

## Foreword

In this issue there are six papers dealing with decentralisation and local democracy, administrative theory, and public law. Political leadership in Slovenian municipalities and evaluation of the decentralisation reform of 2001 in Croatia have been analysed in the first group of papers. Leadership styles in Slovenia are systematised on the basis of an empirical research conducted in 2014. One of the first evaluative studies of the Croatian 2001 decentralisation shows that it was not a successful, according to several criteria presented in the paper, such as number of involved municipalities, cost-effectiveness in the covered sectors, widening of local financial capacity and autonomy, and others.

The two papers in the second section deal with the work of Mary Parker Follett and with the position of comparative method in public administration research. Scientific contribution of M. P. Follett to organisation and management theory is analysed from various angles, including a comparison with other theoretical variants of her time, her influence during her lifetime and later, the criticism, and the relevance of her scientific work for contemporary theories of organisation and management. Content analysis of 151 social science journals published in Croatia from 2009 to 2015 finds only thirteen comparative papers and 40 country case studies, which are further analysed, concluding that there is an ultimate need for a more robust and extensive comparative approach.

The last section is devoted to public law themes. One of the papers comments on the modernisation of the Macedonian general administrative procedures and stresses the advantages and disadvantages of the new General Administrative Procedure Act of 2015. The other paper deals with the standards for applying the right to be forgotten and the temporality of freedom of expression in the Spanish case law.

In the concluding part the readers can find detailed information about the international conference *Looking Beyond the Crises: Impact of Mass Mi-*

*grations on Local, Regional, National, and EU Governance* organized by the Croatian Institute of Public Administration in cooperation with the International Political Science Association, UNHCR Representation in Croatia, and the Study Centre for Public Administration and Public Finances of the Faculty of Law in Zagreb, under the auspices of the President of Croatian Parliament. The conclusions from the Conference are also published. Finally, there is a re-published interview Professor Koprić has recently given to the International Institute of Administrative Sciences about his work within the COST LocRef Project and about other issues of local governance.

We hope you will enjoy reading this issue.

Professor Dr. Ivan Koprić  
Editor-in-chief