



The Croatian Academy of Engineering (HATZ) is a Member of the International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Sciences (CAETS), Inc., Washington D.C., U.S.A. since 2000, and, starting with 2005, an Associated Member of the European Council for Applied Sciences and Engineering (Euro-CASE), Paris, France, EU

## Nikola Tesla – The Life and Work

It is hard to imagine the contemporary world without Tesla and his patents. We encounter Tesla in our home, at our working place, in our social life or in the moments of repose and relaxation. The degree of integration of his patents into our life is considered a civilizational achievement and a common good.

From this point of view, Tesla is a common value and everyone has the equal right to celebrate his life and work. Of course, this happens. In formal and informal sense, Tesla is a man who has, more than anyone else, contributed to the present technological level of realization of modern economy and modern way of life.

His supranational work, which is also a work for a step forward in the development of civilization, also brings forth an urge to determine our relation to all those that wish to celebrate Tesla on any basis. The Republic of Croatia, on the territory of which Nikola Tesla was born 150 years ago in a family of Serbian nationality, is rejoicing to every contribution that reminds us of his work, and is supporting all such ideas and projects that remind the citizens of the entire world to this great inventor and visionary.

The application of Tesla's patents started very soon in Croatia. With the application of these patents, new energy and quality of life entered the Croatian homes and companies. Likewise, the industry developed as well as educational institutions, while Tesla's patents and their application have become a life and professional preoccupation of many people.

What does the celebration of 150th anniversary of Nikola Tesla's birth mean for the Croatian Academy of Engineering? For an institution founded in the 14th decade of Tesla's anniversary, the experiences of "living" his work and relation to him means the following:

- No one is entitled to a privilege of talent, and thus Tesla's example of a genius born in such a small, poor and undeveloped environment, points that the Academy, as a part of its activity, should support the talent and open door to new "Teslas",
- The universal values and contribution to the civilization require permanent affirmation and discarding any type of discrimination, with valutatively equal acceptance of everyone who wishes to share with us the joy for the results as well as contribution of every exceptional individual,
- Tesla's legacy as well as the contribution of many generations of engineers should become a permanent encouragement to the development of this profession and the economy,
- His opus should suspend the limitations of the human life, because Tesla has left much of his work unfinished, which is a challenge to the forthcoming generations as well as for all of us.

In Tesla's life and work the Croatian Academy of Engineering may find the idea inspiring its activities in the future years. It should affirm the engineering sciences, encourage the talents, open itself towards knowledge and its application and continue to build cooperation both in Europe and worldwide.

By celebration of the 150th anniversary of Nikola Tesla's birth, we wish to bring Tesla back into our everyday life in a way he deserves. To be a citizen of his homeland is a great obligation for everyone, but also a great challenge for all of us to integrate strongly through knowledge into the global knowledge and economy.

Goran Granić

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