

PROJECT REPORT FOR 2024

The planned number of fieldwork trips, as well as the total number of days spent in fieldwork — the most extensive activity of 2024 — was exceeded compared to the initial plan. The number of days spent in each location was adjusted according to the research needs, while new research directions were also opened, already shaping future project activities and resulting in the spatial dispersion of fieldwork. Funding was secured for machine transcription of interviews, and manual transcription and storage of several interviews were also carried out. The project encourages the publication of papers in open-access journals, and three such papers were published during the year. Collection of materials for the audiovisual project archive was also initiated. Beyond the initial plan, a series of dissemination activities were implemented, including the panel “Infrapolitike i življene budućnosti” as part of the Annual Conference of the Croatian Ethnological Society in Pazin.

During the year, four new members joined the project: Jelena Kupsjak (Department of Ethnology and Anthropology, University of Zadar), Zlatko Bukač (Department of English, University of Zadar), Marco Jakovljević, a doctoral student in the Doctoral Programme in Literary, Theatre, Drama, Film, Musicology, and Cultural Studies at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, and Georgios Manoudakis, who, since September, has been a doctoral student at the University of Eastern Finland and concluded his collaboration with the project at the end of 2024. Two researchers (Bukač, Jakovljević) joined the research theme “children of the nineties”, while the other two (Kupsjak, Manoudakis) focused on research in the field of contemporary infrapolitical practices and changes.

Several project meetings and two reading workshops were held throughout the year. In June, team member Jelena Kupsjak led a workshop on the topic of infrapolitical or structural violence, based on texts by Andrea Pavoni and Simone Tulumello, and by David Graeber. In September, Georgios Manoudakis led a workshop discussing excerpts from works by James C. Scott and Tim Ingold. The texts were centred on understanding the relationships between imagination, perception, and action, as well as the differences between public and hidden discourses and the tactics of the subordinated.

Field Research

The following field studies were conducted on the topics of the 1990s and infrapolitical practices and changes in that decade:

Zadar, 3–7 April

Part of the fieldwork was devoted to interviews with members of the so-called “children of the nineties” generation, focusing on childhood everyday life, family dynamics, and

experiences of schooling and socializing during the wartime and post-war years in Zadar. The other part focused on the solidarity economy (see below). (Obad)

Split, 28 June – 3 July

Memories of the “children of the nineties” generation related to family dynamics, war-induced migrations, and multiple social transitions; recollections of Split’s humanitarian volunteers and NGO activists from that period. (Bagarić)

Zadar, 10 days throughout the year (research conducted in the city where the researcher resides)

Interviews on the nostalgia of the “children of the nineties” generation for that decade, focusing on the wartime and post-war context and the influence of American popular culture. (Bukač)

Belgrade, 8–11 August

As part of the Performance Art Salon, interviews were conducted with members of the art scene (Lazar Simeunović, Daniel Petković, Nataša Milojević) about political performances reflecting on the nineties and “neo-nineties.” The researcher also participated in a protest against the construction of a lithium mine, organized by ecological associations and movements. (Marjanić)

Stari Grad, Hvar, 21–30 August (*three days of fieldwork were dedicated to another project*)

Within the thematic focus “islands as refuges,” local memories of the war years of the nineties were explored. Through in-depth ethnographic interviews, participants recalled the transformation of hotel accommodations into refuges for war migrants, the circumvention of the JNA naval blockade, life on the island under conditions of scarcity, the revival of agricultural activities, and the impact of social and political changes on island everyday life. (Obad)

Zagreb, throughout the year (research conducted in the city where researchers reside)

Researchers conducted periodic interviews on the memories of the “children of the nineties,” focusing on multiple social transitions and family dynamics. (Bagarić, Obad)

Fieldwork focusing on contemporary infrapolitical practices and transformations, as well as lifestyles of the future, included:

Zagreb, 30 days during the year (research conducted in the city where the researcher resides)

Research focused on mediation practices between residents of an irregularized and ghettoized Roma settlement and various Zagreb city offices and related institutions. Activities included involvement in maintenance of settlement infrastructure and

participation in designing long-term housing plans for about twenty socially deprived families. Summer activities centred on a large-scale waste clean-up campaign and attempts to establish a waste disposal model, while August saw efforts to provide emergency housing for a family whose house was destroyed by fire.

In autumn, the researcher participated in meetings of civil society organizations (Ambidekster Club, Solidarna Foundation, Centre for Peace Studies, and ADRA Croatia), forming an informal platform aimed at solving the housing problems of the most vulnerable Roma families. Cooperation was established with Ambidekster Club, whose long-standing experience working with residents of the erased Roma settlement Struge revealed potential points of friction in collaboration with city authorities.

From October until the end of the year, the researcher worked on designing a participatory model of cooperation between the city and the settlement, in the context of current municipal plans for temporary container housing. This experimental model aims to create an ongoing dialogue between city officials and residents throughout the stages of the architectural and urban intervention. Implementation required tactical negotiation between the city's rushed, legally compliant but socially unsustainable solutions, and residents' legally unsanctioned yet experientially legitimate projections. Between October and December, the researcher attended about ten meetings with various stakeholders and maintained continuous communication through different channels. (Mucko)

Križevci and rural surroundings, 9–19 February; 3–12 August; 29 October – 4 November
As part of research on the infrapolitics of alternative communities and lived green transitions, three field visits were conducted. In February, semi-structured and unstructured interviews were held with members of the lay Christian order Focolare, focusing on family and support for those in need, as well as promoting the “economy of communion.” Research also began on the work and life practices of one of Croatia's pioneers of permaculture — a “seed keeper” of heirloom plants and an advocate of solidarity economy and sustainable coexistence with nature.

The August visit expanded the research to include a socially responsible enterprise, the Hedona factory, which employs a high percentage of people with disabilities. Ethnographic work in the rural area continued with the main interlocutor, following her sustainable practices and various solidarity-based exchanges such as food sharing and crop preservation. In autumn, research turned to the contemporary production and exchange of heirloom seeds, deepening understanding of sustainable lifestyles. (Obad)

Zadar, 3–7 April

During this visit, in addition to research on the 1990s, ethnographic research continued at the cooperative brewery Brlog, including several interviews with current and former workers and members. (Obad)

Zagreb, 15 days throughout the year (research conducted in the city where the researcher resides)

Research on nightlife activities in and around the independent cultural centers Pogon and Močvara, located outside the city centre. The focus was on community formation through shared interests and activities — infrapolitical practices of mobilization and socialization of citizens. Research combined formal and informal conversations with visitors and organizers, and field notes on sensory experiences. (Manoudakis)

Korčula Island, 3–14 June; 10–15 September

Research focused on inheritance practices in everyday island life, with an emphasis on inheritance by female descendants. Interviews were conducted with islanders from several Korčula settlements (Korčula, Žrnovo, Vela Luka). (Orlić)

Zagreb, throughout the year

Infrapolitics of alternative communities and lived futures were researched through occasional field activities focusing on permaculture and agroecology actors, as well as individuals and communities practicing solidarity economy. (multiple project members)

Novi Sad, 16–17 November

At the Youth Centre CK13, the researcher led a workshop on ecofeminism, activism, and performance art and conducted several interviews with eco-activists. She also participated in a protest following the accident/tragedy at the Novi Sad railway station. (Marjanić)

Kuršanec settlement, Međimurje, 28 November; 4 and 12 December

Within the workshop “Drugi film u susjedstvu,” organized with the association Studio Pangolin and new media artist Vida Guzmić, in cooperation with Kuršanec Elementary School, research began on processes of segregation of Roma pupils through the division of Roma and non-Roma classes. The workshops empower Roma children through participatory co-creation in media such as text, performance, and film, within the elective course “Romski jezik i kultura,” attended by 15 pupils. (Mucko)

Archival Research

Zagreb, 15 days between 30 September and 18 October (research conducted in the city where the researcher resides)

Research was carried out in the Archive and Library of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Zagreb, and in private archives of participants, focusing on the Historical Society Otium. All issues of Otium: Journal for the History of Everyday Life (1993–2000) were identified and reviewed, along with relevant literature and archival materials (statute, lecture lists, symposium reports, correspondence). Special attention was paid to Otium’s connections with related societies and journals in Slovenia and Serbia. (Janković)

Korčula, 3–14 June; 10–15 September; Zagreb, throughout the year (research conducted in the city where the researcher resides)

During fieldwork on Korčula, the researcher spent eight days researching archival materials at the Korčula–Lastovo Collection Centre (Žrnovo), selecting and reviewing inheritance-related files from several decades of the 20th century. An additional seven days were spent at the Croatian State Archives and the State Archives in Zagreb researching the same topic. (Orlić)

Academic Conferences

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. *Communitas nezavisne scene devedesetih u RH: LAE (1991), ATTACK! (1997), MMC Palach (1997)*. Stručni skup i svečana akademija „Osvijesti! Odupri se! Reagiraj! Performans i politika u postjugoslavenskom kontekstu 90-ih“. Muzej suvremene umjetnosti, Zagreb, 5. – 15. ožujka 2024.

Manoudakis, Georgios. 2024. *Prostori afrofuturizma: kako crna budućnost osporava eurocentričnu sadašnjost*. 22. – 24. svibnja. Pazin, Hrvatska. Godišnji skup Hrvatskog etnološkog društva „Naše zajedničke budućnosti: pogled iz perspektive etnologije i kulturne antropologije“ Pazin, 22. - 24. svibnja 2024.

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. *O ktulucenu/ Chthulucene i aktivizam Prijatelja životinja*. Godišnji skup Hrvatskog etnološkog društva "Naše zajedničke budućnosti: pogled iz perspektive etnologije i kulturne antropologije", Pazin, 22. - 24. svibnja 2024.

Obad, Orlanda. 2024. *Solidarna ekonomija i životni stilovi budućnosti*, Godišnji skup Hrvatskog etnološkog društva "Naše zajedničke budućnosti: pogled iz perspektive etnologije i kulturne antropologije", Pazin, 22. - 24. svibnja 2024.

Orlić, Olga. 2024. *Zaključio sam da je najbolji protest kada bih otišao na selo i uzgajao svoju hranu. Ovo prosvjedovanje po ulicama, to nema nikakvog smisla! Osobne transformacije i stvaranje pogleda u budućnost*, Godišnji skup Hrvatskog etnološkog društva "Naše zajedničke budućnosti: pogled iz perspektive etnologije i kulturne antropologije", Pazin, 22. - 24. svibnja 2024.

Jakovljević, Marco. 2024. Tomorrow Will Be Now. Analysing the Relationship Between Slovenia's Nation-building During the Nineties and the Youth in Contemporary Slovenian Literature, konferencija „Selfscapes“: Identity Shaping at the Intersection of Self, Community and Environment, organizatori: Sveučilište Sapienza u Rimu i Karlovo Sveučilište u Pragu, Rim, 11. – 12. srpnja 2024.

Orlić, Olga. 2024. Korčulanski otočni Drugi u pripovijetkama Petra Šegedina, kulturno-znanstveni skup X. Dani Petra Šegedina. „Šegedin iz motrišta suvremenih književnih teorija“. 13. – 15. rujna 2024. Grad Korčula.

Obad, Orlanda. Sablasti, utvare i zakon kapitala: ocrtavanje granica u procesima eurointegracija u Hrvatskoj. Slovensko-hrvatske etnološke paralele "Tragovi prekograničnih mobilnosti". Brežice, 3. – 4. listopada 2024.

Publications

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. Anarhističko drugarstvo + revolucionarna ljubav: Cesarec u dnevničkim zapisima Miroslava Krležu i Marije Vinski, *Up&Underground*, listopad, 40-51.

Manoudakis, Georgios. 2024. Spaces of Afrofuturism: Sun Ra and a Universal Black Futurity. *Narodna umjetnost* 61/2: 223-234).

Obad, Orlanda and Bagarić, Petar. 2024. Chasing the Specters, Dodging the Ghosts: Borders and the Processes of Europeanization in Croatia. *Sociologija i prostor*, 62/2: 329-347.

Academic Dissemination

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. Djeca devedesetih i neo-devedesetih ili „Zbogom dragi prijatelju, nemoj se nikada vratiti. Ovo je mrtva zemlja...“; <https://artkvart.hr/djeca-devedesetih-i-neo-devedesetih-ili-zbogom-dragi-prijatelju-nemoj-se-nikada-vratiti-ovo-je-mrtva-zemlja/>

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. Glasaj, ne glasaj/ne talasaj ili snosi posljedice od devedesetih do danas. Uz izložbu „Osvijesti! Odupri se! Reagiraj! Performans i politika u postjugoslavenskom kontekstu 1990-ih”, 14. prosinca 2023. – 10. ožujka 2024.; <https://artkvart.hr/glasaj-ne-glasaj-ne-talasaj-ili-snosi-posljedice-od-devedesetih-do-danas/>

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. Izvedbeno propitivanje konstrukta država. Razgovor uz predstavu „Sve što jedna država želi”; <https://artkvart.hr/izvedbeno-propitivanje-konstrukta-drzava/>

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. O izvedbenom communitasu devedesetih: RADNICI – da, RATNICI – ne. Uz kustosko vodstvo i (ostala) događanja posljednjega tjedna u okviru izložbe „Osvijesti! Odupri se! Reagiraj! Performans i politika u postjugoslavenskom kontekstu 1990-ih", Muzej suvremene umjetnosti, ožujak 2023.; <https://artkvart.hr/o-izvedbenom-communitasu-devedesetih-radnici-da-ratnici-ne/>

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. Razgovor s Nelom Antonović. I umjetnost i aktivizam oko utopijskoga koncepta da se radom u kulturi može promijeniti društvo; <https://artkvart.hr/i-umjetnost-i-aktivizam-oko-utopijskoga-koncepta-da-se-radom-u-kulturi-moze-promijeniti-drustvo/>

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. Razgovor s Natašom Milojević: Umjetnost mora biti odgovorna; <https://artkvart.hr/natasa-milojevic-umjetnost-mora-biti-odgovorna/>

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. Razgovor s Lazarom Simeunovićem o “Imenu Oca” – figuri autoriteta koja nameće norme; <https://artkvart.hr/s-lazarom-simeunovicem-o-imenu-oca-figuri-autoriteta-koja-namece-norme/>

Marjanić, Suzana. 2024. Razgovor sa Zoranom Rajšićem: Nevidljiv, to je i umetnik i kasir i to je cena njihovog rada; <https://artkvart.hr/zoran-rajsic-nevidljiv-to-je-i-umetnik-i-kasir-i-to-je-cena-njihovog-rada/>

Popularization

A two-day seminar “Ekofeminizam/ekofeminizmi i prava životinja / prirode ili horor priča o zlatnoj žabi” was held at the Youth Centre CK13, focusing on theories and practices of

ecofeminism(s), particularly on the intersections of feminist justice, animal rights, and rights of nature. Novi Sad, Serbia, 16–17 November 2024.

International Collaboration

Project collaborator Georgios Manoudakis is a doctoral student in the Social and Cultural Encounters program at the University of Eastern Finland (Joensuu, Finland). As a project team member, he published a scientific article on Afrofuturism, theoretically inspired by the concept of infrapolitics, and researched the formation and mobilization of communities of shared interest through ethnographic fieldwork in the Močvara club and Pogon cultural center in Zagreb. He collaborated on the project from May to December 2024, during his doctoral studies.