

Guest Editor's Introduction

TRANSFER OF IDEAS, KNOWLEDGE, AND PRACTICE IN THE POLITICAL AND CULTURAL FIELDS IN CROATIA IN THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES

The thematic block presents the works of collaborators on the research project “European Roots of Modern Croatia: Transfer of Ideas in the Political and Cultural Field in the 18th and 19th Centuries (EuKor)”, IP-2018-01-2539, which was financed by the Croatian Science Foundation in the period between October 19, 2018, and October 18, 2023. The members of the research team presented part of their research conducted on the project in their papers published in this issue of the *Review of Croatian History*. The topics, materials, and relevant literature presented in these works are the result of research into the transmission, reception, and modification of ideas, knowledge, and practices from Western and Central European intellectual circles into Croatian society in the 18th and 19th centuries. The analyzed topics are a kind of concretization of comprehensive research that the collaborators carried out as part of the project and in a certain way round off the study of a wide thematic spectrum of the transfer of ideas, knowledge, and practices in the field of the development of parliamentary practice and political culture in Croatia, public administration, modern education at all levels and legal position of women and currents of ideas in the field of literature and reflection of the Enlightenment.

The project was carried out at the Croatian Institute of History, where most of the collaborators are employed (Dr. Jasna Turkalj, Dr. Ivana Horbec, Dr. Teodora Shek Brnardić, Dr. Branko Ostajmer, Dr. Dinko Župan, Dr. Marijan Šabić, Dr. Zrinko Novosel and Dr. Vlasta Švogler, project manager), in collaboration with the Faculty of Law (Prof. Mirela Krešić) and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb (Assoc. Prof. Marina Protrka Štimec) and the Croatian School Museum in Zagreb (Dr. Štefka Batinić).

The first two papers discuss parliamentary practice in Croatia in the 19th century from a comparative perspective. Vlasta Švogler, in a paper entitled *Parliamentary Debates and Freedom of Speech of MPs as Defined in the Rules of Procedure of the 19th Century Croatian Parliament and Other Parliaments - A Comparison*, analyzes some aspects of the constitution of parliaments, the

regulation of parliamentary debate and the freedom of speech of representatives, comparing the rules of procedure of the Croatian Parliament with rules of procedure of the Austrian and Hungarian parliaments, the parliaments of some German states, the United States Congress, and with a collection of precedents on which the actions of the British Parliament are based. The acceptance and modification of some aspects of the Westminster procedure or provisions of the rules of procedure of other countries are shown as an example of the transfer of ideas and practices in the field of parliamentarism in Croatia and other European countries in the 19th century. Jasna Turkalj analyzed *Parliamentary Immunity in the Kingdom of Croatia and Slavonia in the Second Half of the 19th Century and Its European Models*. She showed the development of the English and French model of parliamentary immunity, then the prevailing acceptance of the French model in Austria, Hungary, and Croatia and its application in the Law on the Inviolability and Non-Accountability of the Parliamentary Members, issued for the Croatian Parliament on May 16, 1867, especially in the first years of Ban Khuen-Héderváry's rule.

In the text entitled *In Pursuit of Economic Emancipation: Legislative Framework of Women's Paid Work in Croatia and Slavonia*, Mirela Krešić investigates the legislation that created the conditions for the economic emancipation of women and influenced the transformation of the traditional position of women in Croatian society in the second half of the 19th century. The legal framework that made this possible was a combination of the Austrian General Civil Code, the Hungarian-Croatian Trade Code and Industry Act, and the Croatian 1874 School Act.

In the article entitled *From Encouragement to Critique of Enlightened Absolutist Reforms: Nikola Škrlec Lomnički and His Views on the Reform of Local Administration in the Habsburg Monarchy*, Ivana Horbec, using the example of the activities of the prominent Croatian expert in law and public administration Nikola Škrlec Lomnički, shows that the transfer of ideas and knowledge in the Age of Enlightenment was not a linear top-down process. She found that the reforms he advocated and proposed were adapted to the specific local political and social context.

Teodora Shek Brnardić researched *The Enlightened Apology of the Latin Language by Marko Faustin Galjuf from Dubrovnik*. The author placed the origin and argumentation of the work of M. F. Galjuf, a famous improviser from the beginning of the 19th century who translated contemporary poetry into the Latin language, *Essay on the Luck of the Latin Language (Specimen de Fortuna Latinitatis, 1833)*, in the Enlightenment socio-cultural context. In doing so, she proved that Galjuf's basis for writing the work was enlightening, not conservative.

Then follow two texts dealing with pedagogical and educational topics. In the text *Reform of Elementary School System in the Second Half of the 19th Century and Ivan Filipović*, Dinko Župan analyzes the reform of public education carried out by Ban Ivan Mažuranić as part of his extensive reform activities in the 1870s. Along with Ban Mažuranić, a prominent teacher and pedagogue, Ivan Filipović played a very important role in the preparation and implementation of the primary school reform that enabled the construction of a modern education system in Croatia. The paper valorizes Filipović's role in passing the first law on primary education, which was passed by the Croatian Parliament in 1874, and the implementation of the reform based on it. In the paper entitled *Croatian Pedagogy in the 19th Century – the Transfer of European Pedagogical Ideas*, Štefka Batinić analyzed the transfer of European pedagogical ideas and practices on three basic levels. These are the formal pedagogical training of teachers, their training abroad and the translation of European pedagogical classics into the Croatian language, the writing of original pedagogical textbooks, and the publication of professional journals. In this context, the author particularly highlighted the extensive publishing activity of the Croatian Pedagogical and Literary Association, founded in 1871.

The thematic block is completed by two texts devoted to cultural and historical topics and the work of Branko Ostajmer. Marijan Šabić analyzed *Croatian-Czech and Croatian-Slovak Literary Relations during the Neo-absolutism - Key Points*. The author singled out the voluminous correspondence of Croatian, Czech, and Slovak intellectuals, and literary periodicals as key places for researching the literary and cultural ties of the three nations during the 1850s, which, in his opinion, were a mirror of the mutual reception of the literary production of these three nations. Marina Protrka Štimec presented the topic *Re-Evaluation of the Barbarian and the Primitive in the (Pre) Avant-Garde*. For centuries, Southeastern Europe was considered a semi-periphery, and the Balkans were described in the geopolitical imaginary as barbaric, and primitive compared to Western European society. Analyzing the works of the most prominent Croatian writers and literary groups at the turn of the 20th century, the author presents a new multi-layered interpretation of barbarism and primitivism as the opposite of the bourgeois value system.

In his article *Jews in the Political, Economic, and Cultural Life of Croatia at the End of the 19th and the Beginning of the 20th Century*, Branko Ostajmer examines the life and work of Oskar Weismayer (1855-1931), one of the most recognizable members of the Jewish community in Croatia, specifically in the town of Osijek. By analyzing Weismayer's economic, cultural, social, and political activities the author demonstrates how Jewish entrepreneurs impacted the economic and political life on the outskirts of the Habsburg Empire.

As part of the project *European roots of modern Croatia: transfer of ideas in the political and cultural field in the 18th and 19th centuries*, Zrinko Novosel's work *The Basics of General Financial Science by Antun Ferdinand Albely. Knowledge Circulation and Digital Text Analysis of a Legal Textbook* was created. In the paper, the author analyzed the transfer of knowledge in the field of public finance on the example of the textbook "The Basics of General Financial Science" by the professor of the Law Faculty of the Royal Academy of Sciences in Zagreb, A. F. Albely. Using digital tools, the author analyzed the transfers and modifications of ideas and knowledge from the textbooks of leading legal experts for the specified discipline in Albely's textbook. In agreement with the editors of the journal *Review of Croatian History*, Zrinko Novosel's work is published in the newly founded section *History Lab*.

I would like to thank the editors of the journal *Review of Croatian History* that enabled the collaborators of the recently completed project *European Roots of Modern Croatia: transfer of Ideas in the Political and Cultural Field in the 18th and 19th Centuries* financed by the Croatian Science Foundation, to present their research, carried out within the project, to the professional public.

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