The 10th UN Conference on Geographical Name Standardization was held in the United Nations (UN) in New York from July 31 to August 9, 2012. As usual, a session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) was held one day prior and one day after the conference. The 27th session was held on July 30 and August 10, 2012. According to unofficial records, the conference was attended by 262 participants from 61 countries and 189 documents were presented. More about the conferences can be found at UN's official web site <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/ungegnConf10.html>.

The national *Report of Croatia* was presented about geographical name



Fig. 1. User interface of the Record of Geographical Names of the Republic of Croatia
Slika 1. Korisničko sučelje servisa Registra geografskih imena Republike Hrvatske

(IJMH) provedena je konstruktivna i vrlo živa rasprava o smjeru kojim bi članstvo društva, odnosno sudionici kongresa željeli da se društvo i časopis nastave razvijati.

Posljednjeg dana kongresa održana je godišnja skupština društva.

Hrvatska je na kongresu bila zastupljena s dva izlaganja; u sklopu sjednice *Human-Marine environment and ecological interactions from the Late Medieval period until the present* Maja Krželj sa Sveučilišta u Splitu izložila je rad *Observed long-term changes in mari-*

ne animal population in the Adriatic Sea, dok je u okviru radne grupe 45 (*Empires and their battles for the seas: shifting alliances and interests*) Dubravka Mlinarić s Instituta za migracije i narodnosti u Zagrebu održala izlaganje *Multiple Bordering and Multiple Interests in the Early Modern Eastern Adriatic Navigation: Perspective of a Cartographer*.

Nekoliko je izlagača izabralo kartografske teme kao sastavni dio svojih prezentacija ili se pak orijentiralo na navigacijsku ili neku drugu komponentu kartografskih izvora. Posebno

bih izdvojila rad Corradina Astenga sa Sveučilišta u Genovi *Portolan Charts and the Art of Navigation*, koji je u fokus istraživanja postavio uporabnu vrijednost srednjovjekovnih plovidbenih karata Sredozemlja.

Najuspješniji radovi će biti objavljeni u idućim brojevima časopisa IJMH te u časopisu *Research in Maritime History (RIMH)*. Na zatvaranju skupa organizatori su objavili poziv Sveučilišta Murdoch iz Melbourn da se idući kongres IMEHA, planiran za 2016. godinu, održi u Australiji.

Dubravka Mlinarić ■

Deseta konferencija UN-a o standardizaciji geografskih imena

New York, 31. srpnja – 9. kolovoza 2012.

Deseta konferencija UN-a o standardizaciji geografskih imena je održana od 31. srpnja do 9. kolovoza 2012. u Ujedinjenim narodima (UN) u New Yorku. Prema uobičajenoj praksi, dan prije konferencije i dan nakon konferencije održava se sjednica stalnog tijela UN-a za standardizaciju geografskih imena, United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN). To tijelo održalo je svoju 27. sjednicu 30. srpnja i 10. kolovoza 2012. Prema neslužbenoj evidenciji na konferenciji su bila prisutna 262 predstavnika iz 61 zemlje i podneseno je 189 dokumenata. Više o skupovima može se naći na službenim web stranicama UN-a

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/UNGEGN/ungegnConf10.html>.



Fig. 2. Representation of minority geographical names
Slika 2. Prikaz geografskih imena nacionalnih manjina