
REPORTS

7th Alps-Adria Conference in Psychology Zadar, Croatia, June 2nd-4th, 2005

Three years have passed by very quickly. We still remember Rovereto, and the 7th meeting of psychologists in Alps-Adria region already took place in Zadar. Encounters of psychologists within the Alps-Adria region are always exciting and joyful, yet each is slightly different from the other due to the ever-increasing number of active participants. In this sense, Zadar was a real breakthrough. Just a quick glance at the Book of abstracts or the conference programme and one could not fail to notice more than 300 authors participating with nearly 200 presentations (papers or posters). In the not very long history of the Alps-Adria psychology conferences it is a record. In terms of organizing activities, it is probably the upper limit of what a conference such as this one can handle.

What attracted so many psychologists from within (and outside) the region to Zadar? At least two reasons come straight to mind. First, is the overall increased number of psychologists in the region. Thus, more people are interested in establishing new contacts and familiarizing themselves with the work of other colleagues in the region. Second reason is certainly the conference venue. The town of Zadar, as well as the Department of Psychology at Zadar University, met all the requirements needed to organize a great conference for psychologists within the region. And they certainly succeeded to do so. Not a single participant, especially those visiting Zadar and its Department of Psychology for the first time, will ever forget the delightful conference atmosphere and the beautiful seaside. Such a surrounding was pleasant

to everyone, regardless of their more or less active participation in the conference.

Activities, themes and areas of interest presented at the conference were just as abundant as the previously described atmosphere. We could say that there is not a single area of contemporary psychology that was not represented at the Conference by at least one presentation. It surely implies a promising future of psychology in our region. Due to the variety and the amount of presentations it is hard to determine the criteria for emphasizing just one single research area as the most prominent one. My suggestion to those who were not able to attend is to take a look at the Book of abstracts in order to get a more detailed insight.

Everyone involved in the organization of the conference, especially the head of the Organizational committee prof. dr. Ilija Manenica, made a special effort for the “beyond science” activities to be outstanding as well. It is rare that a conference achieves such a social and gastronomic quality. I have to remind you of the last sentence I wrote describing the conference in Rovereto which stated that there was no doubt that Zadar, as our next host, will rise to the occasion. So, prof. Manenica – our congratulations to you and your colleagues!

And with Zadar still in our minds, we are already looking forward to Slovenia in 2008. After more than ten years our Slovenian colleagues will be our hosts again. Our journey from Adria to Alps continues.

Dragutin Ivanec