



IN MEMORIAM

## Prof. dr. sc. MAJA ŠTAMBUK (1947. – 2025.)

U svojoj 78. godini 30. travnja 2025. zauvijek nas je napustila naša draga kolegica i prijateljica prof. dr. sc. Maja Štambuk, koja je u svojoj bogatoj znanstvenoj i stručnoj karijeri, između ostalog, od 2002. do 2009. godine bila glavna i odgovorna urednica časopisa "Društvena istraživanja".

Prof. dr. sc. Maja Štambuk rođena je 1947. u Selcima na otoku Braču. Nakon završene gimnazije u Zagrebu te studija na Filozofskom fakultetu Sveučilišta u Zagrebu (sociologija i francuski jezik) zaposlila se 1973. u Centru za sociologiju sela, grada i prostora Instituta za društvena istraživanja u Zagrebu.

Magistrirala je na Odsjeku za sociologiju temom "Mješovita domaćinstva i seljaci-radnici u Hrvatskoj" te jedanaest godina (1987. – 1997.) bila glavna i odgovorna urednica časopisa "Sociologija sela". U ožujku 1997. zaposlila se u Institutu društvenih znanosti Ivo Pilar na projektu "Sustavno oživljavanje hrvatskih periferija" u okviru programa "Socijalna struktura i socijalna integracija". Disertaciju pod naslovom "Modernizacijski procesi i društvene promjene u hrvatskim ruralnim sredinama" obranila je 1998. na Sveučilištu u Zagrebu. U znanstveno zvanje znanstvene savjetnice izabrana je 2005. godine, a znanstvene savjetnice u trajnom zvanju 2011.

Ostavila je neizbrisiv trag u hrvatskoj sociologiji, posebice na području ruralne sociologije, kroz mnoge znanstvene i stručne radove, znanstveno-istraživačke projekte, izlaganja na domaćim i međunarodnim konferencijama te kao voditeljica ili članica istraživačkih grupa u više od trideset znanstvenih i stručnih projekata, u okviru kojih je bila mentorica četirima asistentima. Objavila je jednu monografiju, sedam uredničkih knjiga, 22 poglavlja u knjigama, 33 znanstvena rada u časopisima i niz istraživačkih izvješća, elaborata i ekspertiza, pa se opravdano može smatrati nacionalnim stručnjakom za područje ruralnog razvoja, sociologije sela i položaja marginalnih skupina.

Među njezina ključna djela ulazi knjiga "Lica nigdine: društveni i prostorni okvir razvitka hrvatskog sela" (2014) i uredničke knjige u koautorstvu "Ruralna općina - sutra: društvena re/konstrukcija na ruralnom teritoriju" (2014), "Kako žive hrvatski Romi" (2005), "Živjeti u Zagrebu. Prinosi sociologijskoj analizi" (2004), "Razvojne perspektive ruralnog svijeta Slavonije i Baranje" (2003), "Prostor iza: kako modernizacija mijenja hrvatsko selo" (2002) te "Budućnost na rubu močvare: razvojni izgledi naselja na Lonjskom polju" (2001).

Bila je članica Hrvatskoga sociološkog društva (gdje je od 1989. do 1990. obnašala dužnost dopredsjednice) te Europskoga društva za ruralnu sociologiju (ESRS), u okviru kojega je bila dopisnica za Hrvatsku od 1991. do 1992. Bila je i članica Matičnog odbora za područje društvenih znanosti, polje sociologija, i Područnoga vijeća za društvene znanosti (od 2005. do 2009. godine).

Prof. dr. sc. Maja Štambuk svojim je profesionalnim radom pokazala usredotočenost na temu ruralne sociologije. Međutim, ona je tu temu i živjela. Ljubav prema selu i seljacima neprestano je isticala i u privatnom životu i nikad nije propustila priliku opomenuti nekoga tko bi se drznuo upotrijebiti riječ "seljak" u pogrdnom obliku. O tome je i izlagala na jednom skupu u Opatiji 2005. godine pod naslovom "Stigmatična personalizacija seljaka".

Njezina vedrina, aktivnost i ljudska toplina bile su gotovo zarazne. Uvijek je imala lijepu riječ za razne ljude i okolnosti, bila je uvjeren optimist, odgovorna i pravedna u radu i odnosima s ljudima. Neizmjerne je voljela planine, opere i svoje podrijetlo. Suosnivačica je "Udruge Štambuk", u okviru koje je po arhivima u Pragu tražila i našla korijene prvoga Štambuka na Braču. Samu sebe opisala je ovim riječima:

"Gledajući unatrag, Selca i Zagreb podjednako su obilježila moje odrastanje. Selca su moje malo misto, a Zagreb moje velo misto. Selca su korijeni, obitelj i djetinjstvo, a Zagreb su ljubavi, prijateljstva, posao i krov nad glavom. S podjednakom odanošću pripadam jednome i drugom i oba ta mjesta u mojem životu nikada nisu bila suprotstavljena. Tko kaže da se ne mogu imati dva zavičaja ... mogu, itekako. I može ih se voljeti, svaki na svoj način, i uživati družeći se na Pjaci, u procesiji za Gospu, na Croaciji redivivi, okupljanju Štambuka, Radonji, Perivoju, kao i na Trgu bana Jelačića, uz Savu, na Gornjem gradu, na Sljemenu, u kazalištima."

Većinu života provela je u Zagrebu, a počiva u Selcima na Braču.

Draga naša kolegice i prijateljice, nedostaje i nedostajat će nam tvoja aktivnost, posvećenost radu, vedrina, humor i ljudska toplina.



On April 30, 2025, in her 78th year, our dear colleague and friend Prof. Maja Štambuk, PhD, passed away. During her rich academic and professional career, she served, among other roles, as the editor-in-chief of the journal *Društvena istraživanja* from 2002 to 2009.

Prof. Maja Štambuk, PhD, was born in 1947 in Selca on the island of Brač. After completing high school in Zagreb and studying sociology and French at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, she began working in 1973 at the Centre for the Sociology of Rural, Urban, and Spatial Studies at the Institute for Social Research in Zagreb. She earned her master's degree at the Department of Sociology with the thesis "Mixed Households and Peasant-Workers in Croatia" and served for eleven years (1987–1997) as editor-in-chief of the journal *Sociologija sela*. In March 1997, she joined the Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar to work on the project Systematic Revitalisation of Croatian Peripheries within the programme "Social Structure and Social Integration". She defended her doctoral dissertation titled "Modernisation Processes and Social Change in Croatian Rural Areas" in 1998 at the University of Zagreb. She was promoted to the academic title of scientific advisor in 2005 and to permanent scientific advisor in 2011.

She left an indelible mark on Croatian sociology, especially in the field of rural sociology, through numerous scientific and professional papers, research projects, presentations at national and international conferences, and as a leader or member of research teams on more than thirty scientific and professional projects, within which she also mentored four research assistants. She published one monograph,

seven edited books, 22 book chapters, 33 scholarly articles in journals, and a series of research reports, studies, and expert analyses. She is therefore rightfully regarded as a national expert in the fields of rural development, rural sociology, and the position of marginalised groups.

Among her key works are the book "Faces of Nowhere: The Social and Spatial Framework of Croatian Village Development" (2014) and several co-edited volumes, including "The Rural Municipality: Tomorrow. Social Re/Construction in a Rural Territory" (2014), "How Croatian Roma Live" (2005), "Living in Zagreb: Contributions to a Sociological Analysis" (2004), "The Development Perspectives of the Rural Areas of Slavonia and Baranja" (2003), "The Space Behind: How Modernisation Changes the Croatian Village" (2002), and "The Future on the Edge of the Swamp: Development Prospects of Settlements in the Lonjsko Polje Area" (2001).

She was a member of the Croatian Sociological Association, where she served as vice-president from 1989 to 1990, and of the European Society for Rural Sociology (ESRS), where she acted as the correspondent for Croatia from 1991 to 1992. She was also a member of the National Committee for the Field of Social Sciences, Subfield of Sociology, as well as the Council for Social Sciences, from 2005 to 2009.

Prof. Maja Štambuk, PhD, demonstrated a strong professional focus on the field of rural sociology. However, she did not only study the topic – she truly lived it. Her love for the countryside and rural people was evident not only in her work but also in her personal life. She never missed an opportunity to call out anyone who dared to use the word "seljak" (peasant) in a derogatory way. She even gave a presentation on this topic at a conference in Opatija in 2005, titled "Stigmatised Personalisation of the Peasant".

Her cheerfulness, energy, and warmth were almost contagious. She always had kind words for people and circumstances, was a committed optimist, and approached her work and relationships with great responsibility and fairness. She deeply loved mountains, opera, and her heritage. She was a co-founder of the "Štambuk Association", through which she researched archives in Prague and traced the roots of the first Štambuk family member on the island of Brač.

She once described herself with these words:

"Looking back, Selca and Zagreb equally shaped my upbringing. Selca is my *malo misto* (small hometown), and Zagreb is my *velo misto* (big city). Selca means roots, family, and childhood, while Zagreb means love, friendships, work, and a roof over my head. I belong to both with equal devotion, and in my life, these two places were never in conflict. Whoever says you can't have two homelands... you can – absolutely. And you can love them, each in its own way, and enjoy spending time in *Pjaca*, in the procession for Our Lady, at *Croatia redivoiva*, at Štambuk gatherings, on *Radonja*, *Perivoj*, just as much as in Ban Jelačić Square, along the Sava River, in the Upper Town, on Sljeme, or in the theatres."

She spent most of her life in Zagreb, and she now rests in Selca on the island of Brač.

Dearest colleague and friend, we miss – and will continue to miss – your energy, dedication, cheerfulness, humour, and human warmth.

Ljiljana Kaliterna Lipovčan