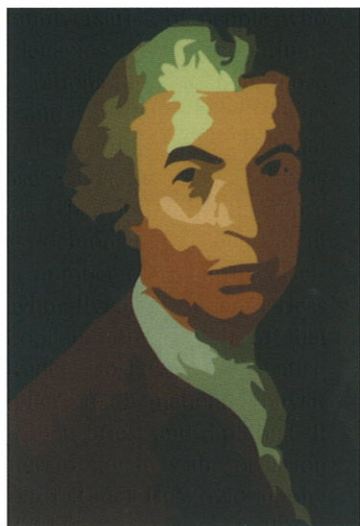




CAETS

## 300th Anniversary of Ruđer Bošković's Birth, or 300 Years of Ruđer Bošković among Us



Birth or death anniversaries of people who left significant legacies provide opportunities for new generations to learn about those people. Forces and repercussions of messages in their work are different. Exceptional people are those whose work is still as present as it was when it was made, those whose activities demonstrated such talent and attempted a number of scientific disciplines, those who lived in a borderless Europe, as European citizens. All of that characterized Ruđer Bošković – scientist, natural philosopher, mathematician, physicist, technician, poet, priest and diplomat. It is therefore better to say it is the occasion of the 300 years of Ruđer Bošković among us than the 300th anniversary of Ruđer Bošković's birth.

What does Ruđer Bošković communicate to us through his life and work? First of all, excellence and talent always have to be developed and stimulated. Excellence generates advancements, new knowledge and new quality of life. Excellence is a value system and organization of social life. For Croatia, excellence means creating additional value in all segments of society.

Another dimension comes out of Bošković's working area, which is Europe. Being sovereign in the entire Europe, in the contemporary language of European Union is a message pointing Croatia in the right direction. It is also related to excellence because excellence is recognized in quality.

The third dimension is dedication to one's own mission and work, which is essential for producing great work and changing society.

Finally, the fourth dimension is spirituality, which resulted in such an eruption of talent and new knowledge. This can not be separated from Bošković, because he represents an entirety, as well as a message to present generations.

Ruđer Bošković can be considered for Croatian society as a "lighthouse" illuminating wide ranges of human creation for greater good.

Goran Granić

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