

SLOVENCİ V HRVAŠKI ISTRI OD UNIJE SLOVENCEV ZA ŽUPANIJO ISTRSKO DO PRVEGA ORGANIZIRANE- GA DRUŠTVA SLOVENCEV V HRVAŠKI ISTRI

SLOVENES IN CROATIAN ISTRIA

Slovenes have always been a strong presence in Croatian Istria, according to the last population census they represent 1 percent of the entire population, i.e. about 2000. If we added those from ethnically mixed marriages, there would be considerably more. The first organizations only appeared in the recent years. The Slovene Cultural Association Istria in Pula (founded in 2002) is the first organized and registered association of Slovenes in Croatian Istria. It has been active for three years, starting with the establishment procedures, collecting of members, acquisition of premises in the town center on the Herman Dalmatin Street (this may have a symbolical meaning). In June 2004 they launched their own cultural programme.

The article presents the Slovenes of Croatian Istria and their association Istra from Pula through an interview with the first president of the association Alojzija Slivar. This kind of "dissecting of reality" into parts, suitable for scientific research, is the main framework for the formation of general consensus on "our" attitude towards "others", which strengthens and homogenizes the concept of one's own identity and culture. If we change the forms and means of communication, forms of people's associating will also change, and so will the forms of social power.

Expressing oneself through one's own culture, through media and in one's native tongue is aimed at consolidation of self-respect and successful functioning of an individual within society. It is to be expected that the skill of creating and communicating in diversity will become in the future a supreme source of power. The Slovene cultural association "Istra" is very promising in this sense.

Keywords: Croatian Istria, Slovenes, associations, identity

Slovenci so v hrvaški Istri od nekdaj močno prisotni, po podatkih zadnjega popisa prebivalstva jih je odstotek celotne populacije, okrog 2.000. Če prištejemo še tiste iz številnih mešanih zakonov, lahko rečemo, da jih je bistveno več, prvo organiziranje pa smo zasledili šele v zadnjih letih. Slovensko kulturno društvo »Istra« v Pulju (nastalo leta 2002) je prvo organizirano in registrirano društvo Slovencev v hrvaški Istri. Obstaja že tretje leto, od prvih korakov nastajanja, zbiranja članov, pridobitve prostora v centru mesta, v ulici Hermana Dalmatina, kar se lahko sliši tudi simbolično, so junija leta 2004 začeli tudi z lastnim kulturnim programom.

V članku so Slovenci v hrvaški Istri in Slovensko kulturno društvo »Istra« iz Pulja predstavljeni skozi pogovor s prvo predsednico tega društva – Alojzijo Slivar. Prav tovrstno »izrezovanje resničnosti« na za znanstveno raziskovanje primerne dele je glavni okvir, v katerem nastaja splošni konsenz o odnosu »nas« do »drugih«. Odnos, ki utrjuje in homogenizira predstavo o lastni identiteti in lastni kulturi. Če spremenimo oblike in sredstva komuniciranja, se bodo spremenile tudi oblike združevanja ljudi, oblike socialne moči. Izražanje skozi lastno kulturo, skozi medije in v domačem jeziku je namenjeno krepitvi samospoštovanja in uspešnemu delovanju posameznika v družbi. Pričakovati je, da bo spretnost ustvarjanja in komuniciranja v različnosti postala v prihodnje prvovrsten vir moči. Slovensko kulturno društvo »Istra« nam obeta prav to.

Ključne besede: hrvaška Istra, Slovenci, društva, identiteta