

Foreword

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European migration crisis of 2015 created a strong scientific interest in several themes interwoven with mass migrations, their causes, management, and short- and long-term consequences for public governance, politics, policies, service delivery, and administration. More than twenty papers were presented on these themes at the international scientific conference held in Dubrovnik, Croatia 11-14 May 2017, *Looking Beyond the Crises: Impact of Mass Migrations on Local, Regional, National, and EU Governance*, organized by the Institute of Public Administration, Zagreb in collaboration with the International Political Science Association.

We published detailed information about the Conference and its conclusions in No. 2/2017 (pp. 313-319). The Conference was held under auspices of the President of the Croatian Parliament and with the support of UNHCR Representation in Croatia and the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, with more than 40 participants from Europe and USA.

The majority of presented papers, upgraded, improved and corrected in line with results of debates in Dubrovnik, editorial suggestions, and reviewers' requests, are going to be published in the three issues of our journal's 2018 volume. In this issue two thematic blocks are represented. The first one is focused on the relations between diversity and public governance. Increasing diversity, multiculturalism, and interculturalism are becoming increasingly important fields of public administration expertise in Europe, thanks to the fact of almost continuous and dynamic mobility of population within and beyond Europe.

In the first paper of this section, Peter Scholten (the Netherlands) contemplates about the newest developments of migrant integration policies on the example of urban governance. High level of mobility causing superdiversity reflects mainly at the local level. The author draws attention to the local scene on which "generalization" of migration influences all urban policies and institutions and calls for a generic rather than a specific approach to new urban governance of migrations.

Remzie Istrefi from Kosovo analyses multicultural agenda as a part of peace and state building in Kosovo. The promotion of multiculturalism has been a primary concern of the international actors and domestic authorities in the post-conflict period. The author has scrutinized multicultural agenda and its potentials for peace-building and reconciliation among the divided Kosovo communities.

Desirée Campagna from Italy and Daniela Jelinčić from Croatia direct their analysis to the implications of multiculturalism and interculturalism for local cultural policies. They propose a set of 12 indicators for evaluating how these two approaches to cultural diversity (multicultural and intercultural) are embedded in the three dimensions of local cultural policies (discourse, governance, and cultural contents). These indicators are employed to compare three Croatian cities, Rijeka, Osijek, and Pula, as they undergo the process of candidature to become European Capitals of Culture.

The second section also contains three excellent papers which deal with refugee crisis and its influence on governance and public administration.

Yeseren Elicin from Turkey analyses and assesses local capacities to deal with migration influxes in Istanbul. She starts with an analysis of the legal and administrative framework in Turkey dedicated to providing assistance to refugees at the local level. Finally, she turns to empirically-based evaluation of managing migration and service delivery to migrants at the lower tier municipalities of Istanbul, Zeytinburnu, Sultanbeyli, and Sisli.

Ana Čekerevac, Natalija Perišić and Jelena Tanasijević from Serbia put social services for migrants in Serbia in the centre of their scientific interest. They take into account accommodation, food, clothing, as well as psychological support, cash benefits and legal advice as the examples of such services, provided by public and civil organisations.

The last paper in this issue, written by Giorgia Bulli and Sorina Christina Soare from Italy, identifies the different ways immigration is understood in populist political rhetoric in the case of Italy. They have found the Northern League (LN) as one of the first political entrepreneurs of xenophobia and anti-immigration sentiments in the Italian arena. They see the Five Star Movement (M5S) as an example of a political actor whose positions fluctuate in parallel with its attempts to synchronise political rhetoric with the voice of the people.

These interesting, innovative, and empirically grounded papers make our wait for the next issue shorter and bearable.

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Editor-in-chief