

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of International Scientific Conference  
"SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
2013 - Dr. Juraj Plenković "

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founder of the international scientific conference "Society and Technology"*

As the years pass, past of the international scientific conference "Society and Technology" is becoming clearer and more effective. Started in 2004, from its founder, a university professor dr. Juraj Plenković, it become increasingly important today. Some people grow into the foundation stones in which they built themselves and their life choices. For us, You professor, are our unforgettable founder, unquestionably one of such stones in education, in our information and communication sciences. There are rare occasions, which gathers researchers and professionals who provide a systematic, effective and interdisciplinary contribution to the development of science and scientific, professional and educational work, as is the case with the international conference "Society and Technology 2013 - Dr. Juraj Plenković", which marks the 20th anniversary of its operations, which you, the deceased university professor, President of the Organizing and Scientific Council established in the 2004, led and organized till 2011. On this twentieth anniversary international conference "Society and Technology 2013th - Dr. Juraj Plenković" we want to remember you, your work and activities, our founder and review your enormous contribution to scientific continuity of this distinguished gathering. On 16th of February 2011, the news about your sudden death painfully echoed among all of us, because we have lost a dear friend, an honest and sincere university professors, scientists, academic and our Chairman of

the Organizing and Scientific Committee of 17 international conferences "Society and Technology" DIT since 1994 -2011., who systematically worked on the preparation of 18th conference. These were responsible and complex tasks in which prof. Dr. Juraj Plenković fulfill our mission, vision and strategy of international scientific cooperation. The history of this symposium is the history of the development and openness of building activity in creating a better and more effective application of science in life and work. Construction for him was the foundation of all human activities. Before we look to the historical genesis of the international conference, we should indicate the basic thoughts on approach to science that were guiding thoughts of this conference. Science has always been encouraging the development of the theory and practice of our work, cooperation, exchange of thoughts, research and teamwork, and provided indisputable scientific and professional contributions to the interdisciplinary work of all participants in meetings. On the opening of the first international conference in 1994 in Opatija, at "Imperial" hotel, prof. dr. Juraj Plenković as Chairman of the Organizing and Scientific Committee, guided by the idea and vision of technological progress on the basis of Croatian society of knowledge, among other things said: "Society and Technology" is our pride and we consider it noble, because it began in the war time, at a time when many did not believe that in the war, we can organize the international conference at which we will have participants from abroad. It was a contribution, gift in the creation of our country with the implementation of the idea of progress, peace and human love ... Its history is the history of the development and openness of the building activity in creating a better and more effective application of science in life and work, not only in higher education but in all human activities. And we did it. Thank you. " His life was not easy and simple but infused with hard work, sacrifice, continuous learning, from primary, secondary, higher, master's and doctoral education has evolved in extraordinary scientific and didactic value of university professor and scholar at home and abroad.

Born on the 18th July in 1934th in Svirče, island Hvar. He finished elementary school in Jelsa, high school in Sibenik, College for teachers in Zagreb, Faculty of Pedagogy at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities at the University in Zagreb in 1962 and a Master's degree at the Medical Faculty of the University of Zagreb in 1971. in the field of public health. At the University of Warsaw in 1974. he earned a doctorate in social prevention, then in 1988 he earned a second doctorate in economics at the University of Gdansk. He specialized in sociology at the University of Krakow and repeatedly systematically stayed abroad (Poland, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Slovenia, ...), and effectively realized scientific cooperation and became university professor,

academic and ordinary member in Russia and Ukraine. In scientific papers he used knowledge of four languages, which systematically contributed to the quality work of international conferences. Professor Juraj Plenkovc worked in Zagreb as a teacher in primary and secondary school education, as a teacher in Training College in Gospić, Industrial-Pedagogical Institute of the Faculty of Industrial Education, University of Rijeka, Faculty of Medicine, University of Zagreb, at prestigious international universities in Krakow, Rzeszow, Lublin, Maribor, Alma mater Europea and Faculty of Civil Engineering at University of Rijeka. Based on the scientific and educational work, he was selected in all teaching, research and teaching and research positions, and has been a regular university professor in Croatia and Poland. He was elected in three scientific areas: education, political science and and was academic and regular member of five international scientific academies. Guest professor at several scientific and educational institutions in the country and abroad. He participated in the undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate and doctoral studies at the University of Zagreb, Zadar, Rijeka, Poland, Ukraine, Slovakia and Slovenia.

What is the contribution of the international scientific conference "Society and Technology"? How did it start?

1. It was created and developed as a part of the realization of the research project "Anthropology conditions for the effective work in the construction industry", marking the 25th Anniversary of Civil Engineering, University of Rijeka, where prof. dr. Juraj Plenkovc was head of the project. The interest for this first international conference "Society and Technology" in 1994. in Opatija, under the auspices of the Ministry of Science and Technology Croatian, was extreme scientific surprise. 67 participants applied, 55 peer-reviewed papers were published in the first book, "Society and Technology". In the preface the late prof. Dr. Juraj Plenkovc said: "The general meaning of all published papers is they analyze complex relationships between society and technology, and thus represent a starting point for the unilateral abandonment of the simple model and the convergence to model of the maximum possible realization of these relations, without which there is no solution for entering the XXI Century."

2. Scientific meetings are well organized and they possess exemplary international organization, Research and Program Committee. President of the Organizing and Scientific Committee in all 18 meetings was the distinguished scientist prof. dr. Juraj Plenkovc.

3. Scientific meetings are systematically held under the auspices of the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia, Croatian Communication Association, Primorje-Gorski Kotar County, Chamber of Commerce, International Federation of

Communication Associations (IFCA), Alma Mater Europea (ECM), University of Rijeka, Split, Zadar and Zagreb, as well as other prominent scientific institutions.

4. The effectiveness of these international gatherings is always exercised in the group (plenary) presentations and group work and roundtable discussions. Thus paved the active participation of all stakeholders at meetings, exchange of thoughts, spread the knowledge and the ability of better efficiency and operation.

5. The basic paradigm of scientific work of the President of the Organizing and Scientific Committee Professor dr. Juraj Plenkovc was based on appropriate scientific international cooperation. His vast educational, professional and scientific experience and systematic exercise of international cooperation was an incentive, desire and reality, that grounded scientific conference "Society and Technology" since 1994 to become a reality, which is marking its 20th annual activity.

6. At these meetings, their works presented scholars, dignitaries, academics, public and political workers, students from numerous countries (Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Italy, Japan, UK, Germany, Poland, Israel, Slovakia, Ukraine, the Russian Federation, China, India, Taiwan, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Spain, the Philippines, USA, Canada, Australia, Finland, Austria, Romania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Albania, Montenegro, Macedonia, Belgium, Greece, Sweden and other countries), what unquestionably contributed to the development of science, social science and the reputation and contribution of Croatia which develops in the land of knowledge, promotion of the Faculty of Engineering, University of Rijeka, and all the co-organizers of meetings.

7. These international conferences were attended by 3,650 participants personally, 1,496 papers were registered and delivered, of which 892 were reviewed and published in the Book of abstracts, Proceedings papers, special publications such as journals *Informatologia* (Separati Speciale) and journals *Informatologia* and *Media, Culture and Public Relations*.

8. Sponsor of the 10th international symposium, held in 2003, was the Croatian President Stjepan Mesic, Croatian Ministry of Science and Technology and the Croatian Chamber of Commerce, which is of great importance for the recognition and scientific contribution of the conference.

Unquestionably, the continuity of these international conferences shows the following:

- valued and respected late prof. Dr. Juraj Plenkovc was systematically guided by the idea of technological progress in the Croatian democratic foundations of knowledge, cooperation, team research, science and business connections, and solid-built and with the personal vision of the scientific reputation at home and

abroad, is continuously expanding in quantitative and qualitative terms the application of high technology in education and all areas of operation.

- these meetings provide a wide and varied opportunities permeation and cooperation between top scientists, theorists and skilled practitioners sharing thoughts, knowledge and action. Creative collaborative relationship accomplished with communication interaction is extremely significant wealth and specific characteristics of these international conferences.
- his organization and conduct of international conference and leadership of Organizing and Scientific Committee encouraged creative participant in the new creative endeavor, for further scientific cooperation and continuously arriving at the scientific meetings. Such communication methods, personal contact with each participant provided a continuous coming and motivated scientists theoreticians and practitioners, whose work contributed to the expansion of the network with prominent national and international scientists from many countries.

As a scientist, educator, political scientist, sociologist and communication scientist, deceased university professor dr. Juraj Plenkovic and Chairman of the Organizing and Scientific Committee studied the system of social science questions, pedagogical teleology, and axiology, theory and practice of teaching methods of communication, particularly issues of ethics, morality, art, technology, educational values in the process of work and leisure, and he consistently advocated in scientific papers proving the need of spiritual renewal, moral and educational transformation, the need to reassess neglected educational function, and educational values of human dignity, which is the basic motto and scientific contribution to these international conferences. Unquestionably, quantitatively and qualitatively, international conferences "Society and Technology" in this 20 years have given and make an outstanding contribution to the development and presentation of science. A special contribution to these international conferences professor dr. Juraj Plenkovic gave as a President of Croatia-Japan Society in Rijeka. For his work he received numerous national and international accolades, awards, plaques, awards - but on this occasion we would like to highlight the annual award of the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports "Ivan Filipovic" in the field of higher education, for the quality and the successful operation of the international achievements in promoting the Croatian science and education in the process of Croatia joining the EU. Scientific contribution of these international conferences reputation of Croatian science guided by its president prof. Dr. Juraj Plenkovic, president of the Organizing and Scientific Committee is huge and effective. Especially his contribution to linking international conference with Croatian Communication Association (CCA),

the International Federation of Communication Associations (IFCA), journals *Informatologia* and *Media, Culture and Public Relations* where she was very active as a member of the Editorial Board. In recent years, prof. Dr. Juraj Plenkovic included the Croatian Association of Radio and Newspapers, the Croatian Council for Electronic Media, University of Zadar, Faculty of Graphic Arts, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Maritime Studies, University of Split, Business Administration School "Baltazar Adam Krčelić" from Zaprrešić, European Centre Maribor, Faculty of Tourism and Hospitality Management at the University of Rijeka in the organization of the international scientific conference "Society and Technology". Involvement of numerous international scientific institutions and university distinguished scientists unquestionable and effectively raised the interdisciplinary approach to science.

What are these international conferences? The answer is unquestionably affirmative, efficient and stimulating.

First, they are a concrete reality of scientific cooperation between the Croatian and world- science, the place for exchange, assistance, support and cooperation at various levels of interdisciplinarity on the role of science and technology.

Second, public appearances, presentations, scientific workshops, between theory and practice of science in different areas of the economy, publishing high quality papers, including students in scientific and research work and teamwork, which, among other things, gives the high human, technical and scientific effectiveness to these meetings.

Third, there is no doubt that the international conference in this 20 years, successfully united, connected and accomplish the analysis and presentation of many achievements in various sectors of the upbringing and education, economic activities, and the rest gave their contribution to the development and application of technology in their lives and become known in Croatia and abroad, which show the arrival of many scientists and experts from other countries.

Fourth, the international conference, with its organization, labor content, the effect of the Organizing and Scientific Committee serves as an example to communities how to organize and achieve international cooperation for better prosperity of the role of science in society.

Fifth, the specific scientific and professional gratitude goes to all the participants of conferences, applicants of papers and releases, as well as members of the Organizing and Scientific Committee who have contributed to the systematic scientific dignity of the conference, guided by the work of late Professor dr. Juraj Plenkovic, who left behind an indelible mark to pedagogical and scientific work and active international scientific communication as the basis for an interdisciplinary approach to science in the function of human life and

social development, science technology. University professor late dr. Juraj Plenkovic founder of the international meetings, he was a true Croatian visionary, communication theorist, educator, political scientist, sociologist, educator, methodist of technology development of education, science and technology for the new knowledge-based society.

His pedagogical and scientific paradigm is - honesty, support, praise, and recognition of changes in human activities and actions, he focused on synergy of social, human and social laws, pedagogical and communicational paradigm and confidence in man and his power as an essential building scientific cornerstone of cultural heritage, science and technology in these international conferences. As a scientist, he knowingly took part in historical responsibility for accomplishing the task of science in society. It now unquestionably continue participants of this symposium, with proud to achieved and wishes for more effective and successful participa-

tion in the development of society, and the application of technology. Today gathered on this twentieth anniversary international scientific conference "Society and Technology 2013 - Dr. Juraj Plenkovic" all together thanks to our founder to work together, efficiently and unquestionable foundation of technology and science in the development of society, organization, management, promotion of Croatian Communication thoughts, spread and connect our world and science, and the affirmation of Croatian which develops in the land of the knowledge society. We, the scientists, as well as all the participants in this jubilee scientific conference, continue your actions and the establishment of the international scientific meetings, and our commitment to knowledge, experience, knowledge and skills, which we jointly created systematically further develops. It is our scientific obligation and duty to you as the founder of this international conference. You will remain in your memory forever as an accomplished scholar, expert and Croatian visionary.

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University of Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia  
Rijeka / Opatija, 28th of March, 2013.