Call for participation

ANATOMY OF ISLANDS

12th ANATOMY OF ISLANDS SYMPOSIUM

LIVING ON ISLANDS - DEMOGRAPHIC CHALLENGES AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES

Jelsa, island of Hvar, Croatia

26 – 28 September 2024

The theme of the 12th Anatomy of Islands Symposium is living on islands, specific geographic areas with particular infrastructural, social, and cultural challenges.

Migrations have significantly and permanently altered the demographic landscape of Croatian islands and impacted the quality of life in every aspect. The history of island-sea-mainland relationships reflects migrations embodying the dynamics of interdependence or self-sufficiency, centre and periphery, and the sense of isolation experienced by islanders. Migration and mobility is inherently linked to islanders and island life. In the past century, the prevailing demographic trend has been depopulation due to emigration. Contrary to the common perception of Croatian islands as regions of emigration where people leave for the mainland for better opportunities, they have also been places of immigration throughout their history. Islands have often served as safe spaces (refugium) for groups fleeing conflicts on the mainland. Islands have also taken on this role during contemporary threats and crises (wars, pandemics, earthquakes). The dominant direction of migration only changed towards the end of the 19th century when islands mostly became emigration areas, which defined future demographics and socio-economic development. Recent trends indicate specific changes in migration, and administrative immigration (inhabitants who move only on paper) on some islands has wholly distorted the accurate migration picture.

The size of the islands, their distance from the mainland, and the manner and frequency of connections with the mainland and among themselves influence all aspects of daily island life: the development of different economic sectors, the opportunities for education and employment, the potential for islanders to commute to work and schools on the mainland, and the availability of various forms of healthcare, trade, and other services not found on the island. Among them, one may emphasize the lack of access to some aspects of culture, along with urban nightlife/entertainment more generally, as aspects they cannot enjoy as they wish.

Thanks to modern technologies, island populations, despite spatial constraints and insularity, have been exposed to various off-island influences for decades, changing how they live. Island communities have become interconnected communities of different cultures that evolve with migration patterns, tourists, and new islanders. At the same time, modernization brings about specific negative changes in the identities and daily life of island communities. Solidarity among members diminishes, willingness for collective action and work for the common good weakens, and a materialistic view of the world becomes more pronounced. However, specific characteristics of island life, especially the sense of belonging to the community and the closeness among members, remain strongly present in Croatian island communities.

Presentation Topics:

Island Migrations as a Way of Life

- emigration from islands
- daily commuting
- seasonal demographic changes
- demographic statistics
- returnees
- new islanders - immigrants who stay
- seasonal workers - possibilities of integration and staying on islands
- lifestyle migrants
- digital nomads on islands
- intra-island migrations
- innovative development projects for returning emigrants

Island Communities

- differences in development visions of various island communities
- virtual communities of emigrated islanders and the reproduction of belonging
- island heritage as a space of belonging and gathering for islanders on islands and in the diaspora
- the impact of modern technologies on island life

Children and Youth on Islands

- infrastructural challenges of preschool and school education on islands
- extracurricular activities of children and youth on islands
- leisure activities for children and youth
- civil society and care for specific issues of children and youth on islands
- desire to stay on the island

Ageing Population on Islands

- quality of life for older islanders
- the influence of returning retirees on the community's quality of life
- healthcare for older persons on islands
- formal care for older persons on islands

Island Spaces and Island Population

- vulnerable island spaces
- housing policies
- public spaces (markets, gathering places, cooperatives, and cooperative spaces)
- public agricultural and forest areas, municipal land
- private vs. public ownership
- tourism on islands
- planning on islands (spatial plans, plans for sustainable island development, plans of coastal-island counties, destination plans, plans of public companies)
- climate change and local response

The past eleven years have proved that islands provide an inexhaustible source of research challenges and discussions. Therefore, contributions from other areas and spheres of island existence are also welcome at the symposium.

PLACE AND TIME

Jelsa, island of Hvar, Municipal Hall, 26 - 28 September, 2024.

PARTICIPATION FEE

Registration fee per person is 60 euros (students 40 euros). All symposium events (including the excursion, the summary booklet, and final dinner) are included in the registration price. The costs of transportation and accommodation are covered by the participants themselves. Members of the association "Anatomy of Islands – Centre for Research and Development" will receive a 20% discount on the registration fee. The entrance to the symposium is free for the interested population of the island of Hvar.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Applications should be sent by e-mail to:

info@anatomija-otoka.com

Submission deadline is July 15, 2024.

LANGUAGES

Working languages of the symposium will be Croatian and English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

PRESENTATION SUBMISSION

- Full name of the presenter
- Name of the institution
- Website (personal or institutional)
- Phone/mobile number
- E-mail
- Type of presentation (individual, panel)
- Title
- Technical requirements (PC or Mac, projector, audio)
- Language of the presentation
- Presentation abstract (up to 300 words)
- Short biography (up to 100 words)

INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS

The presentations will be organised in thematic sessions of 90 minutes. Each presentation will take 20 minutes followed by a 10-minute discussion.

PANEL PRESENTATIONS

We encourage submissions thematically grouped into panel presentations. An individual panel presentation should take up to 90 minutes, with 3 to 5 speakers presenting, followed by a discussion. All panel speaker applications (up to 300 words per presentation) should be sent together, along with the title and short description of the panel (also up to 300 words).

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Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies, Zagreb, www.imin.hr

Local action group, LAG Škoji, Hvar, www.lag-skoji.hr

Fishery Local Action Group, FLAG Škoji, Hvar, www.flag-skoji.hr

Municipality of Jelsa, www.jelsa.hr

Tourist Board of Jelsa, www.visitjelsa.hr

Jelsa Municipal Museum, www.muzejopcinejelsa.hr

Jelsa Municipal Library, www.library.foi.hr/lib/38

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High School Hvar, www.ss.hvar.skole.hr

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