



HRVATSKO FILOZOFSKO DRUŠTVO
Croatian Philosophical Society

29th DAYS OF FRANE PETRIĆ

International Interdisciplinary Symposium
East – West: Comparative Philosophy and World Situation

Cres (Croatia), 20–23 September 2020

General information on the Symposium

Organiser
Croatian Philosophical Society

Date
20–23 September 2020

Venue
Kimen Hotel, Cres (Croatia)

Official languages
English, German, Croatian

Programme
plenary lectures
parallel session presentations
book presentations
cultural-artistic programme
sightseeing of the city of Cres

Important dates regarding Symposium

Sending the completed Application form (including abstract of the presentation)
31 March 2020

Confirmation of acceptance of presentations
30 April 2020

Conference fee payment
1 July 2020

Programme Committee of the Symposium

Presidents:

Prof. Hrvoje Jurić, PhD
University of Zagreb, Croatia

Prof. Nevad Kahteran, PhD
University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

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Josip Guć, MA
University of Split, Croatia

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Croatian Philosophical Society, Zagreb, Croatia

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Assoc. Prof. Goran Kardaš, PhD
University of Zagreb, Croatia

Prof. Oliver Leaman, PhD
University of Kentucky, Lexington, USA

Prof. Bo Mou, PhD
San José State University, USA

Prof. Dušan Pajin, PhD
University of Belgrade, Serbia

Prof. Ali Paya, PhD
The Islamic College, London, United Kingdom

Symposium topic description

As self-explanatory, “East” and “West” are terms used in geographical, cultural, historiographical, sociological, political, economic, literary, mediological, medical, anthropological, religiological, theological, philosophical, and other scientific considerations of the world and life. In their self-explanatoriness and non-reflectiveness, they also significantly determine the thinking of the so-called “ordinary people” about the world and life. So, first, it seems important to ask the question: what do the terms “East” and “West” really mean? And in the age of globalisation and globality of life and the world, and after all the well-known and partly really effective criticisms of cultural, economic, and political imperialism and colonialism, that is “Eurocentricity” and “occidentocentricity”, the question – in fact a fundamental question – arises: in relation to what is the West west and the East east, and which centres, why, how, and with what consequences predetermine and determine the contemporary global “west-eastern divan”? Besides, does the “East – West” or “east – west” syntagm express all the fundamental ambivalences of today’s world? What about the “North” and “South”? How do east-west and north-south tensions and encounters reflect intracultural and intrasocial plans, where it seems still possible to speak of a “leading culture,” not to mention the importance of these issues in those milieus that are today or always were multicultural, such as “Central Europe” and “the Balkans”? So, the first question this symposium intends to address is the question of the very terms “East” and “West”, not only concerning their separation and opposition, but also concerning their interconnectedness and familiarity.

However, if we take the terms “East” and “West” in the usual sense – which still does not exclude a critical, even radically critical and subversive view – the subject area this symposium seeks to open is by no means narrowed, but rather expanded. For researching and, on this basis, associating what is dominantly considered and called the “East” and “West” – in the field of philosophy, for example – is extremely intense and fruitful today. This is strongly evidenced by the orientation (and perhaps we might say “movement”) of *comparative philosophy*, that is the effort to consider at the same, “unbiased” level the contributions of different philosophies and their respective worldviews, from the European and Anglo-American cultural circles, distinctly determined by the Christian tradition, through India, China and Japan, with Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Shintoism as traditional “religions-philosophies”, and the Arab and Islamic world, to the often neglected African, American, and Oceanic thought-cultural inventions, with all their internal differentiations, where philosophical reflection is often closely related to religious views. And not only the effort to neutrally consider, or to perceive, by synchronic and diachronic comparisons, certain similarities between them, but also to strive to establish with a certain intercession mutual dialogue that could produce, and in fact already produces, a new quality – a dialogue of different cultures and religions in the context of the spiritual situation of our time and a dialectic of the intercultural logos liberated from domination. The perspective and achievements of comparative philosophy are the basis of this symposium, which includes indispensable contributions of the Croatian thinker Čedomil Veljačić (Bhikkhu Nanajivako) and those who, in Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia, were inspired by his work, creating further and original works. The symposium, of course, will not be just an *homage* to Veljačić, on the occasion of the 105th anniversary of his birth, but will, we believe, also point to Croatian, South Slavic, and Balkan achievements in the field of comparative philosophy, in a worldwide context and measured on a global scale.

In the third step, this symposium aims to critically examine the “East – West” world situation, in economic, social, and political terms (for example, everything that characterises and promotes the activities of the “first”, “second”, and “third world”), where a comparative-philosophical, as well as a comparative-religiological or comparative-cultural approach can be of great help, because many of today’s conflicts and other tensions are rooted in unresolved, even unrecognized problems that can be reduced to the denominator of ignorance and misunderstanding. A conscious and conceptualised dialogue between all these differences, often described as “east – west” differences, is thus not only a theoretical endeavour, but also a basis for concrete and positive changes on a global scale, which are necessarily reflected in every corner of the globe.

These thematic points are, of course, only suggestions for potential participants, and we believe that the symposium will not only offer answers to the indicated questions, but also open up other questions and offer answers to them, in interaction of different scientific, cultural perspectives, in the best tradition of the *Days of Frane Petrić*, which is largely guaranteed by the intercultural, international, and interdisciplinary composition of the Programme Committee of the symposium and the announced visits of distinguished scientists at the symposium in Cres, in September 2020.

Application

If you are interested to participate in the work of the Symposium, please send us the completed **Application Form** (in the attachment to this circular) at the e-mail address:

eastwest.croatia.2020@gmail.com

The deadline for sending completed Application Form is **31 March 2020**. Received applications will be considered, and the participants informed of the organisers' acceptance of their presentations by 30 April 2020 at the latest.

Working languages of the Symposium are English, German, and Croatian.

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 lectures which are allotted 45 minutes including discussions. Each conference room is equipped with a computer and projector.

The draft version of the Symposium programme will be sent to participants at the beginning of July 2020, while the final version of the Symposium programme will be sent to participants at the beginning of September 2020. The printed conference publication (containing programme of the *Days of Frane Petrić*, presentations abstracts, and other information on the conference) will be available at the opening ceremony of the Symposium.

The Croatian Philosophical Society plans to publish a selection of papers from the Symposium in its journals *Synthesis philosophica*, *Filozofska istraživanja*, and *Metodički ogledi*. The deadline for sending papers based on presentations given at the "East – West: Comparative Philosophy and World Situation" symposium is 31 December 2020.

Conference fee

All participants (as well as accompanying persons) have to pay conference fee. There are two kinds of conference fee:

CONFERENCE FEE 1 = **190 EUR** (or 1400 HRK)
(includes double-room hotel accommodation with full board, participation in all events organised during the conference, and conference materials);

CONFERENCE FEE 2 = **230 EUR** (or 1700 HRK)
(includes double-room hotel accommodation with full board, participation in all events organised during the conference, conference materials, and an organised round trip by bus Zagreb–Cres–Zagreb, 20 and 23 September 2020).

Detailed instructions for conference fee payment will be sent to you with an acceptance letter.

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 25 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.

For further information about accommodation, please contact us at:
eastwest.croatia.2020@gmail.com

Travel information

The city of Cres is located on the island of Cres, Croatia.

Symposium will take place in *Kimen* Hotel (address: Melin I/16, HR-51557 Cres).

By a personal vehicle or a regular bus line: The city 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.

By a regular bus line: Round trip Zagreb–Cres–Zagreb prices with a [regular bus line](#) range from 230 HRK (30 EUR) to 320 HRK (42 EUR).

By plane: We suggest you to use Zagreb Airport, which 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. 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 the *Kimen* Hotel in Cres: Organized bus for participants of the “East – West: Comparative Philosophy and World Situation” symposium will departure from Zagreb on Sunday, 20 September 2020, at 12:00 p.m. Gathering place is in front of the *International* Hotel (address: Miramarska 24, Zagreb). Traveling with the organized bus provides a comfort of arriving directly from Zagreb to the *Kimen* Hotel in Cres. Departure of the organized bus from Cres (*Kimen* Hotel) to Zagreb is on Wednesday, 23 September 2020, at 3:00 p.m. (estimated time of arrival in Zagreb is 7.30 p.m.). If you plan to travel to Cres this way, you need to pay Conference fee 2.

For further information about travelling to Cres, please contact us at:
eastwest.croatia.2020@gmail.com

About the organiser: 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 more than 60 years, 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 world famous *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* (Philosophical Investigations) 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 international journal *Synthesis philosophica* in 1986, and in 1990 the journal *Metodički ogledi* as well. The “*Filozofska istraživanja*”, “*Collected Works of Pavao Vuk-Pavlović*”, and “*Anthologies*” 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 conferences, 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, in Cres), the *Lošinj Days of Bioethics* (since 2002, in Mali Lošinj), the *Mediterranean Roots of Philosophy* (since 2007, in Split), the *Philosophy of Media* (since 2011, in Cres, Opatija and Zagreb), 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.

About the Conference: DAYS OF FRANE PETRIĆ

In collaboration with the institutions of the Town of Cres, the hometown of the great Renaissance philosopher and polyhistorian Frane Petrić (Franciscus Patricius; Cres, 1528 – Rome, 1597), the Croatian Philosophical Society founded an international scientific conference in 1992, called the *Days of Frane Petrić*.

During more than a quarter of a century of continuous work, the *Days* have become one of the leading scientific-cultural events gathering philosophers and scientists of the widest range of backgrounds. Many world renowned authors have partaken in the *Days of Frane Petrić*, and in the last 28 years over a thousand presentations were given by participants coming from more than 40 countries.

Each year, the *Days of Frane Petrić* comprise two symposia – one with regular annual theme dedicated to “Croatian Philosophy and Culture in Interaction and Context”, and especially to the work of Frane Petrić, after whom the event was named, while the other focuses on a new topic each year.

In 2020 the main topic is “East – West: Comparative Philosophy and World Situation”, in 2021 the main topic will be “Philosophy of the World”, while in 2022 the main topic will be “Concept of the Future in Philosophy, Science, and Society”.

Since the very beginning, the distinguishing features of the *Days of Frane Petrić* have been interdisciplinary approach, promoting dialogue and adopting a pluriperspective attitude which accepts and appreciates both scientifically and non-scientifically relevant contributions, and which values different cultural and philosophical traditions and specificities.

Contact

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