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## **IT'S ABOUT PEOPLE 2022: EMBRACING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION, FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND ETHICAL FUTURE**

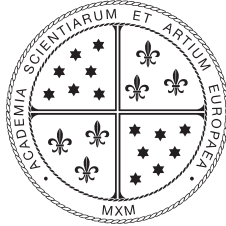
*The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Europe's Sciences  
and Arts Leaders and Scholars*



# BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

**MARIBOR | 11 - 18 March 2022**

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It's About People 2022: Embracing Digital Transformation for a Sustainable and Ethical Future / Book of Abstracts**

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under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Slovenia, Mr. Borut Pahor

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Maribor, 11-18 March 2022

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# **INVITED TALKS OF THE CONFERENCE**

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## OPENING ADDRESSES

**Prof. Dr. Ludvik Toplak, President, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM**

*Dear Mark Boris Andrijanič, Minister for Digital Transformation, Republic of Slovenia,  
Dear Janez Cigler Kralj, Minister of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities,  
Dear members of the Slovenian and EU Parliament,  
Dear Prof. Dr. Mindy Chen-Wishart, Dean of University of Oxford, Faculty of Law  
Dear scientists from over 30 countries of the world, and representatives of representative academies of science and arts,  
My dear colleagues, distinguished guests,  
Dear students,  
Ladies and gentlemen,*

*Welcome to the 10th Annual Conference of Europe's Sciences and Arts Leaders and Scholars It's About People 2022 with this year focus on Embracing Digital Transformation for a Sustainable and Ethical Future.*

*It is the mission of Alma Mater Europaea to use all academic resources, material and human resources for sustainable development and peace in Europe.*

*Embracing Digital Transformation for a Sustainable and Ethical Future is the place where European science and arts leaders and scholars are presenting the answers to the challenges for the people in this turbulent time. At the same time, we are all looking to exchange our experiences and knowledge and to present the answers to our students from the European sciences and arts leaders and scholars.*

*The conference It's About People is addressing three different panels at the international scientific and scholarly level (27), at expert level (13) and student level (7). Additionally, conference addresses many round tables and discussions for specific and current topics. On the conference there are over 233 speakers altogether that are participating in 16 thematic areas and 49 panels. There are several 1000 registered participants from 32 countries from all continents which I would like to welcome at the conference, warm welcome also to our Alma Mater Europaea students.*

*I would like to invite you all to the initiatives and talks for the next conference edition, which will be held in 2023.*

*I wish you the 10<sup>th</sup> conference a successful work.*

*With my warmest regards*

*Prof. Dr. Ludvik Toplak,  
President of Alma Mater Europaea - ECM*

**Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia**

*Esteemed Conference Participants,  
Dear Prof. Toplak, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

*I am delighted to have the opportunity to address you again this year, this time at your jubilee international scientific conference. I sincerely welcome the efforts of the organisers, who have been creating, year after year in the last ten years, a venue where perspectives, knowledge and skills meet, shape and connect. For years, I have been a supporter of this now traditional forum that calls for solutions based on science and innovation.*

*This year's meeting comes at a time when much of humanity wonders above all whether we are really not able to resolve our differences in some other way rather than through violence or even war. Has it been an illusion to believe that with the development of science and technology, and art and culture in particular, we have progressed to the point where we can settle all our relations peacefully? The ethical challenges of the digital transformation were one of the most important issues a month ago, but now it seems that the aforementioned question has become a priority. If we find the right answer to it, we will find it easier to deal with other issues.*

*Digital technology is changing people's lives. Those who are not fast, responsive and nimble lag behind. Finding the right balance between technological and social development in the digital transformation of individual areas of society is therefore crucial. The ongoing changes need to be embraced, understood and shaped for the benefit of society. For the benefit of the community. Development must go hand in hand with solidarity and humanity to enable the humanisation of technology and prevent the dehumanisation of society.*

*I wish you every success in your work and an enjoyable event. Thank you.*



**Prof. Dr. Felix Unger, Honorary President, European Academy of Sciences and Arts**

*Dear ladies and gentlemen,*

*It is an honour to greet you on behalf of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts and Alma Mater Europaea.*

*This conference, already the 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference of Alma Mater Europaea is a wonderful event with a very carefully selected topic. A topic, that is very challenging one, too. I am glad to see that there are over 500 active participants. My congratulations therefore go to Professor Ludvik Toplak and his team, for organizing such a wonderful event.*

*You are addressing important challenges of our society at this time, especially the topic of ageing. This is an important issue for all of us. I am therefore glad to see many representatives from the European Commission and politics participating in debates.*

*I wish the conference and the participants a lot of success. Please receive my sincere congratulations.*

**Mark Boris Andrižanič, Minister for Digital Transformation, Republic of Slovenia**

*Distinguished guests, dear ladies and gentlemen,  
it is my great honor to open the 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference of Europe's scientists and artists, leaders and scholars.*

*This conference carries a simple yet profound title, it's about people. Allow me to add, it's about the Ukraine, and its freedom-loving people that are, at this very moment, fighting and dying for the very ideals that the European Union was founded upon. The brutal war, raging in the Ukraine, is a powerful reminder that modern technologies can be turned against humanity.*

*Embracing an ethically driven digital transformation is therefore more important than ever before. We need to strengthen our defenses against propaganda misinformation and disinformation. These tools are right now being used by Putin's criminal regime to create chaos, spread confusion and stifle our democracies.*

*I'm proud that the recent Slovenian EU presidency reached an agreement on Digital Services Act, which paves the way towards a safer and more transparent internet. At the same time, we need to expand our cyber defenses by creating a unified European cyber shield. This shield should be powered by a joint European cyber security unit, which would protect public institutions, businesses, and citizens, all across the EU.*

*Dear friends, with great power comes great responsibility. Digital transformation has been a force for good in a number of areas, from medicine and education to communication. We should never doubt its limitless potential to save and improve human lives around the world. But we need clear rules and effective protection to safeguard the very ideas, we hold so dear. Let us therefore work together to defend the world that is free, democratic, and founded upon human dignity. This is the world that the Ukraine represents and fights for today.*

*I wish you all a productive and inspiring conference.*

## KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

**Prof. Dr. Mindy Chen-Wishart**, Dean, University of Oxford, Faculty of Law

*After the murder of George Floyd, institutions around the world have been quick to self-certify as anti-racist. It's easy to oppose the crassest forms of racism happening elsewhere; but much harder to see and address our own institutional and individual behaviours that perpetuate more subtle forms of racism. We all have unconscious biases that manifest in inadvertent but injurious structures and behaviours. Will we do the uncomfortable work of listening to racialized minorities, transcending our subjectivity, and working towards justice and flourishing for all?*

**Maroš Šefčovič**, Vice-President for Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight, European Commission

*Greetings from Brussels,  
It is a pleasure to be speaking to you today via video message.*

*We will look at how digitalisation can help us shape the Europe of tomorrow, that we want to see. Our world is changing rapidly. We see a number of mega trends, happening around us, such as climate change, increasing pressure on democracy and values, shifts in demography and challenges of the global order, shown by the horrific Russian invasion of the Ukraine.*

*The ongoing digital transformation is having a momentous impact on our lives. We are living in a new post-industrial era. And looking ahead, towards 2050, technological acceleration and digitalization are set to transform whole areas of our society and economies. This is already happening. The Covid-19 pandemic has rapidly accelerated home schooling and work. The European industry is already benefitting from this mega trend.*

*The EU is the technological champion in advanced manufacturing, materials and data services. The European businesses deliver many critical enablers to global production lines. But the technological change also provides us with a variety of challenges. For example: 50% of current jobs, globally speaking, will be automated in the future with significant differences across countries and sectors. At the same time, many new jobs, including green ones, will appear. But they will require new skills. This is why we need more initiatives like our European battery academy which will help close the skills gap in the fast growing European battery industry. An estimated 800,000 extra workers will be needed to be reskilled and upskilled by 2025, this is a vital endeavour, but thanks to the work of the European battery alliance, which was founded nearly 5 years ago, Europe is now a global battery hotspot.*

*By the end of the last year, the total level of investments along the entire battery value chain reached an impressive 127bln Euros. At current pace, we are set to meet close to 90% of demand for batteries by 2030, enough for up to 11 million cars per year, cementing our position among the global leaders in mobility.*

*In light of challenges and opportunities, brought to us by challenges and digitalization, the best strategy is to take action in the form of the strategy foresight. President von der Leyen recognized this even before the pandemic, which is why she gave me a specific responsibility for strategic foresight as part of my mandate as Vice-president of the European Commission. Part of our work in this field has been our annual strategic foresight report. The second edition, published last year, focused on these megatrends and highlighted ten areas of action where the EU should boost its open strategic autonomy, contributing to our geopolitical resilience. Among these areas were strengthening our capacity in data management, artificial intelligence and cutting edge technologies. And the recent European Chip's act shows that our work on strategic foresight is already having a direct impact on the European Commission's priorities and policy making.*

*Through mobilising over 43bln EUR of private investment, we managed to innovate a state of the art EU ecosystem for semi-conductors, which develops new markets and prevents supply shortages. Technological advancements, however, are dependent on access to critical raw materials. Without them, it will be impossible to meet the Paris agreement goals and to preserve Europe's leading economic position by achieving strategic autonomy in all green and digital ecosystems.*

*I am not overstating it when I say that securing supplies of critical raw materials is a strategic security question for Europe. Europe has close to 260 deposits of key battery materials as well as state of the art technologies and necessary expertise for their responsible and sustainable exploration. However, we must scale-up our primary and secondary critical raw materials industry. And we must make Europe more attractive for the development of sustainable raw materials projects while respecting the highest environmental standards. For that it is necessary to urgently identify the most strategic raw material projects in Europe and together with our partner countries, accelerate and streamline our permit procedures, while ensuring they are in compliance with EU environmental legislation and with the highest transparency and pub-*

*lic engagement standards. We need to secure public funding to ensure lift-off for raw material projects and leverage financing from the market. And finally, we must enhance our capacities to monitor global supply potential crisis and to act.*

*Dear friends, the war in our neighbourhood has left us all deeply shaken. Our thoughts are with all brave Ukrainians who are fighting and defending the country resolutely against invasion. But even as we unite as one Europe to support their fight, we should be careful not to ignore the long-term perspective and work towards making our free and democratic Europe more resilient and more able to shape our own future whatever challenges we might face.*

## INVITED TALK

**Prof. Dr. Klaus Mainzer**, President, European Academy of Sciences and Arts Salzburg

*Smart cities mean that cities will become more or less self-organized complex systems with intelligence in technologies. You'll find different domains, service mobility, energy, health systems, and similar which must be connected by smart technologies*

*We do not have to go to Asia, to find smart technologies, for there are already many countries in Europe that are highly developed in this sense. Considering the current problems with the energy in Europe and with respect to various energy resources, we must decrease the prices and increase the efficiency. This means that we have to consider smart grids integrated power delivery infrastructure, with Unified Communication and control network in order to provide right information to the right entities at the right time. And with respect to another great challenge - the pandemics, we need intelligent infrastructures of health care and big data in order to raise the efficiency and to decrease our costs.*

*Where lies the challenge? Digital tools have a sustainable roadmap of education and that means that we have to develop infrastructure. It is not sufficient to have only engineers, computer scientists or physicists which construct only single machines. They have to develop infrastructure and infrastructure means people, from humanities to social scientists.*

## CONTRIBUTION OF EACH ACADEMY TO THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND ETHICAL FUTURE IN EUROPE – PLENARY SESSION 1

**Prof. Dr. Jan Wörner**, President, Acatech - Deutsche Akademie der Technikwissenschaften

*Beyond the health issues brought about by the Covid-19 crisis, something positive came out of it, namely the digital transformation, which really came out with great speed during the crisis. The aspects of digital transformation that we see today are new roles, new structures, performance-oriented organisations, new processes and new opportunities. How is the ACATECH dealing with this? We are looking at the global challenges: climate change, migration, mobility, communication, energy, shortage of resources, demographic development, conflicts and catastrophies... I don't have a priority list because I believe all of them are important. We need global cooperation for that. We have to be open and cooperative. Competition is a driver for it.*

*Using the digital transformation will also change the way we work. There are new options and new opportunities now. In the past, this was done a certain way. But now, with the digital transformation, we can use this model for many applications.*

*My final message for this conference was not written by me but by Antoine de Saint Exupery: As for the future, your task is not to foresee it, but to enable it.*

*Meaning that we should not try to predict what will happen in ten, twenty or thirty years, but we should make it possible for people to develop the future in the best way possible.*

**Prof. Dr. Felix Unger**, Honorary president, European Academy of Sciences and Arts  
Salzburg

*Let us have a look at the different side of the human dimension. The human dimension has many different facets. When we look at the human dimension, this is not only the Artificial Intelligence but also the logical dimension which needs to be considered. This shows us how the curve of possibilities is affecting our culture and changing the picture, bringing new possibilities also to curing patients.*



**Prof. Dr. Ivo Šlaus, Honorary president, World Academy of Art & Science**

*We live in the world with about 2,000 different cultures. And we need all of them, because it is impossible to solve all the problems we have within only one culture. This is not as easy as it was for example in physics, where one person at that time, Albert Einstein, was capable of formulating the general theory of relativity. The cultural diversity is as important as biodiversity. The emphasis of prof. Chen's contribution in this sense was focused on the last two words of this year's conference title, namely the "Ethical Future". For the future to be sustainable, it has to be ethical and empathy needs to be emphasized. When we look back in all our cultures, there is one rule, sometimes called "golden rule", which says "don't do to others what you would not want to be done to you".*

*Digital transformation is major change in what we call "technology procedure protocols". Here we are talking about something much more significant; much more overwhelming than for instance the discovery of the lense, X-rays etc. It's not only the material goods, but a number of things which we could summarize under the one word: empathy. We have to transform ourselves to meet those challenges we are facing, which are primarily dealing with the destruction of natural and human capital.*

**Prof. Dr. Brian Norton, Secretary for Policy and International, Royal Irish Academy**

*The digital transformation that has occurred today has brought many benefits, connectivity, wider access to information, large variety of services and access to culture. It also created new forms of media, online games, the ability to create videos and share them with others... I want also to focus on the negative aspects. What are the challenges? Data is being captured, sold, monetized, often automatically using artificial intelligence, both, vertically through data that is in the social media, and covertly through the Internet of Things and devices that monitor the human behaviour.*

*The fundamental challenge for the world academia is this paradigm shift where the Internet has moved from being just a digital system to be a society, perhaps even having some characteristics of a state. This brings us to a big challenge, which is the democratization of the Internet. That is a very large and significant challenge, which will only grow. We are talking about international democratization, new kinds of forms of participation, in decision-making that do not exist. For the successful continuation of digital transformation to be a benefit to individuals, knowledge regulation and education about how digital world operates is as important as its provision. That is a particular role for the academics and the academies. It brings in some of the challenges of ethics, as has been mentioned, but also the challenges that underpinned ideas around the creation of UN, the ideas that there are international responsibilities, that there is international law.*

## DEMOGRAPHY – PLENARY SESSION 2

**Dubravka Šuica, Vice-President for Democracy and Demography, European Commission**

*Dear ladies and gentlemen,*

*My sincere thanks for the invitation to address you today on the subject of demographic change and in particular ageing in the European Union. By coming together today, we are sending a strong message.*

*The European Union is going through a profound transformation. It is true that climate change and digitalisation are key drivers. But demographic change is, too. It may be less visible and silent, but it impacts all of us. Demographic change will gain in prominence over the coming years as the European Union's ageing population steadily increases. In my role as Vice-President for Democracy and Demography, I focus on the whole life cycle, from the rights of children to those of older people. Ageing brings both, challenges and opportunities. Today, 20% of the Union's population is above 65 years old. By 2070, it will be 30%. The share of people above 80 will likely double, reaching 13% by 2070.*

*Addressing demographic change is key to building a fairer, more resilient society. This is why addressing the challenges and opportunities of demographic change is a priority for this European Commission. As we are learning to live with the pandemic and finding a way out of it, we must not lose sight of a remarkable development. Never before have so many Europeans been enjoying such long and healthy lives. This is indicative of the success and strength of our social market economy. According to our 2021 Ageing Report, the total population in the Union is expected to shrink by about 5% up to 2070. In addition, the old-age dependency ratio is set to increase. Take, for example, the fact that in 2019 there were 2.9 potential workers to one retiree, whereas in 2070 there will be only 1.7 potential workers to one retiree. It is vital that we prepare our societies and economies for managing this scenario. These demographic figures, coupled with low fertility rates and other factors, shows how our population has been ageing. The demographic trend of ageing has implications for economic growth, fiscal sustainability, health and long-term care, well-being and social cohesion.*

*Ageing is closely linked to depopulation. They both significantly impact Europe's rural areas. When we speak about rural areas, we talk about 137 million people, representing almost 30% of the Union's population and over 80% of its territory. Demographic change affects urban and rural regions differently. For example, from 2010 to 2020, the population in the Union's rural regions decreased by 1 percent, while in urban regions it increased by around 6 percent. We must respond appropriately to the challenges citizens in rural areas are facing. It is in rural areas where the demographic transition is most visible. Demographic challenges impact rural areas' socio-economic growth, their quality of life and their ability to build an attractive future.*

*The Green Paper on Ageing, published in January 2021, takes a 'life-cycle' approach, that shows the impact of ageing on all generations and stages in life. We must remember that ageing is not just for the elderly. Everyone, including young people, is impacted by the prospect of living a longer life. It is important that we strengthen solidarity between the generations. And strike the right balance between sustainable solutions for our welfare systems.*

*Given that ageing is affecting our societies at different levels, the European Commission believes in an integrated approach, supporting measures covering multiple areas in a complementary manner. The Paper's public consultation revealed a desire for the European Union to support Member States in transitioning toward integrated, person-centred and community-based health care and long-term care.*

As a result of demographic change, the number of people potentially in need of long-term care in the European Union is projected to rise substantially, from 30 million in 2019 to almost 40 million in 2050. This will lead to a drastic increase in demand for long-term care services. On 15 September 2021, President von der Leyen announced that the Commission will come forward with a new European care strategy to support men and women in finding the best care and the best life balance for them. This shows our commitment to supporting those in need of care, as well as those who provide it. We cannot have a robust care strategy without looking at both.

The initiative has a strong gender equality dimension. Women are overrepresented as care providers. Women also provide the bulk of informal care. Therefore, next to an initiative on long-term care, the European Care Strategy will include a revision of the Barcelona targets on early childhood education and care. With this we aim to further enhance women's labour market participation and encourage Member States in improving the participation of children in early childhood education and care. Improving care services and infrastructure across Member States is essential for halving the gender employment gap by 2030.

Another core element of the Green Paper on Ageing is the emphasis on lifelong learning. The green and digital transitions require upskilling and reskilling of the Union's labour force. Workers of all ages must be supported to develop the skills they need, to keep up with the innovations rapidly taking hold in workplaces across Member States. At the Porto Social Summit in May last year, Member States confirmed their commitment to achieving a participation rate of 60% of all adults in training every year by 2030. Beyond that, the European Skills Agenda adopted in July 2020 sets out a dozen actions to allow individuals and businesses to develop more and better skills. The Pact for Skills mobilises public and private actors to set up large-scale skills partnerships in a given sector or region. Launched in November 2020, the Pact includes over 500 organisations that have signed up to its Charter. We have already launched seven sectoral partnerships including in renewable energy, maritime technology and tourism. Now, these partnerships are being expanded to the 14 industrial ecosystems under the EU Industrial Strategy. Upskilling our workforce in this way will give workers the tools they need to navigate the green and digital transitions throughout their entire life.

Providing adults with learning opportunities was only the start. The second step is to give more support to individuals to take up more learning and training opportunities. In December 2021, the Commission adopted a proposal for a Council Recommendation on individual learning accounts. It asks Member States to provide each person of working-age with training entitlements in the form of a virtual wallet that can only be used for learning purposes. This direct financial support to individuals will be complemented by non-financial measures such as guidance services.

Looking forward into the future, the third step is to provide better recognition of the skills developed during adult learning. The Commission has therefore adopted a proposal for a Council Recommendation on micro-credentials in December 2021. These are acquired from short, targeted courses, and help people to develop the skills they need based on what they need to live and work.

I look forward to working closely with all partners as we move forward in our work and am keen to hear more about your ideas, expertise and contributions in this area. I thank you for your engagement as we take the next tangible steps necessary for a European Union for all ages.

## »HUMAN RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS: WHAT ARE WE MISSING? «

Prof. Dr. Israel Doron, Head of the Department of Gerontology, University of Haifa

*From a global perspective, it seems that a human rights discourse has become a dominant policy-frameworks in response to global aging. However, despite this shift, the international effort to promote a new international human rights convention for the rights of older persons has failed. In this presentation I will argue that something was and still missing from the existing public debate around the human rights of older persons. This "missing element" will be termed: "Ageivism". "Ageivism" as will be presented and defined in this presentation, is an ideology which capsules social cause and a moral foundation for social action that attempts to emancipate older persons from the existing social oppression which stems from the social construction of old age.*

# OLDER WOMEN AND AGEISM: THE RIGHT FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN OLD AGE

Rosette Farrugia-Bonello, MSc, Deputy Director  
International Institute on Ageing, United Nations - Malta

*The worldwide increase in the older population is a triumph of civilisation, a phenomenon to be celebrated. However, societal perceptions and policy responses to ageing population are often found to be based on older people as a homogenous group, rather than on a diverse group with different needs and experiences. This give rise to ageism which forces social inequalities. This presentation will be highlighting the double jeopardy that women face in their old age, arising from the interface between ageism and gender. Society applies unique set of principles towards older women, especially in terms of stereotypes, prejudices and expectations. It is argued that gender equality in old age is a right which is being denied to many. Policies to address this discrimination are needed so as to secure a good quality of life for older women.*

## Janez Cigler Kralj, Minister, Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

Dear organisers and participants of the 2022 Alma Mater Conference It's About People,

Thank you very much for inviting me to this important annual conference, which has gained great recognition in the European academic space. It is an honour to be joining you today to address the work and efforts of my team at the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, referring to the rights of the elderly and the ethical attitude towards them.

Comprehensive regulation of the field of elderly care has been one of the central priorities since the beginning of my term. Slovenia is characterised by an ageing population. By 2030, more than 30% of the population will be older than 65. Today, however, 70% of the population is already over 80 years old. The need for admission to institutions will continue to be growing.

As a minister, I know the situation in the field quite well, as I have visited around 50 institutional care providers across the country in less than two years of being in office. On some occasions, I was the first minister who had visited them in the history of the individual institution.

During the pandemic, we were constantly in contact with the managers of individual care centres and homes for the elderly either through video conferences or other communication channels. This was one of the most important tasks and of extraordinary importance during the difficult, worst weeks of the Covid pandemic. And I can say that the elderly care workers are among the most caring and sweet people in our country. They also make the lives of the elderly much more pleasant.

I have often quoted the German politician Ursula Lehr, who said that it is not important how old a person is, but how he gets to be old. This thought accompanies me everytime I visit homes for the elderly that are not well maintained, which shows an undignified image of ageing because of the inappropriate living conditions. But I also remember this thought in beautiful, joyful moments when I deliver happy news of financing a new home or centre for the elderly.

Over the past decade, institutional care has suffered a lot. The last home for the elderly, built with public funds, was built in 2005. It was the home for the elderly people Fužine, in Ljubljana. Later, individual tenders were carried out for the concessions, however, only smaller accommodation units were built for larger nursing homes. As a result, many homes face spatial problems, or do not meet standards of institutional care, which has also been marked by our response to the epidemic.

Since the first day of my mandate, my colleagues and I have been carrying out activities to regulate this area. After decades of neglect of elderly care, over the next four years more than €200 million of investments will be provided from different sources. The funding has already ensured a better quality of life for older people. With budgets for 2021 and 2022, we have provided over €65 million investments in homes for the elderly, which will fund 413 new accommodation places.

We have secured €93 million through the REACH EU call. These funds will enable a friendlier and safer living environment for residents in nursing homes and will support the process of deinstitutionalisation. Due to higher standards, we are talking about approximately 300 additional accommodations. As part of the recovery and resilience plan, we are also planning to invest €59 million to build 850 new places in nursing homes.

In March 2021, we awarded concession for 1285 new places for users of institutional care services in nursing homes, to be applied from the early 2022 onwards. In June 2021, we launched another, new tender, and in January this year we awarded additional 1107 places with concession. We are thus talking about 2,392 accommodation places in total. By the end of this year, 218 places will be provided in day-care units and 178 places in centres for occasional accommodation for the elderly, for which a total of €28 million of European and own resources are allocated.

*We are aware that space alone is not enough for decent ageing. After many years of neglect, we also want to solve the human resources issues. We have reached an agreement with the trade unions, which includes raising the salaries of 12,000 employees in health and social care, and appointed a working group on human resources standards and norms in the framework of nursing homes and special social care institutions. The value of the proposed action is approximately 32 million EUR. The recently passed Long-Term Care Act will also contribute to the structural regulation of this area.*

*Dear ladies and gentlemen, I have listed some achievements, indicated a few steps that will lead us to a more decent stay for older people in the near future, but we must not forget those older people who are staying at home or those who are retiring as we speak. Due to the difficult situation caused by the epidemic, a solidarity allowance of over €134 million was paid to pensioners in both, the first and second wave of the epidemic. We have reconciled pensions, corrected the injustices of the past, we have established a functioning system for pensions of farmers and people with disability. At the same time, we are ensuring the strengthening of intergenerational ties in our society. We have contributed to increased awareness of intergenerational cooperation, and lifelong learning in Slovenian companies, which is crucial for the transition to a more sustainable economy. We have established lifelong learning programmes and the acquisition of competences to raise the quality of life in the third period of life. Last but not least, last week's confirmed digital voucher also opens up a number of opportunities for older people to further educate themselves and benefit from much-needed digital services in all branches of social engagement.*

*Dear ladies and gentlemen, the elderly symbolize wisdom and experience, and are invaluable to our society. I promise you that we will continue to address the area of care for the elderly and make this a priority in the future, too. We must also lean on strengthened family policy measures and support couples in making decisions for large families. Our society is as strong as its weakest link.*

*No man is an island, completely to himself. Every man is a piece of the continent, part of land. I am pleased that we can contribute a small stone to the mosaic for the safe haven of our elderly. I wish you a successful conference.*



## WHY ARE THE ELDERLY ADULTS (THROWN) ON THE PERIPHERY OF SOCIETY?

**Prof. Emer. Dr. Šime Ivanjko**, Emeritus Professor of Law  
University of Maribor

*Although the author notes that in Slovenian society the elderly adults make up about 20 percent of the total population, which increases annually by around 3 percent, that for every 100 children over 65 years of age, about 130 years old and around 13 percent of older adults with higher or higher education and with a lot of life experience, it also notes that the value of knowledge of this part of the social population is lost by going into retirement, as the value of the company's shares in bankruptcy. The older generation has survived as many changes as few in the history of our society. The very fact that elderly adults have spent their lives without changing the wider geographical area, in 4 different countries, with different socio-political, contradictory, systems and always with unsatisfying visions of a satisfy and happy life in society. They spent their lives in promises and anticipation of a higher quality of life. Today, in the last period of their lives, they note that all expectations were at the limit of unfulfilled illusions and that, unaware by passing, they found themselves on the periphery of our society as predictable for the ultimate exodus of life.*

*Because the author notes that the elderly adults are forbidden to work; however, if they work, they are under strict control as to how much they can be (post)payed, speculating that society is likely to see that elderly adults on the labour market are dangerously competitive with young people. Elderly adults have experienced limited ability to run for candidacies for certain functions; but them are offered only empty honorary titles. The attempt to collectively engage the elderly adults in political life miserably collapsed by improperly paying 400 euros. The banks' doors are closed to the elderly adults, saying they are too close to death to be given a €500 loan. Also the big insurance companies, which have co-created huge financial reserves, do not allow them personal insurance and give newspapers to the homes of the elderly that cannot be sold on the market instead of food treats. Entrepreneurs, and especially traders, are older people as well as excellent consumers who are not interested in the sustainability of individual products and are susceptible to a few cent discounts for pensioners. Elderly adults are also restricted in traffic. They are thus particularly supervised by medical staff and police. Often their living and living habits disturb young people. Thus, they are mostly „pushed“ into nursing homes, where they have to share their intimate in more bedrooms (as in the past in Yugoslav army). For young people, it is also problematic to understand the personal feelings express by elderly adults.*

*The author was the instigator of the introduction of personal bankruptcy years ago, convinced that entrepreneurs in particular need a fresh start. Today, however, he notes that this is the way for elderly adults going out of debt slavery, because their pensions are not enough to survive or for pay their debts.*

*The author's contribution, however, vents in the conclusion that the interest for the elderly adults, which is demonstrated by current policy or always name-important owners, entrepreneurs, social visionaries and many others who still want to use elderly adults for their goals, is present. Politicians and political parties are interested in the elderly adults in every election year. To them, the electoral votes of the elderly adults are valuable, and they mean little or nothing to the elderly themselves. However, it has taken decades to pass the Long-Term Care Act.*

*The author concludes his contribution by proposing to young people to „straighten out the paths of society to the periphery“, not because they love them, but because of them, who, rather than they think, will enter the path of their own without a return.*

**Keywords:** older adults, society, ageism.

# HOW TO PRESERVE THE DIGNITY OF AN OLD DYING MAN

**Metka Klevišar, MD, Physician**  
Dom Sv. Jožef Celje

*Death is the most certain fact for us. Even though it's all waiting for us, we're very reluctant to talk about it and we're doing it as if it's not present in our lives. Death is supposed to be a fault, a mistake. If we were willing to talk about it more, not just at the very end of life, we would certainly live better and more peacefully. In the paper, the author will present about how, in a society, that was, and still is not, not prepared to talk about death, she started writing and presenting lessons and sessions for people to talk about the care of the dying and how important it is to talk about this phenomena as much as possible. Then the author will highlight some of the most urgent things that a dying person needs, although we must be aware that even in dying needs, people are very different. Finally, she will focus on how important it is for every person to say early enough how he would want to be treated when he dies. It's best to write that wish.*

# IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO FIND MEANING

**Marko Pavliha**, Professor of Law  
University of Ljubljana

*The title point of the lecture will be justified by a brief sketch of the possibilities and methods of spreading consciousness in the spirit of saying „help yourself and God - cosmic intelligence, greatness, space, destiny, etc. - will help you“. Every man, perhaps especially in older age, can do things for himself to make life easier and better. It is, of course, a mutual process, because we are all intertwined, and the attitude of society (especially state or politics, as well as the profession, etc.) must contribute to getting out of the bad vicious circle and establishing good compassionate and solidarity-based cooperation. The lecture will be based on the book Beyond Materialistic Belief: Spiritual Drama (GV Založba, 2021), which is based on the hypothesis that the essence of humanism, law, ethics, morality, civilisation and survival is man, and if we want more values to be true, every every person must improve, including by internalizing local and global duties and responsibilities. I will support the hypothesis with some of the latest scientific discoveries about man and holistic consciousness, ancient Chinese, Hindu, Buddhist and Christian writings, reflections of newly-awakened practitioners and experts, and his own synthesis with a hint of original.*





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# PHYSIOTHERAPY

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## SCHOLARLY PANEL

# THE INFLUENCE OF PULMONARY REHABILITATION IN THE UNDERGROUND SALT CHAMBERS ON DYNAMIC BALANCE OF OLDER ADULTS

**Sylwia Metel**, Researcher  
University of Physical Education in Krakow

**Magdalena Kostrzon**, Doctor of Public Health  
Wieliczka Salt Mine Health Resort

**Justyna Adamiak**, PhD, Research Associate  
University of Physical Education in Krakow

### ABSTRACT

*Pulmonary rehabilitation is recognized as a core component of the management of elderly patients with chronic respiratory diseases.*

*The aim of the study was assessment of dynamic balance of older adults participating in speleotherapy combined with pulmonary rehabilitation.*

*The study group consisted of 51 seniors with chronic respiratory diseases who participated in 3-weeks pulmonary rehabilitation program in the underground salt chambers in 'Wieliczka' Salt Mine Health Resort. These individuals underwent the Four Square Step Test (FSST) before and after the outpatient rehabilitation conducted underground.*

*The test group for the eventual trial included 28 women and 17 men with the mean age of  $68.5 \pm 3.2$  years and  $69.4 \pm 2.5$  years and mean BMI  $28.4 \pm 3.8$  and  $28.6 \pm 3.5$ , respectively. The average time needed to perform FSST decreased significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) from  $10.2 \pm 1.9$  cm before the stay to  $9.1 \pm 1.7$  cm after the stay. For patients with lower respiratory tract disorders the average decrease was 0.8 s and with upper respiratory tract disorders 1.5 cm ( $p < 0.05$ ).*

*Speleotherapy combined with pulmonary rehabilitation increases the dynamic balance of the examined older adults with chronic respiratory diseases and should be considered important for the fall prevention programs.*

**Keywords:** speleotherapy, FSST, seniors, chronic respiratory diseases



# DOES A PHYSIOTHERAPIST NEED MANAGEMENT SKILLS AND COMPETENCES? RESEARCHING REQUIRED NEW SKILLS IN TIMES OF CHANGE

**Marija Ovsenik**, PhD, Assistant Professor  
Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

**Nikolaj Lipič**, PhD, Assistant Professor  
Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Changes permeate all aspects of life and work, including the field of education. Increasingly often we discover the black spots caused by changes, meaning that the competences of graduates are no longer appropriate. A notable case is the field of physiotherapy with World Physiotherapy stressing the need for management skills.

**Methods:** The research is based on a qualitative research approach. Data was collected in 2022 using the method of an in-depth interview with 10 influential physiotherapy experts. The data was analysed using qualitative content analysis.

**Results:** The research emphasised the role of management skills, especially strategic direction, change and risk management, managing human resources, skills and innovation, problem solving and analysis, and communication using information-communication technology. The identity requirements for physiotherapists are fairness and integrity as the necessary preconditions for managing programmes and projects as well as financial management.

**Discussion:** The results indicate that in order to establish the minimal starting competences in the physiotherapy curriculum, skills required by the changed work environment should be developed. As an independent expert making use of life-long learning, it is beyond doubt that the physiotherapist needs the skills to manage crisis situations, allowing them to be a competent leader and respond consistently to the management challenges of the time.

**Keywords:** management, physiotherapy, physiotherapy student, changes, new skills

## EXPERT PANELS

### PHYSIOTHERAPY IN GERIATRIC REHABILITATION

## IMPACT OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY ON SARCOPENIA- LITERATURE REVIEW

**Manca Opara**, Physiotherapist  
ARTROS

**Mladen Herc**, Senior Lecturer  
Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

#### ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** *The consequences of sarcopenia are reflected in poor physical performance and quality of life and represent a major financial burden on healthcare systems. The purpose of this literature review was to present evidence of the impact of exercise on the prevention and treatment of sarcopenia.*

**Methods:** *The following databases were included in the review: PEDro, PubMed, Google Scholar, ResearchGate, Emerald, and COBISS. The keywords in the literature search were: "sarcopenia", "exercise", "training", "physical activity" and "activity". In the final analysis, I included articles published from 2015 onwards, written in English, with research conducted in Europe, without dietary interventions and whose assessment according to the PEDro scale is at least 5/10. I performed the source analysis with open coding.*

**Results:** *7 research articles were included in the final analysis. After a detailed analysis of the articles, I created a total of 54 codes, and divided them into 3 content categories. According to the hierarchy of evidence in scientific research, two studies belonged to level 2 and five to level 4.*

**Discussion:** *Increased physical activity reduces the risk of sarcopenia. Exercise has a positive effect on body composition, muscle function, physical performance and quality of life of sarcopenic patients.*

**Keywords:** *sarcopenia, the elderly, physical activity, European population*

# EFFECT OF EXERCISE ON THE CONTRACTILE PROPERTIES OF SKELETAL MUSCLES IN THE ELDERLY

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Sarcopenia, generally defined as age-related loss of muscle mass and function, is associated with a significant risk of falls. Regular exercise is the only strategy that consistently prevents the development of sarcopenia and improves physical function in older adults.

**Methodology:** 40 elderly people participated in the research. The aim of the study was to examine the impact of a 15-week exercise program on muscle contractile abilities. Survey data were obtained by tensiomyography and the "get up and go" test. We performed two measurements, one before and one after a 15-week training process.

**Results:** Statistically significant differences in the time of muscle fiber contraction were found; BB -13.63% ( $P = 0.000$ ); BF -10.91% ( $P = 0.004$ ); GM -12.62% ( $P = 0.003$ ); VL -8.45% ( $P = 0.003$ ); VM -17.43% ( $P = 0.001$ ). At the maximum displacement of the abdominal muscle, there is a statistically significant difference only in the BB muscle +10.68% ( $P = 0.048$ ), while in the other muscles it is not. The correlation between contractile properties and function test shows negligible association and no statistically significant differences.

**Conclusions:** The 15-week exercise process has a positive effect on the rate of muscle contraction in the elderly, but not on muscle tone, and does not show a characteristic correlation between contractile properties and function test.

**Keywords:** sarcopenia, tensiomyography, exercise, aging

# SHORT-TERM EFFICACY OF PROPRIOCEPTIVE TRAINING ON BALANCE IN THE ELDERLY

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** In the biological process of aging, there are changes in the cognitive and physical system, which can be reflected in poorer balance, which increases the possibility of falls. Prevention, including a non-pharmacological approach in the form of proprioceptive training, makes sense to prevent falls. The aim of the study was to examine the impact of two months of proprioceptive training on the elderly without and with mild cognitive impairment and dementia.

**Methods:** The study involved 19 elderly people living in nursing homes (aged between 67 and 95, 13 women and 6 men) randomly divided into an intervention and control group. A two-month proprioceptive training in combination with the PNF concept was performed with the intervention team twice a week for 60 minutes. Functional status was verified by the four-square-foot step test and the SPPB (Short Physical Performance Battery) test.

**Results:** All residents of the nursing home successfully completed a two-month proprioceptive exercise. The intervention resulted in a statistically significant improvement in the four-square test ( $p < 0.05$ ), no improvement was detected in the SPPB test ( $p > 0.05$ ), and no difference was found in the effect of proprioceptive exercise in people with poor cognitive status ( $p > 0.05$ ).

**Conclusion:** Based on the results of the study, we found that proprioceptive training is a successful form of non-pharmacological intervention in nursing homes and has positive effects on balance, but in the future more intensive and longer-term intervention would make sense.

**Keywords:** aging, proprioception, exercise, balance, dementia

# PILOT STUDY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DISTANCE PHYSIOTHERAPY IN A MEDICAL INSTITUTION

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## ABSTRACT

*Online physiotherapy is a type of physiotherapy, which has experienced a full flowering during the pandemic of the new coronavirus COVID-19. The purpose of the research was to carry out a study of the implementation of the online physiotherapy in a medical institution, which was based on the literature review. In the theoretical part, the descriptive or the descriptive research method was used and in the empirical part, the quantitative research method was used. Within the study a non-standardized questionnaire was used, developed according to the set of the research goals. The data was obtained from patients who performed a physiotherapeutic medical service in a medical institution with the help of the physiotherapists. The results were processed with the program Microsoft Excel. In this study 17 respondents were included and of these 14 were female respondents (82,35 %) and 3 were male respondents (17,65 %) ranging from 18 to 73 years. We found out that all participating patients were satisfied with online physiotherapy and even the use of technology did not cause them problems. Tele-physiotherapy in certain circumstances may be an alternative approach to the classical physiotherapy or at least as a complement to it in specific circumstances (COVID-19).*

**Keywords:** Digital physiotherapy, tele-physiotherapy, ethics in physiotherapy, individualised state-of-the-art physiotherapeutic treatment, virtual physiotherapy services

# STRESS URINARY INCONTINENCE AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF PHYSICAL ACTIVE WOMAN

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## ABSTRACT

*Stress urinary incontinence negatively affects the quality of life from both a functional and psychological point of view. Since many women face urine leakage and for many of them that is an obstacle for regular physical activity, we have decided to determine the impact of stress urinary incontinence on the quality of life of women, who are regularly physically active. It is also in our interest to find out how many women train their pelvic floor muscles as part of managing stress urinary incontinence problems for preventive purposes and for the ability to continue performing selected physical activities.*

**Methodology:** *We used a quantitative research method using a questionnaire. The sample included women aged 18-30 years, who are regular physical activities. We statistically processed and analyzed the obtained measurement data with the help of descriptive statistics (averages, standard deviations).*

**Results:** *We have found that just under a third (57.9%) of the 57 respondents had problems with urine leakage at least once a week to several times a day, of which 29.8% had known problems with stress urinary incontinence. Most women experience leaking a small amount of urine (26.3%); for urine to run down the legs does not happen in any of the respondents. Urinary leakage problems are at the forefront of 8 women's physical activity, with 9 citing extreme to moderate frustration and activity prevention. We also find that urine leakage problems do not remove the respondents' self-esteem.*

**Discussion:** *We found that in our sample, women who do not have problems with stress urinary incontinence live a better quality of life. Urinary incontinence has an impact on the quality of regular physical activity, but does not affect on the decision of the respondent to regularly train the pelvic floor muscles as part of the management of involuntary leakage of urine.*

**Keywords:** *stress urinary incontinence, pelvic floor muscle training, physical activity, quality of life, physiotherapy*

# NEUROREHABILITATION AFTER STROKE WITH INTERACION BRAIN COMPUTER INTERFACES (BCI)

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## ABSTRACT

Many recent publications have investigated Brain Computer Interfaces (BCI) systems as a tool for rehabilitation. These should help to restore upper limb movement, especially in sub-acute and chronic stroke patients. Stroke often prevents full movement but does not prevent thinking about a particular movement. RecoveriX is an innovative BCI for rehabilitation after stroke. Recent research has shown that it is BCI therapy that leads to better results than conventional therapy. Brain Computer Interfaces can be combined with other techniques such as Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) and Virtual Reality (VR). By combining all of these techniques, BCI allows the user to restore neurological function by stimulating neurological plasticity through enhanced motor imagery (MI) perception in real time while patients perform therapeutic tasks. It measures brain activity through the very act of thinking about movement, delivering feedback and actual movement in humans, helping the patient regain lost motor function. RecoveriX can improve a patient's condition even several years after a stroke and is used for acute, sub-acute and chronic conditions. Research on recoveriX has shown that the system produces a remarkable increase in the motor function of the paretic arm, as assessed by the Fugl-Meyer score. There is also a reduction in spasticity of the wrist and fingers, as assessed by the modified Ashworth scale. Other improvements, such as grip, were also observed in the healthy hand. All functional improvements achieved during BCI therapy were maintained for up to 6 months after the end of the therapy. It was noted that the severity of the stroke, or the stage of stroke, was not related to the functional improvement itself.

**Keywords:** Brain Computer Interfaces (BCI) systems, neurorehabilitation after stroke

## OTHERS

# THE ROLE OF MEDICAL BANDAGES AND ELASTIC BANDAGES IN SPORTS TRAUMA

Elda Latollari, Physiotherapist  
Fan Noli University

### ABSTRACT

*Sports traumas include traumatology of the musculoskeletal system: muscle injuries, tendon, ligament and cartilage damage.*

**Objectives:** *To identify the role of medical bandages and elastic bandages in the rehabilitation of muscle injuries.*

**Methodology:** *This is a descriptive analytical study that included all football players of the academy „Skënderbeu“ Korça. The study included 20 players aged 13-19, who were followed for a period of 3 months: June-September 2021. All players are male. The main injuries were: direct blows to the muscles, contractures, muscle pulls. The players were divided into two groups of 10 players: in the first group was used: cooling spray, massage creams (voltaren, diclofenac), sports massage, exercises, and rest. While in the second group all the methods of the first group were used and in the end the limbs were immobilized with a medical bandage or elastic bandage.*

**Results:** *Based on the treatment applied, a faster improvement was observed in the second group than in the first group. 50% of the players returned to the field within 3 days, 30% returned on the 7th day and 20% returned after two weeks.*

**Conclusions:** *Medical and elastic bandages help players recover quickly on the field of play.*

**Keywords:** *elastic bandages, football players, exercises, sports massage, rest*



# FORESEEING CHALLENGES IN PRECISION PHISIO THERAPY AND MEDICINE COMMUNICATION

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FisioLab Srls

**Enrico De Pecol**  
Università di Udine

## **ABSTRACT**

*Effective and efficient communication is crucial in healthcare. Written and oral communication remains the most prevalent form of communication between specialised and primary care. We aimed at reviewing the literature on the quality of written and oral communication, the impact of communication inefficiencies and recommendations to improve written communication in healthcare. Furthermore exceptional experience in physiotherapy is largely influenced by the quality and performance of the physician. We set out to establish a metric that would comprehensively assess hospitalists' comportment and communication to establish norms and expectations.*

**Keywords:** *Physiotherapy, Healthcare, Precision communication, Rehabilitation team*

# THE ROLE OF PHYSIOTHERAPY IN PATIENTS WITH „SCAPULA ALTA“ DEFORMITY

Elda Latollari, Physiotherapist  
Fan Noli University

## ABSTRACT

*The winged scapula is a rare injury, caused by altered scapulo-thoracic neuromuscular balance. There are various etiologies, such as serratus paralysis, previous damage to the long rib nerve, generating a state of disability of the shoulder, causing deformity and restriction to perform basic daily activities. In this article we present a case of a post-traumatic shoulder patient, clinical diagnosis and late rehabilitation treatment and partial improvement after six months. Patient evaluation was performed after the first, third and sixth months. The therapy included 30 min of trapezius massage, rhomboids, serratus anterior and 30 min exercises for the upper limbs. After 6 months of treatment we have extension of the right hand, change of shoulder angle, improvement of the neck position, but there is a need for other sessions.*

**Keywords:** winged scapula, exercises, physical therapy

# MODERN TEACHING METHODS WITH THE USE OF TUTORING MODEL AT THE PHYSIOTHERAPY FACULTY

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## ABSTRACT

*Education based on the tutoring model enables obtaining competencies useful in the labour market. Sensory strategies course was introduced for Master's degree study in the field of physiotherapy. The course was run in three groups of two students in English language. Erasmus+ students participated in the classes as patients / guests. In one of the tutorial group, the classes were attended by a student with a sight dysfunction. The following ideas were used: small group work, peer-assessment, constructive feedback, ipsative assessment, creating an educational poster in pairs.*

*Meeting the expectations of students, clinical classes were carried out with the participation of English-speaking patients in a private physiotherapy practice and practical classes in kindergarten. The final projects of the students including their professional development were publication of an article in Polish and English language in the field of physiotherapy and implementation of group, sensomotoric exercises for children.*

*Students of physiotherapy who participate in the tutorial classes with the use of modern teaching techniques with the inspiring work tools are motivated and challenge to develop their individual interests according to their needs established in peer assessment.*

**Keywords:** tutoring, sensory strategies, teaching methods, physiotherapy

# THE INFLUENCE OF AGE AND GENDER ON THE FUNCTIONAL OUTCOME OF PATIENTS AFTER STROKE

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Returning to normal life and performing daily activities is one of the main goals in rehabilitation after stroke. What the functional outcome after early neurorehabilitation will be depends on various risk factors. The purpose of the research was to investigate the impact of age and gender on the functional outcome and its dependence on concomitant diseases.

**Methods:** The study involved 30 patients of all ages who suffered a stroke and were treated at the UKC Maribor. A questionnaire and Barthel index were used.

**Results:** The results showed that there are no statistically significant differences between younger patients and those older than 65. There are also no significant differences between genders and functional outcome. However, there are differences between the result of the functional outcome on admission and on discharge. This has improved statistically. We also found that study participants reported a statistically significant lower level of pain according to the VAS scale at the end of hospital treatment. There were no significant correlations between concomitant diseases and functional outcome.

**Discussion and Conclusion:** Early rehabilitation is important in recovery after stroke, but it can not be argued that there are deviations in functional outcome at different ages or different genders.

**Keywords:** stroke, rehabilitation, age, gender, Barthel index

# ACUTE EFFECTS OF REAL EXECUTION AND MOTOR IMAGERY OF FITTS'S LAW TASKS ON NEAR AND FAR TRANSFER OF LEARNING: A STUDY PROTOCOL

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Uroš Marušič, PhD, Associate Professor

Science and research center Koper

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Motor imagery, a mental simulation of a movement with no muscle contraction, is often used as an alternative practice to improve general motor tasks. However, the effects of motor imagery interventions on near and far transfer of learning remain equivocal and without consistent findings. Fitts's law is a predictive model widely used in the literature to evaluate the relationship between speed and accuracy in directed movement actions. In this model, movement time increases with increasing movement amplitude and target width. This study aims to advance the understanding about motor imagery practice on near and far transfer of learning creating a valid protocol with the Fitts's law.

**Methods:** We developed a pre- and post-assessment experimental study with a 20-minute Fitts's law intervention performed under three different conditions: motor imagery, real execution, and backward counting. During the intervention participants need to perform Fitts's law tasks under four indexes of difficulties spread into different task patterns. Altogether eighty reps need to be executed. After a baseline screening (basic anthropometrics, physical activity, and movement imagery questionnaire), the pre-assessment consists of a lower and upper limb Fitts's law tasks performed under three different indexes of difficulties. The same assessment needs to be executed post intervention. The evaluation involves performance outcomes (time needed to complete the task) and autonomic responses assessed with the NeXus-10 MKII (Mindmedia, Netherland) system.

**Discussion:** We believe the new protocol with the Fitts's law task will extend the knowledge about motor imagery and the potential impact on motor learning. Due to its innovative approach, this method has the potential to form a template for subsequent studies in this field.

**Keywords:** Fitts's law, assessment protocol, motor imagery, motor learning.

## STUDENT PANEL

# PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS AND MENTAL DISORDERS IN CHRONIC LOW BACK PAIN

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**Sebastjan Kristovič**, PhD, Associate Professor  
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### ABSTRACT

**Theoretical background:** Failure of an individual's approach to chronic pain can result in consequent mental disorder. The state of chronic low back pain and mental disorder are linked in both directions and together, which we describe as psychosomatics. For this reason, an important role is played by a physiotherapists who are trained to identify various mental states and to manage pain through a biopsychosocial health model.

**Methodology:** Research work is based on a descriptive and analytical-synthetic method of work. We used inductive-deductive, analytical-synthetic, descriptive method and compilation method. A systematic review of scientific literature was performed from 2010 to 2021 - 22 articles. Data collection was shown using a PRISMA diagram. Based on a detailed analysis of the literature, we designed a new synthesis.

**Results:** We found out that most physiotherapists have the greatest difficulty in identifying mental disorders. It would be appropriate to include the SBT in the initial clinical evaluation. For rehabilitation, the most successful is aerobic exercise with a combination of US, TENS, laser and massage. CBT serves as a prevention for the development of chronic LBP in an individual with an associated mental disorder. The authors emphasize the importance of an interdisciplinary approach.

**Keywords:** pain, chronic low back pain, mental disorder, mental health, physiotherapy.

# PHYSIOTHERAPY INTERVENTION FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA IN NURSING HOMES

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** *Worldwide dementia has been increasing among older people and has evolved into a major healthcare problem in old people's homes across Slovenia. Due to affected cognitive and motoric functions, patients with dementia need a professionally oriented care with physiotherapists playing one of the most important roles.*

**Methods:** *The research has been based on assembling quantitative data using a questionnaire. The questionnaire formed by overviewing theoretical findings and including a non-random and purposive research sample was conducted from 16th to 30th June 2021. Additionally, the method of classification and the method of descriptive and analytical statistics've been used. The hypotheses've been tested by implementing the t-test, and the correlation and regression analysis. 68 physiotherapists employed in older people's homes across Slovenia've taken part in the questioning.*

**Results:** *The results of the research have shown that movement exercises coordinated by physiotherapists have a positive impact on the quality of life of people with dementia living in old people's homes.*

**Conclusion:** *As movement exercises've a positive impact on people with dementia and increase their quality of life, movement exercises are suggested to become an obligatory part of the physiotherapeutic care of people with dementia in every single old people's home in Slovenia.*

**Keywords:** *people with dementia, physiotherapeutic care, old people's homes, additional education and traineeship for physiotherapists, movement exercise*

# AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE OF PHYSIOTHERAPY AMONG THE GENERAL POPULATION OF LARABANGA IN GHANA

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**Eva Menhart**, Student

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**Sebastjan Kristovič**, PhD, Associate Professor

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** *Physiotherapy is a medical science that restores, maintains and strengthens an individual's health and motor skills. It plays an important role not only in rehabilitation but also in prevention. It is crucial that society is aware of the importance of this profession, as this is the only way to benefit from it. The purpose of the study was to determine the awareness and knowledge of the people of Larabanga (Ghana) about physiotherapy. We wanted to find out how they understand physiotherapy, where it is performed, in what areas it works and whether it is needed in Larabanga.*

**Method:** *Data were collected using a questionnaire adapted from the study questionnaire of the authors Olawale and Adjabeng (2011). The questionnaire measures general knowledge about physiotherapy, the modalities used and the pathologies it addresses. 201 residents of Larabanga participated.*

**Results:** *The results showed, among other things, that 56% of the participants had no prior knowledge of physiotherapy and 97% would like to have physiotherapy in Larabanga.*

**Discussion:** *There is a shortage of physiotherapists in Ghana, especially in rural areas, where it is only available in major hospitals. The nearest is in the town of Tamale, 140km away. This could explain the low percentage of the population familiar with physiotherapy. The study from Accra, with which we compared the data, shows a higher knowledge of the general public (68.6%) in the physiotherapy profession than our Larabanga study (44%).*

**Keywords:** *physiotherapy, awareness, Ghana, Larabanga*



# EFFECTIVENESS OF TAI CHI AND NINTENDO WII FIT PLUS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF BALANCE AND REDUCTION OF FALLS IN OLDER ADULTS: A LITERATURE REVIEW

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Alma Mater Europaea – ECM, Science and Research Centre Koper

**Mitja Gerževič**, PhD, Associate Professor

Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** The aim of this study was to perform a literature review and to identify the effectiveness of tai chi and Nintendo Wii Fit Plus balance board exercises on balance and incidence of falls in older adults.

**Methods:** The literature review was performed through databases ScienceDirect, Scopus, PubMed, PEDro and Cochrane Library. The studies met the following inclusion criteria: participants' age  $\geq 60$  years, MoCa test  $> 23$ , randomised clinical trials, age of study  $< 15$  years, journal impact factor  $> 0$ . The following keywords were used: „tai chi“/“tai ji chuan“/“tai ji quan“, „nintendo wii fit plus“, „elderly“, „older adults“, „balance“, „falls“ and „prevention.“

**Results:** Based on the given criteria and keywords, a total of 186 articles were found, of which 23 full papers were included in the review (11 for tai chi, 12 for Wii Fit Plus). Based on the differences in the improvement in the selected measurement tests, it was found a greater positive effect of tai chi exercise, which depends on a lower initial level of development of participant's balance, which further influenced the final improvement in balance and the incidence of falls.

**Discussion:** The qualitative literature review shows that tai chi exercise seems more effective at improving balance and reduction of falls in older adults. Further quantitative analysis of collected data will show whether greater short-term and long-term effectiveness of tai chi exercise is also statistically significant.

**Keywords:** tai chi, Nintendo Wii Fit, older adults, balance, falls





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# **SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY**

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## SCHOLARLY PANELS

# VIRTUAL REALITY AS A MEANS TO MEET THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF SENIORS

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### ABSTRACT

*This paper introduces the last stage of the VIREAS project (Virtual Reality in Keeping the Elderly Active) and its main results. The essence of this stage is a qualitative study carried out in January 2021 in a nursing home. We were looking for the main benefits of the virtual experience. The research sample consisted of 12 participants aged 63 to 100, with different cognitive and sensory-motor levels. We found that a properly designed virtual experience combined with adequate communication during the virtual session can support the fulfillment of various needs. These are the need for self-esteem and value, the need for meaning and continuity of life story, the need to be part of a community (this involves the need to be among people and be in contact with the outside world), and the need to transcend everyday life. All the benefits can be prolonged in group or individual activities following the virtual experience. Based on the findings, we defined aspects of the meaningful involvement of VR in activity programs in the nursing home. Our findings will be used in a conceptual manual for activity coordinators as one of the main results of the VIREAS project.*

**Keywords:** Virtual reality, seniors, keeping active, nursing home, needs

# VITAMIN D DEFICIENCY IN OLDER PEOPLE DURING THE SARS-COV-2 EPIDEMIC

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## **ABSTRACT**

*Vitamin D deficiency is a major health problem in populations of all ages and a cause of many diseases. It is particularly common in elderly people and can lead to the deterioration of health status. In a pilot study, we determined vitamin D levels in 80 people over 50 years of age in the north-eastern Slovenia and examined the risk factors associated with vitamin D deficiency. Low plasma vitamin D levels were associated with some medical conditions in the study population and, in particular, with a higher susceptibility to COVID-19.*

**Keywords:** vitamin D, elderly people, COVID-19

# SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC MEASURES - INEQUALITY, EXCLUSION AND STIGMA IN THE PARTICIPATION OF "SPORT FOR ALL"

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**Kaja Teraž**, PhD Candidate

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** The well-known benefits of sport and exercise for physical and mental health are being challenged in the time of pandemic measures, when proximity to others in the community becomes a threat, when 'sport for all' becomes unsustainable, because of increased health risks in certain groups. Whether this COVID -19 era includes and highlights inequalities that lead to further exclusion or stigmatization of 'high risk' and marginalized groups, including in "sport for all" is the central research question.

**Methods:** Sociological perspectives on inequalities in relation to the availability of and access to sport and exercise in this pandemic and post-pandemic period are explored using current research evidence, secondary literature, and qualitative fieldwork.

**Results:** Starting from the standpoint that the virus does not discriminate and can infect all, we can argue that, on the other hand, inequality is evident in a broader discourse about some specific groups, such as older adults, pregnant women, and people with "underlying health problems". For these, new forms of inequality in sport participation could emerge, be reproduced, or exacerbated.

**Discussion:** We need to pay attention to protect and reduce the problem of inequality by reducing risk, creating a safe environment and adopting "best practice".

**Keywords:** COVID-19 measures, sport participation, vulnerable groups, inequality



# AGE DISCRIMINATION-AGEISM IN THE AGE OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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**Jana Goriup**, PhD, Professor Emeritus  
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**Franjo Liška**, PhD Candidate  
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**Zrinka Lončarić**, PhD Candidate  
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## ABSTRACT

*During the last two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, special attention has been paid to the older adults described as particularly vulnerable groups who are exceptionally negatively affected by this situation. All the restrictions imposed to protect their health and preserve their lives ultimately exacerbate the long-standing problem of isolating the older adults and the health consequences of the social disconnect that existed long before the pandemic. With the pandemic, ageism has reached a new level of discrimination with the hashtag #BoomerRemover. This excessively obscene concept highlights two prevailing views in response to the COVID-19 pandemic: (1): The older adults are 'sitting ducks,' vulnerable and helpless against COVID-19. High mortality rates among the older adults are considered an 'inevitable' and 'normal' outcome of this pandemic; (2) Healthy young people consider themselves invulnerable to COVID-19 and, as a result, may not realize the importance of adhering to public health advice and policies on infection prevention. Although mortality rates from COVID-19 are higher in older adults than in other age groups, we are concerned that age is associated exclusively with weakness and comorbidity. When medical equipment and hospital facilities become scarce, caregivers may be faced with ethical decisions about whose life is a priority, and age can become a deciding factor. It is tempting to fall into gross utilitarianism that values lives differently. We oppose one group to another and give lower priority to those to whom lower values are attributed. As concerned advocates and researchers interested in aging, we should be aware of age discrimination and reduce the ageistic attitudes propagated during COVID-19. Now is the time to create a broader awareness of negative stereotypes towards older people and their harmful effects, as well as the benefits of older people, their valuable contribution to society, and their potential.*

**Keywords:** age discrimination, ageism, COVID-19

# VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY OF THE GEROTRASCENDENCE SCALE (GT10): A PILOT STUDY

Urša Bratun, PhD Candidate  
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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** The theory of gerotranscendence was developed as an alternative to the theories of successful and active aging. It includes the cosmic dimension, the self, and the social dimension. An assessment instrument that measures the presence of gerotranscendence has not yet been used quantitatively in the Slovenian context. The aim of the study was to psychometrically test this instrument in the population of older workers.

**Methods:** Thirty-one workers, aged between 56 and 72 years ( $M = 63$  years), participated in the pilot study. A 4-point, 10 statement Gerotranscendence Scale (GT10) was used to collect data. Data were analyzed using Rasch analysis and exploratory factor analysis.

**Results:** The Rasch analysis revealed that the GT10 was not unidimensional. The scale categories were advancing monotonously, with Infit MnSq and Outfit MnSq values ranging from 0.83 to 1.12. Item fit MnSq values were between 0.65 and 1.44. The person separation reliability was rather low (separation index = 1.45). Factor analysis revealed three factors that were consistent with the original Gerotranscendence scale. Cronbach  $\alpha$  for the entire scale was 0.7.

**Discussion:** The analysis showed that the psychometric properties of the Slovenian GT10 were acceptable. The scale could be used in the population of older workers.

**Keywords:** gerotranscendence, assessment instrument, Rasch analysis, psychometric properties

# THE ROLE OF GRANDPARENTS IN SPENDING A JOINT HOLIDAY WITH THEIR GRANDCHILDREN

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## ABSTRACT

*The state of the population also brings with it many new forms of leisure time for the elderly. One of them is also spending the holidays together with their grandchildren. So tourist activities. Family tourism (extended families) is on the rise in today's postmodern society. It brings with it many new roles and at the same time raises the quality of life of the elderly. In this article, we will examine the role of the elderly in spending a joint holiday with their grandchildren through empirical analysis. We will place special emphasis on mutual benefits and positive effects. We will empirically support the theoretical part.*

**Keywords:** seniors, grandchildren, intergenerational tourism, holidays

# THE ROLE OF SUSTAINABLE LEADERSHIP IN EXTENDING OLDER WORKERS' LABOUR ACTIVITY

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**Introduction:** Sustainable leadership has been recognized as the most effective leadership style in the long run. It is characterized by a high level of collaboration among employees, clear ethical standards, and respect for diversity. Sustainable organizations are more likely to foster an intergenerational workforce and care about the well-being of their employees, regardless of chronological age. The aim of this paper is to explore how motives for prolonged working life are connected with practices that typify sustainable leadership.

**Method:** This was a longitudinal qualitative study that included 9 workers, aged 59 to 72 years. Twenty-six semi-structured interviews were conducted with them. The empirical material was analyzed using thematic analysis.

**Findings:** Five main themes were developed during the analysis. They described various micro and meso factors associated with extended working life. Subcategories that aligned with aspects of sustainable leadership included: (1) leadership style, (2) relationships at work, (3) work achievements, (4) sense of contribution, and (5) love of work. Some of these factors were instrumental in the employees' decision to continue working after meeting the retirement criteria.

**Discussion:** Knowledge of sustainable leadership principles is essential for contemporary age management, as they may coincide with the factors that motivate older workers.

**Keywords:** qualitative study, motives, age management, sustainable leadership pyramid

# INTEGRATION OF PALLIATIVE CARE FOR OLDER ADULTS WITH DEMENTIA IN THE SOCIAL WELFARE INSTITUTION IN COINCIDES WITH DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

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## ABSTRACT

*Organized palliative care is necessary to ensure the quality of life for the elderly with dementia living in social welfare institutions. In apparent compliance with the principles of palliative care and carefully planned non-pharmacological approaches, organized palliative care is of exceptional value for the individual and his family and the employees. The OAZA concept clearly shows excellent added value. It emphasizes the importance of the environment while implementing non-pharmacological approaches - special techniques for work (aromatherapy, basal stimulation, innovative validation, etc.). Since 2016 carried out in the Šentjur Home for the Elderly, and later can be found in several Slovenian homes for the elderly. Implementing comprehensive congruent palliative care with clearly planned organizational structures, both global and national, is a socially responsible task of great importance. The number of people diagnosed with dementia is increasing rapidly. The purpose of this paper is to present the concept of OAZA professionally and to define the role of palliative care for people with dementia regarding digital transformation in social welfare institutions. Early involvement in palliative care, family meetings and the participation of relatives in the decision-making process regarding the care of the individual, all resulting from the pre-expressed wishes of that individual, lead to a clear goal - maintaining the individual's dignity. Since we live in a time of digital transformation, the use of IT technology is meaningful, especially in those segments that affect the quality of life. In practice, this offers people with dementia higher quality of life and enables the caregiver to provide safer care while also saving time. Based on the content analysis, were introduced two topics: integrating palliative care for people with dementia in social welfare institutions in step with the digital transformation and the concept OAZA.*

**Keywords:** palliative care, people with dementia, dignity, concept OAZA, digital transformation.

# DO NEW COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES SCARE OLDER ADULTS? RE-CONCEPTUALISATION AND REBUTTAL OF THE AGE-BASED DIGITAL DIVIDE

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** *Despite the many attempts of critical treatment of the age-based digital divide, literature and public discourse continue to present older adults as a homogenous group, characterised by technophobia, digital illiteracy, and lack of knowledge necessary to use technology. The aim the paper is to illuminate the often overlooked roles of socioeconomic factors and individual circumstances in the use of modern information-communication technology in later life.*

**Methods:** *A qualitative research approach was used; data was collected using the method of semi-structured interview with 16 older adults in the institutional care environment. The data was analysed using qualitative content analysis.*

**Results:** *The results provide insight into the complexity of the acceptance and use of technology among older adults, those more at risk of digital exclusion. Personal, social, and technological contexts are intertwined, indicating different sociotechnical contexts of information-communication technology use. We studied the interplay between them – external structure, internal structure, actions, and results.*

**Discussion:** *A contextualised study of the acceptance of technology in later life is needed. It is necessary to give a voice to digitally excluded older adults. Age-based assumptions regarding the lack and type of use of information-communication technologies cannot be universally applied, and should be rebutted. Since contexts and structural processes are intertwined, the digital divide is intersectional, not solely connected to age but also social and digital inequalities. The paper emphasises the need to eliminate the digital divide in later life.*

**Keywords:** *digital divide, older adults, digital illiteracy, institutional care for older adults, technophobia.*

# SOCIAL INCLUSION OF ELDERLY PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS DURING THE COVID-19 EPIDEMIC IN THE ALTRA NGO

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** The outbreak of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus has significantly interfered with the implementation of mental health activities carried out by the non-governmental organization Altra. The period of the first declaration of the epidemic with COVID-19 was followed by the complete closure of the state and the closure of social protection programs. We have adapted working methods and forms of assistance literally "overnight", in order to continue, but also more intensively, provide psychosocial assistance and support to people with long-term mental health problems. Adjustments have required that traditional psychosocial care approaches, which are otherwise implemented „live“, be replaced by the provision of ICT. The purpose of this paper is to present the importance of ICT technology on the social inclusion of older people with mental health problems, in the NGO Altra, during the first wave of the epidemic with COVID-19.

**Methodology:** The research was conducted by the quantitative method; data are collected by the method of surveys and descriptive statistics, in March 2020 and in January 2022, and comprise a sample of 38 users aged 55 and over.

**Results:** The use of ICT, most of which included telephone counseling, zoom workshops and other zoom group forms of work, allowed users to maintain contact with members, friends, employees; engaging in various group and individual activities, relieving their personal distress and problems. Users used various devices to use the services. Those who not use any od devices, assistance was provided in person or more intensively via mobile phone.

**Discussion:** The uncertain and innovative-experimental period of ICT testing quickly proved to be a response to the needs of our target group. Combined forms of assistance; live and with the help of ICT technologies are still present and effective mostly in situations when users are unable to establish personal contacts or participate in group dynamics.

**Keywords:** elderly people with mental health problems, ICT, social inclusion, COVID -19

# COGNITIVE PRESSURE ON OLDER PEOPLE WHEN USING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

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## ABSTRACT

*In today's society, the older people are involved in the rapid development of digital technology and smart devices. They are facing with various forms of digital challenges in acquiring new skills. Information and communication technology represents great potential as an aid in the care of the elderly in an increasingly aging society. With the empirical qualitative research, we wanted to explore the view of the elderly on the use of digital devices. With research questions, we wanted to explore their use of digital devices as well as their satisfaction and independence and access to the Internet. We were interested in their views on the importance of communication during the Covid-19 pandemic and their opinion on using digital technology. The study involved 28 elderly people who answered questions from a semi-structured interview between October 2020 and April 2021. The qualitative content analysis showed three important aspects, namely: independence in the use of digital devices, criticism of new technology and the importance and necessity for education. The fact is, that autonomy and the use of digital devices are declining with age. During the time of social isolation, digital devices gained in importance, especially for the oldest research participants. On the surveyed elderly people we found a critical attitude towards digital media in connection with harmfulness, control and alienation. The findings of the paper are a cue to reflect that digital technology has great positive potential in combination with a humane society who is seriously committed to investing in resources for the care of the elderly people.*

**Keywords:** older people, elderly people, digital technology, smart devices, Covid-19



# COMMUNITY SERVICES IN THE CONTEXT OF SOCIAL COHESION

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**Lenka Puh**  
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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** *The consequences of the digitalisation of modern society are perceived at every step, with issues of the digital divide, digital literacy, social inclusion and also social cohesion. It is the concept of social cohesion that supports the cohesion of people, which is the basis for a humane society that puts community services at the forefront. The purpose of the research is to examine the basic psychological needs of all three generations in Slovenia and to connect the findings with the concept of social cohesion and community services.*

**Methods:** *The research is based on a quantitative research approach, where we obtained data on the basic psychological needs of people from January 2021 to January 2022 using the survey method. We included 1963 representatives of all three generations in the sample, using t-test, analysis of variance, and correlation and regression methods to test the hypotheses.*

**Results:** *The results of the research confirm the differences between generations in the perception of competencies, autonomy and connectivity. In the younger generation has more pronounced affiliation with society, the middle generation has a stronger perception of its competence, and in the older generation has more autonomy.*

**Conclusions:** *In the digitalization of society, it is necessary to take into account the concept of social cohesion, in which the basic psychological needs of each individual are important. All generations need to feel that they are an important part of the mosaic of an inclusive society. In such a society, they are the foundation of community service, through which autonomy, competence and affiliation are strengthened, which is the basis for a humane society and 'society tailored to man'.*

**Keywords:** *digitization, social cohesion, basic psychological needs, community services, human society*

# RESTORATIVE JUSTICE AS AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO ELDER ABUSE: NEW WAYS TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS

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**Petra Masopust Šachova**, PhD, Researcher and Chairperson  
Czech Institute for Restorative Justice

**Jan Lorman**, MA  
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## ABSTRACT

*In this paper, we introduce the basic concepts of restorative justice as a potentially powerful tool to address the complex issue of elder abuse and neglect as a part of the wider and global attempts to support the human rights of older people. The problem of EAN (elder abuse and neglect) is both an individual and structural phenomenon that can not be easily solved under well-established systems of the fight against domestic and gender-related violence. While these existing policies represent important models, they do not reflect the specificities of later life. Restorative justice is well suited to support the victims of various types of crimes and misconduct and can represent an important addition to the toolbox for the interdisciplinary teams involved in the solution of EAN, both as a part of the case management and as more structural / policy approaches. The talk is supported by the Technological Agency of the Czech Republic grant No. TL05000516 „Innovative ways of definition, measurement of prevalence, and solution of elder abuse in the Czech Republic (including transfer of international best practice) (RESTABUS)“.*

**Keywords:** restorative justice; older people; EAN; innovations

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DURING THE PANDEMIC COVID-19 WITH EMPHASIS ON ELDER ABUSE AND NEGLECT - COMPARATIVE REVIEW IN OUR COUNTRY AND OTHER COUNTRIES

**Vilma Alina Bezenšek**, PhD Candidate, Assistant Director  
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## **ABSTRACT**

*A systematic review of literature and of information from key organizations was conducted to provide an overview of what is known about elder mistreatment in disaster situations, identify research gaps and to discuss possible policy interventions. This virus affects a number of areas such as economics, politics, health, education, law, social and family life etc. While there has been growth in recent years in research on prevalence, incidence and risk factors for morbidity and mortality of seniors in disasters and on elder abuse, research specifically on elder abuse and neglect in disaster situations was limited. This article includes general information about Covid-19, mainly domestic violence during the pandemic around the world. Domestic violence is violence or other abuse in a domestic setting, such as in marriage or cohabitation. Domestic violence also involves violence against children, parents, or the elderly. Partly on forced isolation, and much more on already broken family relationships and values, there is a risk that the pandemic will have lasting consequences for many families. This is exactly the central theme of this paper. Writing the paper we used relevant literature in Slovenian and foreign language from various databases such as Pubmed, WofS, ERIC, SD etc.*

**Keywords:** *elder abuse, Covid-19, violence, legal prevention, family*

# ATTITUDES OF YOUNG PEOPLE TOWARDS THE PROBLEM OF AGEING POPULATION IN SLOVENIA

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## ABSTRACT

*The changing numerical ratios between population groups and, consequently, their social power, are challenges of which EU countries are aware of, having long been aware of the consequences of demographic change. For countries facing such changes to be able to maintain and strengthen intergenerational cooperation in an appropriate way, mechanisms that allow direct contact between people of different age groups need to be strengthened. The last two years caused an additional challenge to intergenerational contact and cooperation between the younger and older generations due to the risk of transmitting Covid-19. It is even more important in this context to know the situation and the beliefs that young people have in relation to an ageing society and their role in it. The main research question is related to the attitude of young people to the problem of population aging. For this purpose, an analysis of survey data from a nationally representative sample of young people aged 15 to 29 was performed. The results of this research showed that young people are reluctant to believe that older people are privileged compared to the young, or that older people should give up their jobs for the sake of the young. Instead, they are more inclined to believe that the issue of welfare is a systemic problem and that both young and older people are disadvantaged.*

**Keywords:** youth, aging population, intergenerational cooperation, welfare.

# OLDER ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AS A SPECIAL VULNERABLE GROUP

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**Jana Goriup**, PhD, Professor Emeritus  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## **ABSTRACT**

*In the field of elderly people with mental disorder we encounter two important elements, each of which often leads to discrimination and stigmatization, let alone in combination with each other. With this in mind, it is necessary to draw attention to their rights, to ensure their realization and empowerment at all stages of life. As we speak of a group of people, who are particularly at risk this requires different approaches than the general elderly population. These people often need support in activities that are completely self-evident for a healthy population, such as daily activities, decision making, planning, healthy living and nutrition, hygiene, communication, participation in society, ect. – through whole lifespan and specially at older age. The World Health Organization (WHO) points out that despite the extended life expectancy of people with intellectual disabilities, the latter are still considered a devalued class and therefore are deprived of access to social and health services.*

**Keywords:** *elderly adults, people with mental disorder, rights, disabled, laws*

# THE RIGHT TO DIE AT THE AGE OF ONE'S CHOICE - THE DESIRE FOR A GOOD DEATH

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## ABSTRACT

**Theoretical framework:** In today's world, a lot of attention is paid to the way people die. We have tabooed death instead of reconciliation and accompanying death. Most of our older adults and seriously ill people die in the hospital or in a long-term care home. Quality of life in the last months of life is essential for a peaceful death and the so-called "good" death. Most seniors want to avoid useless and painful end-of-life treatment.

**Methodology:** Literature review was performed. 4 databases were searched: PubMed, Web of Science, Science Direkt and Sage Journals. We included 10 studies.

**Results:** From the included studies we defined: the right to independent decision-making, connection with others and quality of life at the end of life.

**Conclusion:** Future research in the field of social Gerontology and end-of-life human rights should reflect the current state of monitoring of dying older adults. Above all, the free choice of the place where dying person wants to end his life must be taken into account – whether he wants to be at home (this includes staying in a long-term care home) or whether he wants to be transferred to hospital and who he wants to have with him.

**Keywords:** dying, good death, human rights, free will, older adults

# MONTESSORI METHOD IN THE LIGHT OF OLDER PEOPLE'S RIGHTS WITH DEMENTIAS

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**Jana Goriup**, PhD, Professor Emeritus  
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## ABSTRACT

*The Montessori method for older adults with dementia comes from Montessori pedagogy, which is based on child's natural developmental needs. Based on the fundamental principles that should be visible and recognized in each activity, role or routine, Dr. Camp derived 12 principles that should guide the planning, implementation and help in evaluating what we have done. There are several different types of dementia. The most common dementia that the older adults suffer from is Alzheimer's disease. Classical conditioning is a method by which older people with dementia can learn. We reviewed the rights of older adults and older adults with dementia. We note that the types of rights do not differ between them. The article draws attention to the following rights arising from the Montessori method: the right to autonomy, the right to dignity, the right to appropriate health care focused on older adults, the right to a Montessori approach in the home environment and the right to quality treatment and identification of individual needs. The Montessori method has proven to be an excellent method to help older adults with various forms of dementia in the best possible way. It is important, however, to educate people who work with older adults as much as possible, to be able to recognize different types of dementia and to be able to use the right approach to such individuals. The environment built with the Montessori approach is assessed as a very good environment in which older adults with dementia can function relatively well, their quality of life improves and they stay in such an environment for the rest of their lives. The first in Slovenia to introduce the Montessori method for older adults and older adults with dementia is the Saint Joseph Home in Celje, which is an excellent example of good practice.*

**Keywords:** Montessori approach, pedagogy, dementia, older adults, rights

# THE RIGHT OF OLDER ADULTS TO CO-DECISION TO STAY IN INSTITUTIONAL CARE

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**Jana Goriup**, PhD, Professor Emeritus  
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## **ABSTRACT**

*Older adults have the right to prepare for living in institutional care as required by Article 15 of the Zakon o socialnem varstvu (ZSV) (Social Welfare Act) which states that „assistance to the family for the home includes professional advice and assistance in regulating relations between family members“. Good and genuine family relationships are crucial for a happy and quality stay of older adults in long-term care homes. The article will present how often older adults co- decide on their stay in institutional care and how they have previously prepared for this type of live. In order to obtain the mentioned data, a questionnaire will be used, which will be filled in, in physical form, by older adults over the age of 65 who are already living in long-term care homes. We start from the assumption that the surveyed older adults did not have the opportunity to (actively) prepare themselves for living in institutional care. We assume that their relatives decided to stay in institutional care for various reasons. In writing this paper we will use relevant literature in Slovene and foreign languages from various databases, such as Pubmed, Web of Science, ERIC, Science Direkt and Sage Journals.*

**Keywords:** age, aging, older adults, family environment, institutional care, intergenerational cooperation, right to information.



# TECHNOLOGY IN THE SERVICE OF PRESERVING THE DIGNITY AND HEALTH OF THE ELDERLY

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**Jana Goriup**, PhD, Professor Emeritus  
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## ABSTRACT

*As the world's population ages, we are facing an increasing number of people with a variety of health problems that can disrupt or reduce their quality of life and affect their right to dignity and general health. Given that social rights are also prescribed by regulations of the European Commission „European Pillar of Social Rights“, in this article I will describe the connection between technology and Article 16 of the Pillar. There are various forms of devices that use newer technologies, especially technologies designed to maintain the dignity and health of older adults with health problems. The introduction of technology into everyday life can greatly facilitate daily tasks, all to maintain or improve quality of life, starting with the most common thermometer, introduced back in the 17-th century, to the present day. Using new technologies aimed at maintaining the dignity and health of the elderly, such as virtual assistants and various forms of technology integrated into homes of the elderly, we highlight that it helps improving care, ensuring mobility and improving communication. All with the aim of improving the quality of life of older adults.*

**Keywords:** aging, older adults, new technologies, accessories.

# THE RIGHT TO REMOTE CARE THROUGH CONCEPT HUMAN RIGHTS IN OLD AGE

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## ABSTRACT

*A larger number of older people in a long-lived society also means greater care and responsibility of society for how to take care of them. We must be guided by the common European values of human dignity, equality and respect for human rights in developing a structure of social care and support appropriate to the 21st century. Knowledge of the rights of the elderly is one of the positive ideas about age and aging, and these are necessary for the formation of intergenerational coexistence and for strengthening solidarity and self-responsibility. Europe's efforts to enable as many older people as possible to stay at home for as long as possible require also provide decent financial security for this population. The latter is a condition for the free decision of the elderly about the place of residence in the autumn of their lives. Through the rights of the elderly, the article also presents the gaps between the awareness that the integration of information technology into home and community care can increase the social inclusion of the elderly and significantly improve their control over life, sense of security and independence on the one hand. On the other hand, projects funded by national policy and European funds point out that in addition to the rapid development of technology, which is difficult for older people to follow, the fact that they often do not know their rights or do not know who to turn to after the national shift in Slovenia in the direction of mass introduction of IC technologies in communities where the elderly live.*

**Keywords:** Older adults, Human rights in old age, Assisstive technology, remote care, Assisstive technology, Modernization theory

# ETHICAL ASPECTS CONCERNING THE USE OF THERAPEUTIC ROBOTS IN OLDER ADULTS WITH DEMENTIA (THE CASE OF THE THERAPEUTIC ROBOT PARO)

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## ABSTRACT

*The paper is dealing with the problem of ethical aspects of therapeutic robots in elderly people with dementia, with a special emphasis on the therapeutic robot Paro. Usage of robotics in patients care is opening wide new range of possibilities to optimize the life of the patients and is also relieving medical staff. Paro is advanced interactive robot, developed by leading Japanese pioneer industry automation Takanori Shibata. The purpose of the robot Paro is stress reduction in the patients and the encouragement of interactions between patients and medical staff. Despite the high set goals of the robot, there are concerns about patient rights and autonomy. Autonomy also highlights Code of Ethics for Nurses in Slovenia and deontological ethical approach which we will analyse in connection with the people suffering from dementia and the usage of robotics in geriatrics and geriatric Healthcare. For this we will be using descriptive method and the method of analysis. Studies made on this topic explain that the usage of therapeutic robot Paro enables better interaction with other people and encourages their mind capability. The purpose of this kind of robot is not just fun, it is also helping, guidance, providing therapy and training for a better day to day life of the person with dementia. Research have shown that especial for elderly people the robot has positive impact, even if they realize that it is a robot. In this case we will use the method of compilation. Studies show that the robot can calm the patients and reduces the risk for physical or emotional damage, so we would like to emphasize his potential as therapeutical help. Research data is emphasising that we have, in some cases, detected decreasing or even alternative need for medication or other more invasive or dangerous forms of treatment.*

**Keywords:** older adults, ethics, dementia, therapeutic robots, innovation.

# BURNOUT OF NURSES IN HOME FOR THE ELDERLY

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## ABSTRACT

Freudenberger (1974) refers to the term "burn-out" which is defined as the verb "burn out," "fail," or become exhausted due to demanding large amounts of energy, power or resources. Based on this definition, he founded the term „burnout“, which defines a person in the workplace who „burns“, thus becoming inoperative in everything he intends to do. Occupational burnout is a long-term response to chronic, emotional, and interpersonal stressors at work. The aim of this paper was to determine whether there is and to what extent professional burnout is present in nurses and technicians working in elderly homes in the city of Pula. The aim was to answer the questions of the extent the burnout is influenced by individual characteristics (age, work experience, caring for the elderly or the sick in the family, years of service, work shifts, level of education), structural aspects (home ownership, working hours, etc.) and an attempt was made to assess the extent to which professional burnout was affected by the perception of the situation around COVID-19. The study involved a validated questionnaire to measure professional burnout with additional questions related to demographics and COVID-19, while surveying of the nurses was conducted online at their home institutions.

**Keywords:** professional burnout, stress at work, retirement home, job satisfaction

# THE RIGHTS OF OLDER ADULTS TO LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES IN THE HOME ENVIRONMENT (COMPARISON WITH THE RIGHTS OF OLDER ADULTS IN INSTITUTIONAL CARE)

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## ABSTRACT

*Long-term care is an area that, with the demographic changes we are facing, is increasingly coming to the forefront of current policies. The adoption of appropriate legislation, and who will take care of the elderly population and in what way, are questions that require answers. Older adults living in institutional care are entitled to a variety of long-term care services, including psychosocial support services as well as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, coordinated nursing and social care services. The paper offers answers to research questions such as: What about the rights of older adults living in a home environment? Is adult care in the home environment only in the domain of the individual, his family and municipalities? To what extent does the state provide older adults with the right to choose to live in the desired environment and thus also access to long-term care services? So how are the rights of the elderly in the home environment taken care of, compared to the elderly living in institutional care? Under the current regulation, older adults in the home environment have access to community care services, which fall under the rights of the ZZS, and the right to social care services at home with additional payment from municipalities. We looked for answers in the Municipality of Krško from the employees of the project Long-term care in the community „Most“, with a review of current legislation and foreign and domestic literature. We find that the rights of older adults to comprehensive treatment in the home environment are not realized in that they could benefit from services to maintain and strengthen independence, coordinated nursing and multi-day care services, as well as the rights of older adults to quality care in institutional care, are not realized, as care is not individually adapted to their needs and desires.*

**Keywords:** long-term care, older adults in the home environment, institutional care, right of choice, Most project.

## EXPERT PANELS

# THE RIGHT TO SAY GOODBYE »ON DISTANCE« AND HUMAN DIGNITY

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### ABSTRACT

*Ensuring the right to say goodbye to the deceased has an important impact on the grieving process of relatives. Allowing for „remote“ goodbyes and contact with loved ones raises questions about the ethics of the absolute digital replacement of direct human contact with loved ones as a constitutionally protected category. Whichever legal-philosophical line we take, man remains for once undeniably a creature of nature and as such a part of it, which consequently requires the preservation of basic natural needs, including touch and proximity without interfaces. For the purpose of this paper we will use descriptive research method, with a compilation method and semi-structured interview in the empirical part. We will show good practices in enabling the right to direct goodbye and the possibility of indirect forms of goodbye (digital forms of keeping in touch), as well as in addressing the negative consequences of disabled goodbyes. When saying goodbye to a dying person, it is necessary to advocate an individual approach and respect for the basic humanity that must or can be provided in a given situation. Experience to date has shown that organisations have used different ways of ensuring visits and also of facilitating farewells. In cases where the goodbye is not possible, the grieving process is complicated. However, relatives who have been able to say goodbye remotely still ask themselves questions about the circumstances under which their loved ones died, as these contacts were usually brief and very difficult due to their health.*

**Keywords:** Farewell, digitization, ethics, humanity, virtuality, personality rights.

# LGBTQ+ OLDER ADULTS ARE AN OVERLOOKED MINORITY OF THE AGEING POPULATION

Mihael Nedeljko, PhD Candidate  
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## ABSTRACT

*LGBTQ+ older adults are a very diverse subgroup of the ageing population with diverse needs. Fredriksen-Goldsen estimates that 2.4 million LGBTQ+ older adults aged 50 and over are living in the United States, and projections suggest that the number will at least double by 2030. Fear of discrimination of their biopsychosocial needs are often not met and differ from the majority of the population. LGBTQ+ older adults are at risk for occurrence of various diseases due to various factors. Despite the increased risk, they are often overlooked in geriatric nursing, resulting in a lower quality of life. Discrimination, stigma and social isolation are still present and are leading to an increased level of disability, a higher likelihood of chronic conditions and mental distress, and express in reluctance to disclose one's sexual orientation or gender identity. Compared to heterosexuals, LGBTQ+ older adults are less likely to receive informal care because they often live without a partner and have no children. A special role in improving the current situation of LGBTQ+ older adults is in the hands of health professionals, social workers and social gerontologists who must work to avoid heteronormative assumptions. People should be able to fulfil their needs and receive the best possible health and social care when they need it, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or other factors. Each of us can facilitate progress in this matter through awareness and education to increase visibility of this subgroup of older adults in society which is often treated in a subordinated manner.*

**Keywords:** LGBTQ+ older adults, diskrimination, needs, health status

# PREPARATION AND PLANNING FOR LATER LIFE: PAST EXPERIENCES AND SATISFACTION WITH LIFE IN OLDER PEOPLE

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**Nikolaj Lipič**, PhD, Assistant Professor  
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**Peter Seljak**, PhD, Assistant Professor  
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**Nejc Krašovec**, PhD Candidate  
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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Preparation for later life is a lifelong and multidimensional process. It is important because of the life changes of the individual and his or her life roles. The process of preparation for later life includes planning that prepares the individual to face change and take appropriate action. The purpose of the study was to identify older people past experiences with preparation and planning for later life in the context of their satisfaction with life.

**Methods:** In the research, we used a quantitative methodological approach, in which we collected data with our own questionnaire and a standardized questionnaire for determining satisfaction with life (SWLS). The survey was conducted from December 2021 to January 2022. The survey included 335 people over the age 65 living in the home environment and institutional care. Data were analyzed using methods of descriptive and inferential statistics, and the hypotheses were tested with correlation and regression analysis.

**Results:** The results of the research show that most older people started preparing and planning for later life late, in late middle age or even later. We find that they were less informed, aware, trained and motivated to prepare for later life. They showed the highest efficiency in planning for later life in the domain of housing, health, finances and social relations. They assesses their satisfaction with life as moderately satisfactory.

**Discussion and conclusions:** The research draws attention to the importance of the timely start of preparing and planning an individual for later life. Already in youth and adulthood, according to the value system and life priorities, it is necessary to guide the individual for responsible planning of later life. In this direction, it is necessary to strengthen their information and train and motivate them accordingly.

**Keywords:** older people, preparation, planning, later life, satisfaction with life



# SENQUALITY – AN EU-FUNDED PROJECT SUPPORTING PREPARATION FOR LATER LIFE

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**Chara Stassinopoulou**  
C.M. Skoulidi & SIA E.E.

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** The SenQuality project, funded in the Erasmus+ programme, addresses the topic of individual later life preparation in order to support well-being in old age. The demographic change has and will have far-reaching implications. Expected cuts in social security systems, challenges for the health and care systems etc. emphasize an increased responsibility of individuals to prepare for later life. But also personal age-related changes influence future well-being. Studies show that active later life planning and self-reflection of age-related transitions can influence well-being positively. SenQuality aims at raising awareness for the importance of preparation for later life and offers a reflection and planning tool.

**Methods:** The project follows the assumptions of Kornadt (University of Luxemburg) and Rothermund (University of Jena) who see preparation as a lifelong and multidimensional process and defined nine domains for preparation: Finances, Emergencies & Exceptional Circumstances, Mental & Physical Fitness, Housing, Looks & Appearance, Social relationships, Health, Leisure Activities & Lifestyle as well as Work & Employment. After introducing these domains, the project offers an online self-reflection tool that leads to an individual action plan. Good practice examples and recommendations for later life are supposed to give inspiration.

**Results:** The results are a later life manual as pdf download, a framework for self-assessment that can be used by counsellors supporting people in life changes and that serves as theoretical basis for an online platform that allows the individual to reflect on the current and past status and experiences as well as on wishes for the future. With the help of concrete examples and advice individual action plans can be made.

**Discussion and conclusion:** SenQuality wants to reach an increased motivation to prepare for later life in a stage in which this still can be influenced, in addition to a better knowledge on how to plan for later life.

**Keywords:** later life, preparation, planning, reflection, well-being

# ADULTS IN FRONT OF FINANCIAL AND EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

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APS Polygonal

## ABSTRACT

*The way adults deal with money and transactions, everyday finances, digital tools for e-payment, and how they interpret the wider financial landscape is not merely a matter information availability, but the result of a favourable social and personal aspects that are crucial to correctly implement empowering strategies. We present the on-going research result of the European project SenQuality on this specific theme as part of conducted field studies in Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Italy, Spain, and Slovenia, together with the development of an innovative self-assessment tool for adults on later life planning.*

**Keywords:** later life, financial literacy, adult education

# LEISURE AND LIFESTYLE & MENTAL AND PSYCHICAL FITNESS - GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES BASED ON EXPERIENCE

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**Sylwia Kurszewska**

Centrum Kształcenia Ustawicznego w Sopocie

## **ABSTRACT**

*Leisure and lifestyle & mental and psychical fitness- good practice examples based on project experience (including projects implemented under Erasmus + Programme). A lecture on the functioning and needs of seniors and preparing for their own old age. Examples of developed tools for activation and education of seniors. The lecture will be conducted by a representative of the Center for Continuing Education in Sopot (Poland), which includes the University of the Third Age (over 900 seniors benefit from the offer of the Third Age University in Sopot).*

**Keywords:** elderly

# PLANNING FOR LATER LIFE: PRESENTATION OF PROJECT-RESEARCH FINDINGS ON DOMAINS HOUSING AND SOCIAL RELATIONSHIP

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## ABSTRACT

*International human rights law recognizes the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living, including adequate housing. The importance of having a home that is adapted to each individual's circumstances becomes even more important as we age, as our needs change, as we experience problems with mobility, vision, hearing, or even memory. Home adaptation is very important for the safety and well-being of older people, allowing them to live independently longer, feel safer and avoid accidents. The purpose of this paper is to present a project-research approach to planning later life in the domain housing. The research was carried out in two stages, as we first developed a methodological concept for self-assessment in planning for later life. Then, based on the methodological concept, we developed a methodological tool for planning later life in the domain housing, based on self-reflection and self-assessment. The methodological concept in the domain housing is six-step. The first step is intended to the presentation and selection of domains. In the second step the individual self-reflects and self-assesses the current housing situation and reflects on the need to make changes to the own housing or consider other housing options. In the third step the individual self-reflects and self-assesses past experience in housing. The fourth step provides an answer to how strongly the domain develops in the individual. The fifth step is three-phase, first comprising questions about housing in later life, followed by objectives with activities, performers, time and resources, and concluding with motivational statements. The last and sixth step is intended to the control of implementation and progress. Methodological framework with a six-step approach directs the individual to preparing and planning later life in the domain housing, which takes into account the determinants regarding adapting the own house or apartment or considering other housing options.*

**Keywords:** later life, preparation, planning, self-reflection, self-assessment, housing

# PLANNING FOR LATER LIFE: DOMAINS WORK & EMPLOYMENT AND LOOKS & APPEARANCE

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## ABSTRACT

*Questions of looks and appearance, body and age are linked to debates about the nature of identity. The body is central to the experience of ageing. How an individual look is central to classifying him/her into society. Furthermore, work and employment is a domain that unfortunately did not receive much attention as it should be. Taking into consideration the large financial and economic consequences of the last years, especially of COVID-19, a lot of discussions on the implication of longer working lives in terms of learning have been raised. Rapid population ageing requires not only a policy response but also a continuous and comprehensive action plan. The purpose is to present a project-based research approach to planning later life in the domains of appearance & employment.*

**Methods:** *The methodology of the research was based on a methodological approach and framework that has been developed. After, methodological tools for planning later life in the domain of work and employment and looks and appearance have been prepared based on self-reflection and assessment in order to achieve specific goals.*

**Results:** *Firstly, an introductory section has been developed providing some background information on the domains. This is followed by a set of questions to be answered by the individuals to discover themselves, mainly self-reflection questions, that will help them assess the current situation regarding the importance, satisfaction and activities in the relevant domains. This is followed by other self-assessment and reflection questions related to the future that is accompanied by objectives and goals, performers and motivational statements in order to control their implementation and progress of them.*

**Discussion:** *The approach that is been used in the paper helps individuals to start planning their later life in the domains. The presented methodological framework is suitable for use as an on-line tool within the project.*

**Keywords:** *Self-reflection, assessment, later life, employment, ageing, appearance, embodiment*

# PLANNING FOR LATER LIFE: PRESENTATION OF PROJECT-RESEARCH FINDINGS ON HEALTH DOMAIN

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**Peter Seljak**, PhD, Assistant Professor  
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**Barbara Grintal**, PhD, Assistant Professor  
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**Nikolaj Lipič**, PhD, Assistant Professor  
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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Health is one of the key factors in the quality of life in old age, if we understand it as an interdependence of both physical and mental health. That is why health plays a key role in the process of planning life in old age and should be studied as a multidimensional concept. The purpose of this paper is to present a project-research approach to planning later life in the domain health.

**Methods:** The research was carried out in two stages, as we first developed a methodological concept for self-assessment in planning for later life, which is useful in various domains. Then, based on the methodological concept, we developed a methodological tool for planning later life in the domain health, based on self-reflection and self-assessment.

**Results:** The methodological concept in the domain health is six-step. The first step is intended to the presentation and selection of domains. In the second step the individual self-reflects and self-assesses the current situation in terms of importance, knowledge and satisfaction, activities, resources and accessibility in physical and mental health. In the third step the individual self-reflects and self-assesses past experience in physical and mental health. The fourth step is intended to determine the level of physical and mental health. The fifth step is three-phase, first comprising questions for physical and mental health in the future, followed by objectives with activities, performers, time and resources, and concluding with motivational statements. The last, sixth step is intended to the control of implementation and progress.

**Discussion and conclusions:** The presented methodological framework with a six-step approach directs the individual to preparing and planning later life in the domain health, which takes into account the determinants of physical and mental health. The presented methodological framework is suitable for use as an online tool within the project.

**Keywords:** later life, preparation, planning, self-reflection, self-assessment, health

## STUDENT PANEL

# IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 EPIDEMIC ON THE RIGHTS OF OLDER ADULTS

Jana Goriup, PhD, Professor Emeritus

Brigita Benčič, Karin Bukovec, Nina Fajfar, Mojca France, Ines Katarina Gaal, Marjanca Gaberšek, Mateja Glavnik, Nuša Hödl, Karmen Jevernik, Jerneja Lipič, Ljubica Marinčič, Jana Maučec, Maja Prijevič, Alina Ribič, Jana Sever, Vesna Štumberger Kukovec, Nina Urek, Students  
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### ABSTRACT

*The aim of the paper is to present the plight of older people at the time of the measures and restrictions to prevent the spread of Covid-19 infection, drawing attention to the importance of exercising rights and highlighting the violation of the social interaction of older adults in their living environment. Research results will be presented on how the rights to dignity and autonomy, social and social and cognitive rights, and actuarial and the sensual rights, safety, health and status rights of older adults in various forms in the mood of adult living have been exercised or violated. Especially since we have been (faced) with a lack of properly trained staff, which is due to inadequate and lack of staffing standards in the care of older adults and to all the lack of occupations in the field of care for the older adults and ignorance of the emergence of new-e.g. social gerontologist in the light of the social isolation of older adults. The authors conclude their contribution with those positive solutions and opportunities that we need to realize immediately in Slovenian postmodern society in order to help the older adults and thus the whole society.*

**Keywords:** older adults, epidemic, rights, social gerontology, social gerontologist.

# PLANNING FOR LATER LIFE: IMPORTANCE, DOMAINS AND REASONS IN OLDER PEOPLE

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Barbara Grintal, PhD, Assistant Professor

Tjaša Rojht, Elora Dana Čebular, Tjaša Draškovič, Loti Klopčič, Martina Piskar,

Manca Repše, Nika Žurman, Loti Bužan, Students

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Facing with and preparing for later life encompasses various aspects, a number of legal regulations must be observed, and an important part is also contributed by the individual's personal characteristics, interests and desires. Therefore, successful preparation for later life must include planning that concretizes the individual's desired state in the future. The purpose of the study was to determine the importance of planning for later life in older people, the importance of different domains and the reasons for planning.

**Methods:** The research used a quantitative methodological approach, in which data were collected using the survey method in the period from December 2021 to January 2022. The sample included 335 people over the age of 65, both from the home and institutional environment. In the research, we used the methods of descriptive and inferential statistics, and tested the hypotheses with correlation and regression analysis.

**Results:** Older people recognize planning for later life as important, and attribute a greater role to the state in preparing. They consider health and housing to be the most important domains of preparation for later life, with the least importance attached to appearance. The results of the research highlight the most important reasons for planning autonomy and independence.

**Discussion and conclusions:** Planning for later life is an important aspect of an individual's preparation. It is important that the individual starts planning at a young and middle age. With planning, it is necessary to intervene in all domains of preparation, with the individual first choosing the ones to which attaches greater importance. We also point out that an important and necessary factor in preparing is the state, which must regulate the legal field, provide appropriate support services, educate individuals, raise awareness and provide assistance to individuals in preparing and planning for later life in some domains.

**Keywords:** older people, later life, preparation, planning, domains





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**DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND  
SERVICES FOR THE  
PROVISION OF LONG-TERM  
CARE IN COMMUNITIES**

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## SCHOLARLY PANEL

# A NEW PROFILE OF FACILITY MANAGER IN THE SILVER ECONOMY OF SMART AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES

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### ABSTRACT

*For sustainable and livable cities to reach the objectives of EC Energy 2020 regarding the improvement of the energy efficiency class in the existing building stock in the EU is crucial. In many old buildings live the older inhabitants who are their owners, but have no financial resources to improve the energy efficiency of these buildings. According to the Buildings Performance Institute, up to 97.5% of existing buildings are still below efficiency A, therefore must be updated or refurbished. This is a prerequisite for achieving the EC's 2050 goals for decarbonization. The proposal lies in combining research with the development of a new role of Urban Facility Management (FM) for the implementation of knowledge in a broader urban context to contribute to the achievement of energy efficiency objectives and more livable cities for ageing societies. The concept of facility manager profile should be extended from the facility manager of typically business or public buildings to cover the general public neighbourhoods to be capable of making better communication between inhabitants and municipality, which is especially demanding for older inhabitants, who need refurbishing of their homes. It would create greater value for all stakeholders and highly contribute to the societal needs of upgraded infrastructure in accordance with smart and sustainable development. Urban FM also contribute to fulfilment of the needs of the older members of the community, being often cash poor, but still owners of a high percentage of old buildings. In many cities, they are the main cohort who have problems to invest in such refurbishing. From this perspective, the development of refurbishing and modern maintenance management structure including urban FM as its core part, which contribute knowledge to the silver economy, is proposed.*

**Keywords:** Facility Management, Silver Economy, Refurbishment, Smart and sustainable city

# SPATIAL DISPERSION OF OLDER ADULTS IN SLOVENIAN REGIONS AND THEIR ACCESSIBILITY TO SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

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**Marija Bogataj**, PhD, Professor  
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## ABSTRACT

*How to provide adequate services and housing for an increasing number of older people that are dependent on the help of others is a crucial question in the EU and Slovenian municipalities. The housing stock is not fit to support the shift from institutional care to home-based independent living. Most houses in Slovenian municipalities are not adequately built, as they contain accessibility barriers for people with emerging functional impairments. Also, the public transport does not enable them to reach the health and social centres when needed. The financial sources are not provided in general to improve the living standard for older adults. Retirement communities are not developed at all. The question is how to finance the adaptation of housing units, provide them better accessibility and build new social facilities. Many facilities are optimal to be constructed on the local level. But it is advised for some to be provided on the Local Action Group (LAG) level, some on regional level and some on the national level. The management of these spatial units and their inhabitants should consider building smart villages where the physical facilities and spaces would be constructed so that the community could have access to social and health care services and would operate in the future in the sense of Continuous Care Regions (CCR). We based our analysis on the Central Population Register (<https://podatki.gov.si/dataset/centralni-register-prebivalstva>) and the location of their homes and public facilities needed for the Long-term care (<https://www.e-prostor.gov.si/dostop-do-podatkov/vpogledi-v-podatke/>). On these bases, we considered it possible to provide them special housing units when needed and more accessible public facilities. Finally, some graphical presentations on the thematic maps are given.*

**Keywords:** social infrastructure, continuous care regions, spatial dispersion, ageing, long-term care, mobility

# RIGHTS OF THE ELDERLY ADULTS IN RURAL AREAS TO APPROPRIATE HOUSING THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMART VILLAGES

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## ABSTRACT

*As the share of older adults in society as a whole increases, so does the awareness of the rights of this group of people to adequate housing, which is supported by the European Convention on Human Rights (Article 8) and guaranteed by the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia. (Articel 78). Suitable housing can vary significantly for different individuals or groups of people. There is also no uniform definition of suitable housing. In the case of older adults, the absence of movement barriers (stairs, thresholds, etc.) or the presence of solutions for their easier overcoming (elevators, etc.) is essential for the suitability of the built living environment. Past research has shown that most older adults want to spend their old age in a home environment, where they have a developed social network, but which in most cases is not suitable for them due to physical barriers. In rural areas in Slovenia, there is no developed appropriate health and social infrastructure that would enable older adults to spend their old age at home. The trend of rural depopulation and the aging of the rural population is a problem the entire European Union is facing. In presenting work, we used methods of description, compilation and synthesis, using a review of domestic and foreign literature and legal bases governing this area. The idea of social smart eco-villages is currently being developed in Slovenia under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture. It could provide an appropriate framework for adapting the living environment in rural areas for older adults. and in cooperation with other line ministries (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Infrastructure, etc.) it can support development of appropriate health and social infrastructure. In addition, new jobs would be created, which could partially halt the trend of depopulating the rural environment.*

**Keywords:** *older adults, human rights in old age, appropriate living environment, housing policy, smart villages*

# INFLUENCE OF POPULATION DENSITY ON THE STRUCTURE OF LONG-TERM CARE SERVICES IN SPAIN

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**Francisco Campuzano Bolarin**, Professor

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## ABSTRACT

*As early as 2006, Spain adopted a systemic law governing long-term care (LTC). 15 years after the introduction of this law, we studied what is the experience with structure of LTC services. In Spain, the regions are responsible for organizing and financing long-term care services. Regions differ in population density, degree of urbanization, and economic power, as well as the structure of use of LTC services. In this article, we describe the connection between these characteristics of the regions and the choice of the older adults and their families, what kind of care they prefer and also receive. The final finding is that more urbanized and richer areas have higher use of institutional services, which is comparable to long-term care utilization in Slovenia, while rural regions with lower population density benefit more from daycare centers and home care. In Slovenia, too, we can expect that a larger share of the urban population will still opt for institutional care, while the older adults in rural areas will opt for a combination of care at home and in daycare centers. Such a study is important in the further planning of social infrastructure in Slovenia as well.*

**Keywords:** social systems, long-term care, social infrastructure, population density, urban areas, rural areas

# FORECASTING DEMAND FOR HOMECARE SERVICES IN LIFETIME NEIGHBOURHOODS

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**David Bogataj**, PhD, Professor  
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## **ABSTRACT**

*Ageing of the European cities influence demand for care services that are provided in the community. Demand for homecare services (HC) is forecasted by health care utilisation models, which define variables and relationships between them. To forecast demand for HC, this paper uses assumptions prepared by EUROSTAT in the European population projections EUROPOP2019 and the experiences of the HC nursing services from City of Varaždin. The results show that the projections of the number of HC users in City of Varaždin will more than double in the next 40 years. The paper presents how growth in HC users will influence required capacities of HC system at the city and neighbourhood level.*

**Keywords:** healthcare utilisation model, social infrastructure, demographic projection, homecare demand, geographical gerontology, lifetime neighbourhoods, human resources



# THE SOCIAL VALUE OF INVESTMENTS IN HOUSING ADAPTATION AND SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR LONG-TERM CARE IN LIFETIME NEIGHBOURHOODS

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**Marija Bogataj, PhD, Professor**

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## ABSTRACT

*In this paper, we have developed a new model for determining the social value of investments in social infrastructure for older adults, emphasising investments in lifetime neighbourhoods. The functional decline of the urban population is affecting the demand and supply for social infrastructures, such as age-friendly housing and barrier-free public space, which reduces public spending on health care and other otherwise necessary long-term care services. The Competing Risk Model (CRM) and functional capacity improvements are introduced in the evaluation procedures. The social value is calculated based on differences in the actuarial present values of long-term care expenditures, considering the possibilities of integrated care, including rehabilitation and reactivation. In social gerontology, such an approach is not yet known, although basic CRM is already used in medicine. We designed the model to help policymakers who wish to invest in development of lifetime neighbourhoods but have limited opportunities to finance social infrastructure.*

**Keywords:** Lifetime neighbourhoods, Social infrastructure, Social value, Competing risk model, Long-term care, Integrated care

# LONG TERM PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR OLDER ADULTS IN RURAL AREA

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**David Bogataj**, PhD, Professor

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## ABSTRACT

*In the Haloze area, which connects five rural municipalities, long-term care in retirement homes or in the community is not organized in any of these municipalities. Therefore, municipalities for those who cannot cover more intensive care with their own funds, enable and pay for this service in the homes of senior citizens in other municipalities. As a result, a large part of the municipal budget funds flows to other municipalities, and the elderly have to move to more remote places, even though they want to stay close to relatives and friends. At the same time, the municipalities are losing quite a few caregiver jobs, which could be filled by young people from their own municipalities, which would help revitalize Haloze. Therefore, we implemented a financially sustainable longer-term plan for the construction of residential buildings that will be adapted to the older adults, based on the model of hierarchical structure of long-term care facilities, based on the model suggested by Drobne and Bogataj in the paper "The Role of Local Action Groups for the Optimal Allocation of Investments in the Long-Term Care" at SOR'19.*

**Keywords:** Social infrastructure, Rural development, Ageing, Long-Term Care, Public expenditures, Population projections, Silver villages

# SOCIAL INCLUSION OF ETHNIC MINORITIES AND CITIZENS WITH LOW INCOME IN THE DIGITALIZATION OF HOUSING IN SLOVENIA AND THE EU

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## ABSTRACT

*Housing is an essential element of social inclusion. Laws in the EU prohibit discrimination based on social identity. Yet, social discrimination based on ethnicity remains a challenge for access to housing and, hence, minorities in the EU. The impact of COVID19 has led to a broader need for the digitalization of housing and real estate. Reports from NGOs in Slovenia addressed the issue of housing as a hindering factor for the social integration of beneficiaries of international protection. Yet, there is a lack of research on social inclusion, housing, and digitalization during COVID19. In this paper, we analyze the definition of Cyberbullying and the anti-discrimination policies in the housing platforms in Slovenia and the public access to information on housing and digitalization. This is through a theoretical framework that combines qualitative research and ethnographic methods with the theories of social inclusion and digitalization in housing. We conclude with an argument that the digitalization of housing is essential for sustainable development. Yet, it shall be integrated with an explicit definition and concrete mechanisms on achieving social inclusion of ethnic minorities and, more precisely, of people who are holders of international protection in Slovenia. This overlaps with other forms of discrimination based on economic status. In conclusion, we offer recommendations on achieving social inclusion of minorities and low-income people in Slovenia through an inclusive digitalization of housing for sustainable development.*

**Keywords:** Social inclusion, Ethnic minorities, Housing, Digitalization, Low Income

# SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN UNREGULATED URBAN GROWTH

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## **ABSTRACT**

*This paper focuses on unregulated urban growth as an already evolving trend in many countries in the ADRION regions, including Kosovo. The study on social infrastructure development is based on general conditions, determined in the legal documents on construction, internal regulations within the neighbourhood, compliance with purchase contracts with the requirements provided there. As part of great importance in the context of residents' satisfaction is urban design, respect for confidentiality, creation of green spaces, general and specialist medical services, kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, catering shops, neighbourhood safety, creation of facilities for the elderly, public transport, etc. Part of the study was the purchase price of a house in the Kosovo neighbourhood through bank loans and unfavourable interest rates. Statistics and other results are collected and compared with the general rules of modelling neighbourhoods globally. Furthermore, the international literature is elaborated, giving comparative studies on settlements of this kind. This paper analyses how to treat the conditions for a socially valuable infrastructure for all categories. The case in which the research was conducted is the NIC neighbourhood area located in Cagllavice, municipality of Gracanica in Kosovo, 3 km from the capital city of Kosovo Prishtina.*

**Keywords:** Urban growth, location, terrain, spatial planning, greenery, economic infrastructure, social infrastructure

# CASH FLOWS OF FUNDS FOR LONG-TERM CARE BETWEEN MUNICIPALITIES

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## ABSTRACT

*In the last thirty years, Slovenia has had increasingly fragmented small municipalities. With the splitting of the old municipalities, a large part of the social infrastructure, especially the older adults' homes (DSO), remained in the old municipal centres. Therefore, the older adults who need long-term care (LTC) move from their municipalities, where they have stronger social networks, to other environments, i.e., municipal centers that existed before the division of municipalities. Thus, the funds of municipalities and individual users of these services who needed to co-finance this care are transferred from small, poorer municipalities with social infrastructure for the LTC of the older adults to larger municipalities. We reviewed the data on these flows by individual municipalities, which ERAR also shows for public funds. The study of correlations and contingency found that at least for the funds paid by municipalities for their poor older citizens who need the LTC, the above finding applies. But small rural municipalities with DSOs on their soil have successfully attracted LTC users from larger municipalities into their local LTC facilities, attracting funds from larger municipalities to their area and creating jobs in these municipalities. Therefore, this study concludes that it makes sense for small municipalities to build housing infrastructure for older adults and thus create new jobs in their communities.*

**Keywords:** long-term care, social infrastructure, municipalities, rural development

# SOLVING THE HOUSING PROBLEMS OF THE ROMA COMMUNITY - THE CASE KERINOV GRM

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**David Bogataj**, PhD, Professor  
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## ABSTRACT

*In the Republic of Slovenia, the Roma community has the status of a special ethnic community with unique ethnic characteristics such as its language and culture. This community is outwardly heterogeneous and is characterized by most members living within Roma settlements. Most Roma settlements are in 20 Slovenian municipalities with an „autochthonous“ Roma population. Some „non-autochthonous“ members also inhabit cities Ljubljana, Maribor and Velenje. The heterogeneity of the Roma community is directly related to the immigration routes. According to the time and direction of immigration, we can divide them into at least four large groups (Dolenjska, Prekmurje, Maribor and Gorenjska Roma). One of the most critical challenges for the Roma community is to address the housing issue. Namely, most Roma settlements do not have the status of a settlement by our definition and legal status of a settlement. Knowledge of the essential characteristics and habits of the population, including the analysis of past demographic trends in an area, is the basis for quality planning of adaptation of the settlement to normative regulations and development of the settlement for future population growth. This article presents the development and legalization of the Roma settlement Kerinov grm. We give the main demographic parameters of the Roma community living in this settlement and the demographic potential with population projections by 2050. We ask ourselves whether it makes sense to solve the increased housing needs by expanding the settlement related to spatial planning rules, establishing public economic and social infrastructure, or recognizing that large ethnically homogeneous settlements lead to ghettoization. Therefore, the question also arises whether a different model of solving the housing care of members of the Roma community should be sought, not only in the Posavje region but also in other municipalities in Slovenia.*

**Keywords:** Roma, Roma settlement, Kerinov grm, demography, social infrastructure

# COMPARATIVE STUDY OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE CARE OF THE ELDERLY IN EU MEMBER STATES AND SLOVENIA

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## ABSTRACT

*This article presents a comparative study of the social infrastructure and services for the long-term community care (LTC in communities) for seniors with declined functional capacities in ten Member States of the European Union, also in Slovenia, and the United Kingdom. Here were compared the legal and physical goals and constraints to find the best solutions for Slovenian rural areas. We found that this infrastructure is developed differently across the Member States and that there are different models of governance and financing of the social infrastructure for the LTC. In the majority, the leading managers of the social infrastructure are stakeholders at the local level, such as municipalities and housing organisations, the latter usually operating as social enterprises or non-profit oriented housing associations. Reliable sources of funding are national or international. Essential are national mechanisms to draw these fundings through the European Investment Bank. However, our comparative study did not find that the social infrastructure is financed mainly through these schemes. In the paper, the reason was missing the guarantee schemes for funding social infrastructure for older adults' care. Therefore, for financing the development of LTC infrastructure in the Slovenian countryside, the use of some kind of guarantee scheme is advised. Thus, the article presents in detail the way to successful, well-developed financial products in the framework of the LTC Act, particularly important for the development of LTC in rural areas.*

**Keywords:** social systems, long-term care, ageing, social infrastructure







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# **EDUCATION AND MENTAL HEALTH**

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## SCHOLARLY PANEL

# CHILDREN AFTER TRAUMA – LOGOTHERAPEUTIC APPROACH

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**Miro Raguž**, Logotherapist, Lecturer  
DOBRO Institute for Logotherapy, Education and Counseling

### ABSTRACT

*The paper discusses the current state of living with uncertainty in the world, with special emphasis on how children approach traumatic events. Based on theoretical research and references to relevant literature, primarily the logotherapeutic approach of Viktor Frankl, the paper explores logotherapeutic possibilities of helping children as the most vulnerable group. It examines self-transcendence and the logotherapeutic technique of dereflection. Special care is given to emotions which accompany a traumatic event and questions which it poses. Emergency and trauma-oriented pedagogy are also analyzed, as are the phases following a traumatic event, and interventions which can be applied when working with children. The aim of this paper is to find meaningful logotherapeutic interventions in a time of crisis, during and after a traumatic event, i.e., to provide guidelines for quality communication with children. It also warns of the inadequacy of quick solutions and the danger of careless use of words and even (logo) therapeutic "tools", reasoning, and inviting individuals to find meaning in suffering without deep deliberation and understanding.*

**Keywords:** crisis, trauma, children, logotherapy, communication

# HIDDEN VICTIMS OF ALCOHOLISM: THE DYNAMICS OF GROWING UP IN AN ALCOHOLIC FAMILY AND ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS

**Barbara Simonič**, PhD, Professor  
Faculty of Theology, University of Ljubljana

## **ABSTRACT**

*Growing up in a family marked by the alcohol addiction of one or both parents has consequences for the child. In such families, a dysfunctional parenting approach is often formed in which the parents don't offer child a support and a healthy environment for growth and development. This has consequences for the child, which are also present in his/her adulthood. Adults who grew up in a dysfunctional family where alcohol addiction of one/both parents was present are "adult children of alcoholics". Unprocessed traumatic experiences from childhood and adolescence in an alcoholic family remain repressed and inappropriately regulated and often shape psychodynamics and functioning in their adulthood, which is often emotionally and socially immature. In this presentation, we will present the pathological patterns between addicted parents and children and the (emotional) experiencing of adult children of alcoholics in their primary families and the consequences they experience in connection with this in their adult lives. By case illustration from clinical psychotherapeutic practice according to the model of relational family therapy, an example of processing childhood complications in adult children of alcoholics will be shown. Children are hidden victims of parental alcoholism and need psychosocial and therapeutic support even in their adulthood.*

**Keywords:** alcoholism, addiction, family, children, trauma, relational family therapy

# LOGOPEDAGOGY - THE HOLISTIC EDUCATIONAL APPROACH FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

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**Polonca Pangrčič**, PhD, Research Assistant  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Jasmina Kristovič**, Research Assistant, PhD Candidate  
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## ABSTRACT

*For decades, UNESCO and various European commissions have emphasised the importance of the holistic (integrated) approach to the educational process. Internationally prevalent, and commonly known, are the four pillars of education suggested by UNESCO for the 21<sup>st</sup> century: the 1<sup>st</sup> - learning to know, the 2<sup>nd</sup> - learning to do, the 3<sup>rd</sup> - learning to live together and the 4<sup>th</sup> - learning to be. The basic set research question, as stated in the research, is: To what extent are the European directives regarding the holistic educational process implemented in the Slovenian educational environment? Using comprehensive analysis, we assessed which areas are the weakest, most undernourished or even forgotten. Although the word "holistic" appears in the *White Paper on Education in the Republic of Slovenia*, it does so in very different and scattered contexts. The content embraces only the minimal declarative level, but not the concrete, practical or applicative level – and the findings in real-life practice are similar.*

*According to the results obtained by qualitative and quantitative methods and other international research, we formed an innovative holistic educational approach – logopedagogy – on the anthropological base of Frankl's logotherapy/existential analysis (Ten Theses on the Person). It concerns the awareness and consideration that a child is not only a cognitive/rational being, but an indivisible whole of physical, mental, and spiritual dimensions. It means that the entire educational system must function in the proper way to consider and develop all three dimensions. This paper includes, among other things, the presentation of the basic elements of logopedagogy, as for example the importance of the autonomy of the teacher and of the learner, of autonomy, freedom, responsibility, creativity, meaning, dignity, self-transcendancy, values, relationships, and empathy.*

*The research was conducted as part of the project *The Holistic Educational Process and the Enhancement of Mental Health (15-1844)*, financed by the Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS), and the International Institute for Psychotherapy and Applicative Psychology in cooperation with the Alma Mater Europaea – ECM.*

**Keywords:** logopedagogy, education, learning, logotherapy, holistic

# PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC WORK WITH SPOUSES WITH ALCOHOLISM EXPERIENCE

**Nataša Rijavec Klobučar**, PhD, Assistant Professor  
Faculty of Theology, University of Ljubljana

## ABSTRACT

*Alcoholism of partners is a common problem of spouses in life. The problem of excessive alcohol consumption is either present in the lives of spouses or they face the consequences of alcoholism from the primary family. Researches show that alcoholism in the family has negative consequences for the development of children, regardless of whether the family atmosphere is full of stress, violence and pain or alcohol brings relaxation and joy. Parental alcoholism provides a special dysfunctional environment to which the child adapts through unconscious mechanisms. With inappropriate patterns of interconnectedness, the child later enters into intimate partnerships, where repressed emotional states from childhood begin to awaken in order to resolve them. Based on a case study of psychotherapeutic work using the method of a relational family with spouses, it studies the depth and intensity of internal attachment to primary caregivers and analyzes the way emotions are regulated. Repeating repressed emotions in relationships brings with it the ability to process negative emotions from childhood and reshape strategies to manage painful emotions. However, regulating a person's strong emotional tension before resorting to alcohol contributes to a different way of connecting in partnerships and overcoming the pattern of intoxication.*

**Keywords:** alcoholism, regulating emotions, marriage, relational family therapy

# RELATION TO THE EDUCATION OF FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME PRESCHOOL TEACHER STUDENTS

**Zlatko Bukvić**, Teacher

Centar za odgoj i obrazovanje Tomislav Špoljar, Učiteljski fakultet

**Renata Možanić**, PhD Candidate

Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Goran Lapat**, PhD, Assistant Professor

Faculty of Education, University of Zagreb

*The paper will present the results of research on a sample of students of educational studies who study as full-time full-time and part-time part-time. The group of part-time students includes those who are employed and unemployed, which is considered one of the important factors in choosing a study program and the benefits gained through education. A short questionnaire on the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents was constructed to collect data, and an adapted version of the Student engagement instrument questionnaire was used to examine the attitude towards education. The original questionnaire has 6 factors and measures the cognitive and psychological dimension, which will be tested on a sample of Croatian students. Also, the instrument has been used in numerous foreign studies and in different age groups of students to analyze the current attitude of students towards education, but also as a detection instrument for targeted pedagogical action. Therefore, it is reasonable to expect that the mentioned instrument and the verification of its reliability will be useful for the analysis of the attitude towards the education of the target group.*

**Keywords:** students, educational study, attitude towards education



# ADULT DAUGHTERS OF ALCOHOL ADDICTS AND THEIR INTIMATE COUPLE RELATIONSHIPS

Sara Jerebic, PhD, Assistant Professor  
Faculty of Theology, University of Ljubljana

## ABSTRACT

*Excessive alcohol consumption is a risk factor for mental health and leads to addiction. It affects not only the addicted individual, but the whole family, whose most vulnerable members are children. Their emotional needs are ignored, and destructive patterns are imprinted on the developing brain. This brain cannot yet fully comprehend what is going on in the family, and at the same time it does not know relationships based on honesty and trust. As these children grow older, they develop defense mechanisms that help them survive the effects of alcohol chaos, but become a source of problems in their intimate couple relationships in adulthood. Based on research, we will present the characteristic functioning of women who grew up with addicted parents and the dynamics of their intimate couple relationships with an emphasis on codependency. Research and clinical practice have shown that these women have difficulty maintaining connection to themselves and inadequately regulate anxiety by being preoccupied with their intimate partner's behavior. With this paper, we want to contribute to helping and empowering women who grew up in a family with alcohol addiction, to their abandoning the role of victim and accepting responsibility for their own lives. The results of the clinical practice of couple therapy can be helpful to therapists and counselors in establishing an empathetic and emotionally engaged relationship.*

**Keywords:** alcohol addiction, women, intimate couple relationships, co-addiction, relational marital therapy

# RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE WORKPLACE AND MENTAL HEALTH

**Vanja Kopilaš**, PhD Candidate  
University of Zagreb

**Srećko Gajović**, PhD, Professor  
University of Zagreb

## ABSTRACT

*COVID-19 pandemic has just speed up the already started process of digital transformation in the workplace. Digital transformation can be described as a use of digital technologies to improve the existing value, efficiency and functioning of certain company or organization. Current lockdown situations followed by a wide range of epidemiological measures and fear of getting infected have motivated employers to speed-up with implementation of the digitalization process. Whereas beneficial outcomes are visible and obvious right from the get-go, harmful effects of this transformation remain relatively unknown. In the workplace, digital transformation impacts both individual and collective mindset. Therefore, it is crucial to address the psychological background of this transformation to gather the valuable insight on what is happening throughout this process.*

*Based on the psychological approach to the digital society we will try to highlight positive effects appearing because of the digital transformation in the workplace. Moreover, we would discuss on potential negative effects that this shift may have on well-being and mental health of the involved professionals. Our aim is to suggest a methodological and theoretical rationale to indicate the preferable ratio where both employers and employees can get full benefits from the digital era we are living in.*

**Keywords:** Digital transformation; Mental health; Workplace; COVID-19

# EFFECTIVE TREATMENT OF DIGITAL ADDICTION

**Uroš Perko, PhD**  
Pelican Caritas Institute

## **ABSTRACT**

*Smart electronic devices have thoroughly invaded our households. Beside numerous benefits there are also various negative impacts from technology overuse. Number of digital addicts is rising on a yearly basis, mainly young people. We have reviewed treatment programs in Slovenia, for different addictions in professional and scientific literature. We have analyzed demands, methods and goals of individual program and then assume their prosperity for digital addiction treatment. Treatment programs differ in various factors. Some programs demand abstinence and are more challenging, while others are mostly focused on reducing harm. Programs can be short or long term, open or closed type. Chemical addictions can be carried out in either inpatient or outpatient treatments, while non-chemical such as digital addictions can only be implemented as outpatient therapy. It is reasonable to have different treatment programs considering various kinds of addicts and addictions. It appears that those treatment programs that apply longer periods of abstinence, where life skills are taught and family members take part and provide after care, are more successful. Short-term and harm-reducing oriented programs cannot offer aforementioned. If complete and long-term abstinence with total change of lifestyle is the principal goal, then only demanding long-term programs can be really effective. Since digital addictions are classified as demanding and complex ones, where an ulterior problem is represented by the near impossibility of control of abstinence, closed-commune treatment program seems especially effective.*

**Keywords:** Digital addictions, Abstinence, Treatment programs, Communes

# PERSONAL WELLBEING OF PRIMARY SCHOOLCHILDREN AND THE STRIVE FOR HOLISTIC EDUCATION

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Elementary School Ormož

Borislava Munda, Teacher  
Elementary School Dr. Ljudevita Pivka, Ptuj

## ABSTRACT

*Previous research papers show that schoolchildren are dissatisfied with their personal life and education. In a time of change, of intensified technical and consumerism-based world many of the pupils do not see the point of school subjects' matter in everyday learning and do not seem to perceive pleasure in their lives. This paper is based on a pilot research carried out within a single primary school (OŠ Ormož) in the fall of 2021. The paper includes the methods of source analytics, a qualitative questionnaire and interviews. It was established that many of the participants of the pilot research fill this void with either materialistic goods or short-term pleasures, which in turn leave an even bigger emptiness. Modern life and education are focused primarily on the development of the body and the intellect. Emptiness (emotions, values, morals and wisdom) in our youth could possibly be mended by a changed education model, which would in turn provide a more holistic connectivity individual with himself and society and give a deeper understanding of the meaning of life.*

**Keywords:** Holistic Education, Well-being, Happiness, School, Meaning of Life

# THE CHALLENGES AND BENEFITS OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN EDUCATION TODAY

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## ABSTRACT

*The aim of this paper is to highlight the problems that educators face when using social media in their work. Even though most of them are familiar with the positive and negative impacts of media, they are not empowered to identify the elements that promote media addiction among young people and do not have tangible tools to protect them. Through an original scientific study, we aim to present, on the one hand, the harmful features of the media that neuroscientists have pointed out and which are reflected in physical and mental health, educational underachievement and more aggressive behaviour. On the other hand, the expert findings on the positive features of media in the educational process, in terms of facilitating cooperative and collaborative learning, awareness of and interaction with other cultures, increased media literacy, training in self-organisation, the integration of formal and informal learning, the development of multimedia communication skills, and so on. Finally, we would like to stress the contradictory nature of statements about the usefulness and harmfulness of the media, which adds to the confusion that commercially oriented media predators exploit in all pockets of society to promote the consumption of goods and services. They exploit our data trails to push advertising offers and elements that encourage greater addiction among the most vulnerable. We find that education professionals are aware of the different impacts of the media, but do not know the tools and ways to protect themselves and young people from media predators, while at the same time using all the positive features of the media in their work.*

**Keywords:** communication, media, education, influence

# THE EDUCATIONAL DIMENSION OF RELATIONSHIPS IN THE KINDERGARTEN SONČNI ŽAREK

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**Sebastjan Kristovič**, PhD, Associate Professor

Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

*Due to the growing complexity and the challenges of modern times, as a society we are experiencing an anthropological crisis, relating to the understanding of the human person and his transcendent dignity, which is reflected in fragmented and alienated interpersonal relationships. The crisis is also affecting the field of education, as many neuroscientific studies show how communication and interpersonal relationships affect the brain and the relationship to oneself and others. The Kindergarten Sončni žarek (Škofja Loka), established in 2003, has developed a tailored educational approach based on a holistic perspective of child development in response of social reality. The research undertaken focussed on determining the key aspects of mental and educational practice, the perceptions of the users (children, parents and educators) and how well they align to the core values of the kindergarten. The data was obtained using several qualitative and quantitative research methods, and the core questions were approached from different angles. A high degree of coherence in findings is evident across different approaches, especially in terms of the quality of relational processes, values and behaviors of educational staff. The active role is played by the active establishment of positive relationships and a constructive atmosphere of freedom and trust, which creates an educational community, the desire to continuously improve the educational program and create conditions for a holistic perspective of child development.*

**Keywords:** educational approach, holistic education, relationships, educational community, Kindergarten Sončni žarek

# ADDICTION TO SMARTPHONES AND MODERN WAYS OF MEETING PARTNERS

Tanja Repič Slavič, PhD, Professor  
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## ABSTRACT

*Modern methods of communication are often carried out via mobile phones, which allows access to a wide variety of information and people, practically in an instant. The use of mobile phones affects not only the way of communication and lifestyle which is rapidly changing, but also the values of the individual as well as society. In this context, more and more young people, decide to look for and meet a partner through various mobile applications. In this paper, we will shed light on the characteristics of online communication in finding a partner, the concept of freedom, responsibility and attitude towards emotional and physical intimacy. We will present the most common sexual practices and the connection between anxiety and the decision to having a partner. Research show that young people have quick access to a wide variety of potential sexual partners online, as well as a freer view of participation in and testing of various sexual practices. They get to know another much faster and casually, and they end the relationship in the same manner, which is followed by feelings of guilt and disappointment. Accepting responsibility and lasting relationship, on the other hand, evokes feelings of anxiety and fear.*

**Keywords:** *online communication, mobile phones, responsibility, partnership, intimacy, anxiety*

# MENTAL HEALTH AND MEANINGFUL LIFE OF SLOVENIAN PROFESSIONALS IN EDUCATION

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Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Polonca Pangrčič**, PhD, Research Assistant  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Sebastjan Kristovič**, PhD, Associate Professor  
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## ABSTRACT

*In 2013, 194 countries adopted the Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2030, which makes an important contribution to raising awareness of global mental health issues and introducing new measures. Meaningful life is one of the key factors in maintaining positive mental health. Mental health problems are often caused by a lifestyle that is most influenced by (inappropriate) personal decisions of individuals. Despite current international and national measures, the number of people with mental health problems is rising every year. We conducted a quantitative survey among Slovenian professionals in education. 286 respondents were included in the research. We used a standardised measuring instrument, The Purpose in Life Test, which is used to measure the meaningfulness of life. Psychometric indicators showed that almost 30 percent of respondents have problems with meaningful living. The consequences are manifested in their daily activities and often lead to mental disorders such as stress disorders, anxiety and depression. The research was carried out as part of A Holistic Educational Process and Mental Health Promotion (L5-1844), a project financed by the Public Agency for Research of the Republic of Slovenia (ARRS), the International Institute of Psychotherapy and Applied Psychology, and Alma Mater Europaea - ECM.*

**Keywords:** mental health, meaning of life, logotherapy, upbringing, education



# YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE EMBRACE OF DEPRESSION BEFORE THE SARS-COV-2 PANDEMIC

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## ABSTRACT

*Nationally, depression is common and is a major public health problem. Studies estimate that the number of depression symptoms increases by 5% each year. Depression accounts for 12% of all illnesses and is a major factor in mental and neurological illnesses worldwide. Young adult mental health was already a global problem before the pandemic, but after 2020, the increase in psychiatric diagnoses and substance abuse is directly related to the coronavirus. In our research, we are specifically interested in the general psychiatric health of adults aged 18-45 years in the pre-SARS CoV-2 period. We focus on data from the master's thesis by Nemec idr. (2019), which includes 260 individuals aged 18 to 45 years. The purpose and aim of the research is novel and specific. The data will be processed considering new research questions and a new Hypothesis using the software application IBM SPSS. The research methodology is based on quantitative methodology and the philosophy of positivism. A validated Slovenian version of the Patient Health Questionnaire is used for the research. Data were collected in 2018 through an online survey.*

**Keywords:** depression, mental illness, coronavirus, infections, young adults

# THE IMPACT OF THE USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY ON PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

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Center Janeza Levca

## ABSTRACT

*The aim of the research was to determine the effects of the use of modern digital technology on physical activity of students attending a third triad of the special educational program. The sample represents 32 students who participated in the research; 10 girls and 22 boys. The survey questions related to physical activity before the outbreak of the coronavirus epidemic and to the period during the pandemic. Along with the students activity habits, we were also interested on their feedback on the impact using digital technology on their everyday activities. The data were obtained through an online survey, which was active in September 2020. The obtained data were processed using the computer program Microsoft Exel. While learning from home using online medias, students were less physical active, and were in poorer physical condition compared to the period before the outbreak of the pandemic. Most students during the learning from home chose walking or cycling as a form of physical activity. The frequency of physical activity was reduced to 1 or 2 activities per week, and the duration of activities was reduced to 1 hour. Respondents admit a reduced interest in performing physical activity in the mentioned period. The most common reasons for the decline in interest in performing physical activity are low self-discipline and overwork due to other school obligations. Most of the students missed the most the encouragement of physical education teacher, classmates and the group dynamics during their physical activities. Students assess their progress in the use of computer knowledge as minimal. Most of students also missed the appropriate guidance of their teacher during the implementation of exercises, working out in pairs or small groups. Participants in the research with a high efficiency agree in a better quality of sports lessons while at school compared to online classes.*

**Keywords:** digital technology, physical activity, physical education, children with special needs.

# ABOVE AVERAGE RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY AS A HYPERACTIVATIONAL STRATEGY OF ANXIOUSLY ATTACHED ADULTS

**Drago Jerebic**, PhD, Assistant Professor  
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## **ABSTRACT**

*Individuals who have become addicted to alcohol very often have an anxious form of attachment. For individuals with this form of attachment it is characteristic that they react by hyper-activating the attachment system. This is a strategy with which they wish to achieve inner peace. As they do not get a calming response from their close ones, they turn to alcohol and so alcohol becomes their pacifying strategy. The case study will present an individual who stopped indulging in alcohol, but did not altogether stop indulging in a form of self-pacification in which they do not do something for the activity itself but above all for the purpose of self-regulation. The person exchanged alcohol for above-average religious activity. It served as a hyper-activational strategy, which provided them with an external source of temporary felt security. In order to feel calm in their relationship with God, they had to engage very intensively in emotionally intense religious forms of prayer and devotion. In this article we will use relational family therapy and attachment theory to present inappropriate ways of regulating feelings such as alcohol addiction, and the difference between healthy religiosity and forms of religiosity in which the relationship with God is not the end, but the means or substitute for regulating anxiety and avoiding unpacified feelings.*

**Keywords:** anxious attachment, religion, alcoholism, relational family therapy, attachment theory

# INFLUENCES OF SYSTEMS ON BEHAVIOURAL PROBLEMS

Anja Žavbi

Osnovna šola Toma Brejca

## ABSTRACT

*In modern society, we perceive an increase in behavioral problems in children and adolescents. Behavior is a reflection of each individual, his actions at a specific moment. Disturbing behavior certainly depends on a number of factors, including the social environment and the personalities of everyone involved in a particular situation. When observing outstanding behaviors, the question of the cause of these often arises. From the point of view of each individual's involvement in various social systems, their interaction and the consequences they cause in behavior and emotions are questionable. The present paper tries to present various social systems or groups, the consequences of their operation and, through case studies, to support theoretical thinking with practice. Of all the changes we are witnessing in modern times, the unique phenomenon is the way human action takes place, where personal contact is maintained through the virtual world. Technological development offers the possibility of cooperation, connection, but it also has an impact on negative influences, where foreign ideas, thoughts and ways of working are completely uncritically accepted through various social networks.*

**Keywords:** Behavioral problems, society, emotions, technology, digitization.

# TEACHERS' VIEWS ON USE OF DIGITAL MEDIA IN DISTANCE LEARNING

Janez Čmer, Physical Education Teacher  
Center Janeza Levca

## ABSTRACT

*Among many measures taken over the past two years during the pandemic to limit the spread of coronavirus infections, the educational institutions were no exception to a closure and classes were forced to be taken on line. This cannot be completely equated with traditional distance education learning, so in the research we were interested in the views of teachers towards the use of digital media in the implementation of distance learning during the declared pandemic. We used the causal non-experimental method of empirical pedagogical research. The data were collected with the help of an electronic questionnaire, in which 22 special and rehabilitation pedagogues from the Central Slovenian region participated. The obtained data were statistically processed with the computer program SPSS. We've found a negative views and opinions in all age groups of teachers towards the use of digital media in distance learning.*

**Keywords:** distance learning, education, digital media, teachers' views, coronavirus pandemic

# HUMANITY ON SCREEN

Tjaša Ravnikar, Mediator  
District Court of Ljubljana

## ABSTRACT

*Man is at a turning point. At a point of immense and all-encompassing transformation in relationships, in the way we work, parent, or live. Everything that is the essence of man (or so we thought) and that defines man as such in our world today is changing. Technological progress and digital transformation are certainly areas that are triggering these changes, but they are not the only ones that „threaten“ the essential elements of man. We should all think about technology from a healthy distance. Continuous progress. Where does it end? And why do people get so contradictorily excited about it? Humans need to socialise. In the face of the dogmas we are currently living, we realise that man is made for socialising. Man is made for contact, for physical touch, which, after all, still creates new human life. Man isn't just a physical body. It's above all the energy that drives and regulates it. What strengthens it and what generates it? Other human beings or things? The question is: does technology create man or does man create technology? As human relations grow, we face the danger of dehumanisation. What does this mean for human mental health and what are the consequences? Scientific knowledge is providing us with new truths and knowledge, yet we're sliding into a society of chronically emotionally malnourished individuals. Perhaps this is due to the fact that man creates relationships with technology and neglects human relationships. The current world situation offers absolute support, acceleration and amplification to this relational machination. That's why it's important to feel the human essence again. Let us create new, healthy generations of human beings, returned to their essence and nature. All this is a matter of choice and of how to introduce these fundamental and essential contents for humanity into educational systems.*

**Keywords:** human, technology, energy, relationships, neuroscience

# PSYCHOSOCIAL PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT AND PROTECT CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR SAFETY IN THE DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

Nataša Demšar Pečak, PhD

Ministry of Labor, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

## ABSTRACT

*The article highlights the importance of intervention psychosocial programs in support and protection of children and their families for safety in the digital environment, funded by the Ministry of Labor, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ). The purpose of these programs is to raise awareness and inform family members about the importance of good and healthy family relationships, to abandon various socially undesirable, unacceptable, and harmful patterns of interpersonal family interactions to reduce emotional distress, mental health disorders, change inappropriate behavior patterns, etc.*

*Because children are a very vulnerable group of the population and often lack the experience and knowledge to be able to assess the risks and consequences that entering the private sphere of life can bring within the online environment, they are particularly exposed to the pitfalls of the digital environment. To ensure their best protection and safety in the digital environment, it is necessary to raise awareness and educate both children and their parents on how to stay safe while using digital media. With this article, we want to emphasize the importance of free intervention programs in empowering users to seek professional help and support. The paper presents a program to support addicts with digital technology Logout & Restart.*

**Keywords:** chair

# AVOIDANT PERSONALITY DISORDER IN THE LIGHT OF ATTACHMENT AND PSYCHOTHERAPY

Mojca Hojnik, Therapist  
Don Bosko Maribor

## ABSTRACT

*Attachment theory emphasizes that the quality of attachment depends on the relationship between the child and caregiver. When parents are a source of security, support and consistently respond to a child's needs, encourage secure attachment. Children perceive themselves as loved and worthy persons and others as responsible persons. When the child doesn't have a safe environment, and parents are a source of fear, discomfort or danger, the child develops insecure attachments, perceives himself as unworthy, inappropriate, and perceives others as rejective or abusive. During adolescence, such perceptions only strengthen. An insecure attachment could reinforce various psychic constructs of self-worth, panics, fears which may manifest later in adulthood as avoidant personality disorder. Main characteristics are persistent patterns of social inhibition, intense sense of insecurity, inadequacy, anxiety, and an excessive sensitivity to negative criticism. In this paper we will present an example from clinical psychotherapeutic practice according to relational family therapy model, presenting an example and analysis of the therapeutic process with a client from a dysfunctional family with established insecure attachment and avoidant personality disorder. The emphasis is on the regulation of affects and the establishment of a safe therapeutic relationship, which is an analogy of safe attachment in a relationship.*

**Keywords:** attachment theory, insecure attachment, personality disorders, avoidant personality disorder, relational family therapy



# CHALLENGES AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOLISTIC EDUCATIONAL APPROACH IN SLOVENIA

**Polonca Pangrčič**, PhD, Research Assistant  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Jasmina Kristovič**, Research Assistant, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Sebastjan Kristovič**, PhD, Associate Professor  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

*In the international arena of formulating and designing educational policies, UNESCO and the European Commission are increasingly emphasizing the importance of a holistic approach in education. It is about awareness and consideration that the child is not just a cognitive being, but an indivisible whole of the physical, mental and spiritual dimensions. It means that the entire educational system should work towards taking all these dimensions into account. For such an implementation, we need qualified professionals who understand and act on the principles of a holistic approach. As part of the Holistic Educational Process and Mental Health Promotion project (L5-1844), funded by the Public Agency for Research (ARRS) and the International Institute of Psychotherapy and Applied Psychology in collaboration with Alma Mater Europaea - ECM, the research group conducted a survey among educational professionals, the purpose of which was to determine the current state of knowledge and understanding of the holistic approach. We used a descriptive and causal non-experimental method of pedagogical research and systematically analysed the answers of educators on a representative sample (N = 525). The results are extremely worrying. The key findings are that education professionals rate their knowledge of this approach as good or very good, but the analysis showed just the opposite. This means that they operate in the utterly erroneous belief that their approach is holistically and humanistically oriented, but in reality it is still transmissive, transformational, or cognitive-constructivist. The solution lies in the appropriate education and training of professionals in education, for teaching and acting according to the principles of a holistic approach.*

**Keywords:** holistic approach, logopedagogy, education professionals, UNESCO, logotherapy/existential analysis

# ANIMAL-ASSISTED INTERVENTIONS ON CHILDREN WITH BEHAVIOUR AND EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS

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School of Advanced Social Studies Nova Gorica

Sebastjan Kristovič, PhD, Associate Professor

Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

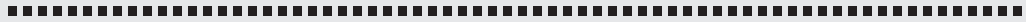
*More and more children are facing behavioral and emotional problems, that are getting worse with the current Covid situation. One of more efficient and fun ways, on how to help children though their struggles and to teach them how to control their emotions are activities and therapy with animals. In 1960s, child psychotherapist Boris Levinson suggested using animals as co-therapists, as they are supposed to help 'break the ice' with individuals, who are a bit more guarded. Today, all kinds of pets are used for therapy purposes, not only dogs and horses, but also goats, cows, pigs, lamas, alpacas, chickens, rabbits, cats and even rats. Each of which have specific qualities, that we can use for therapy. But common to all is the trigger for wanting touch and curiosity. Which is important for learning new knowledge. Children are very aware, that animals do not judge them, that leads them to be more relaxed. Petting animals also triggers releasing oxytocin, which lowers stress levels and fear, works and an antidepressant, speeds up the need for socialization and connection to others. Children experience the feeling of being adored and needed, strengthen self-control, confidence and take control of themselves and their surroundings. We will present various methods and examples on animal - assisted therapies on children with behavioral and emotional problems.*

**Keywords:** animal assisted therapy, psychotherapy, behavior and emotional problems, children, pets





# **HEALTH SCIENCES**





## EXPERT PANELS

# WHY STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SHKODRA "LUIGJ GURAKUQI" CHOOSE THE BACHELOR STUDY PROGRAM IN NURSING?

**Julian Kraja**, Lecturer  
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### ABSTRACT

*The bachelor study program in Nursing is one of the most requested programs. The purpose of this study was to identify the reasons why students attending the nursing study program decide to choose this study program for their future. The transverse method, or cross-sectional method as it is otherwise known, was used, following a quantitative approach. The following components were evaluated during the study: students' perceptions about the nursing profession and the reasoning of these students had chosen this study program for their future. The persons who participated in this study were students of the bachelor study program in nursing and students in the professional master who had completed their studies in the bachelor study program in nursing. Data collection was done using a questionnaire, which focuses on two main aspects: students' perception about the nursing profession and the reasons why students chose this study program to decide their future. Students choose the bachelor study program in nursing mainly in order to be able to easily secure a job, for a career, to help people with health problems and to secure an employment in the countries of the European Union.*

**Keywords:** nursing student, bachelor's in nursing, nursing profession.

# TELEPSYCHIATRY – SOME PROFESSIONAL AND ETHICAL CHALLENGES IN THE NEW APPROACH TO TREATMENT

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** The usage of telepsychiatry, especially video conferencing, has expanded suddenly in the emergency situation of the covid-19 pandemic. Despite its efficiency and accessibility, clinicians have raised concerns about privacy, safety, and technology limitations in the therapeutic process. In the last years the number of research publications in the field of telepsychiatry multiplied.

**Methods:** We will systematically review empirical publications in the field of telepsychiatry, considering medical databases, e. g. PubMed, as well as guidelines and available ethical recommendations.

**Results:** Clinicians are well aware of the many implications of telepsychiatry, however this approach is far from suitable for all patients and clinical circumstances. Other than the limitations caused by specific psychopathology, therapists emphasize their own lack of competencies, they raise issues of safety, confidentiality and doubt about the quality of care.

**Discussion:** Available technical solutions enable non-physical contact with patients which undoubtedly has some advantages, especially in times of crisis such as the pandemic. In the future we will likely use a hybrid approach in mental health care and treatment. It takes time to evaluate practices and form solid professional and ethical guidelines, it is an ongoing process. The unsolved dilemmas of telepsychiatry need to be addressed urgently.

**Keywords:** telepsychiatry, covid-19, guidelines, ethical recommendations, quality of care

# RESPECT FOR PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION IN THE ONCOLOGY DEPARTMENT BY NURSES

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## **ABSTRACT**

**Theoretical background:** Communication and its process between the oncology patient and the nurse must be maintained at a professional and respectful level. By choosing the right method of communication, she helps the patient in emotional distress with the expression of empathy and support in coping with the disease, and she does not get into emotional events.

**Methodology:** For the theoretical part we used the descriptive method of data collection and for the research part the survey technique. Anonymous and comparable questionnaires were personally distributed among nurses employed in various oncology departments at the University Medical Center Maribor and among patients hospitalized in the oncology department.

**Results:** The obtained results show a high share of respect for communication and autonomy both by hospitalized oncology patients in relation to nurses and by nurses in relation to hospitalized oncology patients.

**Discussion:** The data obtained are satisfactory. An optimal view of mutual communication and strengthening it gives people hope for successful treatment, and effective communication can bring benefits to both the patient and the nurse through the emotional burden of those involved in the treatment process.

**Keywords:** communication, oncology patient, nurse, autonomy, respect



# EXPOSURE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS TO VIOLENCE IN EMERGENCY ACTIVITIES

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## ABSTRACT

**Theoretical background:** Workplace violence is a serious problem, especially among health professionals. Workplace violence is any verbal or physical violence against a person or persons at work or in the workplace. Emergency health workers are particularly vulnerable to violence, as people in serious situations come to them for help. The source of violence is not only patients, a large share is also contributed by relatives. Given the current situation in the country, the incidence of violence is higher than in previous years, which can be attributed to the difficult epidemiological situation.

**Methods:** the research uses a systematic review of the literature in the field of violence against health care workers in the emergency department and a comparison of data from the literature with actual statistical data from the Slovenian clinical environment in the period from 2016 to the present.

**Results:** The results of the literature review show a high exposure to violence by health professionals in the emergency department. Triage nurses are, given their nature of work, all the more exposed to violence than other emergency care workers. The results of research abroad show a similar trend of growth of violence in emergency activities as in our area.

**Keywords:** Key words: nurse, emergency, violence, patient covid

# THE ROLE OF SUGAR IN RELATION TO ORAL HEALTH

Vlasta Šuštaršič  
V&V DENT d.o.o.

## ABSTRACT

*Oral, ie oral health, is part of the general health of the population. Oral health covers several areas and allows us to talk, laugh, taste, chew, swallow...*

*To be able to talk about oral health, we must first have our teeth tidy, and it is very important that we know how to take proper care of them. Physicians put considerable effort into making a timely and correct diagnosis and providing patients with appropriate treatment. Dental disease prevention usually works in primary and some also in secondary schools, and the adult population is mostly left to fend for themselves.*

*In the following, I will present proper oral care in connection with diet and sugar intake.*

**Keywords:** oral health, sugar, prevention, oral hygiene

# ACTIVE AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLE AMONG ACTIVE OLDER ADULTS AND SELECTED SARCOPENIC CHARACTERISTICS

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## ABSTRACT

*Sarcopenia is defined as the age-related loss of muscle strength and mass that occur in parallel to the decline in physical performance. The causes of sarcopenia can be divided into biological and behavioural. Nutrition, diet and eating habits of an individual constitute a behavioural cause that might importantly contribute to sarcopenia. The study aimed to determine if the nutrition status of active older adults is related to sarcopenic characteristics. We included 52 older adults, aged  $75.9 \pm 5.3$ . Sarcopenic characteristics were evaluated with the following three tests; handgrip test, skeletal muscle index and gait speed. Nutrition status was evaluated with the Mini nutritional assessment (MNA), while the Mediterranean lifestyle was evaluated with the questionnaire MEDLIFE. We used Pearson's coefficient to determine the correlation between sarcopenic characteristics and nutrition status or Mediterranean lifestyle. Simple linear regression was used to test if nutrition status or Mediterranean lifestyle significantly predicted selected sarcopenic characteristics. The results showed a moderate positive correlation between nutrition status and gait speed in males,  $r(20)=0.452$  ( $p=0.035$ ). The fitted regression model was  $Y=0,841 + 0.068*MNA$ . Also, there was a strong negative correlation between Mediterranean lifestyle and handgrip test in females,  $r(28)=-0.543$  ( $p=0.001$ ). The fitted regression model was  $Y=37.437 - 0.763*MEDLIFE$ .*

**Keywords:** older adults, sarcopenia, nutrition, ageing

# PATIENTS EXPERIENCE AFTER LOWER LIMB AMPUTATION

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Lower limb amputation is a condition of disability that causes changes in important areas of life, with a high post-operative mortality. Amputations are projected to double by 2050. Most patients become apathetic and altered after amputation.

**Research methodology:** We used a quantitative methodology. The survey was carried out in May and June 2021 using a modified questionnaire. The participants were 25 high school- level nurses and graduate nurses in the field of vascular surgery.

**Results:** Lower limb amputation is not age-related; the main cause remains vascular. Nurses are aware of the patient's daily concern about physical appearance and the resulting anxiety. Additionally, they do not observe them smiling, positive and cheerful, and do not conceptualise them as optimistic. Nurses pay more attention to the pre-operative process.

**Discussion and conclusion:** The aim should be to have a good partnership with the patient. With good knowledgeability, amputation can be presented as a valuable treatment option and post-operative anxiety can be reduced. We demonstrate that lower limb amputation represents a change in physical, psychological and social functioning, and therefore these components are a major concern in the post-operative period.

**Keywords:** lower limb amputation, rehabilitation, experience

# EPIDEMIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF PREMATURE INFANTS BORN AT GENERAL HOSPITAL PULA IN A FIVE-YEAR-PERIOD (2012-2016)

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## ABSTRACT

**Aim:** To summarize our five-year experience in management of premature infants at our second level neonatal facility.

**Patients and methods:** This prospective birth cohort study was performed at the Division of Neonatology (level 2), Department of Pediatrics, General hospital Pula during a five-year-period (January 1st 2012 – December 31st 2016). The study population included all live-born neonates born between 22nd and 37th gestational week.

**Results:** During the above mentioned five-year-period, 289 premature infants were born at General Hospital Pula. One-hundred and sixty seven (58%) neonates were delivered vaginally and 122 (42%) were delivered by caesarean section. Nineteen (7%) neonates were born after in vitro fertilization. Infants were mostly male (N=167; 58%), and appropriate for gestational age (N=240; 83%). Also, the infants belonged mostly to the late-preterm group (N=245; 85%). Thirty-three premature infants (11%) were transferred to a tertiary pediatric center and five neonates died (2%). The overall cost of hospital stay for hospitalized premature infants was 2,517,000 Croatian kunas; in euros, it was 335,600 respectively. The overall hospital stay was 10.01±8.30 days (median 8.00, range 1.00-67.00).

**Conclusion:** Despite the great development of neonatal intensive care, the best prevention of complications related to prematurity is to prevent preterm labor.

**Keywords:** epidemiology; morbidity; mortality; premature infant

# HOW DIGITAL HEALTH LITERACY CAN CHANGE THE PATIENTS COMPETENCIES

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## ABSTRACT

*Given the need for quality information on CoVID-19, the main place to go is the internet. However, finding, reading, understanding and integrating digitally published advice into one's life is still a challenge for many help seekers. As health literacy increases year by year, digital health literacy still faces many challenges around the world.*

*This conference paper provides an overview of the digital health literacy development and use in Germany and Austria between 2019 and 2021, the "CoVID-19 Crisis Years", grounding the catalytic power of Digital Health Services in Health Service Research. The resulting devastating effects of misleading and fake information led to a social crisis culminating in vaccination refusal, lockdown and mandatory vaccination in Austria.*

*The presentation tries to answer the question: "Which strategies and methods can help contain the "Fakedemic"?" by reviewing digital instruments like Health Literacy Guidelines, Fact-Checkers or Deep Learning Systems (Bin Naeem and Kamel Boulos, 2021; Dadaczynski et al., 2021; Patil et al., 2021; Röthlin et al., 2017; Griebler et al., 2021; Rowlands, 2021).*

**Keywords:** digital health literacy, covid-19, strategies

# NON-FORMAL EDUCATION FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS DURING THE COVID-19 EPIDEMIC

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** In this study, we investigated the attitudes of health workers towards non-formal education during the epidemic of covid-19. The purpose of the survey was to find out how health professionals perceive non-formal distance education, where they see advantages and disadvantages.

**Methods:** The research is based on a quantitative, descriptive, research method. Primary data were collected by means of a questionnaire. Secondary data were obtained by reviewing scientific, professional articles.

**Results:** During the epidemic of covid-19, 61.4 % of surveyed health workers with different levels of education had received non-formal education. Nurses with high education participated the most, followed by nurses and doctors. Most of the health workers surveyed considered non-formal education to be important, especially for the development of the health profession. The main advantage of non-formal distance education was the flexibility of time, while the main disadvantage was the difficulty to concentrate and communicate.

**Conclusion:** The results of the survey showed that health professionals are aware of the importance of non-formal education and upgrading their professional knowledge. The data obtained show us the advantages and disadvantages of non-formal distance education and the assessment of the support and awareness of non-formal distance education by supervisors and various professional associations.

**Keywords:** Covid-19, health professionals, non-formal education, distance education.

# THE EFFICIENCY OF TEAMWORK – TIMELY MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION OF CHANGES

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**Nataša Kreft**, Lecturer

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## **ABSTRACT**

*Teamwork in healthcare institutions is an important factor in ensuring the safety of patient treatment. Work in healthcare institutions is organized in teams, therefore a successful team is crucial. The purpose of this research is to find out the opinion of employees in nursing and midwifery care in one of the Slovenian hospitals. Do they work in a good and dynamic team, how do team leaders lead and coordinate teams, and how effective within the team is the communication of changes. The aim of the research is to define the factors that play an important role in the dynamics and management of patient care and midwifery teams within the hospital. A descriptive research method will be used in this article. The literature will be collected through the international databases. The empirical research method will be based on the quantitative method. A survey questionnaire designed according to the hypotheses will be used as an instrument of research. We will enter the collected data into the EXCEL application, and refute or confirm the set hypotheses. The results of this research, based on the opinion of our employees, will help us to find suitable proposals and possible solutions for improved staff retention.*

**Keywords:** *teamwork, dynamism, team leadership, efficiency, communicating change.*



# COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING AND HOME CARE, AND THE GOALS OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY; A CHALLENGE FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AN ETHICAL POINT OF VIEW

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## ABSTRACT

*Digital transformation is a challenge of modern times. Community health nursing and home care, with the help of its tasks, performs a very demanding field of nursing. It is also assisted by the goals of the World Health Organization for the 21st century.*

*In this paper, we would like to present the connection between digital transformation, ethics and goals for better implementation of Community health nursing and home care.*

*Through the presentation of 21 goals of the World Health Organization, 10 principles of the Code of Ethics in Nursing and Care of Slovenia and the inclusion of digital technologies in the implementation of Community health nursing and home care, we want to show the correlation between them.*

*The patient and his family, as well as the local community, which represent the subjects of treatment within community health nursing and home care, should remain, despite all modern challenges, an area of treatment and care provided in the patient's home in the presence of a community health nurse and with a direct implementation of health care.*

**Keywords:** *community health nursing and home care, community health nurse, WHO goals, digital transformation, ethical aspect*

# EATING HABITS OF NURSING STUDENTS ALMA MATER EUROPAEA - ECM

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**Šefik Salkunić**, Lecturer

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## ABSTRACT

**Theoretical background:** *Eating habits are a significant part in a person's life-style affected by many complex and intertwined facts. They begin to shape in the family and keep as such mainly through the whole life.*

**Research methodology:** *In this thesis, we used the descriptive method for collecting data and the quantitative research methodology. As a research instrument, we developed a structured questionnaire to research the eating habits of health care students. In July 2021, was carried out a not unexpectedly sampling, the obtained data were processed in Microsoft Excel.*

**Results:** *The results of the survey showed that the students of health care at Alma Mater Europaea eat healthy and well-balanced food. Furthermore, the nutrition of female students is healthier than from the male students.*

**Discussion:** *The main obstacle for an unhealthy nutrition among these students is the lack of time due the nature of the study. Therefore, students need to be motivated and encouraged for healthy and balanced eating habits which should remain an every-day routine. Furthermore, healthy eating habits and a healthy life style need to be promoted among the students. In the future, the survey should include more students even from other universities in Slovenia.*

**Keywords:** *Students, nutrition, eating habits, healthy food, balanced food*

# DEVELOPMENT OF CENTER FOR EARLY INTERVENTION IN ROVINJ

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## ABSTRACT

*Back in 2019, an enthusiastic team of various experts from Rijeka and Istria started developing the idea of establishing an Early Intervention Team for children with neurological risks and developmental difficulties at the Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Hospital in Rovinj. Despite numerous challenges the team is boldly moving forward. At the time when many things seemed impossible (the beginning of the pandemic), united in the mission to succeed, the extraordinary leadership of the Hospital provided funds from the Istrian County and numerous donators. The Team, consisting of pediatrician, speech therapist, psychologist, educational rehabilitator and occupational therapist started to work in August 2020. The Hospital already had specialists in physical and rehabilitation medicine and with the functional connection of Rovinj's Hospital with Children's Hospital Srebrnjak in Zagreb, the clinical support of neuropediatricians was also provided. The last phase of development, planned for 2022, refers to the opening of a children's rehabilitation department that not only contributes to better quality of services but also sustainability and the possibility of long-term monitoring and provision of therapeutic services to patients in their local community.*

**Keywords:** Developmental disability, early intervention, neurological risk

# PALLIATIVE CARE IN HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY - AN ASSESSMENT OF THE VIEWS OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

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Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Edvard Jakšič**, Senior Lecturer

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## **ABSTRACT**

*More complex health care and nursing care are the result of possible prolonged deaths in nursing homes. This also demands more complex knowledge. Ethical dilemmas faced by health professionals, however, are a response to the wishes and pressures of patients families. On the one hand, there are families with their wishes and expectations and, on the other hand, medical staff who, due to their daily contact with the patient, knows their wishes and expectations. Staffing standards in nursing homes are outdated, not adapted to modern guidelines or do not meet the real needs of working in homes.*

**Keywords:** *Social welfare institution, Users of social welfare services, Health care, Palliative health care.*

# PROBLEMS THAT BURDENED THE NURSING WORKERS OF NORTHEASTERN SLOVENIA DURING THE COVID-19 EPIDEMICS

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**Sašo Ozvatič**, Student

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## **ABSTRACT**

*We have prepared an article in which we present the situation in which medical staff around the world found themselves due to a coronavirus outbreak. That is why we highlight the most common problems that nursing workers face and which reflects their not only professional life, but also personal or family. We compare the research conducted among nurses in northeastern Slovenia with last year's research and highlight the issue that is constantly escalating during coronavirus epidemics and limits the integrity of the mission of health professionals and tarnishes and deprives quality and holistic treatment of every patient.*

*Keywords: situation of nursing workers, Covid-19 epidemics*

# DIGITIZATION IN MIDWIFERY

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** *The purpose of the article was to explore the field of digitization in midwifery and to introduce those mobile applications and computer programs that have been designed, recommended, introduced and used in modern midwifery.*

**Methods:** *We used a descriptive method of collecting, critical judgment, and analysis of foreign professional literature. After a systematic review of the literature, seven substantially relevant sources were compared according to the PRISMA methodology. We presented five digitized projects that are recommended for use in the clinical setting for the needs of modern midwifery and perinatology.*

**Results:** *Compared to standard methods, mobile apps on the smartphone are always on hand and, as such, better encourage women to lead a healthy lifestyle, self-care and empowerment. We need to be careful when deciding to digitally monitor pregnancy and childbirth, as the benefits of digitization are not fully understood when compared to the large financial contribution required.*

**Discussion and conclusion:** *In order to meet the needs of users, applications for pregnant women should be safe and credible and should be developed and operated by qualified healthcare professionals. The development and exploration of mobile applications and computer programs in the field of perinatology enable changes in treatment and workflow in the clinical setting and will be challenging for both midwives and physicians in the future.*

**Keywords:** *digital health, information and communication technology, digital midwifery, digital obstetrics, mobile applications for pregnant women*

# THE ROLE OF OPERATING ROOM NURSE AT ASSURING ASEPSIS AND THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SURGICAL ROOMS

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## ABSTRACT

*The operating room is a place where a clean environment is required, which means that with appropriate sanitary practice and with aseptic behavior, we reduce the possibility of surgical infections. Strict adherence to the rules of aseptic behavior is necessary like hand hygiene, sterile preparation of surgical instruments, and sterility of a surgical field. The operating room nurse is responsible for performing these procedures; however, every individual who enters the operating environment should be aware of the importance of asepsis and infection prevention. The aim of our research was to present and describe the role of the operating room nurse in providing asepsis and aseptic technique. Data were obtained through a questionnaire and interviews of operating nurses in the field of orthopedics' and abdominal surgery from the University Medical Center Maribor, Slovenia. The obtained results showed that operating room nurses know the importance of asepsis and perform high-level aseptic techniques. We can conclude that in the orthopedic operating room the stricter aseptic conditions are applied to ensure asepsis and the additional protective equipment. The conclusion is that the work of operating room nurses is carried out at high level and professionally, but we strive for further education and professional growth.*

**Keywords:** Asepsis, Operating Room Nurse, Surgical Site Infection, Sterile Techniques

# DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED BY NURSES IN ELDERCARE INSTITUTIONS: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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**Andreas Muller, PhD Candidate**  
Department of History Martin-Luther-Universität Halle/Wittenberg

**Susanne Perkhofer, PhD, Prof.**  
University of Applied Sciences Tyrol

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** *There is little known about difficulties nurses experience while caring for Albanian older people. The purpose of this study was to investigate the challenges faced by nurses and to explore the current situation in Albanian eldercare institutions.*

**Method:** *An explorative qualitative study was conducted using semi-structured interviews with 15 nurses, and participant observation in 7 eldercare institutions. The transcribed interviews and field notes were analyzed using qualitative content analysis.*

**Results:** *Three main categories emerged: (1) Professional difficulties, (2) Institutional and management issues, and (3) Eldercare institutional infrastructure.*

**Discussion:** *Our findings provided insights into the difficulties nurses face while giving eldercare, such as everyday caring and institutional management challenges. These findings suggest that more training is needed for nurses and a new infrastructure for eldercare for Albania.*

**Keywords:** *eldercare; nursing care; qualitative study; nurse; Albania*



## STUDENT PANEL

# THE ROLE OF A NURSE IN HEALTH EDUCATION OF HEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS

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**Nataša Vidnar**, Senior Lecturer  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

### ABSTRACT

**Theoretical background:** *Kidney system is one of the most important system in human body. Acute and chronic kidney disease impact on patients quality of living. Hemodialysis is one of the options of treatment in kidney failure.*

**Methodology:** *We used descriptive and quantity method of researching in diploma work survey. Survey was performed in Clinical center Maribor, department of dialysis and included 30 registered nurses, working on dialysis ward of university clinical center Maribor.*

**Results:** *Survey showed that 90 % of employees are female, 10 % male, 33 % age range is between 46–55 years old, 33 % of employees have 10–20 years of working experience in dialysis ward. 93 % nurses said that most of knowledge is given by elder colleagues. 70 % nurses said that practical knowledge is more important than formal education. Education of hemodialysis patients is continuous 67 % nurses answered, first education about hemodialysis is given by medical doctor-nephrologist, furthermore, is given by registered nurse, 60 % of survey participants answered. 40 % of nurses estimate that patients before first hemodialysis do not understand procedure of hemodialysis, 33 % of nurses answered that patient partly understand procedure of hemodialysis. 57 % of nurses answered that education lasts 30 minutes, 57 % of nurses answered that time limit is too short.*

**Discussion:** *In addition to the doctor, role of registered nurse in treatment of hemodialysis patient is crucial. With nurses professionalism, empathy and specific knowledge, nurses contributes in quality care of hemodialysis patients*

**Keywords:** *hemodialysis, chronic renal failure, hemodialysis patient, hemodialysis patient education*

# COMPARISON OF SATISFACTION OF NURSING STAFF IN HOME CARE BETWEEN SLOVENIA AND AUSTRIA

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**Edvard Jaksic**, Senior Lecturer  
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## ABSTRACT

*Employee satisfaction is extremely important, as several factors depend on it. In the article, we compared the satisfaction of employees in home care in two selected countries - Austria and Slovenia, and studied and identified differences. We used a quantitative method of work. 101 people participated in the research, 46 of whom were employed in Slovenia and 55 in Austria. In a study conducted using Microsoft Excel and SPSS, we found similar results. The difference in satisfaction is visible in education and training opportunities and working conditions and wages. Here, satisfaction is higher among employees in Austria. We found that employees in Austria are not statistically more satisfied than employees in Slovenia. Statistically, employees in Austria are more inclined to perform work tasks that go beyond their competencies. The statement that the surveyed employees in Austria are statistically less burdened in their work and more often receive relief than employees in Slovenia is not true. Motivation at work and well-being at work are better among employees in Austria, but Austrians feel stress more often. The propensity for the profession is higher in Austria, as employees here would be more likely to choose the same profession again. In Austria, fewer employees are considering changing jobs and fewer would actually change jobs if the opportunity arose.*

*The need for health professionals is growing. In Slovenia, we will have to take care of good and better working conditions in home care, because otherwise the staff will go where the working conditions will be more appropriate. Such is the phenomenon of mass exodus of health workers to neighboring Austria.*

**Keywords:** nursing, satisfaction, employees, home care, Slovenia, Austria

# POPULATION AWARENESS OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

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**Edvard Jakšič**, Senior Lecturer

Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## **ABSTRACT**

*Cardiovascular diseases are one of the leading causes of death worldwide, and in Slovenia they are considered to be the most common causes of diseases such as heart attacks, strokes and death. Expert studies list the main risk factors for cardiovascular disease: smoking, excessive alcohol consumption, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, obesity, hypertension, high total cholesterol, high blood sugar and various psychosocial factors. As a result of a modern and unhealthy lifestyle. A key part of cardiovascular disease prevention is raising public awareness. For this purpose, we conducted a survey to determine how the population in Slovenia is aware of the disease itself and their consequences of cardiovascular disease.*

*We used a quantitative method of work in the research. One hundred respondents participated. We found that more than 40% of respondents know cardiovascular disease. Also, a large proportion of participants know the risk factors for cardiovascular disease. 67% of respondents rate their knowledge of cardiovascular disease as average. Among the participants, 70% are non-smokers, most are physically active, and 37% of the participants never consume alcoholic beverages. We believe that raising awareness of cardiovascular disease is essential and should be carried out more often, especially among young people.*

**Keywords:** cardiovascular diseases, population enlightenment, risk factors

# THE VIEW OF HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS IN POMURJE ON THE VACCINATION AGAINST COVID-19

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Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Vanesa Bogar**, Student  
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**Renata Gorjan**, Student  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Joca Zurc**, PhD, Prof.  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Theoretical background:** Coronavirus is a modern disease that has affected people around the world. About a year ago, a vaccine appeared and people started vaccinating it to further protect the population. The research focused on the opinion of health professionals about their view of vaccination and its effectiveness.

**Method:** The research work was carried out according to the descriptive qualitative method of work. Data were collected through a structured interview. The research in the empirical part was carried out on 6 employees of health workers in the health center Murska Sobota.

**Results:** The interviewees included one general practitioner, a graduate physiotherapist, a midwife and three graduate nurses. All interviewees were vaccinated with a vaccine from Pfizer BioNTech. In general, we found that healthcare professionals were of the opinion that the vaccines were effective and with few side effects, especially pain and redness at the injection site. However, they also state that the symptoms are usually milder in the vaccinated than in the unvaccinated. The main decisions for vaccination were to protect themselves from possible infection and to facilitate the course of the disease in the event of infection.

**Discussion:** We have found that the most current topic in the world at the moment is Covid - 19 and vaccination against Covid - 19. Among the interviewed health professionals, we can see that the opinions that vaccinated people have an easier course of the disease and also recover faster and have fewer consequences after infection, and we also found that the interviewees agree with vaccination against Covid - 19, because that the vaccine is sufficiently effective and that we have sufficient information about the vaccine and its side effects.

**Keywords:** coronavirus, healthcare professionals, vaccination, views, Covid - 19



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# **APPLIED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

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## SCHOLARLY PANELS

# NANOSCIENCE AS A PLATFORM FOR INNOVATION IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**Stefan Luby**, PhD, Senior Researcher  
Slovak Academy of Sciences

**Ivan Kostic**  
Slovak Academy of Sciences

### ABSTRACT

*The continuation of the digitalization will draw on the development of information technology. Here two complementary lines are bottom-up and top-down approaches. In additive bottom-up process we use 0-dimensional, 1-dimensional and 2-dimensional structures, such as nanoparticles, nanotubes, graphene, and the devices are nanosensors, photodetectors, special transistors, non-volatile memories, spin valves, etc. An overview is provided by the road map of the EU Graphene flagship project. In subtractive top-down technology, the key is nanolithographic patterning with nanometer-scale lateral dimensions. Electron beam lithography, which has demonstrated minimum features <10 nm wide, continues to be developed both for exposition mask making and for direct writing on the semiconductor wafer. Extreme ultraviolet lithography is currently the official front runner in mass production. The alternate nanolithography techniques, such as nanoimprint or dip-pen lithography, are discussed as well. The framework of the paper are projections on the timeline, which summarizes the milestones of nanoscience since 1950, and on the dimensional axis, which points to the boundary between the nano- and pico-regions at 1 nm.*

**Keywords:** Digitalization, nanoscience, lithography, devices, milestones



# DIGITAL DATA IN MEDICINE: SHOULD WE TRUST ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE?

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## ABSTRACT

*The European Commission has proposed legislation to enable regulation of artificial intelligence (AI). But many complex algorithmic systems that offer the greatest hope for dramatic advances in medicine often fail to meet the strict criteria of European Commission – e.g. they often do not operate transparently. As one of the criteria for assessing the ethical use of AI, I propose the criterion of successful performance, since perhaps systems that work consistently well could be trusted even if they do not meet the criterion of transparency. Here we encounter the problem of the relationship between trust and performance. Not only does our trust in AI depend on the successful operation of the systems, but the success of their operation depends on our trust, since their performance also relies on the use of data we provide for system's learning. Perhaps the only way out of this circular problem is to trust AI systems before they are completely trustworthy.*

**Keywords:** artificial intelligence, medicine, transparency, trust, successful performance

# ETHICS ROLE IN A CORPORATE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

**Laura Lasaite**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*Technology was never neutral – there is a growing public concern about the ethical status of the technology, such as the AI, data leakage, Metaverse, etc. On the other hand, the CEOs are aware that companies driven by profit only are not that attractive to the investors anymore and are focusing on the ethical public image and sustainable long-term value of the investment. The fundamental ethics principles have withstood the test of time. According to the ACCA survey on Ethics for Sustainable AI Adoption in 2021, 61% of almost 6,000 respondents worldwide agreed that leaders in their organisation prioritise ethics as highly as generating profits, also, that the majority of those using AI have implemented an ethical framework for it in their organisation (72%) and considered the regulatory requirements for doing so (87%). Is this sufficient for the ethical and sustainable digital future? Given that 85% of CEOs accelerated digital initiatives during the pandemic in 2020-2021 as per Deloitte, the author is launching a survey to understand if ethical framework is enough for company's digital transformation to be labelled as ethical and explores possibilities for the stakeholders to impose ethical behaviour on the corporate digital transformation.*

**Keywords:** *Ethics in digital transformation, tech ethics, ethics in AI*

# PROJECT SCIHOLO COIN, THE FUTURE OF CRYPTOCURRENCY FOR SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

Stefano Turini, PhD, Senior Lecturer  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

*What is the value of scientific information? How would this value be quantifiable? What are the factors that contribute to increasing and decreasing the value of scientific information? How to transform / convert scientific information into a quantifiable cryptocurrency on the stock exchange and on the global stock market? How to manage the cryptocurrency economic trend of scientific information? What role would the future professional figure of the Scientific Information Broker have? These questions will be answered within the work in question, in which the author outlines the foundations of a cryptocurrency and cryptomonization project of Scientific Information, based on the concept of Objective Interest. A scientific article, an abstract, a clinical trial protocol or even a simple keyword that is converted into cryptocurrency with its own value in the stock market. Supply, demand and cryptoeconomic trend of the scientific vocabulary.*

**Keywords:** *Scientific Information, Cryptocurrency, Broker, Scientific Information Broker*

# ADVANCED BIOINFORMATIC PLATFORMS FOR SCIENTIFIC LIBRARIES AND PRIVATIZATION OF SCIENCE

**Stefano Turini**, PhD, Senior Lecturer  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## **ABSTRACT**

*In the last two years we have witnessed an exponential increase in information technology technology, which has entered more and more into everyday life. Despite this increase in digitization, however, we still witness a phenomenon, especially affected, in the past and in the present, among students in the faculties, namely the lack of possibility of needing resources such as scientific articles and / or texts, online, if not through the payment of a fee. In response to this, platforms emerge that make it possible to overcome all this. The first of these platforms is Sci Hub, the brainchild of Alexandra Elbakyan, a young Kazakh scientist, who allows access to scientific literature through the use of the DOI code of each article. The second platform is Library Genesis, a boundless but extraordinary virtual world, bordering the Deep Web. What I want to give are some simple steps of how to make them usable from any terminal, also using the Tor browser, in place of Google (Windows and / or Mac OS) and / or Mozilla Firefox, which, through the anti-tracking and coverage application of the IP address, allows you to consult these platforms without requiring the use of VPN protections.*

**Keywords:** *Bioinformatics, Aleksandra Elbakyan, Sci Hub, Library Genesis, Deep Web, Tor browser*

# VIRTUAL EDUCATIONAL MOMENT OF THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

Maja Cergolj, PhD, Librarian  
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## ABSTRACT

*The information society is marked by the development of science, information technology and education. In coexistence with the printed word also other types of records appear. This records are mostly related to information technology (IT) tools that create the virtual environment and enable its use. Nowadays, the use of IT tools takes place in primary and secondary socialization and therefore the virtual environment is already placed alongside the living environment. Children, belonging to the generation of digital natives, want to imitate adults, significant others, and this desire forces them to use IT tools that open them different ways into the virtual environment.*

*During remote teaching communication with school library shifted from the school environment into the virtual environment. The pilot study, conducted after remote teaching, included digital natives from 3rd, 4th and 5th grade of one of the coastal primary schools. The results showed that their motivation to read is high. That's why it is necessary to work with them very early, especially on the targeted use of IT tools, related to books and reading. The results also showed that during remote teaching their knowledge of use of IT tools, connected to the school library, have not significantly improved.*

**Keywords:** school library, virtual educational moment, digital natives, virtual environment

# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DATA MINING IN FUNCTION OF COMPUTER INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY

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University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies, Belgrade

**Sanja Maravić Čisar**, PhD, Prof.

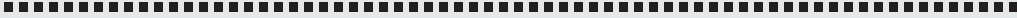
Subotica Tech-College of Applied Sciences, Subotica

## **ABSTRACT**

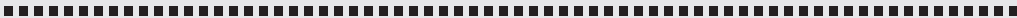
*This paper elaborates general characteristics of artificial intelligence (AI) approach to provide a sufficient level of cyber security of computer infrastructure. It emphasizes the advantages as well as the drawbacks and limitations of applying this scientific field in security domain. Also, the paper focuses on different categories of AI (for instance, expert systems, fuzzy logic, and artificial neural networks) and data mining and points out their specifics in intrusion detection. With these features in mind, it's safe to say that AI is a long way from becoming the universal cyber security answer. The best approach in the meantime would be the combination of proven anti-malware software with AI tools, so those who are responsible for critical infrastructure should keep this in mind when developing cyber security strategy.*

**Keywords:** artificial intelligence, computer infrastructure, cyber security, intrusion detection, data mining





# LAW







## SCHOLARLY PANELS

### THE NEWEST DILEMMAS IN LAW

# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE RIGHT ONE FOR A LESS STRESSFUL AGE

Marko Novak, PhD, Prof.  
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#### ABSTRACT

*Barton and Bibas, in Rebooting Justice (2017), considered, among other things, the benefits of AI in the field of law in terms of lowering legal services for vulnerable social groups. Less affluent could then use a smart app online, at a certain low amount, able to use the app, to replace the proverbial expensive lawyer for various legal advice. In our society, too, such an idea would be most topical, for example for the elderly adults, pensioners. For the sake of low incomes, they are a vulnerable group. They do have the possibility of legal aid in our country, but not all of them, and the way to this can be time-consuming and difficult for pensioners. Increasing their digital literacy would create a smart application/tool to advise them in using different areas of law. At least initially, it would make sense to develop such a tool in the area of the pool of social benefits (disability insurance such as care allowance and disability allowance; social care: care allowance and other types of social assistance). The next area of interest for this age group would be the field of hereditary law and in this connection of obligations law. The app would offer the possibility of distributing property at the end of life either through a hereditary or oblique way (death contracts). The aforementioned application, or even two separate applications that could also be aimed at other populations, falls within the scope of so-called AI advisory tools in the field of law, which are now also most prevalent when it comes to connecting the field of law and artificial intelligence.*

**Keywords:** artificial intelligence, law, age as a social risk, smart tool, social law, hereditary law.

# UNPRECEDENTED PERSPECTIVES OF COMPARATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: CONSTITUTIONAL COURT CASE LAW DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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**Kinga Kálmán**, Research Assistant

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**Evelin Burján**, Research Assistant

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## ABSTRACT

*Our research project aims to map out the constitutional implications of the Covid-19 pandemic with a global database from the related constitutional case law. Several scholars have pointed out several legal aspects of the public health emergency during the recent months. Significant contributions have focused on the extra-ordinary restrictions on fundamental rights and also the separation of powers aspects of the crisis. However the comparative analysis of the related constitutional case law is still to be systematized by the literature. The constitutional courts (or supreme courts with constitutional review competencies) have reflected on several aspects of the pandemic. The deeper understanding of this constitutional practice would lead to the reconsideration of several issues even in the theoretical and practical field concerning the scope and the extent of emergencies, the limitations on fundamental rights during these periods, on the separation of powers between the main constitutional actors under extra-ordinary circumstances, and also on the constitutional impact of a global pandemic. However, on several occasions during the recent months, it has been reported that the difficulties as regards the availability of the required information constitute significant obstructive factors for such research projects. Therefore, our research group, comprised of constitutional lawyers and experts with relevant informatics and database-related knowledge, will establish a database from the constitutional court rulings linked to the extra-ordinary public health situation. This data set will serve as a key source for numerous further research projects. The conference would provide us an excellent opportunity to discuss the details of our envisaged project with experts of similar interest.*

**Keywords:** constitutional court; constitutionalism; state of emergency; COVID-19; separation of powers; constitutional review

# LEGAL AND ETHICAL DILEMMAS IN THE INTERDISCIPLINARY FIELD OF NEUROSCIENCE AND LAW (NEUROLAW)

Denis Magyar, PhD  
University of Maribor

## ABSTRACT

*The use of neuroscientific discoveries increases the reliability in ascertaining legally relevant subjective facts in evidence law. However, the legal order is not (yet) completely prepared for the use of neuroscientific discoveries in evidence law, since the interdisciplinary field of neuroscience and evidence law (neurolaw) is relatively new. Therefore, it is not surprising that legal rules do not (directly) regulate the use of neuroscientific discoveries in evidence law. The use of neuroscientific discoveries can lead to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The main legal limitation when using neuroscientific discoveries in evidence law is the constitutional provision that ensures the inviolability of human physical and mental integrity, his privacy and personal rights (Article 35 of the Constitution). The above-mentioned constitutional provision protects cognitive freedom and mental privacy. Therefore, the use of neuroscientific evidence is permissible only with consent (volenti non fit iniuria), which eliminates the unlawfulness of interference with human rights and fundamental freedoms. Until the use of neuroscientific discoveries in evidence will not be regulated either at legislative level or in case law, their use will be justified on the principle of free assessment of evidence and principle of material truth.*

**Keywords:** *neurolaw, evidence law, neuroscience, legal limitations, human rights and fundamental freedoms*

# THE INCLUSION OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS IN COMPETITION LAW ASSESSMENTS - AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME?

**Rok Dacar**, Assistant  
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## **ABSTRACT**

*Traditionally, fundamental rights only have a very limited role in competition law assessments, namely that of guaranteeing procedural fairness. However, recent technical and legal developments might change the relationship between these two legal fields and cause an integration of fundamental rights, especially the right to the protection of privacy, in competition law assessments. In its revolutionary decision in the Facebook case, the German Federal Cartel Office (BKA) stated that an abuse of the right to privacy, if caused by a company with a dominant position on a market and if due to this dominant position, can constitute an abuse of a dominant position (Facebook's dominant position on the market for social networks in the case in question). However, the European Commission and the European Court of Justice, in their case law, adopted the position that questions related to the right to privacy are, as such, not relevant to competition law. Fundamental right can, however, be considered in competition law assessments as soon as an action of a company constitutes a violation of fundamental rights and at the same time a violation of competition law. Furthermore, the right to privacy can also be taken in account as a non-monetary parameter of competition.*

**Keywords:** competition law, fundamental rights, abuse of dominance

## FREEDOM OF SPEECH

### DOES FREE SPEECH IN THE DIGITAL AGE REQUIRE "AUTHORITARIAN" PROTECTION?

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#### ABSTRACT

*In The Perilous Public Square, Daphne Keller asks "Does the internet context change First Amendment analysis?" (p. 214). I contend that the answer is an unqualified "yes" and that judges must not hesitate to incorporate "contextual change" into their jurisprudence.*

*I draw upon Mary Anne Franks (Cult of the Constitution), Genevieve Lakier (numerous articles on contemporary speech), Ran Hirschl (City, State), Ross Mittiga (American Political Science Review January 2022), and others to argue that constitutionally exogenous factors such as population growth, urbanization, wealth (and inequality), and scientific/technological advances require the rearticulation of the scope and definition of individual rights and government powers. This is not unprecedented. Advances in technology (the telephone) resulted in a judicial reconsideration of privacy notions such as "search and seizure." Economic changes and the great depression resulted in fundamental changes in the U.S. Supreme Court's approach to property rights.*

*So, yes, the internet does change First Amendment analysis (or, the analysis of free speech in general). I argue that this change necessitates a recalibration of notions of liberalism to enable governments to take the steps necessary to protect all citizens from speech-based harms arising from what continues to be a liberal, market-based, laissez faire approach to free speech. This is not a new claim. John Stuart Mill acknowledged the need to restrict freedom when the external cost of its exercise harmed others. Contemporary critics argue that empowering government to constrain free speech smacks of authoritarianism. But, it does not. Such hyperbole is grounded on antiquated visions of society that no longer apply to a world that is much more crowded, technologically advanced, and threatened by challenges of a global scope that was unheard of in Mill's day.*

**Keywords:** Freedom of Speech, authoritarianism, liberalism, democracy

# RESTRICTING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION DURING THE PANDEMIC: PROTECTION OF THE SOCIETY, OR ATTACK ON MEDIA FREEDOM?

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**Kinga Kálmán**, Research Assistant

Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Legal Studies

## ABSTRACT

*Several governments in and outside Europe have adopted restrictive measures on the freedom of expression quoting the protection of public safety against the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In most cases introduced, criminal sanctions have been imposed on those, who disseminate fake news during the emergency situations. The supporters of these steps argued, that when the people are more isolated they have - especially the vulnerable layers of the society - less possibility to verify the credibility of information, the spread of false communications could cause severe disorder in the society, and undermine considerably the trust in public authorities, who are responsible for organising the collective efforts against the pandemic. For these reasons, during emergencies, criminal sanctions may be considered applicable commensurately in a broader circle against those, who convey misleading messages. By contrast, dissenters held, that the extra-ordinary circumstances only provide an additional ground for governments to justify their endeavours to control media, civil society, and especially the marketplace of ideas with silencing opposing views. Criminal law should be used just as an ultima ratio against those who just express their thoughts, and although the emergency may require the sanctioning of certain, otherwise acceptable messages, these cases should be demarcated rigorously, and be interpreted the narrowest possible. Moreover, the practice shows, that the authorities apply these restrictions arbitrarily several times, whilst these amendments stay in force even after the end of the public health emergency. Our aim is to analyse the conflicting arguments in these cases; to enumerate the available examples of such restrictions and their practical experience; as well as elaborate on the relevant constitutional case law.*

**Keywords:** freedom of expression; media pluralism; pandemic; criminal law; freedom of the press; fake news

# WHO'S SELLING IN THE ONLINE MARKETPLACE OF IDEAS?

Hanna Zaretsky, JD Candidate  
Fordham University School of Law

## ABSTRACT

*The debate over campaign finance regulations is often framed as reducing corruption in the electoral process versus protecting the freedom of speech. However, with the advent of new technologies and the ever-important role that the internet and social media now play in our lives, and in political campaigning, the campaign finance debate, as well as existing regulations, fail to recognize how digital campaigning disrupts the conventional wisdom. This article examines how the contrasting systems of campaign regulation in the United States and United Kingdom exemplify this debate, while similarly failing to recognize the role of disclaimers in online political advertising.*

*This article reviews the primary themes espoused by academics and theorists in framing the scholarly debate of campaign finance regulation and then situates some of those concepts of democracy in the development of U.S. and U.K. campaign finance laws. After closely examining one particular problem each country currently faces: the gaps in the campaign finance regulatory system for online political advertising, I offer suggestions as to how each country can learn from one another, in terms of free speech principles and implementing online disclaimer regulations to reflect those principles.*

**Keywords:** disclaimer; imprint; United Kingdom; United States; campaign finance



# SCARCE-MONGERING AND FREE SPEECH IN TIMES OF COVID-19 IN HUNGARY

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Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Legal Studies

## ABSTRACT

*In the spring of 2020, the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 emerged in Hungary as well. Within the framework of legislative precautions the version of the offence that could be committed during a special legal order was introduced by the Parliament as section 337(2) of the Criminal Code by Act XII of 2020 on the containment of Coronavirus, which can be committed in the mentioned period (e.g.: during a state of danger according to section 53 of the Fundamental Law), in front of a large audience by stating or disseminating any untrue fact or any distorted true fact that is capable of hindering or frustrating the efficiency of protection.*

*The Constitutional Court accepted the petition against the offence of spreading rumours defined in 2020, in the context of the coronavirus epidemic, which entered into force on 31 March 2020, and examined its merits. Decision of the Constitutional Court on scare-mongering, as the only substantive decision of the Constitutional Court, declared that the criminal offence in question does not violate freedom of expression and the principle of nullum crimen sine lege, because it does not contain elements that are inherently uninterpretable and inapplicable in the light of the practice of criminal courts, and the norm is sufficiently defined and constitutes a necessary and proportionate restriction of freedom of expression. I will examine in my presentation if this decision has changed the former doctrine of free speech by explaining a story of the related case law and doctrine.*

**Keywords:** freedom of expression; media pluralism; pandemic; criminal law; freedom of the press; fake news

# FREEDOM OF SPEECH, SURVEILLANCE, ACADEMIC FREEDOM

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## ABSTRACT

*With special focus on free speech, as well as on classroom surveillance (proliferating in the Covid-pandemic digital learning environment), the paper is aimed at identifying contextual dimensions for academic freedom as a matured legal concept. The project is triggered by the fact that despite its widespread usage in international documents and domestic constitutions, academic freedom remains underdeveloped in terms of conceptual tools, operationalizing mechanisms, monitoring methods and benchmarking schemes. There are also competing notions on how to best conceptualize it: as an individual right, a set of requirements for autonomous institutional design, a field to be regulated for market service providers or public commodities, a tool for international policy making, or academic ranking – not to mention the challenge of how to incorporate challenges brought by social justice movements. These considerations all require different policy tools and adjacent legal targeting.*

**Keywords:** Freedom of speech, surveillance, academic freedom

## **ELECTION LAW**

# **DEMOCRATIC THEORY AND ELECTION LAW**

**David Schultz, PhD, Prof.**  
Hamline University

### **ABSTRACT**

*In free societies, election law serves to put democratic values into practice, enabling the people to govern themselves through elections. Appropriate election law rules, if enacted and enforced, can help support and sustain democracies. This paper examines the relationship between democratic theory and practice, and formal constitutional structures, asking how specific constitutional clauses and provisions promote or support democracies. Using classifications and information from several databases such as the Comparative Constitutions Project, Transparency International, and Freedom House, this paper looks at some specific constitutional provisions regarding election law promote democracy. The conclusion is that formal clauses alone do not guarantee regimes will be democracies, but that more is required if election laws can translate democratic values into democratic practices.*

**Keywords:** Democracy; election law; constitutions; individual rights.

# POSTPONING ELECTIONS DURING COVID-19

Tiffany Monroy, JD Candidate  
Fordham University School of Law

## ABSTRACT

*Forty-two countries and territories have postponed national elections and referendums since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even so, election postponements are not a new phenomenon. Elections have previously been postponed during periods of crisis and transition, or after the death of a candidate, because of technical delays and natural disasters, for public health reasons, and have even been considered "in the event of a terrorist attack."*

*Despite their prevalence and diversity, postponed elections remain "systematically understudied and under-categorized." This paper seeks to fill that gap by comparing election postponements in four states during COVID-19. Part I provides a brief overview of the existing literature on election postponements. Part II outlines the international human rights framework for postponing elections. Part III compares the domestic legal processes for postponing elections in Ethiopia, Hong Kong, Chile, and the Dominican Republic, and their domestic and international implications. Finally, Part IV addresses the broad implications of COVID-19 on future election postponements.*

**Keywords:** comparative election law; COVID-19; democracy; postponed elections; Ethiopia; Hong Kong; Chile; the Dominican Republic

# ELECTION PARTICIPATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Enira Bronitskaya

## ABSTRACT

*International standards require that persons with disabilities have political rights and the opportunity to enjoy them on an equal basis with others. However the granting and implementation of political rights to persons with disabilities have always been very sensitive issue. Persons with disabilities could find it challenging to exercise not only the right to vote and right to stand, but also to participate in organizing and conducting elections, to obtain information, to be a campaign member, or to be present at campaign events. Equality, non-discrimination, legal capacity, accessibility, and awareness raising are crucial elements for persons with disabilities to possess electoral rights and be able to realize them.*

**Keywords:** equality, non-discrimination, legal capacity, accessibility, awareness raising

# TOPLAK AND MRAK V. SLOVENIA: POSITIVE OBLIGATIONS SO THAT PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES CAN EFFECTIVELY VOTE

**Adriana Caballero-Pérez**, PhD Researcher  
Maastricht University

## **ABSTRACT**

*Voting has been characterized as 'the right of rights' (Benhabib, 2004) and is considered by the Human Rights Council as the most important political right to which persons with disabilities are entitled. (UN General Assembly, 2011) Nevertheless, research shows that voters with disabilities continue to face numerous statutory and procedural barriers to participating in elections, such as inaccessible polling stations. (Lord et al, 2014; Schur et al, 2015; & Atkinson et al, 2017) Contracting States to the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) must remove these barriers to ensure full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in elections. This presentation centres on the recent Chamber judgment of Toplak and Mrak v. Slovenia. I will primarily discuss the analysis of the European Court of Human Rights of compliance by Slovenia with their positive obligation to take appropriate measures to overcome barriers to participation in elections experienced by the two applicants who were persons with disabilities. The focus lies on analysing the extent to which the Court applied the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) as an interpretative aid of the substantive rights and obligations in the ECHR in the context of persons with disabilities.*

**Keywords:** *Persons With Disabilities, European Court of Human Rights*

# LEGAL REFORMS FOR ELECTORAL INTEGRITY IN PAKISTAN

Hassan Nasir Mirbahar, MA  
United Nations Development Programme

## ABSTRACT

*Using the electoral integrity standards, the paper presents a new framework for studying electoral reforms. The framework proposes new topologies for categorising the reforms. It can help address many shortcomings in the existing scholarly research on the topic. For example, it can be applied to study reforms in old and new democracies alike and can also be used to explore several types of reforms, not just the changes in electoral systems. The paper applies the proposed framework to explain Pakistan's 2017 electoral reforms, which mark a significant achievement in the country's history.*

**Keywords:** electoral reforms, electoral integrity, Pakistan

## ELECTION LAW DISPUTES

# CONTESTED ELECTIONS IN AFRICA: UNPACKING THE NORMATIVE ROLES OF COURTS IN ELECTORAL PROCESSES

Ugochukwu Ezeh, PhD Candidate  
University of Oxford

### ABSTRACT

*This presentation contributes to the discourse on democratic decline in fledgling democracies by thematising a significant phenomenon: the increasing judicialisation of highly charged electoral politics in Africa. Courts, election candidates, pro-democracy activists, and other politico-constitutional actors in a range of African jurisdictions have sought – with varying degrees of success and failure – to invoke judicial power as a remedial mechanism against the onslaught of electoral malpractices and other forms of democratic decline. Accordingly, this presentation discusses three normative functions courts may fulfil within the electoral processes of nascent democracies in Africa. Within the limits of judicial authority, courts may: invalidate electoral malpractices; facilitate the independence of core democratic institutions (such as electoral management bodies); and edify democratising polities by disseminating constitutional norms and democratic values.*

**Keywords:** courts; democratic decline; contested elections; electoral adjudication; electoral processes.



# CONSTITUTIONS OF WESTERN EUROPE: RESOLVING DISPUTES ON ELECTION RESULTS

**Maria Chrysanthem**, PhD Candidate  
Fordham University School of Law

## **ABSTRACT**

*This paper presents a survey of what the constitutions of each country in Western Europe say about resolving disputes about election results. Eurovoc's definition of Western Europe was used to select the countries studied in this paper. This is the first paper to conduct a comparative study on what the constitutions of Western European countries say about resolving disputes on national election results. The constitutions fall into four distinct categories.*

*The first category is constitutions that assign the highest judicial body or a specialized court to review election results. The countries that fit into this category are Andorra, Austria, France, Ireland, Liechtenstein, and the United Kingdom. The second category is constitutions that require judicial review of the election results but not judicial review by the highest court. The only country that fits into this category is Monaco. The third category, comprised of Switzerland and Germany, is constitutions where Parliament decides whether to invalidate the election results but there is judicial review. The last category that is most ripe for reform is constitutions where Parliament decides whether to invalidate the election results and there is no judicial review. The old democracies of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands fall into this category.*

**Keywords:** Election disputes, constitutions, Western Europe

# ELECTION DISPUTE RESOLUTION IN EUROPE: AN ANALYSIS OF THE STANDARDS BY THE VENICE COMMISSION, ODIHR AND THE ECtHR

**Mathieu Leloup**, PhD Researcher  
University of Antwerp

## **ABSTRACT**

*This presentation looks into the existence and formation of European-wide standards of election dispute resolution in Europe, due to the work of the Venice Commission, the ODIHR and the ECtHR. It examines the standards that those three bodies set on several issues of election dispute resolution and indicates that these standards are geared towards the protection of non-state actors in the election process. Furthermore, it shows that these standards, taken together, are a driving force of convergence between the European states and lead to a certain Europeanization of the domestic system of election dispute resolution.*

**Keywords:** election law, election dispute resolution, European standards

## ELECTIONS AND REPRESENTATION

# THE QUOTA DEBATE IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND POST-COMMUNIST LEGACY

**Lenka Hrbková**  
Masaryk University

**Zuzana Fellegi**, Senior Lecturer  
Anglo-American University

### ABSTRACT

*Most countries around the world currently use some type of legislative or voluntary party quotas to increase the descriptive representation of women. However, despite the low representation of women in parliament (20%) and three unsuccessful legislative proposals, the Czech Republic has never adopted any legal quota mechanism and all relevant political parties are reluctant to use voluntary party quotas. The aim of this paper is to present the arguments used against quotas and to explain the reasons for these attitudes. Specifically, we examine arguments about quotas based on elite attitudes extracted by media coverage analysis from 1995 to the present and interviews with 28 Czech politicians from parliamentary parties between 2018 and 2021. We found that most politicians, and even most women, do not support quotas. Thirty years after the fall of communist regime, the Czechia, like many post-communist countries, is resistant to the electoral gender quota. This article aims to map the arguments used in the quota debate and to link research findings to specific historical and political experiences that could provide an important insight into quota reluctance in other post-communist countries.*

**Keywords:** gender quotas, political discourse, Czech Republic, CEE region, post-communist countries

# REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS (ROUTLEDGE CHAPTER)

Mark Rush, PhD, Prof.  
Washington and Lee University

## ABSTRACT

*Representative Government and Elections Mark Rush Washington and Lee University My chapter in the Routledge volume*

*This paper places the notion of representative government in classic and contemporary contexts. It addresses the tensions within democratic theory concerning what constitutes "the will of the people," the notion of "fair and effective representation," and how changes in the context in which elections are conducted affect our understanding of democracy and representation. These changes have resulted from technological advances, legal reforms and, paradoxically, the democratization of politics and political power.*

*Keywords: Representative Government, Elections, Legal Forms, Technological Advances*

# ON THE PEOPLE, ELECTIONS AND CONSTITUTIONAL SUBJECTS IN CROATIA

**Dorđe Gardašević**, PhD, Prof.  
University of Zagreb

## **ABSTRACT**

*On one hand, the concept of "the People" in Croatia takes into account the fact that the community is in itself pluralistic. Apart from usual political divisions which accompany any democracy, this, in its most noticeable aspect, means that rights and interests of all national groups of both the majority and minorities should be respected. In addition, specifics of the Croatian case, like in some other countries, is that special recognition is also given to citizens living abroad. On the other hand, the Croatian approach to the notion of popular sovereignty is very explicit: the Constitution establishes that "Power in the Republic of Croatia derives from the people and belongs to the people as a community of free and equal citizens." In the following text the author tries to show how these two poles operate in practice in the field of constitutional arrangements regulating the parliamentary electoral system of Croatia.*

*Keywords: Elections, Constitutional Subjects, Parliamentary Electoral System, Croatia*

# **ELECTION LAW AROUND THE WORLD**

## **ELECTION LAWS IN INDIA**

**Rajeev Gowda**, PhD, Prof.  
Varun Santhosh

### **ABSTRACT**

*Since India's independence in 1947, an elaborate and robust framework of election-related laws and institutions has enabled the successful conduct of elections with peaceful transfers of power. This chapter provides an overview of this framework and its evolution by examining the role of the Constitution of India, laws that govern elections and the institutions that administer them. It reviews the challenges pertaining to implementing laws affecting political parties, candidates and media, and laws to combat defection and criminalisation of politics. It also describes the deepening of democracy through elections to local government and affirmative measures that empower historically disadvantaged groups.*

**Keywords:** *Constitution, Election Commission, Effectiveness, Defection, Criminalisation*

# DEMOCRATIZATION OR DISQUALIFICATION: HOW RESTRICTIONS ON A PERSON'S RIGHT TO STAND FOR ELECTION EFFECTS DEMOCRACY

Deanna Schreiber, JD Candidate  
Fordham Law School

## ABSTRACT

*My paper evaluates candidate disqualification laws and practices immediately following the fall of the Soviet Union in both the Czech Republic and Russia and compares those findings with the candidate disqualification laws and practices in place for each country's 2021 legislative elections. The Czech Republic implemented restrictive and expansive lustration laws to establish a new regime, as compared to Russia which sought to preserve and protect their transitional system without any lustration laws. There is a clear correlation between each country's decision about implementing lustration laws and the resulting successes of each new regime. Russia's decision to forego these severe lustration laws, has led to a country that is considered less stable and less democratic than the Czech Republic. As time has passed, the determinations of each transitional government have had obvious effects on shaping these countries today. Today, the Czech's overly restrictive measures, which were considered antithetical to democracy, have dwindled and their system is able to host free and fair elections. Whereas, Russia is still facing political instability and corruption, and is using disqualification laws as a tool to hold onto prior regimes, rather than transition.*

*Keywords: Democratization, Disqualification, Legislative Elections*

# REDISTRICTING IN AMERICA AND AROUND THE WORLD: WHAT CAN AMERICA LEARN?

Matthew Vaughan, JD Candidate  
Fordham University

## ABSTRACT

*This paper examines redistricting in the US and several nations around the world using existing literature on the systems and issues within those nations in order to determine if there is anything the US can learn in reforming its own system. The first part gives the reader an overview of redistricting is and why it is important in elections. The second part examines redistricting history and issues in the United States. The third, fourth, and fifth parts cover the systems and issues of redistricting in India, Mexico, and Japan respectively. The final part of the paper compares the redistricting methods used in the previously listed nations with existing redistricting methods and attempts at reform in the United States, before concluding what the United States can take away from the redistricting systems in those nations.*

**Keywords:** redistricting, elections, United States, India, Mexico, Japan



# ELECTION LAWS AND REFORMS IN MALAYSIA

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Universiti Utara Malaysia

## ABSTRACT

Malaysia has experienced for the first time in her democratic history when the ruling party, Barisan Nasional (BN) since the country's independence in 1957 lost in the general election in 2018, the 14th General Election. The defeat did not silent the critics about the election laws in Malaysia by saying that they are many flaws in the elections system where total reforms are needed. Among others, the electoral First-Past-The-Post (FPTP) system is not guaranteed proper representation for the electorates particularly in a Malaysia's multiracial society. In fact, as happened in the 2013 General Election, the opposition Pakatan Rakyat (PR) won the popular votes but failed to win majority seats in the Parliament. Besides, Malaysia has no law on political financing and access to the media also limited for opposition parties due to restrictions imposed to the media. Therefore, the Pakatan Harapan (PH), before it downfall in March 2020 and the formation of Perikatan Nasional (PN) government, had established a committee called the Electoral Reform Committee (ERC) to study and propose report and recommendations to reform the electoral system. This paper will look and analysis the existing electoral legislation and study about the needs to reform the election law particularly in three areas: the electoral system, political financing and media.

**Keywords:** Malaysia, electoral system, political financing, freedom of the media, reforms

## EXPERT PANELS

### THE NEWEST DILEMMAS IN LAW

# ETHICAL RULES AS THE BASIS OF INTRODUCTION OF ROBOTICS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

Urška Grubač Kaučič, In-House Lawyer  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

#### ABSTRACT

*Robotization is changing the development of medicine. Despite the advantages offered by a robot - a mechanically controlled machine, its use can lead to harmful events that can have consequences in the social, health, bioethical and personal spheres. The introduction of robotics and artificial intelligence in the medical profession will certainly dictate legal regulation. The European Union has already established general ethical principles, on which regulation is expected to be based. The cornerstone of the legal and ethical regulation of the field is the findings of the RoboLaw working group (2014), the Rules of Civil Law on Robotics (2017), and the Ethical Guidelines for Trusted Artificial Intelligence (2018). The article deals with the review of legal acts in the field of robotics in medicine with the final finding of whether the law of the European Union (and thus the Member States) sufficiently regulates relations and follows the challenges of artificial intelligence.*

**Keywords:** Robotization of Medicine, Regulatory Frameworks, Applied Ethics, Artificial Intelligence, Health Policy

# DIGITALISATION AND STATE PROSECUTORS

Anita Veternik, District State Prosecutor  
Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia

## ABSTRACT

*In this paper, I wish to present the impact of digitalisation on the work of State Prosecutors. Firstly, I am focusing on the changes in the structure of the criminal offences, where the field of crime is expanding and moving from the physical to the digital world. The second is digitalisation of the workflow of prosecution service and management of files, which we will handle, in the near future, only in electronic form. The first part presents professional challenges that prosecutors face when dealing with their cases; particularly legal questions and other practical issues that need to be duly resolved in order to contribute to successful criminal prosecutions. Mostly, these relate to legal systems that are struggling to keep pace with rapid technological developments. The latter often puts State Prosecutors in a challenging position of not only having to effectively protect the public interest and safeguarding legally protected values but also suspects' rights. The differences between the systems of the different states also pose a particular challenge, given that cybercrime cases often have international elements. As the level of digital operations is increasing, it is therefore important that digitisation does not place additional burden on State Prosecutors, but allows for transparent operations and prevents, to the highest possible extent, the misuse of particularly sensitive personal data stored in the information system of the prosecution service.*

**Keywords:** prosecutor, digitalisation, cybercrime, e-evidence, international cooperation







**ARCHIVAL SCIENCES**  
**7<sup>th</sup> ARCHIVAL SYMPOSIUM:**  
**ETHICS IN ARCHIVAL SCIENCE AND**  
**ARCHIVAL THEORY AND PRACTICE**





# IN THE SERVICE OF PEOPLE: THE ICA CODE OF ETHICS AND ACCESS TO EUROPEAN UNION HISTORICAL ARCHIVES

Dieter Schlenker, PhD, Prof.  
European University Institute

## ABSTRACT

*Article 6 of the Code of Ethics adopted by the General Assembly of the International Council on Archives during its 13th session in Beijing (China) on 6 September 1996, calls for the promotion of the "widest possible access to archival material" and an "impartial service to all users" as guiding prerogatives for archival institutions. This paper will analyse and confront the prerogative of the ICA's Code of Ethics applied to the context of a transnational archives, that of the Historical Archives of the European Union. Confronted with language and geographic barriers, diverse cultures and expectations of archival users, and different records classification systems in place are challenging for archives users, which more and more calls for digital access strategies and efficient online consultation of archival finding aids and archival material. The article will also discuss the user expectations towards the resources and cultural mind-set of professionals in the digital age and during the ongoing Covid pandemic.*

**Keywords:** *The ICA Code of Ethics, European Union, Historical Archives*



# ARCHIVAL ETHICS AND WHISTLE-BLOWERS

Eric Ketelaar, Emeritus professor  
University of Amsterdam

## ABSTRACT

*The ICA Code of ethics and comparable code adopted by professional associations of archivists are guide the professional conduct of archivists. However, they do not address the situation where an archivist becomes aware of unethical behaviour of a colleague who may even be the director of the institution. Should that archivist "blow the whistle" and expose the unethical and unprofessional actions of his/her colleague? How could whistle-blowers be protected from retaliation and supported by colleagues and the professional association of archivists?*

**Keywords:** Archival ethics, Whistle-blowers

# TOWARDS AN ETHICAL PROFILING OF EU NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Charles J. Farrugia, PhD

President of EURBICA, National Archivist of Malta, Head, Department of Library, Information and Archive Sciences, University of Malta

## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** This study focuses on the ethical dimension of national archives of countries members of the European Union.

**Method/approach:** It maps the mission statements of the archives under study and identifies priority concepts as reflected in these governing statements. This data is further analysed to explore to what extent the ethical dimension is reflected. Furthermore, it maps the different professions that lead national archive institutions in their daily operations and to what extent the different professions are guided by ethical norms.

**Results:** The study indicates that there are a number of operations such as preservation, conservation, research, appraisal, and legal decision making that dictate what national archives in EU countries consider as their core operations. Thus, the ethical dimension has to be assessed in conjunction with the ethical norms of a multitude of professions around which the organisational culture of these national archives forms.

**Conclusions/findings:** The ethical profile of national archives in the EU is a reflection of the ethical basis of a multitude of professions. More studies are needed to have an *ad hoc* profiling of the ethical dimension of EU national archives.

**Keywords:** ethics, national archives, archive profiling, mission statements

# ETHICS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF E-MAIL: STATE OF THE ART AND RECOMMENDATIONS

**Stefano Allegrezza**, PhD, Assoc. Prof.  
University of Bologna

## **ABSTRACT**

*Email is the most widely used communication tool in many areas of our society today. Email is used not only as a means of transmitting documents, but as documents themselves ('email as record'). As a result, the importance of email archives has grown dramatically and their preservation has become imperative.*

*However, email has arguably become the most time-consuming activity in our work: we spend most of our working time writing and responding to email, and the time required is increasing every day. In addition, other alternative forms of communication, such as messages on WhatsApp, LinkedIn, Facebook or other social networks are beginning to be used in place of email, with very negative consequences for the proper creation of archival aggregations. The use of email should also be evaluated from an ecological point of view, since each email sent or received has a significant impact on the carbon footprint. Despite these critical issues, it should be noted that there are no shared reflections on these issues, nor best practices that can provide guidance and reference. For example, there are no guidelines or recommendations for the management of e-mail archives from their creation to their preservation; there are no recommendations on the "ethical" use of e-mail in order to minimize the time we spend daily to its management. This paper aims to analyze the state of the art on this subject and to propose some useful recommendations.*

**Keywords:** Ethics, Management, E-mail

# SOME CONSIDERATIONS ON THE ARCHIVAL STORAGE IN DIGITAL PRESERVATION OF RECORDS

Bogdan-Florin Popovici, PhD  
National Archives of Romania

## ABSTRACT

*Starting from the assumption that the carrier is no longer an intrinsic part of digital record (though still necessary presence for the record to exist) the paper seeks to critically examine the role of storage in digital preservation of records. Is there the carrier/storage area a topic of concern for archivists or it is rather a topic for IT professionals? Is longevity of carrier an important archival topic? Is the size of storage an important pre-requisite for digital preservation system? The examination of these question will consider both theoretical approaches and personal experience of the author.*

**Keywords:** digital preservation, storage system, digital medium

# CAN ARCHIVES FEEL? THE ETHICS OF STORYTELLING IN ARCHIVES: SOME ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS CONCERNING DESCRIPTION OF THE EMOTIONAL ARCHIVAL SOURCES

Robert Parnica, PhD Candidate  
Blinken OSA, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** This paper aims to investigate and possibly suggest a definition of the “emotional archival sources,” the notion that archivists have frequently been using when dealing with significant violations of Human Rights, war destruction, and massive human sufferings. The central issue is whether the archives and archivists can „feel” emotional sources and the ethical problems that derive from them in archival praxis, primarily in the archival description.

**Method:** The paper is based on the review of available literature and the analysis of the descriptions of several archival collections as examples that raise severe professional and ethical concerns of the archival profession and objectivity. Comparing different types of emotional sources encapsulated various historical and thematically different stories.

**Results:** The suggested term embodies a set of deeply disturbing content of texts, photos, and moving images that temporarily excludes our rational cognition of the archival processing and description because the archivists act under the impact of both emotional content and context information. The paper analyzes how emotional sources possess multiple personal but societal meanings that are difficult to detect at first glance and could be crucial for rightful and ethical archival descriptions.

**Conclusions:** Emotional sources appear to be challenging to define and fully describe. Each archival collection possesses specific language, terminology, historical frame, contextual information that make it difficult for archivists to apply uniformed ethical principles.

**Keywords:** ethics, objectivity, emotional sources, archival description, human rights

# ARCHIVAL ETHICS, PROBLEMS IN THE DIGITAL CENTURY

Ilia Liutarevich, PhD Candidate  
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## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** This article analyzes the development of ethical norms in the archival environment during the second half of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century in Western countries, the author tries to analyze the impact of digitalization on archives today.

**Method/approach:** The ubiquity of digital technologies in archives has led to a change in ethical norms that were considered inviolable for many years. Analyzing the ethical codes of various Western archival organizations, the author tries to understand what trends have emerged in the development of the ethical component in the archival business.

**Results:** In the modern digital world, active progress is visible in modifying the established ethical norms, in order to adapt them to modern realities, which archives and archivists must comply with today. It can also be noted that the usual ethics in the archives of Western countries is gradually changing to the concept of digital ethics, which is comprehensive and covers ethical issues that have arisen both in the past and in the present.

**Conclusion/finding:** having studied and analyzed the existing ethical codes, the author can note that they all need varying degrees of refinement and adaptation to the digital realities of the modern world.

**Keywords:** Archive, ethic, digital environment, archival science.

# CONFRONTING ETHICAL MATTERS IN ARCHIVES: A SHIFT IN ACCESS PROTOCOLS TO THESES AND DISSERTATIONS AS A CASE STUDY

Karen Trivette, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** Ethical issues abound within the archival science landscape, accessibility matters not the least among them. These issues are further compounded by the evolving nature of records themselves, morphing from analog to digital forms or their being born-digital objects. In this paper, the author will recall and reflect upon her experience of confronting an ethical quandary very early in her tenure at her present employer, a publicly-funded university. The ethical quandary in question was one related to theses written and delivered as graduation requirements across seven graduate programs in the university; upon deposit, they were deemed part of the College Archives. The theses' accessibility was dramatically reduced after legacy theses were digitized and due to a major pivot regarding their storage and retrieval protocols. This extreme shift towards access *reduction* is one that the writer believes to be unethical in an archives domain given the "more rather than less" access paradigm within the profession and which digitization typically promises.

**Methods / Approach:** The writer interviewed relevant stakeholders within the library in which she works to explore alternative approaches and ascertain ways to mitigate the existing, willfully imposed firewall between external researchers and relevant content. She also offered a review of the relevant literature regarding ethical matters as they relate to managing digital theses and dissertations.

**Results:** The writer measured her environment and its current access protocols against other like-purpose repositories that hold similar archival records. The writer discovered tenable and workable alternative approaches at least one of which she can model within her environment and restore the greater levels of access to the theses.

**Conclusions / Findings:** One solution to the writer's ethical quandary is that of establishing an institutional repository for the university and thereby nullifying the need to engage the fee-based, proprietary database for storage and retrieval matters.

**Keywords:** ETDs, accessibility, institutional repositories, theses, ethics

# HIPPOCRATES IN THE ARCHIVES

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## ABSTRACT

*"A Code of Ethics is not like a cookbook." (Resman 2003). A good Code of Ethics contains instructions and guidelines that guide the user to the final solution of the ethical dilemma. Archivists already have the Code of Ethics (1997), which is written quite generally. The existing Code of Ethics with its principles can serve as a basis for the development of the first Slovenian archival Code of Ethics, which will include new institutes and detailed instructions. The institute of an ethics commission would be introduced with the help of which Slovenian archivists would get a consultative body. The decisions of the ethics commission on specific ethical dilemmas would be accessible to all archivists (e.g. publications in the journal Arhivi) and would serve as guidelines for them. The ethics commission would also have the right to sanction the unethical behavior of archivists. Breaking the archival oath, which would be pronounced at the end of the study of archival science or at the beginning of work in an archival institution, would be a dishonorable act. An oath to be taken in front of fellow archivists would commit to a Code of Ethics, which would help raise the profile of archival science in the general public. In addition to the introduction of new institutes, the preamble of the first Slovenian archival Code of Ethics would state that archival science is an independent scientific discipline that has its research methods, subjects, and goals.*

*The up-to-datedness of the Code of Ethics is necessary especially in a period when archivists face the challenges of information technology. Archival material appears in new forms of information that require new approaches and put archivists in front of already known ethical dilemmas in a different form. Special mention should be made of the problem of archival material containing sensitive personal data in the context of information technology. The introduction of the institute of the virtual environment and human rights in the first Slovenian archival Code of Ethics is necessary if we want to prepare a good basis for quality and professional performance of archival science in the area of the Republic of Slovenia.*

**Keywords:** code of ethics, oath, sanctions, ethics commission, independent science



# PROTECTION OF DOCUMENTS AND ARCHIVES, ETHIC AND LAW

Jelka Melik, PhD, Assoc. Prof.

## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** *The purpose of this paper is to define the concept of ethics, code of ethics and also law and legal regulations; to present the connection between them in the field of protection of documentary and archival material and to emphasize the importance of their formation in the Republic of Slovenia.*

**Methods/ approach:** *We approach the problem by comparing the legal and sociological definition of the code of ethics and ethical codes of established professions in Slovenia. Based on the comparative method, we assessed the perspective of drafting and enforcing a code of ethics in the field of activities for the protection of documentary and archival material in Slovenia, taking into account foreign experiences.*

**Results:** *The research clearly shows that, taking into account the digitalization of records management for the professionalization of the archival profession, it is necessary to expand its scope to record managers (record managers or documentologists) and develop a Slovenian code of ethics.*

**Conclusions:** *By comparing various established codes of ethics and their connection with the relevant legal regulations, we find that in order to preserve cultural heritage as well as legally relevant documents, it is necessary to develop a code of ethics for this area.*

**Key words,** *ethics, code of ethics, law, legal regulation, protection of documentary and archival material, activity of protection of documentary and archival material, record manager, archivist*

# RESEARCH ETHICS: WHY DOES IT MATTER

Zdenka Semlič Rajh, PhD, Assist. Prof.  
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## ABSTRACT

*Research and the research process do not always take place independently, but often involve cooperation and integration into social, political and cultural contexts. Nonetheless, research and research work must be independent, as this is the only way to ensure the quality of research. However, this must be based on clear principles that define the ethical responsibilities of researchers involved in individual scientific research.*

*In this paper, the author will give an overview of important works published so far on the topic of ethics in scientific research both at home and abroad. It will also discuss the legal basis of research ethics.*

*The aim of the research is to compare ethical principles and standards followed by researchers from Slovenian universities and other scientific research institutions in the field of social sciences and humanities.*

**Keywords:** *Research ethics, research process, Social Sciences*

# SOME ETHICAL ASPECTS OF THE MANAGEMENT OF ARCHIVAL DATA STRUCTURES

Miroslav Novak, PhD, Assist. Prof.

## ABSTRACT

*Modern forms of archival records and documents require new methods and procedures of archival professional work and related definitions and understanding of the evaluation and management of archival data, as well as metadata structures. All needs to be made on the basis of rethinking their ethical aspects. On the applicational level, these are becoming increasingly important, as not all life situations with archival records and documents can be foreseen or regulated. This is especially accurate at a time of various systemic manipulations of the truth derived from preserved archival and documentary material.*

**Keywords:** *metadatadata structures, archival ethics, archival doctrine, archival practice*

# ETHICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESERVATION OF ARCHIVAL AND DOCUMENTARY MATERIAL

Jedert Vodopivec Tomažič, PhD, Prof.

## ABSTRACT

*In the article, ethical or the minimum requirements necessary for the implementation of material protection of archival and documentary material*

*that has the character or is expected to have the character of cultural heritage.*

*With regard to the preservation of archival and documentary material, it is in principle irrelevant whether they are in public or private ownership.*

*It is only important that the relevant recommendations for preservation are followed, which are the same for similar materials everywhere, regardless of the holder or guardian. For material that has the character of a archival heritage, it is important that it is stored in premises that have the required climatic conditions and are safely separated from hazards that could endanger the material.*

**Keywords:** archival, documentary material, ethics, preservation, recommendations, standards

# ARCHIVAL RESTITUTION AND SUCCESSION – BETWEEN PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE

Matevž Košir, PhD, Assist. Prof.

## **ABSTRACT**

*The development of archival principles related to the restitution of the archives and archival succession, as well as the most important international legal acts, will be presented. At the same time, the practice will also be confronted to these issues as we have known it throughout history.*

**Keywords:** *Archival restitution, succession, practice*

# ANOTHER ASPECT OF ARCHIVAL ETHICS: THE PRESENTATION OF A PUBLICATION OF A SOURCE FROM THE TIME OF BISHOP GRUBER

Julijana Visočnik, PhD, Assist. Prof.

## ABSTRACT

*In 1821–1823, on the incentive of the Ljubljana Bishop Augustin Gruber, who headed the Ljubljana Diocese between 1816 and 1823, upon the occasion of the bishop's visitation, local priests composed topographically historical descriptions of their parishes, vicariates, and localias based on a few key points. Priests were called upon to submit information about their parishes at the visitation, for which they should draw from parish documents and trustworthy folk tradition. Until today, 74 (from the total of 250) descriptions are preserved and are kept by the Archdiocesan Archives Ljubljana; many among them include precious historical data. Hence, how unethical would it be to know of such a source and not publish it or at least bring attention of the wider public to it?!*

**Keywords:** Archival Ethics, Time of Bishop Gruber

# THE ETHICS OF ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

Pavlina Bobič, PhD, Assist. Prof.

## ABSTRACT

*What are the key ethical dilemmas presented to the researcher of archival material? This paper will focus on the relationship between the researcher and its research object, i.e., the archival source, and on the ethical issues that dictate the meaning and even the importance of further research work. The research process namely requires a constant ethical revision of both the work and the purpose of the research itself.*

**Keywords:** Ethics, Archival Research

# AN IMPORTANT PART OF SLOVENIAN FILM ARCHIVAL HERITAGE BACK HOME AGAIN

**Bojan Cvelfar**, PhD, Assist. Prof.  
Director of Archives of the Republic of Slovenia, Ministry of Culture

## **ABSTRACT**

*On December 10, 2021, after years of talks and negotiations, thirteen titles of picture and tone negatives of important Slovenian film production finally returned back home, to the Slovenian Film Archives. The films in question are the first Slovenian feature films, all of them considered to be Slovenian film classics: Na svoji zemlji, Trst, Kekec, Jara gospoda, Svet na kajžarju, Dobri stari pianino, Dobro morje, Akcija, Veselica, Ti loviš, Naš avto, Tri četrtine sonca, and Balada o trobenti in oblaku. The films were in 1968 deposited for storage at the Yugoslav Cinematheque by the production company Triglav film, because at the time Slovenia was unable to provide suitable repository for the storage of films shot on highly inflammable nitrate film tape. In addition to the actual value of this first-class cultural heritage, the return of the mentioned films after more than half a century also carries with it an immense moral and ethical significance.*

**Keywords:** Slovenian Film Archival Heritage, Archival Science



# MANAGING OF ARCHIVAL RECORDS WITH RESTRICTED ACCESS OR SENSITIVE DATA AND HOW TO BUILD TRUST BETWEEN RECORDS CREATORS AND PUBLIC ARCHIVES

Gregor Jenuš, PhD, Assist. Prof., Senior Advisor  
Archives of the Republic of Slovenia

## ABSTRACT

*In accordance with the Slovenian archival legislation, entities under public law are obliged to hand over public archival records to competent archives no later than 30 years after their creation. The archival legislation stipulates that public legal entities are obligated to transfer even those records that, taking into account sectoral legislation (ie. regulations in the field of protection of personal data, classified information or business, tax secrecy), are contain inaccessible data. In that cases public legal entities are obligated to make the archives aware on the existence of such data and they shall note any restrictions to access and specific restriction deadlines. The legislator has determined that particularly sensitive archival records are protected by deadlines of restricted access even after they have been transfer to public archives. These deadlines stipulate that, for example, archival records with classified information or tax, business secrets are accessible only 40 years after their creation; or that archival records containing sensitive personal information are available only 75 years after their creation, or 10 years after the death of the individual to whom the information are related to. Nevertheless, there remains a doubt whether the periods of restricted access are long enough. Public legal entities point out that the deadlines for restricted access, which protect the most sensitive archival records - especially in the field of health, or records relating to the strategic interests of the state, its national security or even involvement in international institutions - are absolutely too short. Also, the creators of archival records point out that the archival practice raises doubt that the deadlines for restricted access are absolute. The archival legislation allows exceptions concerning restricted access, insofar as records containing inaccessible data are necessary to achieve scientific or journalistic goals. This practice, although allowed by law, unnecessarily creates mistrust between public legal entities and archives. Especially in cases of evaluating records when the question arises of which interest is more important - that of protecting archival cultural heritage or the interest of the state.*

**Keywords:** Archival Records, Sensitive Data, Public Archives

# CODE OF ARCHIVAL ETHICS

Mag. Mitja Sadek

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## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** The article deals with the Code of ethics, which was adopted by the General Assembly of the International Council on Archives in its XII<sup>th</sup> session in Beijing on 6 September 1996. Author analyses the original text in English, points out certain problems regarding Slovenian translation, summarizes its principles and considers the Code as an adequate deontological text.

**Method/approach:** Method relies on the analysis of the original text and on the comparison between original and translations into various languages. Author also uses various articles concerning the theme.

**Results:** The article points out some terminological and substantial problems of the translation of the Code into Slovenian language and identifies the relevance and topicality of the text in terms of deontology.

**Conclusions/findings:** Author suggests the update of the translation of the Code into Slovenian language and adds some possibilities of how to complement the Code itself taking into account the challenges of modern archivalistics.

**Key words:** Code of archival ethics, archival deontology, challenges of modern archivalistics

# REVIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF APPRAISAL OF ARCHIVAL MATERIAL IN SLOVENIAN AREA

Anja Prša, PhD Candidate  
Zgodovinski arhiv Celje

## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** With the help of legal criteria archivists appraise archival material. The purpose of this paper is to provide a historical overview of the development of the appraisal process in Slovenia and the adoption of the legal basis necessary for this process.

**Methodology:** With descriptive method the historical overview of the appraisal process is presented, from the very beginning of the implementation of this process until today, when it has a legal basis. The comparative method shows the development of approaches to appraisal in comparison with the international environment.

**Results:** The research showed that the trend of development of appraisal in Slovenia followed the international environment. With implementation of e-commerce development of appraisal have stagnated.

**Discussion:** Appraisal process has solid foundation and represent great basis for future. Since e-commerce is extensively implemented at creators of archival material it is necessarily to seriously consider the upgrade the approach of appraisal in Slovenia.

**Keywords:** Archival Material, Appraisal Process, Slovenia

# APPRAISAL OF ELECTRONIC RECORDS AND ARCHIVAL MATERIAL IN TELEVISION ENVIRONMENT

Boštjan Dornik, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** *The appraisal of television records and archive material is the first step in the electronic archiving of television material, which will be acquisition by the Television Archive of RTV Slovenia. The aim of the research is to show how the appraisal and preparation of electronic records and archive material for acquisition to the television archive is carried out and to define the content and, above all, technical appraisal of television material as an inseparable segment in the process of electronic archiving. We will identify the television systems and the most common errors in electronic records that affect the process of electronic archiving and consequently the implementation of each segment of technical appraisal in the television environment.*

**Method / approach:** *In the research, we used the analysis of primary and secondary sources and their application with the experience-based method.*

**Results:** *Both in terms of content and production and in terms of technical appraisal of television material, we encountered problems arising from the transition to electronic archiving. User's decisions that all material can be archived are the result of insufficiently developed appraisal criteria. At the same time, we find that electronic archiving is very complex and unnecessary errors occur due to the lack of archive standards. The complexity of electronic archiving is reflected in the large number of television systems that deliver electronic records to the archive. However, due to rapid technological advances, it is necessary to constantly plan for system changes and the associated data migration.*

**Conclusions / findings:** *The content appraisal of e-records is the same as for traditional records. The only difference is the technical or television segment of the appraisal of electronic records. For the long-term preservation of electronic records, it is important to keep reviewing or technically appraising them. During the life cycle of an electronic record, the creator may find that the software has become obsolete and therefore the electronic record can no longer be used. In the case of television archives, there is some advantage over other creators because the electronic record is used throughout its life either for broadcasting the program or for use in other program content.*

**Keywords:** *content appraisal, production appraisal, television archive, television systems, peculiarities of electronic archiving*

# WHY IS THERE A STEPMOTHERLY ATTITUDE TOWARDS SOME ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS?

Dimitrij Reja, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

## **ABSTRACT**

**Purpose:** Presentation of results and good practices in editing merged archival collections

**Method/approach:** Case study of archival energy collections

**Results:** Review of concrete examples of bad practice and recommendations for further work

**Conclusions/findings:** In the process of processing archival material, precise frameworks on the content of funds are formed. With good instructions and other instruments, we can save ourselves a lot of inconvenience.

**Keywords:** archival ethics, regulation of archival funds, public sector

# ETHICAL QUESTIONS REGARDING THE CLASSIFICATION LEVELS OF ARCHIVAL RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS

Manja Konkolič,, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Name:** *In this paper we will discuss the issue of marking documentary material with the speed of secrecy.*

**Method / approach:** *A comparative research method is used in different legal bases and real practices.*

**Restrictions:** *The research is limited to the field of document management, which is classified as secret in public administration in Slovenia.*

**Results:** *We find that some questions regarding the marking of documentary material with the speed of secrecy can be answered with certain articles of the law governing the field of archiving and documents and secrecy, and other matters with good practice.*

**Findings / applicability:** *We answered questions that will be relevant for those archivists who edit archival material created before 1991 and those who edit archival material for creators.*

**Keywords:** *legislation, archives, documents, secrecy, data protection.*

# ETHICS IN PRESERVING BUSINESS RECORDS

David Gajić, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** the storage of business records is primarily subject to the decisions of the managers of the records creators. In business, entities operate on an on going concern basis, which means that the ethical treatment of business records is not the main driver of the functioning of the business entities and depends primarily on the moral values of the managers of the records creators and the financial capacity of the business entity. Archival science in Slovenia has, so far, paid no particular attention to the preservation of such material and its continued possibilities of use. The purpose of the article is to present the importance of keeping business records, both for society and for the entity itself.

**Method/approach:** the method used is the study of comparative literature of companies with a developed capitalist-oriented economy, where more than a century ago (e.g. U.S.) scientist has started to implement solutions for permanent storage and further use of business records.

**Limitations:** the survey was limited by limited access to research (articles) identified in the field of research.

**The results:** developed economies such as the US, Japan, the Scandinavian countries, while establishing the importance of storing private archives in the economy, have started to establish systems that allow the long-term preservations of business records and are carried out either by the state, private individuals or by a hybrid ppp system.

**Keywords:** Private business records, the creator's manager, the financial benefits of preservation

# RE-USE OF INFORMATION FROM THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND THE ROLE OF ARCHIVISTICS

Miha Merlak, Student  
Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** The purpose of the article is to find out what is the meaning of the reuse of information of the public sector, how the activity influences social and economic development and to find out Slovenia's and the European Union's view of the activity. The purpose is also to determine the role of archivistics in the implementation of these processes.

**Method/approach:** With the help of published information, we will explain the concept of reuse of public sector information. Furthermore, by examining articles, news and information in this field, we will identify how the reuse of public sector information is evolving. Where the information is used and what domestic and European trends are. Within the established facts, we will try to interpret the role of archivistics in the process of the reuse of information.

**Results:** The European Union and Slovenia have become aware of the issue of „non-sharing“ of information and have begun to legally regulate this area, which has encouraged development in the field. Encouragement has accelerated development in many areas, facilitated work or de-bureaucratized it, and opened up many opportunities in economic sector. Given the trend towards the development of information reuse, it is to be expected that archival activity will become more burdened and at the same time, even more appreciated.

**Conclusion/findings:** We find that the field of reuse of information brings the potential for more efficient work of certain organizations and the potential for the development of new services in the economy, which the use of this existing information allows. We note that the path of encouragement of the field by the state and the European side is smart. Archivists, as guardians of certain information, will often be involved in the process of re-using data, as they will greatly contribute to the re-use of certain information by preserving certain material.

**Key words:** public sector, information reuse, archivistics, European Union



# THE PATH TO AN INDEPENDENT USER OF ONLINE ARCHIVAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Eva Maršič, Student  
Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** *The purpose of archives is not to serve itself only. The archivist's traditional role is slowly changing with the publication of archival databases online, and the independence of the user of online archival databases is increasingly emphasized. Online databases are designed for just that, regardless of the type of user and regardless of the purpose for which the user searches for information.*

**Method/approach:** *Literature and researches in the field studied were collected. The compilation method was used to summarize the results of researches conducted so far in Slovenia regarding users and online archival collections. Due to the coronavirus epidemic and the consequent limited access to libraries and other institutions where even more resources and data could be found, the author was limited to resources available online.*

**Results:** *Users of online archival databases are partly independent, but they face various limitations arising from themselves (level of information literacy, motivation, experience), system design of search engines in databases, ignorance of archival terminology and organization, and inventory of archival material.*

**Conclusions/findings:** *Further research of users of archives and online archive collections is needed. Inventories of archival material must be accurate, descriptors must be more user-friendly, and query systems must be user-friendly, as the performance of an institution or public service, including archives, is measured by user satisfaction.*

**Key words:** *users, archives, information behavior, online database, SIRAnet*

# THE CONCEPT OF EDUCATIONAL WORK IN ARCHIVES

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## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** *The purpose of this paper is to examine the pedagogical offer of the Slovenian public archives network with the aim of designing a concept for archival education for participants in the educational process. We will also define the archive as a modern educational environment and examine the pedagogical value of archival materials.*

**Method:** *We used the method of a questionnaire and a review of the archives' websites to examine the pedagogical offer of Slovenian archives. Through a study of the literature, We examined the archive as a modern learning environment and the pedagogical value of archival materials. Based on the results of research and study of literature, we designed the concept of archival education.*

**Results:** *The pedagogical offer of Slovenian archives is recognizable, but not sufficiently exploited. Archive websites do not offer online resources for students and teachers. There is also a noticeable lack of standards and common guidelines for archival pedagogy, which is the main reason for the underutilization of the pedagogical potential of archives. The archives adapt their offer according to personnel, material conditions and their interests. They express their willingness to cooperate and to adapt the offer to the needs of education.*

**Conclusions/findings:** *The educational potential of Slovenian archives and archival material is recognizable, but not sufficiently exploited, as it is limited to the mediation of cultural heritage and the promotion of archival activities. The condition for the effective use of the educational potential of archival material is its adaptation to the curricula and developmental level of students. It is also necessary to implement the workplace of archival educator, to include archival education in regular curriculum at all levels of education and to develop guidelines or standards that would unify the archival pedagogical activity. After meeting the requirements, the archive will become an effective learning environment and a reliable partner for educational system.*

**Keywords:** *educational activity of archives, archival pedagogy, educational potential of archives, syllabus for archival education*

# ACCESS TO ARCHIVAL MATERIAL IN HUNGARY ACCORDING TO ARCHIVES ACT

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Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

## ABSTRACT

**Purpose:** The purpose of the article was to present the possibilities to access the archival material kept by archives in Hungary. Access to archival material is regulated by the Archives Act, which entered into force in 1995.

**Method/approach:** By writing this article I focused on reading the laws in the field of archiving that apply in Hungary and are regulating the access to archival material. From the article we will find out, when the users may access archival material, kept by public archives in Hungary, in which cases there is no access to archival material and which requirements need to be met in order to access archival material according to the Archives Act.

**Results:** Access to archival material preserved in public archives in Hungary is regulated by the Archives Act. Regarding the access to archival material, this Act also refers to the protection of classified and personal data, which is regulated by the Classified Information Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

**Conclusion/findings:** Archival material in public archives in Hungary is available for use 30 years after its creation. Access to archival material before that period is possible, if the creator of archival material agrees to it and in case of the termination of organization. Archival material containing personal data is available 30 years after the subject's death, in case the time of death is unknown, 90 years from the subject's date of birth and in case neither the time of the subject's death nor of his/hers birth is known, 60 years after its creation. Access to archival material containing personal data before the period of unaccessibility expires is possible by using anonymized copy or with the written consent of the subject or his legal heirs. Archival material, which contains classified data is available for use when the validity of secrecy expires, or with the consent of the authorized person, who determined the classification of data.

**Keywords:** Fundamental Law, The National Archives of Hungary, Archives Act 1995, Hungarian Legislation, Access

# RECORDS MANAGEMENT AUDIT

Elizaveta A. Gorbaneva

## ABSTRACT

*The paper is devoted to theoretical and practical aspects of records management audit. While records management is relatively well researched (revealed principles and laws of records management, most countries have enacted laws that regulate work with information and records, in the international standards reflected best practices), the development of effective tools for assessing records management is a question of a future. This study aims to define the concept of records management audit, its purpose, criteria and scopes, including determining how to choose the right object of the audit, despite limited resources and the presence of many elements of records management. Specifically, it investigates a risk-based approach and some practical issues in the records management audit. The result of this study shares the thoughts that a records management audit is a correct way for organizations to assess their records management activity.*

**Keywords:** *electronic workflows, effectiveness evaluation, criteria, records management audit, risk-based audit*

# RECORDS MANAGEMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL CHALLENGES: TASKS FOR THE NEAR FUTURE

**Pavel A. Kyung**

Director of the All-Russian Scientific and Research Institute for Records and Archives Management

## **ABSTRACT**

*The article is devoted to the analysis of the main challenges in records management and archival science in the coming years. The author of the article analyzes the problems, associated with globalization and localization of information space, development of documenting information in electronic form and the need to preserve the archival heritage on non-digital carriers. So what are the calls, that can be determined from the record and archival object analysis? What are the main challenges, facing us today? First of all, it is the simultaneous globalization and localization of the information space.*

*On the one hand, we live in a period of global Internet services, the development of global information systems and global cloud technologies such as Google, Office 365 and others. For example, we used the ZOOM cloud platform to organize conferences. This means that, in analyzing the records management and archival science, we should take into account the creation of the object of these sciences – a record - in global information systems, each of which has certain characteristics, use of global file formats, etc. This means that the profession of records manager and archivist should have a good understanding of global information issues, international standards, foreign software.*

**Keywords:** records management, archival science, theory and methodology of records and archives management, electronic form, modern information technologies

# ELECTRONIC RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC ARCHIVES IN RUSSIA: HUMAN ASPECT

**Grigory Lanskoj**, doctor of historical sciences

Professor of Department of documentary sciences, audiovisual and technical archives and of Department of foreign regional studies and external policy of Russian state university for the humanities

## **ABSTRACT**

*The paper is devoted to problem of composition between development of electronic technologies in sphere of records management and functioning of public archival services which is actual for many countries on stage of transition from industrial to postindustrial system of development. Analysis of this problem is realized in context of possibilities of users to receive access to metadata and documentary information in distant form and than to satisfy need in taking information important from scientific, artistic and in general social viewpoint. In the same time in paper are presented specific features of connection practice of electronic records management between sphere of creation of its technologies and their application to organization of work with documents created in big part on traditional paper support and needed in secure approach on stage of their digitalization. Indicated main problem is analyzed in paper on four levels – methodological, legislative, methodical and practical. Methodological level indicates possibility of attraction positive aspects of electronic records management for enforcement of efficacy of practical communication between collaborators and users in process of functioning of public archival services. On legislative level it is mostly to find and preview necessary balance between secure preservation and openness of objects of documentary heritage. Methodical level takes key position from scientific viewpoint and consists in harmonization of conditions of work of public archival services with documents and possibilities of forming such possibilities of access to them which can match level of current technological progress. On practical level problem of consideration human needs in usual work of public archival services is analyzed in sphere of quality of communicative possibilities which are actually proposed to users in contemporary period of development of archival practice in major part of Russian state system.*

# ROLE OF THE ARCHIVES IN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF THE STATE AND SOCIETY. TASKS, ACTIVITIES, EXPECTED RESULTS.

**Magdalena Marosz**

Uniwersytet Papieski Jana Pawła II w Krakowie

## **ABSTRACT**

*Digital transformation is defined as a change making digital technology infiltrate more and more aspects of life, and affecting the achievement of the appropriate level of technological advancement. For an organization, it is a transformation resulting in a new model of functioning of a given institution, on the basis of digital technologies.*

*The recently prepared Strategy for the development of national archives for the years 2021-2030, describes the methods and activities by which Polish national archives will try to influence the digital transformation of the state and the society. Two main courses of action were set up: the progress of computerization of the processes of documenting public administration's activities, and the increase of digital competences of the society.*

*The constant development of the Archive of Electronic Documents (ADE) system is to ensure - in addition to securing electronic documents - the preservation of the context of creating a given documentation, its availability, information and logical integrity, and the possibility of making it available to the public in the long term.*

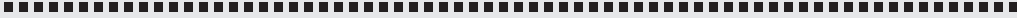
*In social dimension, popularisation of the access to digital archives will not only have an impact on the development of an active attitude towards digital technologies, but will also contribute to better and easier understanding of historical processes, also in the context of the history of regions and local communities.*

**Keywords:** archives, digital technology, electronic document, history

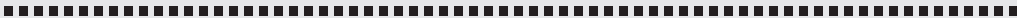








# HUMANITIES





## SCHOLARLY PANELS

### **CULTURAL FORMATIONS AND CULTURAL MEMORY**

### **ETHICAL DIMENSIONS OF DIGITALISATION IN THE ENERGY SECTOR**

**Luka Martin Tomažič**, PhD, Assist. Prof.  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

#### **ABSTRACT**

*The soaring energy prices in connection with the international politico-economic situation and the regulative activities of the European legislators have once more highlighted the importance of the stability and competitiveness of the energy sector. This paper will deal with the pressing need for digitalisation and its ethical implications for this important economic branch. A framework for understanding the ethics of digital transformation in the energy sector will be proposed. The starting point of the investigation will be the meta-principle of sustainable development, which consists of the notions of sustainable use of energy, intergenerational equity, intragenerational equity and the integration of environmental protection in developmental aspirations. The influence of digitalisation on each of the proposed elements of the meta-principle will be analysed, taking into account the complex interplay of utilitarian concerns, liberty and the common good. Proposals will be made and potential pitfalls of the digitalisation process will be emphasized.*

**Keywords:** digitalisation, energy sector, sustainable development, utilitarianism, liberty, common good

# ON MORAL CERTAINTY

Varja Štrajn, PhD, Researcher  
ICK, ENNOEMA

## ABSTRACT

*Wittgenstein concludes Tractatus with a thought that we cannot express the fundamental questions of life in the natural language. Moral judgements indubitably address the most basic life questions, which we cannot utter and only show themselves at the linguistic margins. Therefore, ethical value statements only manifest themselves and cannot be conveyed in natural language sentences. In his late philosophy, Wittgenstein radically changes his philosophical position. He views inexpressible moral judgements differently in close connection to the concepts of certainty and knowledge. Accordingly, one can say that 'A is certain of p' does not entail saying 'A knows that p', as the idea of certainty does not presuppose the concept of knowledge and the other way around. For example, if one says that 'It is not certain that James Bond is still alive', that does not mean that 'Nobody knows if James Bond is still active', but that at least 'Miss Money Penny knows he is still alive'. Consequently, we can be certain of something without knowing and be in a state of knowledge without being certain. The paper will examine and compare divergent positions on ethics in Wittgenstein's early and late philosophy with the concept of certainty.*

**Keywords:** Wittgenstein, ethics, certainty, the meaning of life, digital transformation

# DIGITAL TRANSFORMATIONS OF ART RESIDENCIES AND ARTIST MOBILITY

Mojca Sfiligoj, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea - ISH

## ABSTRACT

*The phenomenon of mobility among artists is not new, as artists have always travelled. They have sought patrons, expanded the market for their artworks, connected with other artistic communities and, above all, changed their environment as a source of inspiration for their artistic creativity. International cultural cooperation encompasses the promotion of openness, the creation of international networks, touring, artist residencies and other ways of networking. Mobility of artists and other cultural professionals is becoming a European imperative, mobility from one residency to another even a survival strategy for some. Calls to promote the mobility of artists internationally are an important factor in supporting artists in the field of cultural policy.*

*New technologies and digitalisation are slowly but steadily helping to shape new concepts of artist residencies. New forms of digital and virtual artist residencies are evolving. In a period when mobility in all fields is restricted due to the epidemic of Covid 19, they become important ways for international networking and partially preserved mobility of artists. I would like to conclude that new concepts cannot replace physical mobility but can significantly complement it and thus have a positive impact on artists' resilience in epidemiologically uncertain times.*

**Keywords:** Artist mobility, digital art residency, virtual art residency

# COMPARING GRAPHIC NOVELS AND TEXTUAL BIOGRAPHIES

Ana Toplak, Student  
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## ABSTRACT

*The presentation compares the way in which graphic novels and text-only biographies address the criterion of objectivity, which life events they emphasize, and how readers perceive biographies in both literary genres. I examined and compared two biographies in comic form with traditional biographies of the same subjects: the notable Slovenian writers, Alma K. Karlin and Ivan Cankar.*

*Part of the research is also an analysis of teenagers' reading reception of graphic biographies and their textual counterparts. I surveyed 68 teenage readers who read excerpts of biographies that described the same events in the lives of the subjects, in both graphic and text forms.*

*Findings of the research suggest that graphic biographies are less objective because of pictorial material added to them. Textual biographies, which present more information about the subject, are found to be more objective. But students prefer to read graphic biographies. Research has also shown that after reading graphic biographies, students have a good recollection only of artistically outstanding scenes. They remember more detail after reading traditional books.*

**Keywords:** graphic biography, Slovenia, comparing graphic novels, student reception of comic, Ivan Cankar, Alma K. Karlin

# NATURE WORSHIP IN WESTERN SLOVENIA - RESEARCH CHALLENGES

Cirila Toplak, PhD, Prof.

## ABSTRACT

*In this conference presentation, the historical counterculture of Nature Worshipers in Western Slovenia was explained from the perspective of specific research challenges that such a complex research topic represents. The Nature Worshipers' community dwelt in remote areas of Western Slovenia until mid-20th century and displayed premodern and pre-Christian cultural features. Its existence had been concealed from the majority society for security reasons. Slovenian (scientific) public learned of the Nature Worshipers through ethnography recently published by a collector of cultural heritage Pavel Medvešček Klančar who was allowed to disclose his findings half a century after he had first come in contact with the Nature Worshipers. General public responded to the disclosure enthusiastically, but the scientific community has remained largely reserved and suspicious of Medvešček's credibility.*

*Nature Worship is a research topic that requires a combination of basic and applied research and includes several challenging issues such as the correct denomination of the community, the issue of corroboration of data and authenticity of sources and the consideration of premodern knowledge production methods in Western science.*

*The research methods applied in this case that have been emphasised in the conference presentation include translation as a deconstruction method, hermeneutic reading in contact with the source author, indirect discern interpretation (Ginzburg, 1990), and radical participation method the use of which implies yet another issue i.e. how far a researcher can actually go in experiential learning.*

**Keywords:** *Nature Worship, Western Slovenia, Counterculture, Research Methodology*



# POLITICAL EXCLUSION AND THE FORMATION OF THE SLOVENIAN NATIONAL ECONOMY AT THE END OF THE 19TH AND THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY: PRESENTATION OF THE RESEARCH

Lev Centrih, PhD, Assist. Prof.

## ABSTRACT

*The research is placed at the intersection of two issues: Slovenian political and socio-economic history. Political practices of exclusion in the context of the formation of the Slovene national economy are studied in the case of credit and productive cooperatives in Slovene regions at the end of the 19th and in the first third of the 20th century, developed by all political parties; cooperatives then became one of the areas of political divisions, i.e., division into "ours and yours". The roots of this economic project go back to the 1880s; first in the form of savings banks in urban centres (liberal Schultze-Delitsch model), later in the form of rural loans and handicraft cooperatives (Catholic "Raiffeisen" model). Over the decades, cooperatives have established themselves as the first Slovenian alternative development model to mitigate the effects of capitalism. The aim of the research is to measure the real power of the discourse of exclusion in regulating everyday human relations. The innovativeness of the approach is in researching the importance of egalitarian cooperative ideology for the development of anti-capitalist parties and movements in Slovenia and the formation of a new scientific concept of "quasi-anti-capitalism". The aim of the research is therefore a new social Slovenian history of the modern period. The research includes the reconstruction of fragments of life stories of ordinary people, their political and economic activities, and will contribute to the development of the popular research field of "microhistory".*

**Keywords:** cooperatives, Janez Evangelist Krek, political Catholicism, liberalism, anti-capitalism

# THE SWABIAN-GERMAN CULTURAL ASSOCIATION ON SLOVENIAN SOIL BETWEEN 1922 AND 1945: PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL RESEARCH

Daniel Siter, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea - ISH

## ABSTRACT

*The Swabian-German Cultural Association (Schwäbisch-Deutscher Kulturbund) was the umbrella organization of the German minority islands in the Yugoslavian Kingdom. Its headquarters was founded on June 20, 1920, in Novi Sad, today's Serbia, and originally operated as a nonpolitical organization with the basic intention of safekeeping and preventing violation of German minority rights and preserving German activities in areas of everyday life. The first beginnings of Kulturbund associations in Slovenia date to 1922, with the establishment of a short-lived local educational group under the Kulturbund in Kočevje, home to the largest German community apart from Styria. Especially after Hitler's and Nazism's rise to power in January 1933, the organization transformed itself into one of the key formations of the underground fifth column and became strongly radicalized and Nazified, which had terrible and deadly consequences on Slovenian intelligentsia and nationally conscious families after Nazi Germany invasion of Kingdom Yugoslavia in April 1941. Members of the Kulturbund took to spying, treasonous, and snitching activities, in addition with intensively spreading Nazi propaganda and demagoguery, pasting Nazi symbols and flags, and collecting classified and sensitive information on the country and those who acted against the Germans and Germany. Based on that, secret intelligence lists of allegedly suspicious and dangerous persons to be arrested and evicted were already drawn up in the prewar period. During the attack, members of the Kulturbund provided the invasion forces with reconnaissance on the ground, translators of signposts and other visual markers, guides, and instructors. Following the takeover of municipal administrations and the formation of the occupation government apparatus, they were repaid for their effort by being granted prominent positions in occupation offices as well as Nazi clubs, organizations, associations, and other structures of the occupier's authority. Some even joined paramilitary forces and special SS Untersteiermark units. After the war, they found themselves on the losing side and consequently faced revenge and retaliation after the new socialist government declared them a treasonous fifth-column organization.*

**Keywords:** Kulturbund, Swabian-German Cultural Association, German minority, fifth column, Nazism, intelligence, treason, Nazi propaganda, 1922–1945

# ABOUT THE MEN'S DIGNITY: THE RENAISSANCE HUMANISTIC SURVEY ON THE MEN (TOWARD THE PHENOMENA OF MELANCHOLY)

Neža Zajc, PhD Research Fellow

## ABSTRACT

*In the peak of the Renaissance period Giovanni Pico Della Mirandola wrote in his fundamental work "About Human Dignity", in which he described how he found in the ancient texts, by his words "Christian faith". However, he did not use the word of dignity. But he was not alone. In this period many humanists concentrated their thoughts and investigations on the human being, that is why conventionally Renaissance is often misunderstood as the period of the birth of the anthropocentric view. In fact, the spiritual searches of the humanists have been moving significantly in the vastness between God and man. On the contrary, the understanding of God at the time may have been called for a reevaluation, but there was no denial or rejection, much less an independent human system. The spirit of man was merely radicalized, most often in reflection on the rejection of paganism. The individual being was beginning to realize not only his own free will but also the limitations and negative consequences of his own will. Marsilio Ficino wrote an influential philosophical study on the Platonic system of thinking, Nikolai Kuzanski perhaps the most rigorously tried to place the man in the creation of God. The increase in the personal testimonies became a rich source of humanistic attempts to transcend the limitations of the existence of the individual. This emerged in the detecting human notes on the instability of the human position and hurt also the fragility of the inner world of those humans, who were indifferent, responsive and thinking believers. However, in these individual contributions one could seek also for more desperate tone, that could be linked to the melancholy (the poetry of Michelangelo, Vittoria di Colonna, Pierre de Ronsard). But in fact, these contributions were characteristic for solitary, self-directed, but extremely pronounced individualities with increased self-reflection and a strong note of creativity.*

**Key words:** Renaissance, Humanities, Individuality, Melancholy, Critical Editions, Individualism, Creativity, Theocentrism, Anthropocentrism, Poetry, Philosophy, Neoplatonism, Spirituality.

# THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF AI AND THE SOCIAL IMAGINARIES OF THE DIGITAL

## DO YOU LOVE ME ALEXA? AI AND AUTHENTIC RELATIONSHIP

Noreen Herzfeld, PhD, Prof.  
St. John's University and the College of St. Benedict

### ABSTRACT

*AI is becoming ubiquitous in our society. Will AIs ever be considered persons? This is a problematic question because personhood, as a legal construct, is binary. Relationship is a non-binary category, so it makes sense to ask how authentic any relationship we have with an AI can be. Karl Barth presents four criteria for authentic relationship: to look the other in the eye, to speak to and hear the other, to aid the other, and to do it gladly.*

*The final criterion is a sticking point with AI. Can computers do anything gladly? Computers will increasingly recognize emotional cues and give emotionally salient responses. But emotion is a three-step process. We apprehend a stimulus, experience a bodily feeling, and formulate a response. Without a body, the process reduced to stimulus, calculation, response. There are humans similarly lacking the physical reaction—we call them sociopaths. Those who do not feel another's pain tend toward objectification, treating persons as things. This confusion of person and thing, of real emotion with act, is especially salient to the rapidly evolving development of sex bots.*

**Keywords:** Artificial Intelligence, Karl Barth, Emotion, Personhood, Sexbots

# TO BE HUMAN IN THE AGE OF AI

Antonio Dante Santangelo, PhD, Assist. Prof.  
University of Turin

## ABSTRACT

*If we look at the titles of books on the meaning of Artificial Intelligence, whether strong or weak, and, more generally, on the use of algorithms in every sphere of our life, we find that one of the fundamental questions is: what does it mean to be human, in the face of the technologies we are building? Or: what kind of human beings might want to develop these tools? This is what is asked by Tegmark, in *Life 3.0. Being Human in the Age of AI* (2017), Fry, in *Hello World. Being Human in the Age of the Machine* (2018), Frischmann and Selinger, in *Re-Engineering Humanity* (2019), or Pasquale, in *New Laws of Robotics. Defending Human Expertise in the Age of AI* (2020). In this kind of discourse, humans and AI are not always seen as two ontologically different entities, but, much more often, they are semantic constructs that signify because of similarities and differences that are placed within narratives about who we are and the future we would like to build. Therefore, I want to show how nine of these narratives work, referring both to the scientific essays in which they are carried out, and to fiction, both contemporary and from the past. My aim is to illustrate how the factual and fictional discourses that circulate in our society when we talk about Artificial Intelligence are merely the result of some important general cultural models by which we assign meaning to our experience of everyday life.*

**Keywords:** Artificial Intelligence, Algorithms, Human

# ASCRIBING 'RELIGION' TO TECHNOPAGANISM: A PRAGMATIST-SEMIOTIC APPROACH

Victoria Dos Santos, PhD Candidate  
University of Turin

Gorazd Andrejč, PhD, Assist. Prof.  
University of Groningen and Institute for Philosophical Studies, Science and Research Centre of Koper

## ABSTRACT

*In this paper, we are discussing technopaganism as an illuminating test case of ascribing 'religion'. Beyond the well-established Abrahamic religions, ascribing or not ascribing 'religion' to socio-cultural phenomena is wrought with cultural, social, political, spiritual and secular significance, as well as wrought with various theoretical problems. This is manifested in an interesting way in the case of technopaganism: a term encompassing a variety of practices and expressions related to contemporary Paganism, popular culture, and spiritual pursuits in digital environments since the 1990s. Many self-described technopagans would not consider themselves as 'religious', nor technopaganism as 'religion'. Against this background, we explore what it means to nevertheless describe this borderline phenomenon as 'religion', basing our investigation on a combination of Wittgensteinian-pragmatist and semiotic approaches. In line with the former, we begin by taking 'religion' and 'technopaganism' as family-resemblance concepts: no exhaustive definition or 'essence' of either religion or technopaganism is needed in order for these concepts to work – and to work together. Furthermore, since religion is "what we are willing and able to take it to be" (De Vries/Cavell), ascribing 'religion' to technopaganism assumes responsibility for this discursive move which can reach beyond a merely academic context. Finally, and according to the semiotic perspective consistent with the above, we suggest that describing technopaganism as 'religion' means interpreting the practitioners as poetically rewriting digital environments and their functions as sacred 'spaces' and ritual practices, respectively, and through this, re-enchanting the experiential and social worlds enabled by contemporary digital technology.*

**Keywords:** Technopaganism, Religion

# GUIDING LIGHT: RESPONSIBLE, ETHICAL AND SUSTAINABLE AI FOR SOCIAL CAUSES

Christian Stiegler, PhD, Director

Guiding Light – Center for Ethics and Sustainable Technologie

## ABSTRACT

*AI presents three major areas of ethical concern for society: privacy and surveillance, bias and discrimination, and perhaps the deepest, most difficult philosophical question of our times, the role of human judgment. The key to overcoming these concerns and understanding the benefits and improvements AI could bring to our society is a democratized and decentralized discourse about the ethical implications it will have on us as human beings. It will be crucial how we are able to educate and empower individuals and communities to take part in the conversation on eye level with each other to use AI for the greater good. This talk will focus on ways into a responsible, ethical, and sustainable technological future with AI on the example of the international organization „Guiding Light - Center for Ethics and Sustainable Technologies“. Together with a diverse and inclusive community of technologists, entrepreneurs, NGOs, charity organizations, and artists, Guiding Light initiates ethical and sustainable technology projects that benefit the wider public, tackle social problems, and address structural and transitional challenges in various areas of our lives. Its mission focuses on education, collaboration, measuring social impact, and debating and setting ethical standards for emerging technologies.*

*Keywords: Ethical and Sustainable AI, Society*

# "DIGITAL [R]EVOLUTION. PSYCHIC PRESENCE ON THE DIGITAL SCREEN."

Victor J. Krebs, PhD, Prof.  
University of Peru

## ABSTRACT

*The matter that occupies me in this presentation is the need to start understanding the transformations that we are experiencing in our intercourse with the digital as an evolutionary step in human consciousness. I focus specifically on the digital image, to explore both what it offers us to counteract the poisonous side of the technological pharmakon and how it is changing the nature of communication. My overarching concern is how to inhabit the present age, how to care for the human psyche in our [r]evolutionary era. How to inhabit the present age.*

*Keywords: Digital Evolution, Digital Revoluton, Human*



# HUMAN-NATURE-MACHINE RELATIONSHIPS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THEOLOGICAL ECOFEMINISMS

**Nadja Furlan Štante**, PhD, Prof.  
Science and research centre Koper

## **ABSTRACT**

*This paper compares the (Christian) ecofeminist ethic of relationality - the interconnectedness of all beings (human and natural non-human) in the web of life (interconnected subjectivity) - with the transhumanist ethic of human enhancement and technological singularity. Moreover, a critique of transhumanism and its (possible) abuse of technological power - over human and nature - is elaborated, as the „new“ superintelligence could drive accelerated technological progress and leave ecofeminist ecocentric egalitarianism behind, while moving towards posthumanism as a goal.*

**Keywords:** (Christian) ecofeminism, transhumanism, posthumanism, human enhancement, nature, technology.





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# **CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL EXISTENCE**

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## SCHOLARLY PANEL

# ETHICAL ISSUES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMICS

Mojca Ramšak, PhD, Prof.  
University of Ljubljana

### ABSTRACT

*Following the outbreak of COVID-19 in Slovenia in March 2020, medical and social ethics were put to the test. They are discussed in the Slovenian context, both diachronically and synchronously. In medicine, the main focuses of the discussions were as follows: the pandemic's impact on distributive justice in the delivery of health services and care in general; clinical ethics, in particular patient autonomy and informed consent; health professionals' lack of protective equipment and their obligation to risk their health and well-being for the sake of community health; the duty of health professionals in communicating with the general public and clarifying ethical standards of behaviour in order to protect themselves and the community; explanations of why masks and hygiene are important, and why immunizations are required; and information about the obligation of healthcare professionals not to stigmatize diseased colleagues. Social issues, however, referred to: creating a sense of moral responsibility for one's own and others' hygiene; political accountability for controlling COVID-19 disease in a timely manner and allocating funding for the acquisition of protective equipment; justification of measures restricting freedom of movement; increased police and army powers, as well as the indefinite duration of several executive ordinances; temporary limitation of personal liberty for the sake of community health; the impact of the social and economic consequences of quarantine; spreading misinformation and conspiracy theories; coping with shortened death ceremonies due to increasing mortality; stigmatization of the infected and the sick, followed by stigmatization of the unvaccinated people; the consequences of state-run tracking programs for the sick and infected. There were also legal cautions about the hazards of invasion of privacy, confidentiality, and personal data protection when using applications for more effective physical distance when it came to information technology.*

**Keywords:** ethics, Coronavirus, COVID-19, epidemics, pandemic, Slovenia, medicine, law, society

# ALGORITHMIC PERSONALIZATION AS A CHALLENGE AND REFLECTION (FOR SOCIETY)

Tadej Praprotnik, PhD, Assist. Prof.  
Univerza na Primorskem

## ABSTRACT

*The article focuses on the processes of algorithmization at the level of everyday life and presents the socio-cultural consequences of modern and increasingly present algorithmic recommendations. Algorithmic recommendations have the power to structure the likelihood of future events and create future actions of individuals. The text presents algorithms as technological infrastructure of everyday life, which enables and defines versions of modern sociality. It presents the social construction of algorithms. The article defines algorithms, introduces the technological architecture on which algorithms are based, and exposes the various social problems that we recently address through the term algorithmic personalization. Algorithmic recommendations reflect statistical correlations and probabilities for the population (category) but not for the person receiving the recommendations. Their statistical objectivity and reliability significantly simplify and at the same time limit an individual's perception of the world. For a more comprehensive understanding of modern life, it is essential to treat algorithms as an everyday component and to understand algorithms as a socio-technical option that structures and shapes our daily lives. When we accept the fundamental algorithmicity of everyday life and society, this can also be the starting point for pursuing different algorithms.*

**Keywords:** communication technologies, algorithms, personalization, datafication, consumers

# REVEALING AND RE-ENGAGING STORYTELLING AS AN ANCIENT AND POWERFUL EDUCATION TOOL

Martina Hranj, Prof.  
Medical School Varaždin

## ABSTRACT

*Everybody loves stories. Stories inspire us and leads us. In this time of digital transformation we are trying to perserve our humanity through rich and engaged communication in person, as well in distance with help of different digital devices. Our reaserch in based on information collected beforee, during and after engageing storytelling tools in one particular subject in diferent classes. Our reaserch is trying to give answers to questions such as: Could storytelling be an essential part of education? How to use it for better performances in teaching and making connections between teacher and students? Why is mental imaginery) that makes storytelling so powerful? Can this powerful impact be described as set of competences? What is a role of storytelling in digital transformation and do we really need it? Reasearch is conducted ih high school, on sample of 100 students between 14 and 18 years old and given hypothesis are mainly proved.*

**Keywords:** *storytelling, education, mental imagery, digital transformation*



# PERCEPTION OF SMELL IN PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN: SENSES, EMOTIONS, MEMORY, LEARNING

Primož Hvala Kamenšček, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

*The article presents the influence of smell on the interpersonal relationships between students at school. The following are presented: (1) perception of smell and expression of disgust from a cultural anthropo-logical perspective; (2) the psychology of interactions between children and adolescents, which unequiv-ocally express how they perceive everyday smells from the environment; and (3) the teacher's percep-tion of the student's smell on a conscious or unconscious level and consequently the impact on his behav-ior, perception and attitude towards the student and the impact on the quality of the educational pro-cess. We are interested in the implicit and explicit perception of smell and its expression on a symbolic and linguistic level. The analysis of smell perceptions in school is based on the empirical sample (1) of 200 children (primary school children) in two age groups (6 years – 10 years and 11 years – 16 years) and (2) 50 primary school teachers. At the same time, the method of direct observation of children was used. Findings: The results show that children establish hierarchical relationships based on smell and exclude peers with bad smell, which is a result of learned hygiene patterns and poor living conditions.*

**Keywords:** *smell, children, teachers, pedagogical process, Slovenia*

## CULTURAL AND POLITICAL IDENTITIES

### A TRIBUTE TO THE LINGUIST AND EDUCATOR JANKO BEZJAK PHD AT THE 160TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

Ivo Ban, PhD Candidate

#### ABSTRACT

*In the year 2022 we are celebrating the 160th anniversary of the birth of an important personality who has left significant marks, particularly on the professional realms of linguistics and education. This anniversary is an opportunity and an obligation to pay tribute to Janko Bezjak as the pioneer in the field of establishing Slovenian as the language of instruction within the then Habsburg monarchy, as well as highlight further areas of his activity. Considering that his figure and his achievements in several areas have only been explored to a limited extent, the anniversary should be comprehended as a call and an impulse for a deeper understanding of his actions, as this will facilitate a more complete and objective overall picture of his societal role and greatness which have so far obviously been overlooked or even neglected. The life and work of Janko Bezjak have so far primarily been a subject of lexicographical studies, where individual entries or general descriptions were referred to and also his most important works were stated. Some response to his work can be found in professional articles (e.g. Matej Rode, Natalija Žižić), as well as in the article which appeared at his seventieth birthday (Dragotin Pribil). Before having prepared this lecture, I had presented the life and work of Janko Bezjak at two previous conferences It's About People (2018 and 2019), where I had pointed out the triadic concept of his work, namely that of an educator, organizer and supervisor of the learning process, a scientist and a publicist (pedagogical writer). Inspection and analysis of the existing literature on Janko Bezjak PhD show a gap in the realm of the analytical and comparative evaluation of individual works, especially considering his relentless fight to establish the mother tongue as the language of instruction in the Slovenian territory.*

**Keywords:** Janko Bezjak PhD, 160th anniversary of the birth, triadic concept of work, linguistics and educational profession, mother tongue as the language of instruction

# ON EDWARD W. SAID'S ORIENTALISM

Rade Trivunčević, PhD Candidate

Alma Mater Europaea - ISH, Science and Research Centre Koper

## ABSTRACT

*Said's work Orientalism was first published in 1978, and even until this day it raises some pressing questions in various circles of science and politics. His findings in this work made him one of the most important critics and theorists of the postcolonial era. With a careful review of literature and its analysis, he describes in great detail the development of Orientalism and its global impact over time, touching on a number of important humanistic and cultural issues, including the distinction between „we“ and „they“ and the eternal ethical issue of the intertwining of politics and science. But his detailed critique of the Western system, including its scientific research and development, does not want to „defend Islam and the Orient,“ nor does he intend to further deepen the differences between East and West. By drawing attention to such mistakes, he urges future intellectuals and researchers to be aware of the impact of their own culture and environment on their work, to arm themselves with critical thinking, and to be ready to accept critiques and suggestions from the rest of the scientific community.*

**Keywords:** Orientalism, imperialism, postcolonial era, science, politics

# PARALLELS BETWEEN KRLEŽA'S „LJUBLJANA REPORT“ AND AUTONOMOUS POST-YUGOSLAV CINEMA

Aleš Čakalić, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea - ISH

## ABSTRACT

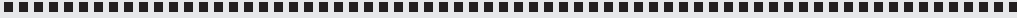
*In 1952, Croatian writer Miroslav Krleža (1893-1981) put an end to the two decades long »polemic on the artistic left« in Yugoslavia, during which a confrontation between socialist realism and a more liberal understanding of artistic expression had been taking place. Krleža's famous 1952 „Ljubljana report“ represented a turning point of socialist realism taking a backstep in order to give space to more autonomous artistic creation.*

*In the body of post-Yugoslav cinema one can detect two basic artistic approaches: instrumental, where films serve as conveyors of ideological messages of authorities, and autonomous, which may also carry political messages but if so, the messages stand for subjective artistic commentaries on social reality. One can also find examples of the two approaches merging in one and the same film, yet a great majority of post-Yugoslav films can be elegantly subsumed under either one of those two creative modes.*

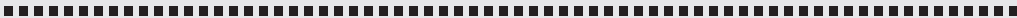
*With a comparative analysis of the main talking points of the »Ljubljana report« and of selected examples of autonomous post-Yugoslav cinema, parallels are observed, and a conclusion is reached that the »Ljubljana report« is the reference point with which the specificity and meaning of autonomous post-Yugoslav cinema can be convincingly interpreted and grounded.*

**Keywords:** *autonomous post-Yugoslav cinema, instrumental post-Yugoslav cinema, Miroslav Krleža, polemic on the artistic left, »Ljubljana report«*





# **DANCE ART**





## EXPERT PANELS

### ***DANCE AND THE DIGITAL ERA; DANCE MEDIATION***

### **FILM DIRECTOR AND DANCER IN DANCE FILM**

**Uroš Zavodnik**, PhD, Assist. Prof.  
Alma Mater Europaea - Dance Academy

#### **ABSTRACT**

*Film director, when he directs, is subordinated to the dramaturgy of narration, as well to the creation of characters, through which he try to interact with the spectator. The spectators viewpoint regarding the art, as the dance art is, is certainly a bit others of the viewpoint of dancer, which the film director puts in front of the film camera together with the choreographer and his entire film crew. That's why the awaiting and vision of a dancer, how to create the character of the dancer for the genre of feature dance film is lot of times others as the one from the film director. In this particular time of the digitalisation of the film art, the dancer has also the ability to produce by himself his own dance performance for the screen. Not only for the 'digital auditions', he could do it also for the diverse digital film/video platforms. Through that we probably rich the crucial point in the film art, which include all the other arts, when the dancer inside the feature dance film will be presented much more realistic as it was till now.*

**Keywords:** film art, film director, dancer, dance film



# OTHER SPACES OF DIGITAL CAPTIVITY DYING SWANS PROJECT 2021

Helena Valerija Krieger, PhD Candidate  
Alma Mater Europaea - ISH

## ABSTRACT

*"Dying Swans" was named by Eric Gauthier, CEO of the Gauthier Dance Company of Stuttgart, after learning of the extensive cancellation of all planned international tours in 2021. For a new artistic challenge, he used the virtual space, as the only option. In the present article, we were interested in the approaches in the use of space used by choreographers and the way of artistic expression through a different medium. Addressing the audience through the camera lens requires different choices of stage performance elements. This establishes different conceptual, technological, and methodological foundations of a different theater. The search for theoretical explanations with an insight into staged practice, where tradition meets technology in a given time and space, hints at the question of the forced acceptance of virtual theater, which can only be a current emergency exit or a shift to virtuality means abandoning traditional practices and live theater.*

**Keywords:** *Dying Swans Project, contemporary dance, stage space, digital medium, digimodernism*

# DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION - A PREREQUISITE FOR THE SURVIVAL OF THE ARTISTIC ORGANISATION AS A MICRO-ENTREPRENEURIAL ENTITY IN CULTURE DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC AND THE ENSUING RECESSION

Jasna Čizmek Tarbuk

*Artistic Organisation Fronesis*

## **ABSTRACT**

*Digital transformation is an inevitable and necessary process in almost all aspects of businesses. Therefore, even art organizations as micro-entrepreneurial entities in art, are forced into a process of digital transformation. Even just opening a websites and using digital marketing helps in better visibility of artistic work. Due to smaller size, art organizations are flexible and it is relatively simply to educate a small number of people. As a result of opening channels for communication, faster planning and better organization is possible. For example by using digital scenography, great reduction the cost of this part of production can be made because it does not require storage space, transportation costs and is suitable for any space. Furthermore, digital transformation enables faster archiving and accessibility of recordings and presentation data. For the time of the Pandemic, art organizations that have already proven digital transformation are faster and easier switching to remote business, offering cultural content online. The digital transformation facilitates business, reduces costs and is key to the survival and visibility of small arts organizations during a pandemic. This paper presents observations on the introduction of digital transformation on a couple of small art organizations during pandemic and recession.*

**Keywords:** *Digital transformation, artistic organizations, micro-entrepreneurial entity, culture, Covid pandemic, recession*

# FINDING INSPIRATION IN THE LIMITS OF DIGITAL LEARNING

Johanna Rebecca Greiner, Student  
Alma Mater Europaea - Dance Academy

## ABSTRACT

*In the past 2 years a lot of experiences could be made regarding training dance online. The following article will examine the personal experiences of the author and reflect on the positive and negative influences that the forced digitalization had on her practice as an aspiring professional dancer. Part of the discussion will be online classes she was able to attend at the contemporary dance Formation CobosMika in Palamós, Spain in spring 2020, at the summer academy of TWV academy (an online platform for professional dancers) in summer 2020 and a courses in biomechanics and improvisation held by a private dance school (Tanzstation) in Cologne, Germany since October 2020. Basis of the evaluation is the comparison of the experience gained in classes that were held on site (in studio), with the ones held online. Factors of comparison are: space, the work space of the student; time, how is the course structured timewise, the expenditure of time; the quality of the received study material, taking a look at how the transmission and assimilation of physical and theoretical knowledge differ in on site versus online courses; and last but not least, communication, difficulties and advantages of the exchange online.*

**Keywords:** online-training, digital, dancing, global, connection

# DANCE MEDIATION AND ARTISTIC EDUCATION – A PROCESS OF OVERLAPPING

Ângelo Neto, Lecturer  
Escola Superior de Dança

## ABSTRACT

*Between the movement of persisting and resisting, dance contains the paradoxical germ of appearing and disappearing. These are important questions to think about dance mediation. Deleuze places creation as an act of resistance, where it becomes an object of encounter with multiplicities. Balzacchino relates artistic creation to education through resistance as a disjointed place. Artistic practice cannot be seen as utilitarian but as a tension producer. Teacher-student or choreographer-interpreter advocates a fundamental relation to think about mediation. The didactic-democratic spectrum, proposed by Jo Butterworth, allows us to reveal the elasticity in the relationship between the agents of creation. She proposes that through the devising process the interpreter actively participates as a thinker about the choreographic work and its construction. This is important to dance mediation because it places the agents as active characters in the process of mediation between them and the choreographic work. Atkinson allows us to think about the planar character in artistic practice since it places both, the teacher/mediator, and the student, in a state of becoming. This allows the agents to transcend themselves and to build a new ontological plane. And turns mediation as an opportunity of creating and encountering multiplicities.*

**Keywords:** Dance, mediation, artistic education

# PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL ASPECTS IN DANCE

## SOME PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS IN COMPETITIVE BALLROOM DANCING

**Bor Sojar Voglar, PhD**  
Alma Mater Europaea - Dance Academy

### **ABSTRACT**

*In this paper, we highlight some psychological factors that we believe greatly influence whether or not, why, how, and for how long an individual engages in competitive ballroom dancing, and what results will they achieve. In recent years, quite a bit of professional literature has been accumulated on the topic of competitive ballroom dancing, mainly under the authorship or mentorship of dr. Meta Zagorc and research done with the Slovenian national team. However, it should be noted that the books are written primarily for dancers who are already top notch, who have already shown an excess of talent and will, and is primarily intended for dancers in the Slovenian national team. The psychological factors described in the books are specific and researched, related to seasonal form and pre-competition situations, and are focused primarily on the nuances that distinguish champions. We must not forget, however, that many other dancers are also involved in dancesport, who, like the champions, train every day and regularly qualify for the quarter-finals and semi-finals at the national level. Both are influenced by much more general psychological and non-psychological factors, of which we have selected 7 that we give the most weight to.*

**Keywords:** Psychology, training, ballroom, latin, beginners

# INTERCEPTION OF DANCERS AND THEIR AWARENESS OF EMOTIONS AND BODILY SENSATIONS

Tjaša Stepišnik Perdih, PhD  
School of Advanced Social Studies

Ajda Špacapan  
ŠINŠIN

## ABSTRACT

*Interoception refers to the conscious perception of sensations from inside the body (Mehling et al., 2011) and has been described as an important mechanism in the development of self-awareness and selfhood (Christensen, Gaigg, and Calvo-Merino, 2018). Research shows that artists who use the body directly (dancers) or indirectly (fine arts) have a better starting point for interoceptive awareness (ibid), and recognizing interoceptive processes is associated with the successful integration of bodily sensations, cognitive processes and emotional experience (Price and Hooven, 2018). Since the bodily sensations and emotional experiences for contemporary dancers are often generators of their dance material, we were interested in whether interoception is related to the ability to perceive bodily sensations and to emotional awareness? In our study, we used the MAIA questionnaire (Multidimensional Assessment of Interoceptive Awareness, 2012) and DERS (Difficulties in Emotion Regulation Scale, 2004). There were 77 participants with an average age of 28.77 years (SD=12.5). 55.8% of participants danced professionally, 31.2% semi-professionally, and 23.4% were amateurs. On average they were dancing for 17.47 years (SD=9.5). The results of our study show a significant correlation between dancers' interoception awareness and their ability to be aware of emotions and bodily sensations (moderate effect size).*

**Keywords:** interoception, contemporary dance, body awareness, emotional awareness

# GESTURE AS AN AUXILIARY TOOL IN TREATMENT OF CHILDREN WITH ASD

Lidia Krisskaya, Student  
Alma Mater Europaea - Dance Academy

## ABSTRACT

*This paper is based on a series of observations regarding the perception and subsequent use of gestures in autistic children in the process of learning and communication. A gesture is understood as a process associated with the creation of a meaningful message through an initiated movement. The autistic child, repeating the speaker's gestures, tries to understand the meaning of the explained behavioral situation. By memorizing these gestures, he can use them depending on the situation when appropriate behavior is required of him. The study of dance combination is the creation of a semiotic context. A similar creation of a common context happens in the process of explaining new behavioral situations with the help of gestures to autistic children. While teaching such children, emphasis should be placed on the practical use of gestures, thereby developing in these children the ability to construct meanings and understand behavioral situations by linking them with the gesture movement.*

**Keywords:** movement, biological programs, gestures, autistic children, ASD

# THE ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE IN THE STUDIES OF FUTURE EDUCATORS AS A PATH TO PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Urša Rupnik, Dancer, Choreographer, Dance Pedagogue

Vesna Geršak, PhD

Faculty of Education of the University of Ljubljana

## ABSTRACT

*In the field of dance, the closure of public life due to the epidemic has also had a drastic impact on the ways of creating, performing and teaching in and through the art of dance. Artistic processes and pedagogical approaches have been forced to question their very essence, as dance can hardly exist without one of its basic requirements - an appropriately sized space. The case study discussed in this paper brought the 'pandemic' explorations and practises of two artists (from dance and visual arts) into the study process of future educators through the elective course Dance Theatre, thus creating a platform for students' own creativity through the languages of dance, visual arts and film. The fresh processes of creating and teaching, mediated through virtual media, positively impacted both students' understanding of personal artistic experience for individual and professional development and their psycho-physical well-being in a time of public closure; at the same time, they laid the groundwork for reflection on redefining dance education in the higher education of future educators and practitioners.*

*Data were processed using a qualitative method. The students' reflections were grouped into 4 categories according to Glasser's control theory of human needs: Love/Belonging, Fun, Freedom, Power.*

**Keywords:** artistic experience, pre-school education students, distance education, higher education, dance pedagogy



# DANCE IN KINDERGARTEN - AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE PSYCHO-PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN

**Blaž Šumak**

Institute for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired Ljubljana

**Vesna Geršak, PhD**

Univerza na Primorskem, Pedagoška Fakulteta

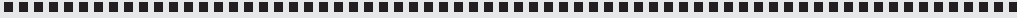
## **ABSTRACT**

*Dance in kindergarten - an important factor in the psycho-physical development of children. In this thesis is written about dance expression in the preschool period. Dance expression in the preschool period significant impact on the holistic development of children in all areas, psychomotor, cognitive and emotional-social. Curriculum for kindergarten is the basis for educators work with the objectives and scope of activities in the kindergarten. The educator encourages children to artistic activity, which plays an important role in the dance. Present the importance and the organization of extracurricular activities in the kindergarten, cooperation with parents: the right approach and communication, dance activities with elements of dance, learning and training in the dance and the role of the teacher in all this. Research Methodology. The study used quantitative methodology. Data were obtained through a questionnaire composed of three sections: general data on the dance activities, and the opinion of parents and educators attending the recent dance activities and views on dance activities, such as additional activities kindergarten. Research results show that parents and their children were satisfied with dancing and the organization, the majority of dance activities are carried out as an afternoon activity in kindergarten, in the future parents are willing to fund and support the dance activities in kindergartens. Mostly dance teaching dance instructors with licensed as an afternoon dance activity in each kindergarten. Educators are aware of the importance of continuous dance education. Dance activities should be accessible to all children, it is suggested to be financed by government, educators must have the opportunity to continue their formal education and continuing professional development. We need further research in the field of dance activity, confirming the importance and usefulness of dance activities for the overall development of the child.*

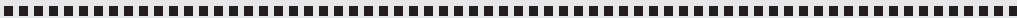
**Keywords:** children, kindergarten, dance activities, parents, educators







# **MANAGEMENT**





## SCHOLARLY PANEL

### STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION MANAGEMENT

## THE ALIENATION TEMPTATION OF MODERN COMMUNICATION

Milan Petričković, PhD, Prof.  
University of Belgrade

#### ABSTRACT

*The abundance of communicative expressions immanent to man's historical genesis, such as human speech and words, folklore, religion, philosophy, education, art and politics, as a living reflection of the achieved level of consciousness, concrete society and its production conditions, in its teleological basis transformation. In Hegel's words, the „modern spirit of the times“ on the global planetary level is crucially determined by the neoliberal conception of business, which in economic, value, cultural. gives a stamp to today's spiritual and especially political context. By fetishizing capital, the domination of force and power, and suppressing man, his freedom and humane transformation, this modern spirit of the times generates a specific communication, which is deeply tested, between dehumanized alienation and moral perfection, archetypically predestined to the human race. In this regard, questions arise, the answers to which are sought in the text: whether the technical progress of the media such as digital technologies is sufficient and the only condition for valuable interpersonal communication; as well as whether this communication corresponds to human nature and its moral habitus; i.e., what consequences it causes on man's innate generic authenticity of existence!*

**Keywords:** Contemporary communication, alienation, (de) humanization, tasting, values, moral development

# MANIFESTATION OF SPIRITUAL ABUSE IN RELIGIOUS COMMUNICATION

**Vlado Havran**, Lecturer  
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**Danijela Rajić**  
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## **ABSTRACT**

*Spiritual abuse is a very sensitive and painful topic when it comes to religious communication. Spiritual abuse is not talked about, and discussion on this topic is avoided in religious circles. If there were a discussion, the result would usually be denial or cover-up. It is difficult to recognize, and sometimes even to recognize and define.*

*Although the phenomenon of spiritual abuse is mostly associated with practices in various cults, it is increasingly manifesting itself in Christian communities. Any abuse of power in Christian communities that is justified by biblical teaching can be considered spiritual abuse.*

*The paper will clearly define what spiritual abuse is, identify the causes that lead to its occurrence, show the ways of its manifestation as well as its harmful consequences.*

*The data for this paper are the result of research conducted in a Christian community of Protestant orientation. Believers, priests and the administration participated in the research. The research includes 300 respondents, of which 200 lay believers, 80 priests and 20 administration officials. The results of the work will be processed by the method of statistical analyzes and by defining the levels of statistical significance of the observed variables.*

*At the end of the paper, suggestions for the prevention and prevention of spiritual abuse will be presented, based on biblical advice.*

*The contribution of the paper is to reveal and present the existing mechanisms of spiritual abuse that appear in religious communication in Christian communities, as well as in families that practice the Christian religion.*

**Keywords:** *spiritual abuse, abuse of power, fear, spirituality, Christian ideology, victims*

# THE IMPORTANCE OF WELL-PLANNED CRISIS COMMUNICATION STRATEGY WITHIN A COMPANY OR AN ORGANISATION

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## **ABSTRACT**

*Many organizations or companies of any activity, are exposed to various crisis situations. The crisis as a phenomenon can cause irreparable damage, but also, it can be an opportunity to improve the organization itself. Well-developed strategic communication can greatly contribute to reducing the damage caused by the crisis itself and thus preserve good business.*

*The paper deals with the analysis of the importance of successful communication, type and causes of the crisis and the strategic communication of an organization at the time of the particular crisis situation. The important fact is that there is no organization which has developed crisis avoidance system as an occurrence, and crisis communication is an area that is closely related to resolving and mitigating the negative effects of the crisis itself to the organization.*

*An example of crisis communication in this paper is shown through the crisis situation of the social network Facebook-Camridge Analytic in 2018, which echoed strongly in all world media. Therefore, the purpose of the paper is to show the importance of crisis or strategic communication of organizations in the crisis in order to survive and also how well or poorly prepared strategic communication can help or destroy the organization.*

**Keywords:** *crisis, crisis communication, strategic communication, manipulation, media*



# R(D)ECONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CONCEPTS IN THE DIGITAL CONTEXT OF SOCIAL NETWORK CONSUMPTION

**Ivan Balabanić, PhD**

University of Zagreb

**Marija Zelić**

University of Zagreb

## **ABSTRACT**

*Juergen Habermas, in his book *Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere* (1962), defined the public sphere as an area of politics and public life in general where strangers exchange ideas, while the private sphere is a closed area in an individual's life that is only open to those who may enter it. Today, due to the mass use of social networks and digital platforms, the clear boundary between these two spheres has disappeared. The main aim of this paper is to analyze the contemporary phenomenon of the de(re)construction of the notions of private and public in the context of the mass use of social networks and digital platforms. In order to obtain an answer to the set objectives, a survey is conducted among a sample of 400 younger respondents (15-30 years old) through an online survey, using a convenient sample and a snowballing system to select the units in the sample.*

**Keywords:** private, public, ethics, social networks, digital space

# THE UNDEFINED NATURE OF THE INFLUENCERS' PROFESSION IN CROATIA

**Astrid Mušura Kaučić**

In medias res komunikacije" d.o.o.

**Ljubica Bakić-Tomić, PhD, Prof.**

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## **ABSTRACT**

*We live in the digital age where the changes in lifestyle and, inherently ways of communication, are swift. Social media development gave way to utter change of the manner in which people communicate. New generations provide new ideas and thus some of the youngsters, thanks to digital platforms at their disposal, commenced posting their every-day-life moments. Depending on the appeal of their stories, videos, and ways of addressing the public, they gained followers. And so came into existence – the influencers, people who, depending on their creativity, honesty, and appeal, acquired influence over their followers. The greater the number of followers the greater the influence. Therefore, those with powerful influence over their audience – followers, stirred the interest of companies which, via the influencers' stories, desired to present their brands. The influencers saw this fact as a lucrative opportunity to turn their fun into a business often rewarded with high profits. To better comprehend which profession they belong to, according to the attitudes and reflections of the influencers in the Republic of Croatia, how they see themselves in this line of work, we shall use the anonymous interview method. We expect the research to result in contributing to defining their profession which will have dual significance: professional-scientific definition and work and competence structuring of the latest influencer profession. This represents a new communication profession, and the legal regulation thereof in the Republic of Croatia.*

**Keywords:** *influencer, profession definition, influencers' competencies, legal regulation of influencers in the Republic of Croatia.*

# POST TOURIST COMMUNICATION PARADIGM AND DIGITALIZATION

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**Daria Mustić**, PhD, Assist. Prof.  
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## ABSTRACT

*The modern world, viewed globally, is defined by the processes of environmental changes, digitalization and the covid-19 pandemic, which are thus changing the communication paradigm and thus also the ways of communicating in tourist destinations. In addition, these processes, each in its own way influence the very essence of the phenomenon of tourism. Therefore, the problem of „imposing“ technical and alienation ways of communication arises, which goes into the very essence of tourism, which is expressed in the phrase: tourism is people. The article presents results, review of literature and certain practices related to the research problem or the divergence of theoretical scientific views and emerging practices of tourism communication processes in destinations. The aim of the article is to analyze theoretical sources and certain experiences or practices to show that the traditional understanding of the content or essence of tourism, due to the process of digitization of channels and methods of communication, has matured for critical assessment and appropriate renewal. So, it is a matter of establishing the facts of strengthening the alienation role of digitalization in the communication process in a tourist destination. As a solution, we offer the application of the principles of assertive and especially deliberative communication in all contexts of symbolic interaction between stakeholders in a tourist destination. With this article, we want to encourage the thinking of a wider circle of researchers in the field of communication and tourism science about the alienation impact of digitalization and the related, new understanding of the phenomenon of tourism.*

**Keywords:** Digitization, De /alienation communication, deliberative communication, tourism, tourist destination

# ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY AS A FORM OF INNOVATIVE COMMUNICATION

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**Ljubica Bakić-Tomić**, PhD, Prof.  
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**Anamarija Kirinić**, PhD Candidate  
University of Maribor

## ABSTRACT

*Economic diplomacy is an innovative mechanism for the development of the economy and the positioning of the state in the international economic environment. Without this mechanism, there is no efficient economic and business international communication. The economy has taken over the status that military-political instruments and factors had in international relations so far. Economic diplomacy has undergone a transformation from a state to a non-state function such as individual companies and economic entities. The aim of this paper is to analyze what economic diplomacy is and to present its effects in a series of case / state studies. Within the European Union, more economically developed countries (France and Germany) and less developed ones (Poland and Croatia) were selected for the analysis of economic diplomacy. The comparative research method, by showing the similarities and differences of national economic diplomacies, enables causally valid conclusions to be drawn from it. With the country study approach, it is possible to analyze the basic features of the system of economic diplomacy in selected countries. Economic diplomacy is certainly an innovative national-economic, foreign policy and business tool and a resource that should contribute to social change.*

**Keywords:** economic diplomacy, innovative communications, foreign policy, business tool, competitiveness of national economies

# PRIMARY HEALTHCARE AND DELIBERATIVE COMMUNICATION AT COVID TIMES IN THE AGE OF DIGITALIZATION

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## ABSTRACT

*The paper's topic is healthcare communication in the age of digital revolution and during the Corona virus epidemic. As a result of the pandemic's circumstances and the significant effect of ICT, the communication environment is changing, both in terms of communication methods and media. Considering the current communication climate, affirming the principles of deliberative communication as communication that signifies and implies mutual respect among communicators is essential. Our research objective is whether current communication practices in primary healthcare institutions satisfy all stakeholders, particularly patients, at the time of COVID, and what can be done to change and enhance it. First and foremost, how does new information technology affect the quality of communication? It is essential to adapt rapidly to changes by constantly monitoring and listening to the demands of employees and end consumers, which includes patients. Only in this way will we be able to develop new or redesign current services and forms of communication, particularly through new technologies, assuring increased availability and efficiency. Our main idea is that both service providers and consumers are dissatisfied with the current communication system. This is the primary hypothesis from which we will develop additional secondary.*

**Keywords:** communication, deliberative communication, healthcare, communication technology

# THE ROLE OF COMMUNICATION IN DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY - A METHOD OF DELIBERATIVE INTERROGATION OF TAXATION AND TAX RECIPROCITY

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## ABSTRACT

*Public policy issues and considerations, particularly policy decision-making, are always difficult and demanding for citizens. Taxation, tax policy implementation, reforms and why pay taxes are some of these issues. The article shows how deliberative processes facilitate the joint resolution of such issues and stimulate the involvement of citizens for the public good. An overview of cases of deliberative processes, the importance of communication and the role it plays in deliberative democracy is given, with an emphasis on deliberative polling, dialogue with the community for the purpose of reciprocity. The importance of communication in deliberative polling as a form of political consultation, opinion poll with mini-publics and the will of citizens is presented. The role of communication as a tool in examining the postulates of deliberative processes is considered; citizen involvement and decision-making. The article shows how deliberative democracy emphasizes the importance of civil society, which represents public communication; articulation of requests, information, opinions, debates, public learning, conferences, communication through the media, TV. The article shows how public communication should be better to encourage citizen participation and improve the ethics of public discourse. Public policy makers need to provide feedback to citizens on their suggestions and reasons for acceptance or rejection.*

**Keywords:** *deliberative democracy, communication, deliberative interrogation, mini-publics, tax, reciprocity*

# THE ROLE OF DELIBERATIVE COMMUNICATION IN THE LOCAL COMMUNICATION COMMUNITY AND THE SUBJECTIVITY OF VOTERS

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## ABSTRACT

*The topic of the paper is an analysis of the role of democratic political participatory communication in the local communication community, with the aim of finding new ways to improve the political subjectivity of voters. Our research question is how to apply certain communication values from the theory of communicative action to a system that should enable an „ideal speech situation“ in the communication community. The basic hypothesis is that voters in the local community do not feel like subjects of political decision-making. For the needs of research work, we will use quantitative and qualitative methods using surveys as a research tool or technique for empirical research, as well as the method of analysis of existing sources. Namely, communication is the process of constituting the human community of various levels of social organization and the way of functioning and ensuring their existence. Power is also established, operated and legitimized communicatively. In this sense, technological advances in the development of information and communication technology (ICT) allow for new convergent forms of political voter participation in the decision-making process. Deliberative communication involves both political representatives in representative bodies and voters and is important in the process of building an „ideal speech situation“.*

**Keywords:** communication, deliberative communication, participatory communication, political subjectivity, democracy

# DIFFERENCES IN EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION WITH WORKING FROM HOME DURING THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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## ABSTRACT

*The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a situation in which a large number of citizens have started working from home via digital platforms. The main goal of this paper is to examine the level of employee satisfaction with working from home and to define the main determinants that are associated with level of satisfaction. The general level of employee satisfaction with working from home, differences in satisfaction with regard to the activity and the relationship between the level of satisfaction with working from home with the level of income and position at work will be examined as well as the relationship between the level of satisfaction and the conditions of the employer's workplace. The research will examine and define the main difficulties and advantages that employees encountered when working from home and the differences in all of the above with regard to gender, age, property status, workplace position and individual digital skills. The survey will be conducted on a quota sample of Croatian citizens, and quotas will be distributed according to age, gender, position at a workplace and the regions. The framework for the selection of the sample are the users of social networks Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.*

**Keywords:** work from home, pandemic COVID-19, stress, family-work conflict



# TEACHING AND LEARNING IN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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## ABSTRACT

*With the new situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021 year, many schools and universities around the world were forced to use some kind of online learning and some of them have been closed for the semester to avoid physical contact. The research includes issues in the schools and universities around the world during the COVID-19 pandemic that are caused by a fast switch to online. Online learning and teaching can be challenging because they ask for a greater engagement of teachers and students. The inclusion of many ICT technologies can demotivate students and decrease learning output because they feel overloaded. Besides this, new problems occur such as lack of connection, students cheating in exams, increased workload and permanent gaps in knowledge among students. Normal teaching and learning is now a relative term because paradigms about teaching and learning have changed in a way we didn't expect.*

**Keywords:** *online learning, COVID-19, ICT, issues*

# COMMUNICATION CHALLENGES OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION: RESEARCH OF STUDENTS' EXPERIENCE WITH DISTANCE LEARNING

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University of Zagreb

**Daria Mustic**, PhD, Assist. Prof.

University of Zagreb

## **ABSTRACT**

*Nowdays we are witnessing accelerated technological progress applied in almost all areas of human activity. The global pandemic, has led to the need of moving from traditional, face-to-face classroom teaching to hybrid learning model and online tutoring. The aim of this research is to examine students' satisfaction and attitudes about the quality of distance learning, hybrid teaching and learning through various online teaching platforms, by conducting an online anonymous survey among students. The set hypotheses are: students prefer traditional „face to face“ teaching in relation to the hybrid model and students prefer traditional „face to face“ teaching in relation to the online model. The results of this research showed that the surveyed students believe that the platforms for conducting distance learning are easy to use, for the most part they believe that teaching in the future could be conducted partly live and partly online. A large percentage of surveyed students believe that teaching during the pandemic was well designed, but poorly conducted. It is concluded that distance learning corresponded to the necessity of a situation caused by a pandemic, but that in the future live classroom teaching will always have priority, so that the overall study experience is complete.*

**Keywords:** distance learning, platforms, design, user experience, communication

# DIGITALISATION OF MEDIA - DISPERSION OF VIEWS AND KNOWLEDGE

**Maruša Mavsar**, PhD Candidate  
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## **ABSTRACT**

*Due to the global increase in online presence, expert discussions on the consequences of media digitalisation for both the media themselves and various publics have predictably intensified during the epidemic years. Changing the work of editorial offices and the journalistic profession due to media convergence, changes of power relations in the information market, commercializing of media forms, involving users as information sources, changes of journalistic ethics and codes, innovation potentials of digital media, modern forms of censorship and fake news are some of the most common topics that have been analyzed under the global academic scrutiny for more than a decade. In the conference paper, we examined the presence and content of expert reflection on digital media transformation in Slovenia in the period 2018 -2021. This included two „ordinary“ years and two years marked by the SARS-CoV-2 virus epidemic. Research and academic discourse on media digitalisation is very dispersed among disciplines, each tackling its own field of modern media transformation and we found only a few studies or professional proceedings that would address the current phenomena of digitalisation of communication and information channels interdisciplinary. The latter would contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges that the ‚digital first‘ imperative of communication and business brings to society on a daily basis.*

**Keywords:** media digitalisation, online journalism, convergence

# BLOG AS A MEANS OF INNOVATIVE COMMUNICATION FOR DISABLED PEOPLE IN THE CITY OF ZAGREB

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## ABSTRACT

*Wheelchair users often need to be well informed about the architectural adaptations of cultural, artistic and heritage institutions in the city of Zagreb before the planned visit in order to check whether they can access the building on their own and if they can move freely through the space. That information can be obtained by visiting websites of these institutions or by web browsing, but the requested information isn't always specified, and can be incomplete or inaccurate. Since there isn't a single web site that would contain such information, and since the author works in one such institution and practically experiences the problems of disabled people and difficulties in obtaining accurate information, a blog for people with disabilities was made, where all the information they need could be found in one place. Data for the Blog is collected by e-mail and a visit in person by the author. The collected information is immediately published on the blog with a detailed review. For the purposes of this paper, a detailed analysis of what these institutions offer to people with disabilities will be made in terms of space adaptation and all other necessary information for the needs of people with disabilities.*

**Keywords:** *disabled people, people with sensory impairments, architectural adaptations, cultural, artistic and heritage institutions, information through a blog for people with disabilities*

# INNOVATIVE DIGITALISATION OF INTEGRATED ARCHITECTURE

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## ABSTRACT

*The capacity for digital visibility of construction plans for compliance with and monitoring construction so to protect the environment is a condition for high quality people-environment relations. A digital programme is an effective means to prevent unplanned construction with no sustainable architecture-context relationship and for the creation of a space suitable all citizens. The mandatory establishment of a public digital register of planned development could effectively assist the prevention of further irreparable devastation of landscape with the attendant loss of character. Transparent digital data would be provided by support staff of the natural and heritage conservation department with collaboration of competent county and city departments. The research problem addresses the possible digital establishment of sustainable development, particularly in areas of cultural heritage. The research plan draws on qualitative methodology, discourse analysis, observation methods, in-depth interviews with building permit seekers. The results are expected to indicate the lack of criteria for planned development. From this theme of digital corrections to local construction planning, an important corrective role for digital possibilities of sustainability can be derived, particularly close to cultural monuments or the maritime domain, establishing a green belt and making the coastal zone accessible to all.*

**Keywords:** *integrating construction, cultural devastation, landscape character, sustainability, accessibility of construction information*

# SUBLIMINAL MESSAGES

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**Marieta Djakovic**, Lecturer  
Juraj Dobrila University of Pula

## **ABSTRACT**

*In today's world of increasing networking and new channels of communication, social changes, the boundaries of space and time have been overcome, and communication is taking different forms and becoming more widespread. As communication developed, different ways of sending messages have developed. In order for the message to achieve its goal, it should be conveyed to the recipient in the most optimal way. An increasingly significant role is communication through hidden or subliminal messages that are presented through various forms and that affect the emotional part of human consciousness. It can be stated that subliminal messages today are a way of everyday communication in all segments of society. Manipulation of subliminal digital messages is one of the ways of communicative manipulation and all younger generations are exposed to it. It is important to work on raising awareness among young people so that they can recognize such messages and not fall under their influence. Attitudes and opinions about subliminal messages differ very much regardless of the gender, age or education of the respondents, and the aim of this research is to find out the level of awareness, attitudes and opinions of students about them.*

**Keywords:** *Communication, subliminal messages, influence and perception of subliminal messages, digital message manipulation*

## SCHOLARLY PANEL

### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

# HOW TO MEASURE TEAMWORK QUALITY IN VIRTUAL TEAMS

Markus Behn, PhD Candidate

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#### ABSTRACT

*During the last two years virtual collaboration became a standard. Even organisations which haven't thought about remote work before Covid-19 asked their workforce to stay at home and to collaborate remotely. This was a new experience for many employees but also their managers and none of the two groups had time to prepare themselves as the request came up so spontaneously. In addition, many employers mentioned already, that they plan to work remotely after Covid-19 as well (at least partially). Servant Leadership is a good method to maintain or even improve collaboration in virtual teams, where „a servant-leader is servant first“ (Greenleaf, 1977). The paper will focus on this leadership method and will demonstrate how it can support remote work in the future.*

**Keywords:** *Servant Leadership, Virtual Teams, Remote Work, Project Management*

# THE INFLUENCE OF »VOLITION« AS A CORE ELEMENT OF COURAGE AND MINDSET OF LEADERS AND PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS AS AN IMPORTANT SUCCESS FACTOR OF LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS

Andreas Doba, PhD Candidate  
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## ABSTRACT

*In project management world, which is increasingly characterized by projectification (Survey on the „Role of Institutions in the Projectification of Society in Germany“, Reinhard Wagner 2021/ IPMA-GPM,) and process optimization, there is a margin between successful projects and total failure, especially for large scale and giga projects (LSP/GP). Although the same PM tools, PM methodology and procedures for planning processes, project management, project execution and back offices/PMO are available to all companies and there are no major qualitative differences here, companies like TESLA manage to implement gigantic projects in impressively short periods of time that are second to none and, on the other hand, the big failed projects like the German Berlin Airport (BER) despite German thoroughness and the best and qualified resources. A comparison also on the content level shows, that Turkey for example was able to implement one of the largest airports in Europe - the new Istanbul International Airport - in a quarter of the time compared to BER, on schedule, while adhering to the budget and with everyone project goals. The chosen research area will be a result for the set-up and development of project teams and the awareness of the individual skills and abilities of the chosen team member for project teams conducting large scale and giga projects (>1bn EUR budget). The focus refers to the human characteristics like tuition, courage, will and decisiveness and last but not least "Volition". As a result, the key findings are, that the volition as the one of the key personal characteristics of the project leader and the project team members are strongly relevant for the success of different LSP and achieving the project goals and even more important than the PM processes and skills and should have been considered explicitly for the team set-up of large scale and giga projects.*

**Keywords:** Volition, Stakeholder, Branches, Project Manager, Executives, Management of Large Scale Projects, Success Factors, Project Management Process, Project Management Skills



# EXPLORATORY PROJECTS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY: A LONGITUDINAL CASE STUDY

**Matjaž Likar**, PhD Candidate  
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## ABSTRACT

*Our research analysed the execution of exploratory projects in the manufacturing organisation. The main question is: How does the traditional manufacturing organisation manage exploratory projects in the area of the unknown? We used a longitudinal case study covering eight years of development projects. The organisation efficiently performs well-defined development projects where the requirements are known at the project initiation. However, in exploratory projects, the organisation faces many problems, mainly because the organisation does not fully recognise the uncertainty nor know the appropriate tactics for such projects. Despite that, some exploratory projects in the organisation delivered important and valuable results due to the commitment and shared leadership of the project team members. This research can encourage future research in diversified project management approaches, analysing how different project-oriented organisational forms can be aligned with uncertain exploratory projects and analysing stakeholder management methods in the context of uncertainty.*

**Keywords:** manufacturing industry, exploratory projects, uncertainty management, unknown-unknowns, internet of things

# THE ECCLESIAL CYBERNATED AMALGAMATION: NEW PERSPECTIVES IN THE ECCLESIAL MANAGEMENT IN LEBANON

**Mario Jade**, PhD Candidate  
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## **ABSTRACT**

*The quick mobilization of the Lebanese society, by building different geographical areas, communities of homogenous socials, inter-city and sub-cultures, imposed the fact to extend the digital connectivity.*

*As segment of the active and living society, the Church, in Lebanon, as a very active part in this numerical network, uses the digital platforms to reach a higher number of people. This process is guiding a different template from the ritual activities. The believes, the customs, the holy manifestations, and all various activities will be subject to factors' impact that manipulate the numeric system.*

*Many questions provoked the Lebanese theological system how to control and watch the content of the messages, the sensitive value of the [believes/customs] roots and the respect of the pluralism and the multiculturalism.*

*This is due to the globalization that influences the global communication and gives birth to intercultural communication. Only the official references will remain the true ones.*

*This project describes and calls for readers to share their discussions regarding the pro/cons of the Ecclesial cybernated amalgamation in the Lebanese society. Hopefully, via this study, the digital ecclesial presence will be serving The Church in a constructive direction to reach and engage All segments of the community.*

**Keywords:** Ecclesial cybernated amalgamation, Church, believes, ecclesial management, digital media, theology, communication

# ATTITUDE TO MASS REAL ESTATE VALUATION

Klavdija Snežič, PhD

Snežič davčni inženiring, d.o.o.

## ABSTRACT

*The PhD thesis analyses the mass valuation of real estate in Slovenia. The topic is addressed in depth through the socio-psychological aspects of the individual and their dissatisfaction with the procedural, operational function, and the results of the mass appraisal. Examination of the interaction between the individual and their environment is placed at the forefront of research. Overall, it results from the fact that the issue of property valuation and perceptions of real estate are inherently connected with people, their mental and social environment and behavior. The thesis will compare the attitude towards the valuation, the public response to the mass valuation of real estate, the views of individuals and their relationship to the built and social environment in general.*

**Keywords:** *Mass real estate valuation, Attitude towards mass real estate valuation, Human and environment interaction.*

# SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT TOOLS FOR PROJECT-ORIENTED ORGANISATIONS IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY: A REVIEW

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University of Art

**Behnod Barmayehvar**

University of Art

**Mehdi Delavari**

University of Art

**Mohammad Mahoud**

3M-CEPM R&D Institute

## ABSTRACT

*The construction industry is the largest sector in job creation and has the most use of natural resources and the most productive of human waste and has the greatest impact on the economy. Hence, make a significant contribution to the development of all aspects of sustainable development, while the concept of sustainability is one of the most challenging issues for project-oriented organizations due to its ambiguity and controversial conflict between financial logic and social/environmental advocacy. Because projects can contribute to the sustainable development of organizations, after reviewing more than a thousand books, scientific articles, dissertations, reports, presentations and videos of conferences, etc. Briefly, we have found a lack of a sustainability assessment model in project-oriented organizations in the building industry. Considering the importance of sustainability in project-oriented organizations and on the other hand describing models and examining the strengths and weaknesses of existing models and the importance of turning to a comprehensive and integrated approach and also considering the success of maturity models in various fields, model design maturity that helps to measure and improve sustainability in project-oriented organizations in the construction industry and is in accordance with the culture of developing countries such as Iran feels logical and necessary.*

**Keywords:** Project-oriented Organization, Building Industry, Sustainability Assessment Models, Sustainable Development.

# ECONOMIC EFFECTS AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROJECTS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA AND HUNGARY

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Veleučilište Baltazar Zaprešić

**Bruno Mandić**  
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**Damir Šebo**  
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## ABSTRACT

*Border areas have been the focus of interest for many disciplines in recent decades due to possible economic and other effects. The complexity of the border is significant for almost all border regions because they can represent completely different, self-sufficient entities or an unnaturally „interrupted“ space due to geopolitical, sociocultural, economic, biophysical aspects, processes and power relations. Due to such challenges, it is very difficult to determine the achieved impacts in the area along the border at all levels, in a shorter but also longer period of time. The paper presents part of the primary research, with 2 hypotheses on the existence of a significant difference between projects whose basic component is infrastructural in nature and those focused on investment in human resources regardless of the area, when it comes to the attitude of project implementers. In this paper, we touched on several areas that remain insufficiently addressed from program to program. Although the indicator system generally meets the SMART and QOTTP criteria, there are visible shortcomings in terms of specificity and in some cases relevance because at the activity level they do not cover all areas of real impact of implemented projects and initiatives on both sides of the border. funds allocated to cross-border cooperation across the EU. The question of the impact of implemented projects, depending on its components, all direct and indirect effects of invested funds on space, people and other factors is raised. It is necessary to continuously identify them, in a shorter and longer period of time, taking into account a clear link between the type of investment and the performance achieved at all levels.*

**Keywords:** cross-border cooperation, human resources development, Hungary, Croatia

## EXPERT PANEL

### MANAGEMENT

# WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED FROM THE CORONA CRISIS AND HOW SHOULD WE GO FORWARD?

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#### ABSTRACT

*Corona. The most commonly uttered word in year 2020 and also in 2021, if not decades. An incident we did not expect, want or anticipate. The economic collapse, the sociological breakdown of relations in society and at the same time is a huge lesson that called into question a series of firmly entrenched life patterns. While we are probably still too close to an objective judgment of all the consequences, it is already clear that we were forced to learn a lot overnight. The corona crisis in 2020 turned the whole world and national economies on its head, as well as each individual. We are now located and living in the fourth wave of both individuals and society.*

*In the article we will explore domestic and foreign articles and surveys that checked the adaptation of the individual to the covid crisis, teleworking, limiting social contacts, ... We will also explore articles that analyze the adaptation of companies to the covid crisis.*

*Based on the mentioned articles and research, we will review the conclusions and analyzes - and answer the question WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED FROM THE CROWN OF THE CRISIS AND HOW FORWARD?*

**Keywords:** *corona, crisis, examples of good practice, analysis of the situation, how to proceed*

# THE EFFECT OF USING THE BIM MATERIAL DATABASE ON IMPROVING AND DEVELOPING SUSTAINABILITY

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3M-CEPM R&D Institute

## **ABSTRACT**

*Recent innovations have created an opportunity for the construction industry to invest in state-of-the-art technologies and adopt new processes. One of these new methods is Building Information Modeling (BIM), which has been developed for the construction industry over the past two decades. By integrating graphical and non-graphical information, it enables the construction industry stakeholders to work together to deliver projects efficiently throughout the life cycle of construction projects. The connection of the building model and the energy analysis tools make it possible to evaluate the energy consumption during the initial phases of the design. This is not possible with traditional 2D tools due to the time required to prepare the relevant input data. The ability to connect the building model to a variety of analytical tools provides an opportunity to improve building quality and sustainability. In this article, we intend to show the impact of the existence of the BIM material database on sustainable improvement and development by reviewing the literature and expert judgement.*

**Keywords:** Building Information Modeling (BIM), Sustainability, BIM Material Database, Energy Modeling.

# PROVIDING CLIMATE DESIGN SOLUTIONS WITH A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT APPROACH (CASE STUDY: TABRIZ CITY)

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Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad

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**Rahim Rahimi**, PhD Candidate

Department of Architecture, Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism Planning, Art University of Tehran

## ABSTRACT

*Climate adaptation is one of the strategies for Sustainable Development (SD) in architecture. SD has three main aspects: Environmental, Social and Economic. Climate adaptation complies with environmental and economic aspects by reducing energy consumption and responds to the social aspect by creating climate comfort. Today, due to the cheapness of fossil fuels energy, the construction of Iranian buildings does not notice the climate, which causes environmental degradation and threatens human health. However long ago, the climate has been considered in architecture through the body and user behaviour. This paper is illustrating what climatic solutions have been available in the traditional architecture of historical Tabriz City. Therefore, the present applied research was conducted by the descriptive-analytical method. First, ten-year climatic data of Tabriz Synoptic Station were collected. Then, through their analysis, the climate of Tabriz was determined and finally, the climatic solutions of the traditional architecture of the city were discovered.*

**Keywords:** *Climate Design, Architecture, Buildings, Environmental Degradation, Sustainable Development.*







# **INTEGRATIVE HEALTH**





## EXPERT PANEL

# BEHAVIORAL RASAYANA

Silvia Jelenikova, PhD Candidate

### ABSTRACT

*Rasayana is one of the eight branches or limbs of Ayurveda, ancient medical system originating in India. Primary aim in Ayurveda is prevention of disbalance of energies in life. Only then comes treatment of disease. Rasayana or rejuventation aims at not only preventing disease but to also prevent or slow down aging. There are different ways to rejuvenate, via diet, or lifestyle daily recommendations. Behavioral rasayanna, or Achara Rasayana (in Sanskrit) goes beyond. Achara means discipline, and it includes certain behaviors that have the power to protect health, enable spiritual development and enhance life - not only in years but in quality as well. In this presentation, I will introduce several behaviors which rejuvenate us like speaking the sweet truth, spending time with elders, studying Vedas and other.*

**Keywords:** behavioral, rasayana, rejuvenation, lifestyle, discipline, anti-aging

# TREATMENT IN MAHARISHI AYURVEDA

Dareen Shatila

American University of Beirut

## ABSTRACT

*Ayurveda "science of life is a comprehensive, prevention-oriented system of natural health that addresses the body, mind and environment of the individual in order to provide a holistic cure. Whereas, Maharishi Ayur-Veda emphasizes on the role of consciousness, the use of Transcendental Meditation, the need to express positive emotions and attuning one's life to the natural rhythms of the body. According to Mahareshi Ayurveda, svastha is established in one's own self. To explain the state of perfect health is the state in which body, mind, soul and senses are in blissful equilibrium. Svastha is determined primarily by assessing balance between the three doshas (functional energies), the seven dhatus (bodily tissues), Agni (digestive fire) and the malas (pathways of elimination). Risk factors affecting health include nutritional habits, lifestylt (psychological stress, energy/fatigue, sleep problems), and strength of the immunity. The aim of Maharishi Ayurveda treatment is to balance the digestive power (agni), balance the three doshas (Vata, Pitta, and Kapha), eliminate ama, release stress and the main outcome is to increase ojas (immunity). Mahareshi treatment includes pulse diagnosis, TM and breathing exerise, lifestyle and daily routine, diet balance, physical activity, yoga asanas, herbal treatment (rasayanas), panchkarma, and other approaches.*

**Keywords:** mahareshi ayurveda, svastha, ojas, amas, daily roirutine, treatment

# DIAGNOSTIC APPROACH TO THE PATIENT IN MAHARISHI AYURVEDA

Ailish O'Driscoll, Senior Lecturer  
University of London

## ABSTRACT

*The main principle underpinning Maharishi Ayurveda is that consciousness is the cause of the physical body. Three mind-body types/constitutional types referred to as Doshas, whose origin lies in consciousness, are the fundamental factors governing the physiology. In the Maharishi Ayurveda diagnostic approach to the patient, primary attention is given to diagnosing the state of balance and imbalance of the Doshas. There are two aspects to the diagnosis focusing on diagnosis of the patient (Rogi Pariksha) and diagnosis of the disease (Roga Pariksha). The relationship between the patient constitutional type and the nature of the imbalance will determine the course of treatment. In order to determine this information, Maharishi Ayurveda employs of a three-fold approach to diagnosis. These are inspection (darshanam), palpation (sparshanam) and history (prashnam). This presentation aims to set out how the assessment of both the patient and the disease is carried out and further explain how this information can influence the type and intensity of therapy. Each area of the three fold approach to diagnosis will be examined. Focus in particular will be given to pulse diagnosis, a key component of the MA diagnostic approach.*

**Keywords:** Maharishi Ayurveda, Diagnosis, Pulse Diagnosis, Dosha, Consciousness

# MAHARISHI AYUR VEDA

Bernadette van den Hout, PhD  
University of Amsterdam

## ABSTRACT

*Maharishi Ayur Veda is an ancient holistic knowledge of health. The experience of Pure Being and the relative spheres of existence are easily obtained via Transcendental meditation naturally expanding consciousness. Total knowledge and understanding of the laws of nature are spontaneously cognised in this way. The role of Agni important for digestion and metabolism in the human physiology and its role in creation is the main topic for this talk. The accumulation of Ama, end product of poor digestion, low Agni causing imbalance and disease and Ojas, result of good digestion, perfect balance and bliss consciousness are described.*

**Keywords:** Maharishi Ayur Veda, Agni, Ama, Ojas, Transcendental Meditation

# MAHARISHI-AYURVEDA: CONSCIOUSNESS BASED MEDICINE

Thirza de Jong, MD

Maharishi Ayurveda for Health Professionals

## **ABSTRACT**

*A presentation on what is consciousness based medicine, specifically Maharishi Ayurveda (MA) and how does it differ from Allopathic medicine; origins, treatment and research around Consciousness based medicine are discussed. Whereas Allopathic medicine aims to treat disease and symptoms with medication and looks at the body from a physical perspective, Maharishi Ayurveda uses a different, more integrated mind-body perspective. MA is more holistic in the sense that it looks at lifestyle, diet, sleeping patterns and body-constitution, amongst others, before giving any recommendations. Treatment is individual-based and aims to treat the cause of dis-ease to create balance in the individual on a physical, mental and conscious level.*

**Keywords:** Maharishi Ayurveda, Consciousness based medicine, research



# USE OF SPICES IN AYURVEDA, USEFUL RECIPES

Noel O'Neill

Ayurveda Centre

## ABSTRACT

*The use of herbs and spices in Ayurveda for improved health and stronger immunity. As Hippocrates said: "Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food". The ancient healthcare system of Ayurveda recognizes the importance of food and in particular the value of herbs and spices, which it views as concentrated bubbles of nature's intelligence. Food has inherent qualities, a spice like pepper can be heating other herbs like fennel can have cooling properties. Ayurveda recognises twenty qualities of food and uses this knowledge to restore balance to the physiology. Ayurveda sees disease in terms of imbalance, any disease means the system is not at ease with itself. We can restore balance in many ways, but food is of primary importance. Ayurveda has many useful recipes to help restore balance. Different conditions need different recipes. This presentation will discuss the main qualities inherent in food and some of the more famous Ayurvedic spice mixtures*

**Keywords:** Spices Herbs Health Balance

# LIFE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CYCLE OF NATURE

Pia Christensen

## **ABSTRACT**

*Ayurvedic knowledge about how the earths orbit around the sun and laws of the nature has an impact on every human being Knowledge to understand and respect the fundamental principles in every life, the 3 doshas; Vata, Pitta and Kapha and their different qualities and influence on daily life and the physiology.*

*Explanation on how to gain the support from nature to be more balanced in mind and body and get more energy in daily life Changing the daily routine to be more in line with nature and achieve the benefits on a daily basis.*

**Keywords:** *Ayurveda, nature´s cycle and law, daily routine, Doshas, balance, energy*

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUMMER

Cheikh Diop

## ABSTRACT

*Recommendations for summer: 2nd seasonal of the year - definition of good health - daily routine: from the arising time to bed time, - seasonal routine, - diet recommendations for Pitta, Vata and Kapha: suitable meals according to the prakritis, meals to avoid in prevention of increasing doshas, - Panchakarma processes, different types, for prevention, pacification and cleaning excess of malas, pacifying and prevention of doshas, dhatus, srotas, agnis and malas in the six stages of the disease. - bibliographic references*

**Keywords:** Recommendations, Summer, Doshas

# DIET - GENERAL PRINCIPLES REGARDING DIET

Megan Butkevicius

## ABSTRACT

*The purpose of this paper is to cover the general guidelines regarding diet according to the principles of Maharishi Ayurveda. Topics such as, appropriate diet for the individual's predominant dosha and strength of Agni to maintain or restore balance in the physiology will be explored. General principles regarding seasonal diet, foods to avoid and foods to favour, the six tastes and six qualities of substances (gunas). Attention shall also be paid to the correct intake of food, the environment and the person who has prepared the food.*

**Keywords:** General principles regarding diet

# VATA, PITTA, KAPHA IN HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY & THE EFFECTS OF BALANCED & IMBALANCED STATES OF DOSHA'S

**Natasha Coelho**, Student  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## **ABSTRACT**

*This is a presentation on the introduction of the 3 basic Dosha's - (Vata, Pitta & Kapha), and their respective characteristics.*

*It shows how they can, when understood, enable us make the most of our individual strengths and weaknesses, as well as help us to make the best decisions to keep us healthy, in mind and body.*

*It will show us the effects on the physiology when the dosha's are balanced, and unbalanced and what to do to get and maintain balance.*

**Keywords:** *Vata, Pitta, Kapha in human physiology & the effects of balanced & imbalanced states of Dosh*

# INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE IN THE TREATMENT OF POST COVID SYNDROME AND CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME

Stanišić Slaviša, PhD, Prof.  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

*Integrative medicine includes the use of the best possible treatment and procedures of science, allopathic medicine in combination with the best methods of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) and is based on the individual needs of the patient.*

*Coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19), the disease caused by the Novel SARS-coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2), was first described in Wuhan, China in December 2019. SARS-CoV-2 is a large RNA virus of the coronavirus family. Its route of infection mimics other members of the Coronaviridae family, which are responsible for many common upper respiratory infections.*

*Viral infection of mucosal epithelial cells occurs and may be followed by aggressive replication that spreads the virus down the respiratory tree to the upper and lower lungs.*

*Most people who have COVID-19 recover completely within a few weeks, but some people continue to experience symptoms after their initial recovery.*

*These health issues are sometimes referred to as „post-COVID-19 syndrome“ or chronic fatigue syndrome. They last from four weeks to six months and more after people have been diagnosed with COVID-19.*

*Common signs and symptoms include: Fatigue, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Cough. Joint pain, Chest pain, concentration or sleep problems, muscle pain or headache, fast or pounding heartbeat, loss of smell or taste, Depression or anxiety, Fever, Dizziness when standing. Worsened symptoms after physical or mental activities.*

*Integrative medicine is defined as healing-oriented medicine that takes account of the whole person, including all aspects of lifestyle. It emphasizes the therapeutic relationship between practitioner and patient, is informed by evidence, and makes use of all appropriate therapies. Integrative approaches are likely to remain critically important in re-establishing well-being.*

*IM approaches that can be used to combat inflammation, repair lung injury or dysfunction, replete nutritional deficiencies, reduce chronic stress, and mitigate fatigue. In addition, IM may empower the patient to aid their recovery.*

**Keywords:** integrative medicine. COVID 19. Post covid Sy, Prevention, therapy, recovery

# SUPPLEMENTATION WITH ESSENTIAL OILS IN THE TREATMENT OF POST COVID-19 SYNDROME

**Igor Ogorevc**

Sola za evolutivno naturopatiju, University Jean Monnet Brussel, Planet zdravja Ljubljana

**Irma Ogorevc**

Sola za evolutivno naturopatiju, University Jean Monnet Brussel, Planet zdravja Ljubljana

## **ABSTRACT**

*Most people who have COVID-19 recover completely within a few weeks, but some people continue to experience symptoms after their initial recovery. These health issues are sometimes referred to as "post-COVID-19 syndrome" or chronic fatigue syndrome. They last from four weeks to six months and more after people have been diagnosed with COVID-19.*

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*Closely related to nature and forest therapy is the field of aromatherapy.*

*Preclinical and clinical research on the effects of certain bioactive compounds in essential oils, which are available in a large number of plants, has gained a boost and is increasingly published.*

*Of particular interest are the effects of terpenes and terpenoids on the suppression of inflammatory. The approach is balanced and mild, yet powerful and effective.*

*The main reason is that it begins with the daily proper diet of the body paving the way for natural restoration of health status from the current state and infection responses and the immunomodulatory properties of these compounds.*

**Keywords:** integrative medicine. COVID 19. Post covid Sy, therapy, recovery

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WINTER

Sandra Lawes

## ABSTRACT

*There is a cycle to life that is happening all around and inside us. Everything is connected and according to Ayurveda, comprised of the five elements: earth, air, fire, water and space. And so, as the seasons change so do you. The seasons, like the times of day are characterised by cycles of the doshas which consist of vata, pitta and kapha. Everyone has each of these elements in their body and mind. Maintaining good health during all four seasons requires living in harmony with these natural cycles, continually adjusting to the changes in the outer environment through the food we choose to eat, the type and amount of exercise we do the clothes we wear and so on.*

*Ayurveda recognises winter as a vata/kapha season, the sky is cloudy and the weather is cold, damp and heavy. Not to mention dry and windy depending on the climate you are in. Winter is a time to rest, reflect and hibernate. As vata/kapha dominate this season, these doshas need to be balanced with a grounding and warming diet. Its important to change our diet just like we change our wardrobe.*

*As the winter season is influenced by the vata/kapha dosha people tend to see symptoms of the skin and hair becoming dry, possible constipation, gas, bloating, joint dryness and stiffness. It's important that we balance these qualities through our daily routine and diet.*

*Ayurveda teaches us to include opposite qualities in our diet and lifestyle to have a more balancing effect on our physiology. If we introduce more warming, moist, grounding, soft qualities and reduce dry, raw and cold elements in our diet and lifestyle it will help us become more balanced and give our bodies what it needs for this season.*

**Keywords:** Winter Ayurveda Diet Lifestyle Seasons



# ETIOLOGY OF DISEASE (HETU) AND SIX STAGES OF THE DISEASE PROCESS

Jadranka Radić, Student  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

*In conventional Western medicine, the disease is diagnosed only when patient develops quite specific symptoms and when diagnostic procedures based on determination of some physical factors demonstrate specific findings. In Ayurveda that is diagnosed as fifth or even last, sixth stage of the disease process. Ayurveda therefore describes six stages of the pathogenesis: Sanchaya (accumulation), Prakopa (aggravation), Prasara (movement), Sthanasamshraya (localisation), Vyakti (manifestation) and Bheda (complication). The main cause for the development of every disorder and disease is Pragyaparadh or the mistaken intellect. Three basic causes of disease are overuse, underuse and wrong use of mind, senses and time. As a result, they lead to three abnormalities: vitiated Doshas (Vata, Pitta and Kapha, three fundamental principles in Ayurveda), vitiated Srotas (channels of circulation) and weak or dull Agni (digestive power). As prevention has always been the first and major goal of Ayurveda, the aim is to detect disease in earlier stage when the disease process is easier to reverse. However, the most important is to learn how to keep the balance in the individual so that one keeps the processes of disease development in the first two stages by feedback loops. That state is called the Self-referral state.*

**Keywords:** ayurvedic pathogenesis, pragayparadh, prevention

# CONTRIBUTION OF COMPLEMENTARY AND INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE IN COVID PANDEMIC

**Maruša Hribar**, Student  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Slaviša Stanišić**, PhD, Prof.  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

*Complementary and Integrative Medicine (CIM) offers a variety of preventive, therapeutic options and convalescence during current COVID-19 pandemic. People are facing risks of adverse health effects due to the restrictions implemented such as quarantine measures, reduced social contact, and self-isolation and benefits of Complementary and Integrative Medicine (CIM) might be useful and scientifically proven during the COVID-19 pandemic. Complementary and Integrative Medicine include specific food supplements, homeopathy, traditional chinese medicine, ayurvedic medicine, phytomedicine, aromatherapy, therapeutic oils... With purpose to strengthen immune homeostasis there are also available natural immune-stimulating and antiviral agents.*

**Keywords:** COVID-19, SARS-CoV-2, complementary and integrative medicine, homeopathy

# LONG COVID SYNDROME AND INDIVIDUAL APPROACH IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF PATIENTS

**Momir Dunjic, PhD**

Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Stefano Turini, PhD**

Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## **ABSTRACT**

*Long COVID is a term to describe the effects of Covid-19 that continue for weeks or months beyond the initial illness. More than 70% of patients, most of whom were hospitalized reported many symptoms months after they became ill. The aim of our work was to diagnose patients with Long Covid syndrome and determine an individual treatment protocol. By using Bi-Digital O-Ring test in diagnosis together with clinical and laboratory tests we examined patients in our center, patients which complain on different symptoms after confirmed Covid illness. We designed special testers that allowed us to detect the most common genetic mutations of Sars Cov-2 virus. Over 90% of the patients had symptoms from organs where we detected the presence of active virus long time after illness. The presence of the virus in certain organs was associated with the presence of dental bacteria from foci from the mouth. The treatment protocol first included dental treatment, protection against EMFs, individual diets and the use of antioxidants and special oils made for certain strains of Covid. Over 80% of patients had a significant improvement in symptoms within two weeks of beginning of therapy when the virus was inactivated in the same time.*

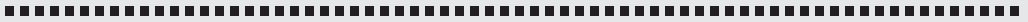
**Keywords:** Long Covid, BDORT, Diagnosis, Therapy, Individual







# EDUCATION





## SCHOLARLY PANEL

# A NEW KNOWLEDGE PARADIGM FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSITIONS IN EUROPE AND SLOVENIA

**Darja Piciga, PhD**

Citizens' Initiative for an Integral Green Slovenia

### **ABSTRACT**

*Unprecedented global challenges global such as climate change, biodiversity loss and unsustainable resource use, require a paradigm shift in governance for sustainable development, i.e., a systems approach and innovations for sustainability transitions, as developed – together with a new knowledge paradigm – by the European Environment Agency and under the European Green Deal gradually being included in European and national policies and activities (i.a., the Deep Demonstration projects). Achieving the Agenda 2030 and Paris Agreement goals will only be possible through systemic change of the development model, namely placement of fundamental socio-economic systems (energy, mobility, food and built environment systems) within the boundaries of ecosystems, through their fundamental transformations.*

*It is essential to integrate this new knowledge into postgraduate education and training of policy makers at all levels, from local to national and European, but learning of good governance for sustainable transitions needs to be introduced as soon as possible in all levels of education and non-formal education, too. This is possible in the context of already established education for sustainable development.*

*In the paper, these concepts and policies are, after being systematically overviewed, smartly integrated and upgraded with the models of Integral Green Europe and Slovenia.*

**Keywords:** Sustainable Transitions, Paradigm Shift, Systems Approach, Education for Sustainable Development, Integral Green Europe



## EXPERT PANEL

# REMOTE TEACHING GAPS

**Ines Krapež**

Lucija Elementary School

### **ABSTRACT**

*During the COVID-19 pandemic primary schools closed twice and switched to remote teaching which was the only safe solution to continue the learning process. Teachers were forced to think about what kind of learning process they will do and at the same time they study the possibilities to adapt the learning goals from the curriculum. The results of math tests showed that the knowledge acquired through remote teaching is different from the knowledge that students acquire through teaching at school.*

*Motivation at school cannot be compared with the motivation at home, so the quality of knowledge acquired during remote teaching varied. Teachers intervened in the most vulnerable moments of many who were not prepared for such learning because they did not have the right conditions. Teachers were also exposed when their lectures and explanations became a public subject of discussion in various parenting forums. Of course they cannot ignore the fact that a large proportion of students had a poor internet connection and a difficult access to electronic devices. Confused and uncertain about too many instructions they navigated according to their feelings and beliefs, relying on their own judgment of what was important and what was not.*

**Keywords:** remote teaching, motivation, learning goals, learning environment





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# **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

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## SCHOLARLY PANEL

# REUSE OF ORGANIC AND PLASTIC WASTE THROUGH THE GASIFICATION SYSTEM

Marko Šetinc, PhD, Assist. Prof.  
Geopolis d.o.o., Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

### ABSTRACT

*Organic and plastic wastes are largely consists of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen. Other elements are represented in smaller proportions. Most of this type of waste ends up in the incinerator. Reuse is limited due to the contamination of the raw material. The paper presents a model that enables the conversion of waste into synthesis gas, which is a raw material for methanol production and production of other hydrocarbons, through the gasification system. This method allows endless re-use, with part of the raw material being converted into energy, carbon dioxide and water. The paper presents the design of the model and the impact of individual parameters on the efficiency of the process.*

**Keywords:** waste, reuse, gasification, syngas

## STUDENT PANEL

# ECOREMEDIATION SOLUTION FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Urša Jekovec, Student

### ABSTRACT

*In the first part of the article, we will present some terms that appear and are associated with the use of natural processes for wastewater treatment and environmental restoration. Above all, we will focus on the term ecoremediation. We will briefly present the part of the regulation that regulates wastewater collection and treatment in Slovenia and highlight some key deadlines that were extended in 2021 with the amendment of the regulation. The purpose of this is also to make people aware of whether they have a regulated drainage and treatment of municipal wastewater required by law or what awaits them in the future. In the second part, we will present an ecoremediation solution (plant treatment device – constructed wetland) for the treatment of municipal wastewater, where treatment is carried out using natural systems and processes that are already present in nature. We will describe and present the function of a constructed wetland and describe three types and present their advantages and disadvantages. Finally, we will present examples of facilities where a constructed wetland was installed, namely for a residential house, a mountain hut and a small settlement (village).*

**Keywords:** ecoremediation, wastewater, constructed wetland, natural systems, regulation

# LIFE NATURE 06, NAT/ŠLO/000069 – INTERMITTENT CERKNIŠKO JEZERO

Jani Pagon, Student

## ABSTRACT

*In this article, we will talk about the intermittent Cerknica Lake. When it fills up, it's the largest intermittent lake in Slovenia and even in Europe with an area of 29km<sup>2</sup>. The main feature of intermittent lakes is their yearly water level changes. At a certain point of the year, the water completely disappears through the esophagus and leaves behind a dry fertile land which can be walked on, but the local farmers cultivate it as well. At other times when water levels are high, the lake is used for various activities like fishing, rowing, etc. In 2007, a project started entitled LIFE Nature 06, NAT / SLO / 000069 - Intermittent Lake Cerknica that was completed in 2009. There were 23 largest so-called actions carried out in that time. It was partially funded by municipality and the participants were also volunteers. The project value was € 1,840,548. Its purpose was to renovate the lake to such extent that the water retention time is longer in the summer months. This would help prolong the main part of the habitat type thus making it more efficient. Consequently a suitable biotope is preserved, which provides a suitable habitat for the surrounding biocenosis.*

**Keywords:** project, Cerkniško lake, habitat, intermittent lake, animals, plants



# TREE AS AN ECOSYSTEM IN URBAN ENVIRONMENTS

Saša Jeram

## ABSTRACT

*Trees in the city have a positive effect on the well-being of people in the town. They contribute to the health, beauty, and functionality of cities, city centres, and the urban environment. Trees in the city affect the temperature and humidity, retain dust particles, reduce noise and wind, and clean the air. All of the above contribute so significantly to the quality of the living environment of people, animals and plants in the city. Trees give people a feeling of relaxation and comfort and, last but not least, they offer shade in which we all like to take refuge on hot summer days. We are also looking for shade from trees to park vehicles during the summer heat. The trees in the city are, in addition to all the comfort that the inhabitants of the city centre offer, also a place where animals take refuge. However, for both residents and animals to enjoy the positive effects of trees, we need to take proper and regular care of them. Careful planning is therefore required for new tree plantings in cities. It is necessary to check all the conditions that the tree will have at a given location and choose the right type of tree accordingly. The article would maintain existing trees in the city centre and plan new plantings.*

**Keywords:** tree, city, green area

# THE EMR-RURAL PROJECT: KEY TECHNIQUES AND DEVICES DEVELOPMENT FOR RURAL ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND REMEDIATION IN CHINA

Mitja Prša, Student  
Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

## ABSTRACT

*With the growing development of rural areas and cities, the consumption of natural resources is also increasing, and consequently the need to protect the environment and nature, which strives for sustainable development, is becoming more and more important. Therefore, in China, in the name of environmental protection, ideas have been developed for the implementation of the project of so-called „green livable villages“, environmental monitoring, which are part of rural ecoremediation (rural ERM). This incentive was launched in 2019 and is funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China. The project is focused on detecting and monitoring ecological hazards, anticipating natural disasters, tracking pollutant resources and ecological remediation, which includes various types of remediation on soil, surface water and groundwater. All this is connected by information technology with the development of new innovative biological, chemical or mechanical devices, which are already accompanied by artificial intelligence. The project follows the discovery of ecological degradation of the environment „in situ“. Rural ERM include, in addition to research, contaminated soil, surface standing and running water, groundwater, as well as hilly areas and even ecosystems in cold areas with successions of certain communities of organisms. The concept of sustainable development is therefore determined in China by the idea of less and less uncontrolled urbanization and industrialization in the natural environment, which includes untouched nature and cultural landscape. This idea gradually introduces the blurring of the urban with the rural, ie the idea of „green livable villages“, which coordinates the new potential of agriculture and ecological integrity or. ecological preservation of the environment. Excessive agricultural exploitation of nature, increasing toxicity, due to pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, due to livestock, has left consequences on the pollution of soil, water and consequently also leaves health consequences on humans*

**Keywords:** rural ERM, green livable villages, remediation, pollutant



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# **HIGH SCHOOL RESEARCH**

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## STUDENT PANELS

# DATA MINING APPLIED TO INSTAGRAM POSTS

**Gaja Đukanović Babič**

II. gimnazija Maribor

**Supervisors: PhD Sašo Karakatič, Mitja Osojnik**

### ABSTRACT

*In today's world, we are flooded with an enormous amount of data from various sources around the web. For example, social media, site Instagram. Data mining can be used to extract patterns from huge amounts of data. For this research, data mining techniques were applied on Instagram posts about the town Maribor. For more than a month, the system collected all Instagram posts with #maribor. On the collected data, an analysis was conducted with the help of Jupyter Notebooks, Pandas, Seaborn and Scikit-learn, which researched on the patterns connected with my hometown. 18426 posts with #maribor were analyzed, among them 11998 different hashtags appeared. After removing hashtags that refer to towns, e.g., #ljubljana (data cleaning), the most frequently used hashtags were referring to nature, beauty, trip, love, autumn, but mostly about makeup. The extracted patterns have been represented by classification decision trees and with word clouds. With the developed case we can find suggestions about what Instagram users interests most and when is the best to post. This can empower local companies, tourism, municipality office, and Instagram influencers. The implemented system and analysis can be used to analyze other cities or any other hashtag.*

**Keywords:** data mining, instagram, user's behaviour

# USE OF SATELLITE ANALYSIS TO DETERMINE THE NDVI INDEX IN THE AREA OF STROJNA, KOZJAK AND POHORJE AND TO DETERMINE THE HEALTH OF THE FOREST AND ITS DEPENDENCE ON THE RELIEF

Gašper Dimnik and Lan Patrik Horvat

II. gimnazija Maribor

Supervisors: Danijel Davidović, Vesna Vervega

## ABSTRACT

Human is vitally dependent on nature or on the ecosystem services that nature provides. Above all, the forest is the part of nature that represents the most developed ecosystem which gives other people clean air, raw materials and a place to relax. The purpose of the task is to determine the change in forest health through space and time in the case of the Strojna, Kozjak and Pohorje using geographic information systems and satellite images. We have determined Forest health with the vegetation index NDVI, which was calculated on the basis of remote detected data from the Landsat and Sentinel satellites. The index shows us the relationship between the red and near-infrared parts of the light spectrum; from its value we can infer the level of health of the treatment area. We used QGIS and Excel in the research, and we used the Earth Explorer data portal to obtain Landsat images. The result of the first part of the research task is a trend line showing the general deterioration of forest health in the study area over time. The result of the second part of the research project is statistical tests that confirm the impact of altitudes, slopes and exposure on forest health.

**Keywords:** Forest health, NDVI index, Satellite imaging

# UPORABA BAKTERIOFAGOV ZA UNIČEVANJE BIOFILMA BAKTERIJE *SERRATIA MARCESCENS*

Kaja Zupanič and Miša Pintarič  
II. gimnazija Maribor

Supervisors: PhD Jure Škraban, PhD Sandra Janežič

## ABSTRACT

Bacterial resistance against antibiotics is becoming a serious health problem, causing significant increase in mortality and medical costs. Furthermore, some bacteria can form biofilms that provide additional protection from antibiotics. An alternative treatment could present bacteriophages, viruses that attack specific bacteria. In the research, we investigated the efficiency of bacteriophages in reducing the formation of *Serratia marcescens* biofilms.

Two bacteriophages specific for *S. marcescens*, were isolated and propagated from a wastewater sample, multiplied and quantified. Effect of different dilutions of bacteriophages on the formation of the biofilms of *S. marcescens* were subsequently tested with crystal violet and quantified with spectrophotometer.

The results show that bacteriophage A successfully prevented the formation of the biofilm at all dilution, while the bacteriophage C did not work. The lack of effect could be due to the instability of bacteriophages in buffering agent.

From the results, we can conclude that bacteriophages not only effectively destroy individual planktonic cells, but also prevent the formation of a biofilm of *S. marcescens*. In further studies, the effectiveness of bacteriophages on already existing biofilm and on other bacteria should be tested, and could potentially be used for disinfectants and for treatments.

**Keywords:** Bacteriophages, Biofilm, *S. Marcescens*



# USE OF MODERN MOLECULAR METHODS IN FOOD INDUSTRY – DETECTION AND QUANTIFICATION OF BOVINE MILK IN CHEESES MADE FROM CAPRINE AND OVINE MILK

Špela Polutnik

II. gimnazija Maribor

Supervisors: PhD Nataša Toplak, Katja Holnthaner Zorec

## ABSTRACT

*The modern molecular methods, for example quantitative polymerase chain reaction (qPCR), have become a part of routine testing in food industry laboratories. With fast, sensitive, and cost-effective methods such as qPCR, it is possible to detect deviations in production of different food products, for example attempts of replacing more expensive ingredients with cheaper ones in an attempt to reduce the cost of production of individual foods. A clear example of this are goat and sheep cheeses, where producers mix goat / sheep milk with cheaper cow milk. This can cause health problems for customers as milk is one of the most allergenic foods.*

*The goal of our study was to use qPCR method with dairy products. We tested qPCR assays for the detection and quantification of bovine milk (cow DNA) in different cheeses made from caprine and/or ovine milk. To evaluate the method on actual samples, we tested 20 different caprine and/or ovine cheese samples. As bovine milk was detected only at levels of  $\leq 1\%$  in all samples, we concluded that the quality of goat and sheep cheeses on the Slovenian market is good, better than in the past.*

**Keywords:** qPCR, dairy products, cow milk, ovine cheese, caprine cheese





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# **CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

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# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 11 MARCH 2022

## PLENARY

09:30 – 10:00	REGISTRATION
10:00 – 11:20 (in English)	<p><b>WELCOME SPEECH</b>            Prof. Dr. Ludvik Toplak, <i>President, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>            Borut Pahor, <i>President of the Republic of Slovenia</i></p> <p><b>WELCOME ADDRESSES</b>            Prof. Dr. Felix Unger, <i>Honorary President, European Academy of Sciences and Arts</i>            Prof. Dr. Ivo Šlaus, <i>Honorary President, World Academy of Art &amp; Science</i></p> <p><b>OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE</b>            Mark Boris Andrijanič, <i>Minister for Digital Transformation, Republic of Slovenia</i></p> <p><b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b>            Prof. Dr. Mindy Chen-Wishart, <i>Dean, University of Oxford, Faculty of Law</i></p> <p><b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b>            Maroš Šefčovič, <i>Vice-President for Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight, European Commission</i></p> <p><b>INVITED SPEAKER</b>            Prof. Dr. Klaus Mainzer, <i>President, European Academy of Sciences and Arts</i></p>
	BREAK
11:30 – 13:00 (in English)	<p><b>01 PLENARY SESSION: CONTRIBUTION OF EACH ACADEMY TO THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND ETHICAL FUTURE IN EUROPE</b>  <i>(Moderator: Prof. Dr. Klaus Mainzer, President, European Academy of Sciences and Arts)</i></p> <p><b>Representatives of National Academies</b>            Prof. Dr. Jan Wörner, <i>President, Acatech – Deutsche Akademie der Technikwissenschaften</i>            Prof. Dr. Felix Unger, <i>Honorary President, European Academy of Sciences and Arts</i>            Prof. Dr. Ivo Šlaus, <i>Honorary President, World Academy of Art &amp; Science</i>            Prof. Dr. Brian Norton, <i>Secretary for Policy and International, Royal Irish Academy</i></p>
	LUNCH BREAK
15:00 – 15:45 (in English)	<p><b>INVITED SPEAKER: HEALTH</b>            Esther-Mary D'Arcy, MSc, <i>Chairperson, European Region of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy</i></p>

## PLENARY II

<p>16:00 – 17:00 (in English)</p>	<p><b>02 PLENARY SESSION: DEMOGRAPHY</b></p> <p><b>INVITED SPEAKERS</b></p> <p>Dubravka Šuica, Vice-President for Democracy and Demography, European Commission</p> <p><b>Human Rights of Older Persons: What Are We Missing?</b></p> <p>Prof. Dr. Israel Doron, <i>Head of the Department of Gerontology, University of Haifa</i></p> <p><b>Older Women and Ageism: The Right for Gender Equality in old Age</b></p> <p>Rosette Farrugia-Bonello, MSc, <i>Deputy Director, International Institute on Ageing, United Nations – Malta</i></p> <p>Dr. Laurence Hewick, <i>Director of Research, Global Family Business Institute, Canada</i></p>
<p>17:00 – 18:20 (in Slovenian)</p>	<p><b>03 PLENARY SESSION: AGING AND ETHICS</b></p> <p><b>INVITED SPEAKERS</b></p> <p>Janez Cigler Kralj, <i>Minister, Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities</i></p> <p><b>Why are the Elderly Adults (Thrown) on the Periphery of Society?</b></p> <p>Prof. Emer. Dr. Šime Ivanjko, <i>Emeritus Professor of Law, University of Maribor</i></p> <p>Prof. Dr. Marko Pavliha, <i>Professor of Law, University of Ljubljana</i></p> <p><b>How to Preserve the Dignity of an Old Dying Man</b></p> <p>Metka Klevišar, MD, <i>Physician, Dom Sv. Jožef Celje</i></p>

**SATURDAY, 12 MARCH 2022****PHYSIOTHERAPY**

<p>09:00 – 09:20 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>04 PHYSIOTHERAPY</b> (Moderator: Snr. Lect. Živa Arko)</p> <p><b>The Influence of Pulmonary Rehabilitation in the Underground Salt Chambers on Dynamic Balance of Older Adults</b> Sylvia Mętel, Researcher, University of Physical Education in Krakow; Magdalena Kostrzon, Doctor of Public Health, Wieliczka Salt Mine Health Resort; Justyna Adamiak, PhD, Research Associate, University of Physical Education in Krakow</p> <p><b>Does a Physiotherapist Need Management Skills and Competences? Researching Required New Skills in Times of Change</b> Marija Ovsenik, PhD, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Nikolaj Lipič, PhD, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p>
<p>09:20 – 10:00 (in English, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>05 PHYSIOTHERAPY</b> (Moderator: Snr. Lect. Živa Arko)</p> <p><b>The Role of Medical Bandages and Elastic Bandages in Sports Trauma</b> Elda Latollari, Physiotherapist, Fan Noli University</p> <p><b>Foreseeing Challenges in Precision Physiotherapy and Medicine Communication</b> Vittorio Zanello, PhD, Fisiolab Srls; Enrico De Pecol</p> <p><b>The Role of Physiotherapy in Patients With “Scapula Alta” Deformity</b> Elda Latollari, Physiotherapist, Fan Noli University</p> <p><b>Modern Teaching Methods With the Use of Tutoring Model at the Physiotherapy Faculty</b> Sylvia Mętel, Researcher, University of Physical Education in Krakow</p>
<p>10:00 – 10:45 (in Slovenian, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>06 PHYSIOTHERAPY – PHYSIOTHERAPY IN GERIATRIC REHABILITATION</b> (Moderator: Tatjana Horvat)</p> <p><b>Impact of Physical Activity on Sarcopenia-Literature Review</b> Manca Opara, Physiotherapist, ARTROS; Mladen Herc, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Effect of Exercise on the Contractile Properties of Skeletal Muscles in the Elderly</b> Dorian Hojnik, Physiotherapist; Mladen Herc, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Short-Term Efficacy of Proprioceptive Training on Balance in the Elderly</b> Mateja Antolin, Physiotherapist, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Tine Kovačič, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Uroš Marušič, Associate Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Pilot Study of the Implementation of Distance Physiotherapy in a Medical Institution</b> Grega Završnik, Physiotherapist, Community Healthcare Center Dr. Adolfa Drolca Maribor; Tine Kovačič, PhD, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Helena Blažun Vošner, PhD, Associate Professor, Community Healthcare Center Dr. Adolfa Drolca Maribor; Alen Pavlec, Physiotherapist, Community Healthcare Center Dr. Adolfa Drolca Maribor</p> <p><b>Stress Urinary Incontinence and the Quality of Life of Physical Active Woman</b> Pia Tajnik, Physiotherapist; Patricija Goubar, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Neurorehabilitation After Stroke with Interacion Brain Computer Interfaces (BCI)</b> Tajana Horvat, Physicaltherapist, Lecturer Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Rene Prosen, Student, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Tine Kovačič, PhD, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Mladen Herc, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p>
	<p><b>BREAK</b></p>



<p>11:00 – 12:00 (in Slovenian)</p>	<p><b>07 ROUND TABLE</b>  <b>Physiotherapy in Patients With Acute and Prolonged COVID-19</b>  <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Tine Kovačič)</i>  Mojca Ljubi Berce, <i>University Medical Center Ljubljana</i>  Aleksandra Ekart Buček, <i>University Medical Center Maribor</i>  Alja Jevšnik, <i>General Hospital Celje</i>  Aleksander Zupanc, <i>University Rehabilitation Institute Republic of Slovenia</i></p>
	<p>BREAK</p>
<p>14:00 – 15:00 (in Slovenian)</p>	<p><b>08 PHYSIOTHERAPY RESEARCH PROJECT</b>  <b>RENE – Renewing Ergonomic Education for Health Care Students in European HEIs (Multiplier Event)</b>  <i>(Moderator: Snr. Lect. Patricija Goubar)</i>  Tatjana Horvat, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>  Asst. Prof. Dr. Tine Kovačič, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>  Snr. Lect. Mladen Herc, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i></p>
<p>15:30 – 16:15 (in Slovenian, Student Panel)</p>	<p><b>09 PHYSIOTHERAPY</b>  <i>(Moderator: Snr. Lect. Patricija Goubar)</i>  <b>Psychological Factors and Mental Disorders in Chronic Low Back Pain</b>  Valentina Fajfar, Student, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>; Sebastjan Kristovič, Associate Professor, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>  <b>Physiotherapy Intervention for People With Dementia in Nursing Homes</b>  Mateja Kozic, Student, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>; Barbara Grintal, Assistant Professor, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>; Nikolaj Lipič, Assistant Professor, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>  <b>Awareness and Knowledge of Physiotherapy Among the General Population of Larabanga in Ghana</b>  Lana Ritlop; Anja Jelka Polanec; Laura Novakovič; Eva Menhart, Students, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>; Sebastjan Kristovič, Associate Professor, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>  <b>Effectiveness of Tai Chi and Nintendo Wii Fit Plus for the Improvement of Balance and Reduction of Falls In Older Adults: A Literature Review</b>  Mateja Hari, Student, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>; Uroš Marušič, Associate Professor, <i>Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i>; Mitja Gerževič, Assistant Professor, <i>FAMNIT, University of Primorska</i></p>
<p>16:15 – 16:35 (in Slovenian, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>10 PHYSIOTHERAPY</b>  <i>(Moderator: Snr. Lect. Patricija Goubar)</i>  <b>The Influence of Age and Gender on the Functional Outcome of Patients After Stroke</b>  Tina Kocbek, Nurse, <i>ZD Adolfa Drolca Maribor</i>; Tadeja Hernja Rumpf, Assistant Professor, <i>Faculty of Medicine, University of Maribor</i>  <b>Acute Effects of Real Execution and Motor Imagery of Fitts's Law Tasks on Near and Far Transfer of Learning: A Study Protocol</b>  Luka Šlosar, PhD, Science and research center Koper; Uroš Marušič, Associate Professor, <i>Science and research center Koper</i></p>

## EDUCATION AND MENTAL HEALTH

<p>09:00 – 11:15 (in Slovenian, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>11 EDUCATION AND MENTAL HEALTH</b> (Moderators: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sebastjan Kristovič, Polonca Pangrčič, PhD, Research Assistant)</p> <p><b>Children After Trauma – Logotherapeutic Approach</b> Vladimira Velički, Associate Professor, Faculty of Teacher Education, University of Zagreb; Miro Raguž, Logotherapist, Lecturer, DOBRO Institute for Logotherapy, Education and Counseling</p> <p><b>Hidden Victims of Alcoholism: The Dynamics of Growing up in an Alcoholic Family and Adult Children of Alcoholics</b> Barbara Simonič, Professor of Family and Relational Psychotherapy, Faculty of Theology of the University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Logopedagogy - a Holistic Educational Approach for the 21st Century</b> Sebastjan Kristovič, Associate Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Psychotherapeutic Work With Spouses With Alcoholism Experience</b> Nataša Rijavec Klobučar, Assistant Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy, Faculty of Theology, University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Relation to the Education of Full-time and Part-time Preschool Teacher Students</b> Zlatko Bukvič, Teacher, Centar za Odgoj i Obrazovanje Tomislav Špoljar; Renata Možanić, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Goran Lapat, Assistant Professor of Education, Faculty of Education, University of Zagreb</p> <p><b>Adult Daughters of Alcohol Addicts and Their Intimate Couple Relationships</b> Sara Jerebic, Assistant Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy, Faculty of Theology, University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Relationship Between Digital Transformation in the Workplace and Mental Health</b> Vanja Kopilaš, PhD Candidate, University of Zagreb; Srećko Gajović, Professor, University of Zagreb</p> <p><b>Effective Treatment of Digital Addiction</b> Uroš Perko, PhD, Pelican Caritas Institute</p> <p><b>Personal Wellbeing of Primary Schoolchildren and the Strive for Holistic Education</b> Irena Kandrič, PhD, Teacher, OŠ Ormož; Borislava Munda, Teacher, OŠ Dr. Ljudevita Pivka</p> <p><b>The Challenges and Benefits of Social Media in Education Today</b> David Kraner, PhD, Research Assistant, Faculty of Theology, University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>The Educational Dimension of Relationships in the Kindergarten Sončni Žarek</b> Dr. Andreja Snoj Keršmanc, PhD Candidate, Sophia University Institute, Incisa (Florence), Italy, Vrtec Sončni Žarek; Sebastjan Kristovič, Associate Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p>
<p>11:30 – 12:00</p>	<p>DISCUSSION</p>

<p>13:00 – 15:15 (in Slovenian, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>12 EDUCATION AND MENTAL HEALTH</b> <i>(Moderators: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sebastjan Kristovič, Polonca Pangrčič, PhD, Research Assistant)</i></p> <p><b>Addiction to Smartphones and Modern Ways of Meeting Partners</b> Tanja Repič Slavič, Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy, Faculty of Theology, University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Mental Health and Meaningful Life of Slovenian Professionals In Education</b> Jasmina Kristovič, Research Assistant, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Young People in the Embrace of Depression Before the Sars-Cov-2 Pandemic</b> Urška Nemeč, General Hospital Murska Sobota</p> <p><b>The Impact of the Use of Digital Technology on Physical Activity</b> Maša Čmer, Center Janeza Levca</p> <p><b>Above Average Religious Activity as a Hyperactivational Strategy of Anxiously Attached Adults</b> Drago Jerebic, Assistant Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy, Faculty of Theology, University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Influences of Systems on Behavioural Problems</b> Anja Žavbi, OŠ Toma Brejca</p> <p><b>Teachers' Views on Use of Digital Media in Distance Learning</b> Janez Cmer, Physical Education Teacher, Center Janeza Levca</p> <p><b>Humanity on Screen</b> Tjaša Ravnikar, Mediator, District Court of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Psychosocial Programs to Support and Protect Children and Their Families for Safety in the Digital Environment</b> Nataša Demšar Pečak, PhD, Ministry of Labor, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities</p> <p><b>Avoidant Personality Disorder in the Light of Attachment and Psychotherapy</b> Mojca Hojnik, Therapist, Don Bosko Maribor</p> <p><b>Challenges and Knowledge of the Holistic Educational Approach in Slovenia</b> Polonca Pangrčič, PhD, Research Assistant, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>
<p>15:30 – 16:00</p>	<p>DISCUSSION</p>
<p>16:00 – 16:20 (in Slovenian, Student Panel)</p>	<p><b>13 EDUCATION AND MENTAL HEALTH</b> <i>(Moderators: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sebastjan Kristovič, Polonca Pangrčič, PhD, Research Assistant)</i></p> <p><b>Animal-Assisted Interventions On Children With Behaviour and Emotional Problems</b> Anita Pertoci, Student, School of Advanced Social Studies Nova Gorica; Sebastjan Kristovič, Associate Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>

## SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY

09:00 – 10:45 (in English, Scholarly Panel)	<p><b>14 SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY - Ethical, Humanistic and Legal Aspects in Social Gerontology</b> (Moderators: Prof. Emer. Jana Goriup)</p> <p><b>Restorative Justice as an Innovative Approach to Elder Abuse: New Ways to Promote Human Rights</b> Lucie Vidovicova, PhD, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Masaryk University; Marecla Petrová Kafková, PhD in Sociology, Masaryk University, Czech; Petra Masopust Žachova, PhD, Researcher and Chairperson, Czech Institute for Restorative Justice; Jan Lorman, MA, Gerontological Institute, Czech</p> <p><b>Domestic Violence During the Pandemic COVID-19 With Emphasis on Elder Abuse and Neglect - Comparative Review in Our Country and Other Countries</b> Vilma Alina Bezenšek, PhD Candidate, Assistant Director, International School for Social and Business Studies</p> <p><b>Attitudes of Young People Towards the Problem of Ageing Population in Slovenia</b> Danijela Lahe, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Faculty of Arts of the University of Maribor</p> <p><b>Older Adults With Intellectual Disabilities As A Special Vulnerable Group</b> Sanja Zgonec, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Jana Goriup, Professor Emeritus, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>The Right to Die at the Age of One's Choice - The Desire for a Good Death</b> Aleksandra Ločičnik, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>The Right of Older Adults to Co-Decision to Stay in Institutional Care</b> Sabina Eberl, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Jana Goriup, Professor Emeritus, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>
	BREAK
11:00 – 12:15 (in English, Scholarly Panel)	<p><b>Montessori Method in the Light of Older People's Rights With Dementias</b> Mihael Nedeljko, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Jana Goriup, Professor Emeritus, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Technology in the Service of Preserving the Dignity and Health of the Elderly</b> Franjo Liška, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Jana Goriup, Professor Emeritus, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>The Right to Remote Care Through Concept Human Rights in Old Age</b> Suzanna Mežnarec Novosel, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Ethical Aspects Concerning the Use of Therapeutic Robots in Older Adults With Dementia (the Case of the Therapeutic Robot Paro)</b> Ksenija Širec, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Burnout of Nurses in Home for the Elderly</b> Snježana Svittlić-Budisavljević, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>The Rights of Older Adults to Long-Term Care Services in the Home Environment (comparison With the Rights of Older Adults in Institutional Care)</b> Carmen Rajer, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>
12:30 – 13:00 (in Slovenian, Expert Panel)	<p><b>15 SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY - Ethical, Humanistic and Legal Aspects in Social Gerontology</b> (Moderators: Prof. Emer. Dr. Jana Goriup)</p> <p><b>The Right to Say Goodbye »on Distance« and Human Dignity</b> Alenka Križnik, Head of Detabuisation, Slovensko Društvo Hospic</p> <p><b>LGBTQ+ Older Adults are an Overlooked Minority of the Ageing Population</b> Mihael Nedeljko, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>

<p>13:00 – 13:15 (in Slovenian, Student Panel)</p>	<p><b>16 SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY - Ethical, Humanistic and Legal Aspects in Social Gerontology</b> (Moderators: Prof. Emer. Dr. Jana Goriup) <b>Impact of the COVID-19 Epidemic on the Rights of Older Adults</b> Jana Goriup, Professor Emeritus, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Brigita Benčič; Nina Fajfar; Ines Katarina Gaal; Marjanca Gaberšek; Mateja Glavnik; Jerneja Lipič; Ljubica Marinčič; Jana Maučec; Maja Prijevič; Alina Ribič; Jana Sever; Vesna Štumberger Kukovec; Nina Urek, Students, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p>
<p>13:15 – 13:30</p>	<p>DISCUSSION</p>
	<p>BREAK</p>
<p>14:30 – 17:30 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>17 SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY</b> (Moderators: Prof. Emer. Dr. Jana Goriup) <b>Virtual Reality as a Means to Meet the Specific Needs of Seniors</b> Věra Suchomelová, PhD, University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice <b>Vitamin D Deficiency in Older People During the Sars-Cov-2 Epidemic</b> Tomaz Velnar, Associate Professor, Faculty of Medicine University of Maribor; Lidija Gradišnik, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM <b>Social Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic Measures - Inequality, Exclusion and Stigma in the Participation of “Sport For All”</b> Saša Pišot, PhD, ZRS Koper; Kaja Teraž, PhD Candidate, University of Ljubljana <b>Age Discrimination-Ageism in the Age of COVID-19 Pandemic</b> Ana Marija Hošnjak, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Jana Goriup, Professor Emeritus, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Franjo Liška, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Zrinka Lončarić, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM <b>Validity and Reliability of the Gerotranscendence Scale (GT10): A Pilot Study</b> Urša Bratun, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM <b>The Role of Grandparents in Spending a Joint Holiday With Their Grandchildren</b> Mihaela Kežman, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM <b>The Role of Sustainable Leadership in Extending Older Workers’ Labour Activity</b> Urša Bratun, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM <b>Integration of Palliative Care for Older Adults With Dementia in the Social Welfare Institution in Coincides With Digital Transformation</b> Suzana Koštomaj, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Do New Communication Technologies Scare Older Adults? Re-conceptualisation and Rebuttal of the Age-based Digital Divide</b> Nikolaj Lipič, PhD, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Marija Ovsenik, PhD, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Social Inclusion of Elderly People With Mental Health Problems During the COVID-19 Epidemic in the NGO Altra</b> Suzana Oreški, PhD, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Cognitive Pressure on Older People When Using Digital Technology</b> Marko Vidnjevič, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Community Services in the Context of Social Cohesion</b> Barbara Grintal, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Nikolaj Lipič, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Lenka Puh, Zavod Vinetum Slovenske gorice</p>
<p>17:45 – 18:00</p>	<p>DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION</p>

**MONDAY, 14 MARCH 2022****SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY**

<p>10:00 – 11:45 (in English, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>18 SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY - Planning for Quality and Safe Later Life</b> <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Peter Seljak)</i></p> <p><b>Preparation and Planning for Later Life: Past Experiences and Satisfaction With Life in Older People</b> Barbara Grintal, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Nikolaj Lipič, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Peter Seljak, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Nejc Krašovec, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>SenQuality – an EU-funded Project Supporting Preparation for Later Life</b> Sabine Roehrig-Mahhou, Wisamar Educational Institute; Chara Stassinopoulou, C.M. Skoulidi &amp; SIA E.E.</p> <p><b>Adults in Front of Financial and Emergency Situations</b> Marco De Cave, APS Polygonal</p> <p><b>Leisure and Lifestyle and Mental and Physical Fitness - Good Practice Examples Based on Experience</b> Barbara Krzyślak, Lecturer; Sylwia Kurszewska, Centrum Kształcenia Ustawicznego w Sopocie</p> <p><b>Planning for Later Life: Presentation of Project-Research Findings on Domains Housing and Social Relationship</b> Ana Isabel Herranz Zentarski, DomSpain</p> <p><b>Planning for Later Life: Domains Work &amp; Employment and Looks &amp; Appearance</b> Marianna Araouzou, Project Manager, Eurosuccess Consulting</p> <p><b>Planning for Later Life: Presentation of Project-Research Findings on Health Domain</b> Voyko Kavcic, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Nejc Krašovec, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Peter Seljak, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Barbara Grintal, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Nikolaj Lipič, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>
<p>11:45 – 12:00 (in English, Student Panel)</p>	<p><b>19 SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY - Planning for Quality and Safe Later Life</b> <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Peter Seljak)</i></p> <p><b>Planning for Later Life: Importance, Domains and Reasons in Older People</b> Peter Seljak, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Barbara Grintal, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Tjaša Rojht; Elora Dana Čebular; Tjaša Draškovič; Loti Klopčič; Martina Piskar; Manca Repše; Nika Žurman; Loti Bužan, Students, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>
<p>12:00 – 12:15</p>	<p>DISCUSSION</p>

## LAW

<p>10:00 – 11:00 (in English)</p>	<p><b>20 WHY SHOULD WE ABANDON PASSPORTS?</b> <i>(Moderator: Prof. Dr. Jurij Toplak)</i></p> <p><b>ROUND TABLE</b> Dimitry Kochenov, <i>Professor of Law, Central European University</i> Jurij Toplak, <i>Professor of Law, Alma Mater Europaea, University of Maribor</i></p>
<p>11:30 – 12:30 (in English Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>21 HUMAN RIGHTS AND CORONA CRISIS IN THE EU</b> <i>(Moderator: Doc. Dr. Luka Martin Tomažič)</i></p> <p><b>INVITED SPEAKER</b> Verica Trstenjak, <i>Former Advocate General at the European Court of Justice, Professor at Alma Mater Europaea ECM</i></p>

**SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

<p>10:00 – 12:20 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>22 DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES FOR THE PROVISION OF LONG-TERM CARE IN COMMUNITIES</b> (Moderator: Prof. Ddr. David Bogataj)</p> <p><b>INVITED SPEAKER</b></p> <p><b>A New Profile of Facility Manager in The Silver Economy of Smart and Sustainable Cities</b> Prof. Dr. Alenka Temeljotov Salaj, Professor; Vice Dean Innovation, Norwegian University of Science and Technology</p> <p><b>Spatial Dispersion of Older Adults in Slovenian Regions and Their Accessibility to Social Infrastructure</b> Samo Drobne, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Ljubljana; Marija Bogataj, PhD, Professor, Zavod INRISK</p> <p><b>Rights of the Elderly Adults in Rural Areas to Appropriate Housing Through the Development of Smart Villages</b> Borut Vidmar, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Influence of Population Density on the Structure of Long-Term Care Services in Spain</b> Suzanna Mežnarec Novosel, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; David Bogataj, PhD, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Francisco Campuzano Bolarin, Professor, Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena</p> <p><b>Forecasting Demand for Homecare Services in Lifetime Neighbourhoods</b> Renata Možanić, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; David Bogataj, PhD, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>The Social Value of Investments in Housing Adaptation and Social Infrastructure for Long-Term Care in Lifetime Neighbourhoods</b> Valerija Rogelj, PhD, Zavod INRISK; Marija Bogataj, PhD, Professor, Zavod INRISK; David Bogataj, PhD, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p>
	<p>BREAK</p>
<p>15:00 – 17:00 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>Long Term Program for Development of Social Infrastructure for Older Adults in Rural Area</b> Dejan Dokl, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; David Bogataj, PhD, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Social Inclusion of Ethnic Minorities and Citizens with Low Income in the Digitalization of Housing in Slovenia and the EU</b> Samar Zughool, Povod Institute</p> <p><b>Social Infrastructure Development in Unregulated Urban Growth</b> Visar Emerllahu, PhD Candidate NOVA University; David Bogataj, PhD, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Cash Flows of Funds for Long-Term Care Between Municipalities</b> Valerija Rogelj, PhD, Zavod INRISK; Dejan Dokl, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Marija Bogataj, PhD, Professor, Zavod INRISK; Samo Drobne, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Solving The Housing Problems of The Roma Community - The Case Kerinov Grm</b> Andrej Sluga, PhD Candidate NOVA University; David Bogataj, PhD, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Comparative Study of The Social Infrastructure for Older Adults in EU Member States and Slovenia</b> Eneja Drobež, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Ljubljana</p>



## EURACTIV EVENT

<p>14:30 – 15:45 (in English)</p>	<p><b>23 EURACTIV VIRTUAL CONFERENCE: "AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES: FULL SPEED AHEAD TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AND DIGITAL MOBILITY?"</b>  <i>(Moderator: Mariam Zaidi, Journalist, EURACTIV)</i></p> <p>Geert Van Der Linden, <i>Policy Officer Sustainable and Intelligent Transport, DG MOVE, European Commission</i></p> <p>Henna Virkkunen MEP, <i>Member ITRE and TRAN Committees, European Parliament</i></p> <p>Mark Boris Andrijanič, <i>Minister for Digital Transformation, Republic of Slovenia</i></p> <p>Stefan Deix, <i>Director EUCAR (European Council for Automotive R&amp;D)</i></p> <p>Maciej Wieglosz, <i>PhD, Researcher, CVC Computer Vision Center, Advanced Driver Assistance Systems Department, Barcelona, Spain</i></p> <p>Johannes Springer, <i>Director-General 5GAA</i></p> <p><b>DISCUSSION</b></p>
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## HEALTH SCIENCE

<p>09:00 – 10:30 (in Slovenian, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>24 HEALTH SCIENCE</b> <i>(Moderator: Snr. Lect. Nataša Vidnar, MSc)</i></p> <p><b>Why Students at the University of Shkodra “Luigj Gurakuqi” Choose the Bachelor Study Program in Nursing</b> Julian Kraja, Lecturer, University of Shkodra “Luigj Gurakuqi”; Zamira Shabani, Professor, University of Shkodra “Luigj Gurakuqi”; Arlinda Ramaj, University of Medicine, Faculty of Public Health, Tirana – Albania</p> <p><b>Telepsychiatry – Some Professional and Ethical Challenges in the New Approach to Treatment</b> Petra Koprivnik, PhD, Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM, UKC Maribor</p> <p><b>Respect for Professional Communication in the Oncology Department by Nurses</b> Mirjana Jančič, UKC Maribor; Šemrl Simon, Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Exposure of Health Professionals to Violence in Emergency Activities</b> Ksenija Zbičajnik, UKC Maribor</p> <p><b>The Role of Sugar in Relation to Oral Health.</b> Vlasta Šuštaršič, V&amp;Dent d.o.o</p>
<p>11:00 – 12:00 (in Slovenian, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>25 HEALTH SCIENCE</b> <i>(Moderator: Snr. Lect. Nataša Vidnar, MSc)</i></p> <p><b>Active and Healthy Lifestyle Among Active Older Adults and Selected Sarcopenic Characteristics</b> Kaja Teraž, PhD Candidate, ZRS Koper; Saša Pišot, PhD, ZRS Koper; Manca Peskar, ZRS Koper; Rado Pišot, Professor, ZRS Koper</p> <p><b>Patients Experience After Lower Limb Amputation</b> Marija Zrim, Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Kaja Slana, Student, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Epidemiological Characteristics of Premature Infants Born at General Hospital Pula in a Five-year-period (2012-2016)</b> Mladen Jasic, Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Hospital Rovinj; Dorotea Draskovic, General Hospital Pula; Ivona Butorac Ahel; Clinical Hospital Center Rijeka, Darko Kraguljac, Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Hospital Rovinj; Mirhada Mesanovic, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>
<p>13:00 – 14:00 (in Slovenian, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>26 HEALTH SCIENCE</b> <i>(Moderator: Snr. Lect. Edvard Jakšič, MSc)</i></p> <p><b>How Digital Health Literacy can Change the Patients Competencies</b> Florian O. Stummer, Medical University of Innsbruck</p> <p><b>Non-Formal Education for Health Professionals During the COVID-19 Epidemic</b> Lidija Zorman, General Hospital Murska Sobota; Sebastjan Kristovič, Associate Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>The Efficiency of Teamwork – Timely Management and Communication of Changes</b> Metka Lipič Baligač, General Hospital Murska Sobota; Nataša Kreft, Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Community Health Nursing and Home Care, and the Goals of the World Health Organisation for the 21st Century; A Challenge for Digital Transformation an Ethical Point of View</b> Tatjana Geč, Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Eating Habits of Nursing Students Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</b> Patricia Radolič, Health Center dr. Adolf Drošč Maribor; Nataša Vidnar, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Šefik Salkunić, Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>

<p>15:00 – 16:30 (in Slovenian, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>27 HEALTH SCIENCE</b> <i>(Moderator: Snr. Lect. Edvard Jakšič, MSc)</i></p> <p><b>Development of Center for Early Intervention in Rovinj</b> Mladen Jasic; Dina Dežmar; Darko Kraguljac; Ivana Francula Modrcin; Ines Pucic; Danijela Prekupec; Mateo Sturman; Milic Mihajlovic; Barbara Perusko; Danijela Krizman Puhar; Angiada Prskalo; Ivana Saric; Renata Peharec; Marinko Rade, PhD, Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Hospital "Martin Horvat"</p> <p><b>Palliative Care in Homes for The Elderly - An Assessment of the Views of Health Professionals</b> Sandra Špindler, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Erika Zelko, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Edvard Jakšič, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Problems that Burdened the Nursing Workers of Northeastern Slovenia During the COVID-19 Epidemics</b> Žan Jerenko, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Sašo Ozvatič, Student, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Edvard Jakšič, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Digitization in Midwifery</b> Rosemarie Franc, UKC Maribor</p> <p><b>The Role of Operating Room Nurse at Assuring Asepsis and The Differences Between Surgical Rooms</b> Ines Selinšek, UKC Maribor; Andrej Žerdin, UKC Maribor, Nataša Toplak, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Difficulties Experienced by Nurses in Eldercare Institutions: a Qualitative Study</b> Nertila Podgorica, PhD, University of Applied Sciences Tyrol; Emiljano Pjetri, PhD, Lecturer, University of Shkodra "Luigj Gurakuqi", Shkoder; Andreas Muller, PhD Candidate, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle/Wittenberg; Susanne Perkhofer, PhD, Professor, University of Applied Sciences Tyrol</p>
<p>17:30 – 19:00 (in Slovenian, Student Panel)</p>	<p><b>28 HEALTH SCIENCE</b> <i>(Moderator: Snr. Lect. Edvard Jakšič, MSc)</i></p> <p><b>The Role of a Nurse in Health Education of Hemodialysis Patients</b> Žan Luka Krumpak, Student, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Nataša Vidnar, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Comparison of Satisfaction of Nursing Staff in Home Care Between Slovenia and Austria</b> Mitja Gril, Student, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Edvard Jakšič, Senior Lecturer Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Population Awareness of Cardiovascular Diseases</b> Tadej Sutlar, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Edvard Jakšič, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>The View of Healthcare Professionals in Pomurje on the Vaccination Against COVID-19</b> Sašo Ozvatič; Vanesa Bogar; Renata Gorjan, Students; Joca Zurc, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>

## WEB AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

<p>16:00 – 17:30 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>29 APPLIED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE</b> <i>(Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Matej Mertik)</i></p> <p><b>Nanoscience as a Platform for Innovation in Information Technology</b> Stefan Luby, PhD, Senior Researcher, Slovak Academy of Sciences; Ivan Kostic, Institute of Informatics, Slovak Academy of Sciences</p> <p><b>Digital Data in Medicine: Should We Trust Artificial Intelligence?</b> Jonas Miklavčič, MSc, Faculty of Theology of the University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Ethics Role in a Corporate Digital Transformation</b> Laura Lasaitė, IPMA Assistant to the Vice President Administration &amp; Finance and Executive Director</p> <p><b>Project Sciholo Coin, The Future of Cryptocurrency for Scientific Informations</b> Stefano Turini, PhD, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Advanced Bioinformatic Platforms for Scientific Libraries and Privatization of Science</b> Stefano Turini, PhD, Senior Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Virtual Educational Moment of the School Library</b> Maja Cergolj, PhD, Librarian, Primary School Lucija</p> <p><b>Artificial Intelligence and Data Mining in Function of Computer Infrastructure Security</b> Petar Čisar, Full Professor, University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies; Sanja Maravić Čisar, PhD, Professor, Subotica Tech-College of Applied Sciences</p>
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## TUESDAY, 15 MARCH 2022

### ARCHIVAL SCIENCES

10:00 – 10:15 (in English)	<p><b>30<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL ARCHIVAL SYMPOSIUM: ETHICS IN ARCHIVAL SCIENCE AND ARCHIVAL THEORY AND PRACTICE</b> <i>(Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Peter Pavel Klasinc, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Miroslav Novak)</i></p> <p><b>WELCOME SPEECHES</b></p> <p><b>Ethics in Archival Science: Where we are and what do we need?</b> <b>Prof. Dr. Peter Pavel KLASINC</b>, <i>Head of the departments of Archival Studies at Alma Mater Europaea</i></p> <p><b>Prof. Dr. Grazia TATO</b>, <i>former director of Archivio di Stato Trieste, vice director of International Institute of Archival Science Trieste-Maribor</i></p> <p><b>Prof. Dr. Ludvik Toplak</b>, <i>President, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i></p> <p><b>Prof. Dr. Bojan CVELFAR</b>, <i>Director of Archives of the Republic of Slovenia, Ministry of Culture</i></p>
10:15 – 11:55 (in English)	<p><b>LECTURES</b> <i>(Moderator: prof. dr. Zdenka Semlič Rajh, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM, Luka Hribar, Boštjan Dornik, PhD Candidates, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM)</i></p> <p><b>Archives, Ethics and AI</b> Hrvoje Stančić, PhD, Professor, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences</p> <p><b>In Service of People: The ICA Code of Ethics and Access to EU Historical Archives</b> Dieter Schlenker, PhD, Professor, European University Institute</p> <p><b>Archival Ethics and Whistle-Blowers</b> Eric Ketelaar, Emeritus Professor of Archivistics, University of Amsterdam</p> <p><b>Towards an Ethical Profiling of EU National Archives</b> Charles Farrugia, PhD, National Archivist of Malta, University of Malta</p> <p><b>Ethics in the Management of E-Mail: State of the Art and Recommendations</b> Stefano Allegrezza, PhD, Associate Professor, Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna</p> <p><b>Some Considerations on the Archival Storage in Digital Preservation of Records</b> Bogdan Florin-Popovici, PhD, National Archives of Romania</p>
11:55 – 12:30	DISCUSSION
	<b>BREAK</b>
13:00 – 13:45	<p><b>Can Archives Feel? The Ethics of Storytelling in Archives: Some Ethical Considerations Concerning Description of the Emotional Archival Sources</b> Robert Parnica, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Archival Ethics, Problems in the Digital Century</b> Iliia Liutarevich, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>1st International Symposium of PhD Students</b> Anja Prša, Špela Sečnik, PhD Candidates, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Confronting Ethical Matters in Archives: A Shift in Access Protocols to Theses and Dissertations as a Case Study</b> Karen Trivette, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p>
13:45 – 14:30	DISCUSSION

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION MANAGEMENT**

<p>09:00 – 12:00 (in Slovenian-Croatian- Serbian, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>31 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION MANAGEMENT</b> <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Daria Mustić)</i></p> <p><b>INVITED SPEAKER</b></p> <p><b>The Alienation Temptation of Modern Communication</b> Milan Petričković, Professor, University of Belgrade</p>
	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <p><b>Manifestation of Spiritual Abuse in Religious Communication</b> Vlado Havran, Lecturer, Faculty of Theology in Belgrade; Danijela Rajić, Faculty of Theology in Belgrade</p> <p><b>The Importance of Well-Planned Crisis Communication Strategy Within a Company or an Organisation</b> Dragana Stanić, University of Mostar; Bojana Dimitrijević, University of Mostar; Goran Batinić, University of Mostar; Marijan Tustonja, University of Mostar</p> <p><b>Business Communication and Public Relations -Business Perspective</b> Božidar Veljković, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM, Jerko Glavaš, Associated Professor, Faculty of Economics in Osijek, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University in Osijek, Rade Lukić, Faculty of Dental Medicine and Health, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University in Osijek</p> <p><b>R(d)construction of Public and Private Concepts in the Digital Context of Social Network Consumption</b> Ivan Balabanić, PhD, University of Zagreb; Marija Zelić, University of Zagreb</p> <p><b>The Undefined Nature of the Influencers Profession In Croatia</b> Astrid Mušura Kaučič, In medias res komunikacije" d.o.o., Croatia; Ljubica Bakić-Tomić, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea-ECM</p> <p><b>Post Tourist Communication Paradigm and Digitalization</b> Božidar Veljković, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM; Daria Mustić, Assistant Professor, University of Zagreb</p> <p><b>Economic Diplomacy as a Form of Innovative Communication</b> Slađana Strmečki, PhD Candidate, University of Zagreb; Ljubica Bakić-Tomić, Professor, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Anamarija Kirinić, PhD Candidate, University of Maribor</p>
	<p><b>Primary Healthcare and Deliberative Communication at COVID Times in the Age of Digitalization</b> Dubravka Jakšetić, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>The Role of Communication in Deliberative Democracy - A Method of Deliberative Interrogation of Taxation and Tax Reciprocity</b> Lidija Biber, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>The Role of Deliberative Communication in the Local Communication Community and the Subjectivity of Voters</b> Toni Čabraja, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Differences in Employee Satisfaction With Working From Home During the Digital Transformation and the COVID-19 Pandemic</b> Tea Kvarantan Soldatic, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Edi Luketa, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Teaching and Learning in the COVID-19 Pandemic</b> Marko Mikša, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Communication Challenges of Digital Transformation in Higher Education: Research of Students' Experience With Distance Learning</b> Karla Kardum, University of Zagreb; Daria Mustić, Assistant Professor, University of Zagreb</p>

**Digitalisation of Media - Dispersion of Views and Knowledge**

Maruša Mavsar, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM

**Blog as a Means of Innovative Communication for Disabled People in the City of Zagreb**

Maja Popović, PhD Candidate, University of Zagreb

**Innovative Digitalisation of Integrated Architecture**

Vesna Delić Gozze, PhD Candidate, University of Zagreb

**Subliminal Messages**

Kristina Djakovic, Lecturer, Juraj Dobrila University of Pula; Marieta Djakovic, Lecturer,  
Juraj Dobrila University of Pula

## ETHICS

14:00 – 15:00 (in Slovenian)	<b>32 ETHICAL DILEMMAS IN THE DIGITAL SOCIETY</b> <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Luka Martin Tomažič)</i> <b>ROUND TABLE</b> Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rok Svetlič, <i>Principal Research Associate, ZRS Koper; Judge, Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia</i> Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vojko Strahovnik, <i>University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Arts</i> Assoc. Prof. Dr. Peter Lah S.J., <i>Faculty of Social sciences, Pontifical Gregorian University</i>
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**LAW**

<p>13:00 – 13:40 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>33 THE NEWEST DILEMMAS IN LAW</b> <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Barbara Toplak Perovič)</i></p> <p><b>Artificial Intelligence and the Right One for a Less Stressful Age</b> Prof. Dr. Marko Novak, Professor, MLC Faculty Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Unprecedented Perspectives of Comparative Constitutional Law: Constitutional Court Case Law During the COVID-19 Pandemic</b> Boldizsár Szentgáli-Tóth, PhD, Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Legal Studies; Kinga Kálmán, research assistant, Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Legal Studies; Evelin Burján, research assistant, Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Legal Studies</p> <p><b>Legal and Ethical Dilemmas in the Interdisciplinary Field of Neuroscience and Law (Neurolaw)</b> Denis Magyar, PhD, University of Maribor</p> <p><b>The Inclusion of Fundamental Rights in Competition Law Assessments - an Idea Whose Time has Come?</b> Rok Dacar, Assistant, University of Maribor, Faculty of Law</p>
<p>13:40 – 14:00 (in English, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>34 THE NEWEST DILEMMAS IN LAW</b> <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Barbara Toplak Perovič)</i></p> <p><b>Ethical Rules as the Basis of Introduction of Robotics and Artificial Intelligence in the Medical Profession</b> Urška Grubač Kaučič, In-house Lawyer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Digitalisation and State Prosecutors</b> Anita Veternik, District State Prosecutor, Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia</p>
<p>14:30 – 15:30 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>35 FREEDOM OF SPEECH</b> <i>(Moderator: Prof. Dr. Boldizsár Szentgáli-Tóth)</i></p> <p><b>PANEL</b></p> <p><b>Does Free Speech in the Digital Age Require "Authoritarian" Protection?</b> Mark Rush, Professor, Washington &amp; Lee University</p> <p><b>Restricting Freedom of Expression During the Pandemic: Protection of the Society, or Attack on Media Freedom?</b> Boldizsár Szentgáli-Tóth, PhD, Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Legal Studies; Kinga Kálmán, research assistant, Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Legal Studies</p> <p><b>Who's Selling in the Online Marketplace of Ideas?</b> Hanna Zaretsky, JD Candidate, Fordham University</p> <p><b>Scarce-mongering and Free Speech in Times of COVID19 in Hungary</b> Fruzsina Gárdos-Orosz, Associate Professor, Centre for Social Sciences, Institute for Legal Studies</p> <p><b>Freedom of Speech, Surveillance, Academic Freedom</b> András Pap, Professor, Centre for Social Sciences Institute for Legal Studies/Ludovika University</p>

<p>16:00 CET 11:00 am EST (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>36 ELECTION LAW 1</b> <i>(Moderator: Prof. Dr. David Schultz)</i></p> <p><b>Democratic Theory and Election Law</b> David Schultz, Professor, Hamline University</p> <p><b>Postponing Elections During COVID-19</b> Tiffany Monroy, JD Candidate, Fordham University</p> <p><b>Election Participation of Persons with Disabilities</b> Enira Bronitskaya, Belarus</p> <p><b>Toplak and Mrak v. Slovenia: Positive Obligations so that Persons With Disabilities Can Effectively Vote</b> Adriana Caballero-Pérez, PhD Researcher, Maastricht University</p> <p><b>Legal Reforms for Electoral Integrity in Pakistan</b> Hassan Nasir Mirbahar, MA, United Nations Development Programme</p>
<p>18:00 – 19:00 (in English)</p>	<p><b>37 THE ROLE OF OUTSIDE BOARD MEMBERS IN CORPORATIONS</b> <i>(Moderator: Urška Podpečan, Corporate Secretary, Slovenian Sovereign Holding)</i></p> <p><b>ROUND TABLE</b></p> <p>Martin Rowinski, CEO, Boardsi, Las Vegas, Author of the Book 'The Corporate Matchmaker' (2021)</p> <p>Tomaž Kokot, CEO, Post of Slovenia</p> <p>Davorin Dimič, Supervisory Board Member, Elektro Ljubljana and Borzen</p>

## WEDNESDAY, 16 MARCH 2022

## ARCHIVAL SCIENCES

10:00 – 10:10 (in Slovenian)	<p><b>38 7<sup>th</sup> ARCHIVAL SYMPOSIUM: ETHICS IN ARCHIVAL SCIENCE AND ARCHIVAL THEORY AND PRACTICE</b></p> <p><b>WELCOME SPEECHES</b>  <b>Prof. Dr. Peter Pavel KLASINC</b>, <i>Head of the departments of Archival Studies at Alma Mater Europaea</i>  <b>Prof. Dr. Ludvik Toplak</b>, <i>President, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</i></p>
10:10 – 13:10 (in Slovenian)	<p><b>LECTURES</b>  (Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Miroslav Novak Alma Mater Europaea – ECM, Špela Sečnik, Anja Prša, PhD Candidates, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM)</p> <p><b>Hipokrat v arhivu</b>  Silva Potrato, mag. arhivistike in dokumentologije  <b>Varstvo arhivskega in dokumentarnega gradiva, etika in pravo</b>  Izr. prof. dr. Jelka Melik, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Etika v znanstveno raziskovalnem delu. Čemu jo potrebujemo?</b>  Doc. dr. Zdenka Semlič Rajh, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM  <b>Nekateri etični vidiki upravljanja arhivskih podatkovnih struktur</b>  Doc. dr. Miroslav Novak, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM  <b>Etične zahteve za materialno varovanje arhivskega in dokumentarnega gradiva</b>  Red. prof. dr. Jedert Tomažič Vodopivec, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Arhivska restitucija in sukcesija – med načeli in prakso</b>  Doc. dr. Matevž Košir, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM  <b>Arhivska etika malo drugače – predstavitev objave vira iz časa škofa Gruberja</b>  Doc. dr. Julijana Visočnik, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM  <b>Etika raziskovanja v arhivih</b>  Doc. dr. Pavlina Bobič, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM  <b>Pomemben del slovenske filmske arhivske dediščine spet doma</b>  Doc. dr. Bojan Cvelfar, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM  <b>Upravljanje z arhivskim gradivom z nedostopnimi ali občutljivimi podatki in vzpostavljanje zaupanja med ustvarjalci in javnimi arhivi</b>  Doc. dr. Gregor Jenuš, Arhiv Republike Slovenije  <b>Kodeks arhivske etike</b>  Mag. Mitja Sadek, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM  <b>Pregled razvoja vrednotenja arhivskega gradiva v slovenskem prostoru</b>  Anja Prša, doktorska kandidatka, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p>
13:10 – 13:20	<b>BREAK</b>

13:20 – 14:50 (in Slovenian)	<p><b>Vrednotenje elektronskega dokumentarnega in arhivskega gradiva v televizijskem okolju</b> Boštjan Dornik, doktorski kandidat, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Zakaj obstaja mačehovski odnos do nekaterih arhivskih zbirk?</b> Dimitrij Reja, doktorska kandidatka, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Etična vprašanja pri stopnjah tajnosti arhivskega in dokumentarnega gradiva</b> Manja Konkolič, doktorska kandidatka, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Etika pri hrambi zasebnega arhivskega gradiva v gospodarstvu</b> David Gajič, doktorski kandidat, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Ponovna uporaba informacij javnega sektorja in vloge arhivistike</b> Miha Merlak, magistrski študent, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Pot do samostojnega uporabnika spletnih arhivskih informacijskih sistemov</b> Eva Maršič, magistrska študentka, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Koncept pedagoškega dela v arhivih</b> Vladimir Milošević, magistrski študent, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Z zakonom o arhivih določen dostop do arhivskega gradiva na madžarskem</b> Iva Lana Lanščak, študentka, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Predstavitev publikacij Atlanti in Atlanti +</b> Špela Sečnik, doktorska kandidatka, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p>
14:50 – 15:30	<b>DISCUSSION</b>

## RESEARCH OF CULTURAL FORMATIONS

<p>10:00 – 11:00 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>39 CULTURAL FORMATIONS AND CULTURAL MEMORY</b> <i>(Moderator: Daniel Siter, PhD Candidate)</i></p> <p><b>Ethical Dimensions of Digitalisation in the Energy Sector</b> Luka Martin Tomažič, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM On Moral Certainty Varja Štrajn, PhD, Researcher, University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Digital Transformations of Art Residencies and Artist Mobility</b> (in Slovenian) Mojca Sfiligoj, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ISH Comparison of Graphic and Textual Biographies Ana Toplak, student at II. gimnazija Maribor</p>
<p>12:00 – 13:00 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>40 PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH GROUP</b> <i>(Moderator: Daniel Siter, PhD Candidate)</i></p> <p><b>Presentations of Research of the Group Members</b></p> <p><b>Nature Worship in Western Slovenia: Research Challenges</b> Cirila Toplak, Full Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ISH</p> <p><b>Politično izključevanje in oblikovanje slovenskega narodnega gospodarstva ob koncu 19. in na začetku 20. stoletja: Predstavitev raziskave</b> Centrih Lev, Assistant Professor, University of Primorska</p> <p><b>The Swabian-German Cultural Association on Slovenian soil between 1922 and 1945: Presentation of doctoral research</b> Daniel Siter, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ISH</p> <p><b>About the Men's dignity: the Renaissance Humanistic Survey on the Men (Toward the Phenomena of Melancholy)</b> Neža Zajc, PhD Research Fellow, ZRC SAZU</p>

## LAW

<p>13:00 – 14:30 CET 8:00 – 9:30am EST (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>41 ELECTION LAW DISPUTES</b> <i>(Moderator: Prof. Dr. Đorđe Gardašević)</i> <b>Contested Elections in Africa: Unpacking the Normative Roles of Courts in Electoral Processes</b> Ugochukwu Ezeh, PhD Candidate, University of Oxford <b>Constitutions of Western Europe: Resolving Disputes on Election Results</b> Maria Chrysanthem, PhD Candidate, Fordham University School of Law <b>Election Dispute Resolution in Europe: An Analysis of the Standards by the Venice Commission, ODIHR and the ECtHR</b> Mathieu Leloup, PhD Researcher, University of Antwerp <b>European Court for Human Rights as an Election Judge for Disqualifications: From Mathieu-Mohin to Galan</b> Saša Zagorc, Professor, University of Ljubljana</p>
<p>14:30 – 16:00 CET 9:30 – 11:00am EST (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>42 ELECTIONS AND REPRESENTATION</b> <i>(Moderator: Prof. Dr. Mark Rush)</i> <b>The Quota Debate in the Czech Republic and Post-Communist Legacy</b> Zuzana Fellegi, Senior Lecturer, Anglo-American University <b>One Person, How Many Votes? Measuring Prison Malapportionment</b> Ian Bollag-Miller, JD Candidate, Fordham University <b>Representative Government and Elections (Routledge chapter)</b> Mark Rush, Professor, Washington &amp; Lee University <b>On the People, Elections and Constitutional Subjects in Croatia</b> Đorđe Gardašević, Professor, University of Zagreb</p>
<p>16.00 CET 11:00am EST (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>43 ELECTION LAW AROUND THE WORLD</b> <b>with the Voting Rights and Democracy Project, Fordham Law School</b> <i>(Moderator: Jerry Goldfeder, Fordham University)</i> <b>Election Laws in India</b> Rajeev Gowda, Professor <b>America's Anachronistic Presidential Election Process</b> Jerry Goldfeder, Esq, Stroock, New York, and Adjunct Professor, Fordham University <b>Democratization or Disqualification: How Restrictions on a Person's Right to Stand for Election Affects Democracy</b> Deanna Schreiber, JD Candidate, Fordham University <b>Election Laws and Reforms in Malaysia</b> Mohd Azizuddin Mohd Sani, Professor, Universiti Utara Malaysia <b>Redistricting in America and Around the World: What Can America Learn?</b> Matthew Vaughan, JD Candidate, Fordham University</p>

## THURSDAY, 17 MARCH 2022

### HUMANITIES

<p>09:30 – 12:45 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>44 THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF AI AND THE SOCIAL IMAGINARIES OF THE DIGITAL</b> (Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Gorazd Andrejč)</p> <p><b>Opening remarks:</b> Prof. Dr. Lenart Škof, <i>Dean of Alma Mater Europaea – Institutum Studiorum Humanitatis / Head of the Institute for Philosophical Studies at the Science and Research Centre Koper</i></p> <p><b>Do You Love Me Alexa? AI and Authentic Relationship</b> Noreen Herzfeld, Professor, St John's University in Minnesota / Science and Research Centre Koper</p> <p><b>To Be Human in the Age of AI</b> Antonio Dante Santangelo, Assistant Professor, University of Turin</p> <p><b>Ascribing 'Religion' To Technopaganism: A Pragmatist-Semiotic Approach</b> Victoria Dos Santos, PhD Candidate, University of Turin; Gorazd Andrejč, Assistant Professor, University of Groningen / Science and Research Centre Koper</p>
<p>12:45 – 14:00 (in Slovenian and English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>45 HUMANITIES: CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL EXISTENCE</b> (Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Luka Trebežnik)</p> <p><b>Ethical Issues During COVID-19 Pandemics</b> Mojca Ramšak, Professor, University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Algorithmic Personalization as a Challenge and Reflection (For Society)</b> Tadej Praprotnik, Assistant Professor, University of Primorska</p> <p><b>Revealing and Re-Engaging Storytelling as an Ancient and Powerful Education Tool view</b> Martina Hranj, Professor, Medical School Varaždin</p> <p><b>Perception of Smell in Primary School Children: Senses, Emotions, Memory, Learning</b> Primož Hvala Kamenšček, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ISH</p>
<p>14:00 – 17:15 (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>46 THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF AI AND THE SOCIAL IMAGINARIES OF THE DIGITAL (Cont.)</b> (Moderator: Prof. Dr. Nadja Furlan Štante)</p> <p><b>Guiding Light: Responsible, Ethical and Sustainable AI For Social Causes</b> Christian Stiegler, PhD, Director, Guiding Light – Center for Ethics and Sustainable Technologies</p> <p><b>Digital [R]evolution. Psychic Presence on the Digital Screen</b> Victor J. Krebs, Professor, Pontifical Catholic University of Peru</p> <p><b>Human-Nature-Machine Relationships from the Perspective of Theological Ecofeminisms</b> Nadja Furlan Štante, Professor, Science and Research Centre Koper</p>
<p>18:00 – 20:00 (in Slovenian and English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>47 HUMANITIES: CULTURAL AND POLITICAL IDENTITIES</b> (Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Luka Trebežnik)</p> <p><b>A Tribute to the Linguist and Educator Janko Bezjak PhD at the 160th Anniversary of His Birth</b> Ivo Ban, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ISH</p> <p><b>On Edward W. Said's Orientalism</b> Rade Trivunčević, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea – ISH, Science and Research Centre Koper</p> <p><b>Parallels Between Krleža's "Ljubljana Report" and Autonomous Post-Yugoslav Cinema</b> Aleš Čakalić, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ISH</p>

## HIGH SCHOOL RESEARCH

<p>13:00 – 14:30 (in Slovenian, Student Panel)</p>	<p><b>48 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RESEARCH: TAKING STEPS TOWARDS SCIENCE</b> <b>held in partnership with II. gimnazija Maribor</b> <i>(Moderator: Dr. Klavdija Zorec, Katja Holnthaner Zorec)</i></p> <p><b>Podatkovno rudarjenje instagram objav / Data Mining of Instagram Posts</b> Gaja Đukanović Babič, II. gimnazija Maribor <i>(Mentor: Dr. Sašo Karakatič, Mitja Osojnik)</i></p> <p><b>Uporaba satelitske analize za določanje indeksa NDVI na območju Strojne, Kozjaka in Pohorja in ugotavljanje zdravja gozda in njegove odvisnosti od reliefa / Use of Satellite Analysis to Determine the NDVI Index in the Area of Strojna, Kozjak and Pohorje and the Determination of Forest Health and its Dependence on the Relief</b> Gašper Dimnik and Lan Patrik Horvat, II. gimnazija Maribor <i>(Mentor: Danijel Davidovič, Vesna Vervega)</i></p> <p><b>Uporaba bakteriofagov za uničevanje biofilma bakterije Serratia marcescens / Use of bacteriophages to destroy the biofilm of Serratia marcescens</b> Kaja Zupanič and Miša Pintarič, II. gimnazija Maribor <i>(Mentor: Dr. Jure Škraban, Dr. Sandra Janežič)</i></p> <p><b>Uporabe novejših molekularnih metod v živilski industriji – detekcija in kvantifikacija kravjega mleka v kozjem ali ovčjem siru / Use of Modern Molecular Methods in Food Industry – Detection and Quantification of Bovine Milk in Cheeses Made from Caprine and Ovine Milk</b> Špela Polutik, II. gimnazija Maribor <i>(Mentor: Dr. Nataša Toplak, Katja Holnthaner Zorec)</i></p>
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## LAW

<p>16:45 – 18:15 CET (in English, Scholarly Panel)</p>	<p><b>49 POST-HOLOCAUST JUSTICE</b> <i>(Moderator: Dr. Michael Pinto-Duschinsky, Former Politics Fellow, Merton College and Pembroke College, University of Oxford and Brunel University, UK Bill of Rights Commissioner)</i></p> <p><b>Professor Ciril Ribičič</b>, <i>Professor of Law, University of Ljubljana, Former Constitutional Court Judge and a lead complainant to the Slovenian Constitutional Court against the judgement of the Supreme Court in the ongoing Rupnik case</i></p> <p><b>Dr Robert Williams</b>, <i>Deputy Director, International Affairs, The US Holocaust Memorial Museum, Former Chair, Committee on Antisemitism and Holocaust Denial, International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, and Member, the German Government’s Committee Against Holocaust Distortion</i></p> <p><b>Professor Andrés Sajó</b>, <i>Former European Court of Human Rights Judge and Vice-President, Major European Constitutional Scholar, Professor of Law, Central European University and Facebook Oversight Board Member, in conversation with Professor Jurij Toplak, Professor of Law, Alma Mater Europaea University, Visiting Professor of Law, Fordham University and Co-Chair, Research Group on Freedom of Expression, International Association of Constitutional Law</i></p> <p><b>Baroness Ruth Deech</b>, <i>Member, UK House of Lords, Former Principal, St Anne’s College, University of Oxford, Chair of UK Bar Standards Council and currently a lead campaigner on Post-Holocaust issues concerning the UK and Poland</i></p> <p><b>Dr Michael Pinto-Duschinsky</b>, <i>Former Honorary Academic Advisor, Claims for Jewish Slave Labour Compensation, and currently President, Research Committee on Political Finance and Political Corruption, International Political Science Association</i></p>
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## FRIDAY, 18 MARCH 2022

## DANCE ART

09:00 – 10:00 (in English)	<b>50 RECENT EXPERIENCES ARE SHAPING OUR FUTURE: Potentials of Dance as Art, Science, Education and Mediation in the Post-pandemic Period</b> <i>(Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svebor Sečak)</i>
09:00 – 09:20 (in English)	<b>INVITED SPEAKER</b> Dr. Michelle Groves, <i>Director of Education, Royal Academy of Dance, London, UK</i>
09:20 – 09:40 (in English)	<b>INVITED SPEAKER</b> Dr. Kathrina Farrugia-Kriel, <i>Head of Research and Lead Academic Integrity Officer, Royal Academy of Dance, London, UK</i>
09:40 – 10:00 (in English)	<b>51 ROUND TABLE</b> Dr. Kathrina Farrugia-Kriel, <i>Head of Research and Lead Academic Integrity Officer, Royal Academy of Dance, London, UK</i> Dr. Michelle Groves, <i>Director of Education, Royal Academy of Dance, London, UK</i> Mr. Jan Linkens <i>Director at Dance Department, Royal Conservatoire, The Hague, NL</i>
10:00 – 11:15 (in English and Slovenian)	<b>52 JOURNAL MONITOR: CONTEMPORARY DANCE AND VIDEO</b> <b>Presentation of Four Papers from the Monitor ISH Journal</b> XXIII / 1 • 2021, Journal for the Humanities and Social Sciences: Contemporary Dance and Video <b>Transformation of an Archival Recording of a Neoclassical Ballet Hamlet into a New Artistic Dance Video Hamlet Revisited</b> Assoc. Prof. Dr. Svebor Sečak Alma Mater Europaea, Dance Academy <b>Juliet's Run as Seen on Screen: Reinterpretation of the Past Through Camera Lenses</b> Lidia Krisskaya, MA Student, Alma Mater Europaea - Dance Academy <b>Expression of Dance Movement in Close up at Film</b> Asst. Prof. Dr. Uroš Zavodnik, Alma Mater Europaea - Dance Academy <b>Ballet and Dance of 20th century</b> Helena Valerija Krieger, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ISH
	BREAK
11:30 – 12:45 (in Slovenian and English)	<b>53 DANCE AND THE DIGITAL ERA; DANCE MEDIATION</b> <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Rosana Hribar)</i> <b>Film Director and Dancer in Dance Film</b> Uroš Zavodnik, PhD, Alma Mater Europaea - Dance Academy <b>Other Spaces of Digital Captivity Dying Swans Project 2021</b> Helena Valerija Krieger, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ISH <b>Digital Transformation - A Prerequisite for the Survival of the Artistic Organisation as a Micro-Entrepreneurial Entity in Culture During the COVID Pandemic and the Ensuing Recession</b> Jasna Čizmek Tarbuk, Artistic organisation Fronesis <b>Finding Inspiration in the Limits of Digital Learning</b> Johanna Rebecca Greiner, Student, Alma Mater Europaea - Dance Academy <b>Dance Mediation and Artistic Education – A Process of Overlapping</b> Ângelo Neto, Lecturer, Escola Superior de Dança
	BREAK

<p>13:00 – 14:15 (in Slovenian and English)</p>	<p><b>54 PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL ASPECTS IN DANCE</b> <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Rosana Hribar)</i></p> <p><b>Some Psychological Factors in Competitive Ballroom Dancing</b> Bor Sojar Voglar, PhD, Alma Mater Europaea - Dance Academy</p> <p><b>Interception of Dancers and Their Awareness of Emotions and Bodily Sensations</b> Tjaša Stepišnik Perdih, PhD, School of Advanced Social Studies; Ajda Špacapan, ŠINŠIN</p> <p><b>Gesture as an Auxiliary Tool in Treatment of Children With ASD</b> Lidia Krisskaya, Student, Alma Mater Europaea - Dance Academy</p> <p><b>The Artistic Experience in the Studies of Future Educators as a Path to Personal and Professional Development</b> Urša Rupnik, dancer; Vesna Geršak, PhD, University of Ljubljana</p> <p><b>Dance In Kindergarten - An Important Factor in the Psycho-Physical Development of Children</b> Blaž Šumak, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Association of Ljubljana; Vesna Geršak, PhD, University of Ljubljana</p>
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## PROJECT MANAGEMENT

09:00 – 11:20 (in English, Scholarly Panel)	<p><b>55 PROJECT MANAGEMENT</b> (Moderator: Prof. Dr. Mladen Radujković, Matjaž Likar, PhD Candidate)</p> <p><b>INVITED SPEAKER:</b> <b>Making Sense of Sustainable Project Management</b> Prof. Dr. Gilbert Silvius, Wittenborg University of Applied Sciences</p>
	<p><b>PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <p><b>How to Measure Teamwork Quality in Virtual Teams</b> Markus Behn, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>The Influence of »VOLITION« as a Core Element of Courage and Mindset of Leaders and Project Team Members as an Important Success Factor of Large-scale Projects</b> Andreas Doba, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Exploratory Projects in Manufacturing Industry: A Longitudinal Case Study</b> Matjaž Likar, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>The Ecclesial Cybernated Amalgamation: New Perspectives in the Ecclesial Management in Lebanon</b> Mario Jade, PhD Candidate, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>
	BREAK
11:30 – 12:30 (in English, Scholarly Panel)	<p><b>Attitude to Mass Real Estate Valuation</b> Klavdija Snežič, PhD</p> <p><b>Sustainability Assessment Tools for Project-Oriented Organisations in the Building Industry: A Review</b> Shayeste Hamidi, University of Art; Behnod Barmayehvar, University of Art; Mehdi Delavari, University of Art; Mohammad Mahoud, 3M-CEPM R&amp;D Institute</p> <p><b>Economic Effects and Human Resources Development Through the Implementation of Cross-border Cooperation Projects Between the Republic of Croatia and Hungary</b> Sanela Ravlić, Lecturer, Veleučilište Baltazar Zaprešić; Bruno Mandić, Ekonomski Fakultet u Osijeku; Damir Šebo, Academy of Arts and Culture in Osijek</p>
	BREAK

## MANAGEMENT

<p>13:30 – 16:00 (in English, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>56 MANAGEMENT</b> <i>(Moderator: Prof. Dr. Mladen Radujković, Matjaž Likar, PhD Candidate)</i></p> <p>INVITED SPEAKER: Industry/Construction 5.0</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Mirosław Skibniewski, <i>University of Maryland, USA</i></p> <p><b>The Effect of Using the BIM Material Database on Improving and Developing Sustainability</b> Ali Bidhendi, Faculty of Art; Mohammad Mahoud, 3M-CEPM R&amp;D Institute</p> <p><b>Providing Climate Design Solutions With a Sustainable Development Approach (Case Study: Tabriz City)</b> Bahareh Bahramifar, Student, Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad; Mohammad Mahoud, 3M-CEPM R&amp;D Institute; Rahim Rahimi, PhD Candidate, Art University of Tehran</p> <p><b>What Have We Learned From the Corona Crisis and How Should We Go Forward?</b> Mirjana Ivanuša-Bezjak, Lecturer, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>
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## EDUCATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

15:00 – 15:15 (in English, Scholarly Panel)	<b>57 EDUCATION</b> <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Barbara Toplak Perovič)</i> <b>A New Knowledge Paradigm For Sustainable Transitions In Europe and Slovenia</b> Darja Piciga, PhD, "The Citizens' Initiative for an Integral Green Slovenia"
15:15 – 15:45 (in Slovenian and English, Expert Panel)	<b>58 EDUCATION</b> <i>(Moderator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Barbara Toplak Perovič)</i> <b>Remote Teaching Gaps</b> Ines Krapež; Osnovna šola Lucija <b>Building a Culture of Philanthropy in Higher Education</b> Mr. Steven G. West, Principal, Strategies for Philanthropy
16:00 – 16:15 (in English, Scholarly Panel)	<b>59 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</b> <i>(Moderator: Dr. Darja Piciga)</i> <b>Reuse of organic and plastic waste through the gasification system</b> Marko Šetinc, PhD, Assistant Professor, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM, Geopolis d.o.o.
16:30 – 17:00 (in Slovenian, Student Panel)	<b>60 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</b> <i>(Moderator: Dr. Darja Piciga)</i> <b>Ecoremediation Solution For Municipal Wastewater Treatment</b> Urša Jekovec, Student, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM <b>Life Narava 06, Nat/slo/000069 – Intermittent Cerkniško Jezero</b> Jani Pagon, Student, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>Tree as an ecosystem in urban environments</b> Saša Jeram, Student, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM <b>The EMR-rural project: key techniques and devices development for rural environmental monitoring and remediation in China</b> Mitja Prša, Student, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM

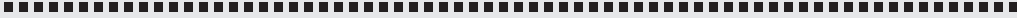
## INTEGRATIVE HEALTH

<p>15:00 – 18:00 (in English, Expert Panel)</p>	<p><b>61 ROUND TABLE - AYURVEDA</b> <i>(Moderators: Prof. Dr. Slaviša Stanišić, Snr. Lect. Tomaž Klojčnik, MSc)</i></p> <p><b>Behavioural Rasayana</b> Silvia Jelenikova, PhD Candidate</p> <p><b>Treatment in Maharishi Ayurveda</b> Dareen Shatila, American University of Beirut</p> <p><b>Diagnostic Approach to the Patient in Maharishi Ayurveda</b> Ailish O'Driscoll, Senior Lecturer, City, University of London</p> <p><b>Maharishi Ayurveda</b> Bernadette van den Hout, PhD, University of Amsterdam</p> <p><b>Maharishi-Ayurveda: Consciousness Based Medicine</b> Thirza de Jong, M.D., Maharishi Ayurveda for Health Professionals</p> <p><b>Use of Spices in Ayurveda, Useful Recipes</b> Noel O'Neill, Ayurveda Centre</p> <p><b>Life In Accordance With The Cycle of Nature</b> Pia Christensen</p> <p><b>Recommendations for Summer</b> Cheikh Diop</p> <p><b>Diet - General Principles Regarding Diet</b> Megan Butkevicius</p> <p><b>Vata, Pitta, Kapha in Human Physiology &amp; The Effects of Balanced &amp; Imbalanced States of Doshas</b> Natasha Coelho, Student, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Integrative Medicine in the Treatment of Post Covid Syndrome and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome</b> Slaviša Stanišić, PhD, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p> <p><b>Supplementation With Essential Oils in the Treatment of Post Covid-19 Syndrome</b> Igor Ogorevc; Irma Ogorevc, Planet zdravja</p> <p><b>Recommendations for Winter</b> Sandra Lawes</p> <p><b>Etiology of Disease (hetu) and Six Stages of the Disease Process</b> Jadranka Radić, Student, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Contribution of Complementary and Integrative Medicine in COVID Pandemic</b> Maruša Hribar, Student, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Saša Stanišić, PhD, Alma Mater Europaea – ECM</p> <p><b>Long COVID Syndrome and Individual Approach in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Patients</b> Momir Dunjić, PhD, Alma Mater Europaea - ECM; Stefano Turini, PhD Alma Mater Europaea - ECM</p>
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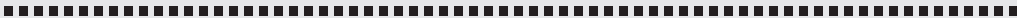








# **RESEARCH PROJECTS**





**PHYSIOTHERAPY RESEARCH PROJECT (Session 8)**

*This panel has been financially supported by Erasmus+ Programme, Development of a tailor-made comprehensive training concept on sarcopenia for health care workers (E-sarc.) - Grant Agreement No 2021-1-BE02-KA220-VET-000033238 ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME – KA2 – STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP.*

**EDUCATION AND MENTAL HEALTH (Sessions 11 and 13)**

*This panels have been financially supported by Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS), Holističen vzgojno-izobraževalni proces in krepitev duševnega zdravja (HOLISTIC), L5-1844 (A).*

**SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY (Session 14)****SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY - Planning for Quality and Safe Later Life (Session 19)**

*This panels have been financially supported by Erasmus+ Programme, SenQuality - Preparation for later life (SenQuality) - Grant Agreement No 2020-1-DE02-KA204-007435 ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME – KA2 – STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP.*

**APPLIED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (Session 29)**

*This panel has been financially supported by Erasmus+ Programme, HYBRID LAB NETWORK - Grant Agreement No 2019-1-PT01-KA203-061449 ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME – KA2 – STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP.*

**CULTURAL FORMATIONS AND CULTURAL MEMORY (Sessions 39 and 40)**

*This panels have been financially supported by Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS), Programska skupina Raziskave kulturnih formacij, P6-0278.*

**HUMANITIES - Contemporary Ethical Existence (Session 45)****HUMANITIES - Cultural and Political Identities (Session 47)**

*This panels have been financially supported by Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS), Research of Cultural Formations (P6-0278 (A), 2019–2024) at the Alma Mater Europaea – Faculty of Humanities, Institutum Studiorum Humanitatis, Ljubljana (AMEU – ISH).*

**THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF AI AND THE SOCIAL IMAGINARIES OF THE DIGITAL (Sessions 44 and 46)**

*This panels have been financially supported by Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS), Project J6-1813: Creatures, Humans, Robots: Creation Theology Between Humanism and Posthumanism, J6-1813 (B).*

**HIGH SCHOOL RESEARCH (Session 48)**

*This panel has been financially supported by Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS) Infrastrukturni program AMEU-ECM "Znanost za mlade", IO-0057.*

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT (Session 55)****MANAGEMENT (Session 56)**

*This panel have been financially supported by Erasmus+ Programme, A new academic path for EU Project managers: narrowing the gaps to enable better project design and management in Europe (EUPM)- Grant Agreement No 2021-1-IT02-KA220-HED-000035769 ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME – KA2 – STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP.*

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (Sessions 59 and 60)**

*This panel have been financially supported by Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS), Preživeti dobo antropocena z razvitjem nove ekološke pravičnosti in biodružbene filozofske pismenosti, J-1824 (B).*



# STUDY PROGRAMS ACCREDITED AT AMEU ECM

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES	GRADUATE STUDIES	DOCTORAL STUDIES
SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY	SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY	SOCIAL GERONTOLOGY
HUMANITIES	HUMANITIES	HUMANITIES
MANAGEMENT	PROJECT MANAGEMENT	STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION MANAGEMENT
	EUROPEAN BUSINESS STUDIES	PROJECT MANAGEMENT
	INNOVATIVE MANAGEMENT IN TOURISM*	
PHYSIOTHERAPY	HEALTH SCIENCES Nursing, Public Health, Physiotherapy, Integrative Health Sciences, Autism	PHYSIOTHERAPY
NURSING		
ARCHIVAL SCIENCES	ARCHIVAL STUDIES AND RECORD MANAGEMENT	ARCHIVAL SCIENCES
	ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES	
DANCE, CHOREOGRAPHY	DANCE STUDIES	
WEB AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES	WEB SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	APPLIED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE*

\* in the accreditation process