

## *Editorial*

Since its very beginnings 17 years ago, the Historical Seminar, a series of invited lectures organized by the ZRC SAZU, has presented the latest scholarly findings in the humanities and social sciences to as many listeners as possible. It provides Slovenian and international lecturers – both young, promising researchers and their more experienced colleagues – an opportunity to present topical studies and, first and foremost, it opens up space for wider discussion. The topics covered by the Historical Seminar are thus conceptually and methodologically very diverse, just like the world they study.

The Historical Seminar publication, already in its seventh volume, has again taken another step forward. With each new issue, a new story develops and remains even after the talks in the Little Hall (Mala dvorana) at the ZRC SAZU have long ended, even if they received an extremely wide response at the time. All of the contributions in this monograph were written based on the lectures delivered at the Historical Seminar.

At first glance, the story created in *Historični seminar 7* (Historical Seminar 7) looks like a mosaic of completely unconnected colors and shapes. It presents five original scholarly articles by three Slovenian authors, one American author, and one Mexican author. The publication begins by addressing a historical topic, with Andrej Nared's discussion paper *Začetki kranjskega prelatskega stanu* (The Beginnings of the Carniolan Prelature), in which he discusses the creation and development of prelates' provincial estates in Carniola during the late middle ages. He presents the tax obligations of individual Carniolan prelates and their functions in the provincial assembly. In the middle ages, the Habsburg Order of the Golden Fleece was also established. In contrast to the Carniolan provincial estates, it has been preserved until the present day. Glen Covert investigates its role in today's world in his article *The Habsburg Most Illustrious Order of the Golden Fleece: Its potential relevance on modern culture in the European Union*. This sociological and historical paper is primarily based on interviews conducted with present-day knights. The discussion paper titled *Islam in vsakdanje življenje mladih moških v urbanem Burkina Fasu* (Islam and the Everyday Life of Young Men in Urban Burkina Faso) was based on private

and group conversations with a group of young Muslims in Bobo Dioulassou (Burkina Faso). It discusses the young men's everyday social life and their attitude towards Islam. The ethnographic material refers to the theoretical premises connected with the local concepts of belief, friendship, hope, and success. The story then turns to a completely different part of the world: Argentina. In her article *Vlady Kociancich in umišljena domišljija* (Vlady Kociancich and the Fantastic Imagination), Aída Nadi Gambetta Chuk discusses the Argentine writer Vlady Kociancich. The author uses Kociancich's novels *La octava maravilla* (The Eighth Wonder) and *Amores Sicilianos* (Sicilian Romances), and her last collection of short stories *La ronda de los jinetes muertos* (The Procession of Dead Horsemen) to present the basic idea of Vlady Kociancich's works: double identity in real life and literature. Life and literature also meet in interesting ways in Francka Premk's article *Po sledeh še malo znanega Trubarja* (Following the Traces of the Still Relatively Unknown Trubar), which elucidates sixteenth-century Slovenian-Italian cultural contacts, and explains Trubar's pseudonym *Philopatridus Illyricus* and the conceptual background of the creation of his *Cerkovna ordninga* (Church Canon) of 1564. The story of *Historični seminar 7* is thus concluded and a new one is developing in the Little Hall: lectures that will become part of the story of the *Historični seminar 8* (Historical Seminar 8) are already underway.

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The scholarly monograph *Historični seminar 7* contains discussion papers that were originally presented as part of a series of invited lectures at the ZRC SAZU Historical Seminar in 2007 and 2008, and then adapted for publication, expanded with a reference list, and reviewed.

*The editors*