



HRVATSKO FILOZOFSKO DRUŠTVO
Croatian Philosophical Society

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23rd Days of Frane Petrić

“The Man-Made World” symposium

21–24 September 2014, Cres, Croatia

First circular



Bronze sculpture "Bürger der Welt" by Leo Wirth.
Source: <http://bildhauer-leo-wirth.de>

General information

Date 21–24 September 2014

Venue hotel *Kimen*, Cres, Croatia

Official languages Croatian, English, German

Program Plenary presentations
Parallel session presentations

Social and cultural events Book presentations
Cultural programme
Excursion

Corresponding address dfp.cres@gmail.com

Program at a Glance

	Sunday, 21 September	Monday, 22 September	Tuesday, 23 September	Wednesday, 24 September
7:00–9:00		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:00–10:00		Conference opening and welcome addresses	Plenary presentations	Parallel session presentations
10:15–11:30		Plenary presentations	Parallel session presentations	Parallel session presentations
11:45–13:00		Parallel session presentations	Parallel session presentations	Plenary presentations and Closing of the Symposium
13:00		Lunch; Tour of City of Cres	Lunch	Lunch
16:00–17:30	Arrival of the participants	Parallel session presentations	Excursion	Departure of the participants
17:45–19:15	Welcome drink	Parallel session presentations		
19:30	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
21:00	Cultural programme	Book presentations	Cultural programme	

Important dates and deadlines

Sending a filled in <i>Registration Form</i> – the deadline	30 April 2014
Confirmation of acceptance of presentations (including an <i>Accommodation Form</i>)	15 May 2014 at the latest
Sending a filled in <i>Accommodation Form</i> – the deadline	15 June 2014
Conference registration fee payment – the deadline	15 September 2014
Sending presentation based papers – the deadline	15 December 2014

Croatian Philosophical Society

The Croatian Philosophical Society ([CPS](#)) was established in 1957, and is one of the oldest professional associations in Croatia and the region of South-East Europe. During the course of half a century, the CPS has become an unavoidable platform for philosophical life in the region and one of the key cultural institutions in Croatia.

During the first decades, the activities of the CPS revolved around the journal *Praxis* and the *Korčula Summer School*, which contributed with their international reputation to the affirmation of the Society in the region and wider, and became a prolific communication base for both domestic and foreign authors. At the beginning of the 1980s, the further development of Croatian philosophy was greatly invigorated once the journal [Filozofska istraživanja](#) was established, which filled the void after *Praxis* closed in the mid-1970s. Shortly after the first issue of *Filozofska istraživanja*, CPS also started publishing the journal [Synthesis philosophica](#), and in 1990 the journal [Metodički ogledi](#) as well. The *Filozofska istraživanja* book series, as well as the *Collected Works of Pavao Vuk-Pavlović* (book series) are to be singled out as the Society's the most known and influential publishing successes.

The Croatian Philosophical Society has been active in organising symposia, public discussions and roundtables, always looking to critically reflect current states of affair with their choice of topic. Amongst the conference activities of the CPS, the following are to be singled out: the *Days of Frane Petrić* (since 1992, Cres), the *Lošinj Days of Bioethics* (since 2002, Mali Lošinj), *Philosophy and Democracy* (since 2005, Dubrovnik), the *Mediterranean Roots of Philosophy* (since 2007, Split), and the regular Annual Symposium of the CPS in Zagreb, held since the Society was established in 1957.

The rich tradition of the Croatian Philosophical Society and the activities that correspond to current issues, along its interdisciplinary and international orientation, have ranked the Society amongst the relevant philosophical societies in the world. Accordingly, the CPS has been a permanent member of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies (Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de Philosophie, FISP) since 2006, and has to date hosted the annual meeting of the FISP Steering Committee twice.

The Days of Frane Petrić

In collaboration with the City of Cres, the hometown of the Renaissance philosopher Frane Petrić, the Croatian Philosophical Society co-founded an international scientific-cultural conference in 1992, called the [*Days of Frane Petrić*](#). During the past two decades of being held uninterruptedly, the Days have become one of the leading events gathering philosophers and scientists of the widest range of backgrounds. Many world renowned authors have partaken in the *Days of Frane Petrić*, and the two decades have seen over a thousand presentations given by participants coming from approximately 40 countries.

Each year, the *Days of Frane Petrić* comprise two symposia – one dedicated to the great Renaissance polyhistorian from the Island of Cres, after whom the event was named, while the other focuses on a new topic each year. This year, it is the “Human Produced World”. Since year 2013 the central activity of the project “Scientific Incubator: Training in Scientific Research” is held within the *Days of Frane Petrić*, too. The aim of the “Scientific Incubator” project is to motivate students for scientific work. Since their very beginning, the distinguishing features of the *Days of Frane Petrić* have been an interdisciplinary approach, being orientated towards dialogue and adopting a pluri-perspective which accept and appreciate both scientifically and non-scientifically relevant contributions, and which value different cultural and philosophical traditions and specificities.

“The Man-Made World” symposium circular

The main topic to be discussed at this symposium is the relationship between man and the world. Does the world exist before and outside of man, and in this sense, is man no more than "a product" of the world, or is it man himself who brings the world as such into being? Who determines the possibilities and limits of the human production of the world today, and should these limits even be defined? What is the relationship between microcosm and macrocosm? Is there only one world, or, as Giordano Bruno claims, is there an infinite number of worlds? Is a different world possible — or in other words — is a world revolution possible? How does science explain the world, and what kind of worlds does art create? Can an all-encompassing notion of the world be theoretically expounded, and what would be the consequences of such an attempt in our current scientific and technological epoch which has abandoned the "big concepts" typical of philosophical approaches in favour of particular scientific solutions? What does being a part of the world and coexistence with others mean in a world of global communication?

The current historical situation, marked by pervasive globalisation, sees the world finally becoming a whole in the literal sense, however this transformation of the world into a unified whole is serving to expose and radicalise the contradictions inherent in the logic of the world order. While man's exploration of the world once entailed an attempt at conquering the unknown, we have all become more or less cosmopolitan. Mobility is becoming the basic mode of existence in the world, and frequent travel is becoming a way of life. Overwhelmed by this feeling of having conquered the world, we transform our understanding of the world as a "cosmic expanse surpassing human measure" into a "global village" accommodated to man's needs. In this sense, the notion of "*cosmos*" in Greek philosophy of nature originally designated the world or space as an "ornament", implying the beauty of the order inherent in the world. Anaximenes and Heraclitus used the word "*cosmos*" as a designation of a world-order arising out of one of the world elements, either air or fire. Democritus mentions the *megas diakosmos* and the *mikros diakosmos*, the great and the small world order. The Pythagoreans and the Stoics expounded the eternal circular movement of the *cosmos*, later revived in the thought of Nietzsche. The anthropocentric viewpoint took precedence when the physical (visible) *cosmos* ceased to be seen as the ultimate reality, and its place was taken by an invisible God who created the transitory world for the sake of man. St. Augustine completed this transformation of the Greek notion of the world into a theological-anthropological concept. After many centuries, Bacon's and Descartes' understanding of *knowledge* as man's (means for gaining) *power* over nature finally led to the key turning point in the modern development of the notion of the world, where the world, which had been previously understood as something surpassing man, came to be interpreted as a product of man, as a "man-made" world.

The "enlargement" of man and the corresponding "diminution" of the world are also reflected in the manner in which people communicate today. Until recently, man still depended upon static means of communication with others not physically present (e.g. upon a home phone or a phone box). For this reason, long-distance communication could only be established under certain circumstances. Contemporary means of communication travel together with their user and are becoming dynamic, while their user, the man of our age, must constantly service them as he is becoming ever more dependent on them. These new means of communication are bringing the communicative nature of man to its full expression. The outcome of this process is twofold. On the one hand, man has never been more open to the world, and the world has never been more accessible to him, while on the other hand, the unification of man and the world has been perverted into an attempt at subjugating the world to man. This process could have dangerous consequences not easily foreseen. This attempt at subjugating the world displayed its dark side when man began loosening his ties and breaking his connections with nature, starting from those binding him to his environment and ending with those that bind him to the natural side of his own being (attempts at biomedically enhancing human nature). While nature has warned about the consequences of its irresponsible exploitation through climate change and frequent ecological disasters, experimental intervention in human nature is still in its beginnings, and therefore we are yet to witness reactions to the scientific-technological invasion. Will the perpetuation of today's approach to the world, in which the world is reduced to a set of calculable data, result in world destruction, or will man use his abilities to bring his humanistic ideals to life for the first time? To answer to this question, a thorough reassessment of today's relationship between man and the world is indispensable.

By excluding reflection upon "big concepts" from the philosophical and humanistic tradition, such as the world and the meaning of history, we perpetuate the dominance of positivistic thinking in which scientific methods hold a monopoly over truth. We must not delude ourselves – the exclusive monoperspectivism typical of scientific-technological approaches cannot reveal the truth as such, because it ignores everything unexplorable from its perspective. On the contrary, the truth should be sought in its entirety and complexity, which implies that different and complementary perspectives must always be taken into consideration. Therefore, at this symposium, the pluriperspective approach will include both scientific and non-scientific perspectives (e.g. artistic, religious, philosophical), thus offering an alternative to the reductionist approach to the world and man.

We invite you to contribute to the success and fruitfulness of this symposium with your paper. Contributions to the conference may cover the following spectrum of proposed, but not exclusive, topics:

- an attempt at a reconstruction of the notion of the world; how this notion is understood in philosophy: the cosmological understanding of the world *versus* the notion of the world as a "man-made product";
- the relationship between the notions of the world and Being; the relationship between metaphysics and historical thinking;
- the world revolution – the revolutionary world: the contemporary situation in the world, criticism of capitalism and neoliberal society;
- globalisation as a planetary unification of the human world: the man-made world and praxis-philosophy
- dualism of the natural and the historical: philosophy of history and human nature; human nature and the production of the world: reification of man and the world through technology;
- man as an active being and modern technology as a means of compensating for man's biological shortcomings;
- infinite worlds: recomposing and creating the world through art *versus* attempting to comprehend the world through science;
- mobility and communication today; interconnected society, internet and new media, the relationship between the media and economic and political power;
- the world as a part of man: responsibility for the world;
- ethical and bioethical contributions in resolving the problems of the contemporary world...

Programme Committee President of the
"The Man-Made World" symposium
Prof. Lino Veljak, PhD

Registration

Those who are interested in participating in “**The Man-Made World**” symposium should fill in a **Registration Form** (attached). Abstracts can be sent separately in a Word document along the Registration Form. The organisers would prefer that registrations be sent via e-mail (e-mail address: dfp.cres@gmail.com). Alternatively, registration forms can be faxed (fax no.: +385 (0)1 6170682) or posted (postal address: Hrvatsko filozofsko društvo, “The Man-Made World” Symposium, Krčka 1, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia).

Presentations can be given in either Croatian, English or German. Registration Forms must be sent by **30 April 2014** at the latest. The registrations received will be considered, and the participants informed of the organisers’ acceptance of their presentations by 15 May 2014 the latest.

Presentations will be given in parallel sessions. Each presentation is allotted 15 minutes (discussions are to be held at the end of each session which consists of three to four presentations), except plenary presentations which are allotted 30 minutes. Each conference room is equipped with a computer and projector. The symposium programme will be sent to participants at the beginning of September, while the abstract booklet will be available at the opening ceremony.

Paper publication

The deadline for sending papers based on presentations given at the “The Man-Made World” symposium is **15 December 2014** at the latest. Once the papers received are reviewed, positively reviewed papers will be published in the journals of the Croatian Philosophical Society: [Metodički ogledi](#), [Filozofska istraživanja](#) and [Synthesis philosophica](#). We are also hoping to publish a book of proceedings, containing all the papers received.

Registration fee

The registration fee is **1350 HRK (180 EUR)** if payment is made by **15 September 2014**. The registration fee can also be paid at the symposium. If paid at the symposium, the registration fee increases and is **(1400 HRK) 185 EUR**, due to additional bank charges incurred. The registration fee is to be paid by only the participants whose presentation has been accepted. Should participants be arriving in company, their expenses are not covered by the organisers.

The registration fee includes:

- double-room accommodation at the *Kimen* Hotel (Cres) during the symposium (*full board*: from dinner on 21 September to lunch on 24 September 2014),
- participation in all events organised during the symposium,
- symposium programme, abstract booklet and all additional symposium materials,
- a welcome drink,
- a guided tour of the City of Cres.

The registration fee does not include:

- single-room accommodation (an extra 23 EUR a day, to be paid at the *Kimen* Hotel upon departure),
- a two-way Zagreb–Cres–Zagreb coach ticket (prearranged coach; 380 HRK or 50 EUR),
- excursion.

Accommodation

All participants are provided double-room accommodation with full board at the [Kimen](#) hotel at which the symposium will be held. Single-room accommodation is also available to participants, and is charged an extra 23 EUR a day, which is to be paid at the reception upon departure. Participants will also be sent an *Accommodation Form* containing all accommodation details (dates of arrival and departure, choice of room, persons arriving in company) together with the organisers' confirmation of acceptance of presentations.

Should you be arriving in company, their travel expenses are to be covered by them. We also kindly ask that you inform us about their full name and details of a stay using the *Accommodation Form* for the organisers to be able to make timely hotel reservations (*Accommodation Form* will be sent together with the confirmation of acceptance of presentation, till 15 May 2014 the latest, and returned to the organizers till 15 June 2014).

Travel information

The Town of Cres is on the island of Cres, Croatia.
Conference will take place in *Kimen* hotel (Melin I/16, Cres).

By a personal vehicle or a regular bus line: The Town of Cres is approximately 180 km south from Zagreb, easily accessible via highway Zagreb–Rijeka. There are regular [ferry lines](#) operating between the mainland and the island of Cres: from Brestova (mainland–Istria) to Porozina (island Cres), and Valbiska (island Krk) to Merag (island Cres). The ride lasts 25 minutes. Round trip Zagreb–Cres–Zagreb with a [regular bus line](#) is apx. 50 EUR (380 HRK).

By plane: Zagreb is connected with all major cities in Europe. [Zagreb airport](#) is located at the outskirts of the city, 30 minutes of a bus ride from the city centre. [Shuttle bus](#) operates between Zagreb Airport (Pleso) and Zagreb main bus station every 30 minutes. From main bus station in Zagreb participants can use [regular bus line](#) to Cres.

The island of Krk (next to the island of Cres) has a small airport ([Rijeka airport](#)) so you may also take it under consideration. Other possibilities are airports in [Zadar](#), [Pula](#), and [Trieste](#). Notice that regular bus connections between island of Krk and the island of Cres are not so often.

By an organized bus from Zagreb to *Kimen* hotel, Cres: Organized bus for participants of the “The Man-Made World” conference will departure from Zagreb on **Sunday, 21 September 2014**, at **13:00**. Gathering place is in front of the [International](#) hotel (Miramarska 24, Zagreb). Traveling with an organized bus provides a comfort of arriving directly from Zagreb to hotel *Kimen* in Cres.

Departure of organized bus from Cres (*Kimen* hotel) to Zagreb is on Wednesday, 24 September 2014, at 3:00 p.m. (estimated time of arrival in Zagreb is 7:30 p.m.). Price of traveling with an organized bus Zagreb–Cres–Zagreb is **50 EUR** (380 HRK).

The seat in organized bus can be reserved using *Accommodation Form* that will be sent together with confirmation of acceptance of presentation, till 15 May 2014 the latest. *Accommodation Form* should be sent to the organizers with all the details noted till 15 June 2014 (dfp.cres@gmail.com).

Cres, Croatia

Main features of the Island of Cres:

- Valun Tablet – one of the oldest Croatian Glagolitic monuments from the 11th century, written bilingually: the first row in the Glagolitic alphabet, and the second and third in the Latin alphabet (Carolingian), displayed in the Valun Parish Church
- The only preserved Roman bridge on the Eastern coast of the Adriatic just outside Beli
- Lubenice – a stone town with 4000 years of uninterrupted history. It is a Medieval fort, erected on the edge of a 378 meter high precipice, and a jewel of Croatian rural architecture. One of the most beautiful beaches on the Island is the one beneath Lubenice, in the cove of St. Ivan, which the German newspaper *Bild* listed as the 15th most beautiful beach in the world.

Main features of the Town of Cres:

- The remains of a rampart in Cres: a cylindrical tower to the Northwest of the Town, three city gates (Bragadina, the Northern Gate of Marcela and St. Mikula)
- The parish church of St. Mary of the Snows from the 15th century with a bell tower from the 18th century
- A City Loggia from the 16th century with the stocks. The Loggia has always been the heart of the town's public life, today it is the liveliest in the morning when it turns into an open market.
- A City Museum from the 15th century, the house in which the philosopher Frane Petrić of Cres was born. It is also called Arsan because in the past it used to be an arsenal.
- A Franciscan friary with the Church of St. Francis from the 14th century. The distinguishing feature of the friary is a double cloister: the outer Renaissance cloister with family crypts, in which members of eminent Cresian families were buried, and the inner, older cloister with a centrally placed well, on which the oldest Cresian coat of arms from the 14th century is engraved. The friary also contains a museum with a collection of old master paintings and sculptures, an ethnographic collection and a collection of liturgical books. A true rarity of the museum is a Glagolitic missal, printed in Senj in 1494.

Contact

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Please send your **Registration Form** by **30 April 2014** at the address: dfp.cres@gmail.com

We are looking forward to meeting you in Cres!

With kind regards,
Prof. Lino Veljak, PhD