

STRATEGY FOR THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

THE CONTINUOUS SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITY PROGRAMME OF THE INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

“THE GENESIS AND CONTINUITY OF THE MATERIAL CULTURE OF
CROATIA”

(2010. - 2015.)

The Institute of Archaeology's strategy for the period 2010-2015 was drawn up for the purpose of self-evaluation as part of the thematic evaluation of public institutes conducted by the *Agency for Science and Higher Education*.

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1. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

We live in a time of global change in many segments of social and economic life, science and culture in general. The course of globalisation makes some countries and societies much more interdependent in both the everyday and long-term activities of individuals, groups and state institutions.

Globalisation trends, as a result of the unforeseen growth in technological development, have brought about increasing capacities in all areas of creativity. Scientific and technical progress affects the globe to a greater extent and faster than ever before, bringing with it a dizzying growth of information in all areas, particularly that of science. This also affects the area of humanities, especially the distinctive scientific creativity of the field of archaeology.

The convergence of these developments has significantly increased the potential configurations of modern archaeology in a globalised world, which is hard to clearly

define or identify the most important elements of, and whose immediate or future steps are hard to foresee.

Scientific information is the heritage of humanity in the sense that it verifies scientific matter and current data on man's permanent quest for complete knowledge. It is a basic source of work for scientists/archaeologists, and it is cumulative, since scientific matter encompasses all modern discoveries. Through the ages, archaeological material has served as a weft for weaving various views, relying, of course, on the iconography of the time in which it came into existence. Our epoch offers new scenarios and new iconographies.

In such circumstances of globalisation, the concept of *Croatian archaeology* will in the future not only have a national character (e.g. Croatian early Middle Ages), but will also be related to a broader area of factors, including the structuring of corresponding systems of modern archaeology that will be able to fulfil future professional needs.

These include:

1.

A guarantee of respect for international conventions and agreements (*European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* (London 1969; revised: La Valetta, 1992), according to which the past, embodied in archaeological and architectural heritage, represents an asset of irreplaceable spiritual, cultural, social and economic value, and the structure of archaeological, cultural-historical centres and natural surroundings is an irreplaceable expression of the richness of each member state, including Croatia, but also their identity and contribution to the variety of the European culture shared by all the European states and all the peoples of the world alike. One of the priority fields of the *Directorate General for Education and Culture* of the new *European Commission* is further progress in establishing a *European Cultural Space*.

2.

The free use of the land and waters of the Republic of Croatia as areas of broad and clearly profiled scientific interest (ERA – European Research Area), particularly as a source of European and global collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific research.

In the world, there are many centres of archaeology which are necessary in the first place as important sources of information. This information is timeless and universal. Let us mention only the example of the cradle of European culture, Greece, where the authorisation for conducting archaeological excavations is shared by a dozen countries, all of which, from Denmark to Australia, have their own branch offices in Athens.

Can we in the very near future imagine such a scenario in Croatia? The answer can only be yes, because Croatia's land and underwater areas will be part of the *European Research Area*.

On which data is our statement based? Within the scope of operations of the *Directorate General for Research*, i.e. the *Joint Research Centre (JRC)* of the new *European Commission*, the establishment of a common European Research Area (ERA) is foreseen for the five-year term from 2004 to 2009. In other words, the establishment of a European research market, i.e. a free zone for the movement of knowledge, researchers and technology is taking place, with the aim of strengthening co-operation, fostering competitiveness and allocating available resources in a better manner. In addition, a restructuring of the European approach to research will commence through the better co-ordination of research activities and policy at the national level. Finally, the common European research policy will not only be related to the financing of research activities, but will consider all aspects of other national and European research policies. This means that Croatian national interests will also be respected in the field of research.

At present, the Republic of Croatia has no archaeological research centres outside its state territory. Why not? The answer lies primarily in its extraordinarily rich archaeological treasury that has always attracted the attention of numerous generations of colleagues from abroad. In spite of this, it is precisely through archaeology that Croatia projects to the world pictures, not only of its valuable archaeological cultural heritage as an important segment of cultural identity, but also of a millennia-old cultural heritage of a significant part of Europe. That is to say, on the territory of Croatia throughout prehistory, antiquity, the Middle Ages and the modern era, Europe's prehistoric and historical memories were shaped and collected. In this way, the regions of Croatia represent an integral part of the unique European

space, where numerous and precious testimonies of the material and spiritual culture of Europe came into being.

Due to the richness and variety of its archaeological heritage and scientific tradition, a significant number of scientists has emerged, prominent not only in Croatia but also in Europe. Croatian archaeology has always kept pace with European and international archaeological science.

3.

Implementation of the *Scientific Activity and Higher Education Act*, and the *Act on the Protection of Cultural Heritage and the Environment*, as well as other legal provisions regulating the preservation of the inventory of Croatian archaeological heritage and generating archaeological reserves for the protection of material evidence to be studied by future generations.

The territory of Croatia, *with its numerous material sites and as a repository of material objects* that people have used over thousands of years, is an essential resource of Croatian archaeology and, as such, a scene of activities of modern investigation teams, i.e. archaeologists. The material testimonies of our distant ancestors are recognisable at this scene of life.

At present, landscape research is increasingly the focus of the attention of archaeology, since global warming, climate change, globalisation and natural catastrophes have turned man's attention more and more towards his relationship with nature.

If we observe the landscape as an artefact, then the methods of archaeology, which have been developed in order to research and interpret the material heritage of humanity, have been ideally created to stimulate research. At the same time, of course, it is necessary to take into account that in our interaction with culture, we have to consider the past landscape.

4.

Respecting high ethical standards in archaeological and complementary research is of particular importance.

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From the introductory note, we can see that the purpose of reflections on creating a lasting *strategy for the scientific research activities of the Institute of Archaeology* includes the Institute of Archaeology as top scientific research institution of the Republic of Croatia in the field of humanities, particularly archaeology, in a densely interlinked network of various scientific areas, fields and branches, in order to directly support the global affirmation of the Republic of Croatia and Croatian culture.

The strategy for shaping the new Croatian archaeology and the possible directions of its operations within the context of Croatia and the world needs to be thought out within the above determinants for new scenarios for Croatia and the essential ideas of the mission of the Institute of Archaeology.

2. THE STRATEGY FOR THE INSTITUTE OF ARCHAEOLOGY'S SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITIES (2010.-2015.-2020.)

What will Croatian archaeology be like in the 21st century? Which approaches does archaeology need to apply at present and in the future? Some answers can be determined by studying changes in society, industry and other research disciplines.

By removing certain obvious weaknesses that have held archaeology back in the past, (ideology, absolute authorities of the profession, the practice of relying on researchers and their opinions) the preconditions for change are created, leading to:

- less hierarchical structure;
- interdisciplinary teams of experts;
- increased creativity;
- innovation;
- proliferation of ideas.

Up to the present, the main focus of archaeological research has always been on history, art history and certain linguistic viewpoints of past cultures. In the future, it will be necessary to relate the situation to society as a whole.

In the first place, we need to identify the special position of Croatian archaeology as well as its special character and role.

2. 1. The Position, Character and Role of Croatian Archaeology

Determining the position of Croatian archaeology in historical reality returns us to its commitment to continuously promote Croatian culture and identity. More precisely, Croatian archaeology has been committed to finding a suitable present and future position for Croatia in Europe and the world. In other words, numerous generations of Croatian archaeologists have worked diligently towards fostering the affirmation of national archaeology and its overall role as a historical discipline in the interest of Croatian culture and science.

2. 1. 1. The History of Croatian Archaeology

The history of Croatian archaeology is also the history of the spreading of its ideas and the content of its research into Croatian society, from the beginning of the interest of our humanists (Koriolan Cipic, Marko Marulić, Antun Vrančić), followed by Matija Petar Katančić, Ruđer Bošković, Don Frane Bulić and Josip Brunšmid, to a vertical line of several generations of numerous archaeologists of outstanding merit right up to the present day.

Many different institutions have contributed to the presentation of Croatian archaeology. These are primarily the oldest institutions, such as museums and archaeological institutions in Split, Zagreb, Zadar, Pula and Osijek. In addition, there are the umbrella scientific-research institutions of the Republic of Croatia: the Institute of Archaeology, the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Archaeology Department), the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences of the Universities of Zagreb and Zadar, and the Pula and Motovun International Research Centres of the University of Zagreb. Many prominent scientists employed by historical institutions,

conservation departments, museums, collections etc have also significantly contributed to the promotion of scientific thought.

Croatian archaeologists in the most important centres of scientific research, scientific education and museums have gathered around sophisticated and prestigious projects aimed at clarifying unknown dimensions of European archaeological periods that demonstrate how the cultural-historic and archaeological heritage of Croatia has been continuously intertwined with the main currents of European civilisation. This impressive collection of archaeological fragments, gathered through the endeavours of several generations of archaeologists in Croatia, at the same time represents an inevitable contribution to the wider world heritage.

Archaeological projects study patterns of colonisation from prehistory to the modern era. Northern Croatia hosts numerous sites from the Palaeolithic, Neolithic, and Aeneolithic periods and the Metal Ages. Excavations of classical antiquity centres have encompassed Siscia, Mursa, Cibalae, Aquae Jasae, Iovia-Botivo and the like. Recently there has been a growing interest in the Roman Limes on the Danube, as well as its counterpart the *Claustra Alpium Iuliarum* in the Croatian Littoral and Gorski Kotar. The mediaeval and modern-era periods are studied in terms of secular and sacral heritage (cemeteries, castles, churches, monasteries, feudal palaces, arts and crafts).

Human activity during the Palaeolithic and Neolithic has been verified in caves and *sub divo* sites along the Croatian eastern Adriatic coast and on the islands. The Greek foundations of Issa (Issa), Faros (Pharos), and Korkira (Korkyra) are well-known, to which can be added recently recognised discoveries in the important Roman colonies of Parentium, Pola, Iader, Salona, Naronia and Epidaurum, as well as the military camps of Burnum and Gardun. Excavations have also covered the horizon of numerous Illyrian-Roman sites (Danilo-Rider, Asseria), hill forts and cemeteries.

The rich early Christian heritage (Salona), the relatively comprehensive late antiquity heritage (Justinian's Reconquista), as well as the Croatian early and late Middle Ages (Knin-Biskupija, Solin, Nin, Bribir, etc) and early modern era have been subjects of systematic modern research.

Hydroarchaeology, remote sensing and photointerpretation, as new and non-invasive interdisciplinary methods, have also shaped the new dimensions of Croatian archaeology.

Croatian archaeologists have for decades participated in the implementation of important scientific projects, including many international programmes. A large number of these projects have been initiated and managed by ALL European Academies (ALLEA). These include: the Roman period in Croatia; Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum, with its separate national publication, “Inscriptiones Croatiae”; Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum Medii Aevi (CILMA); Corpus Vasorum, etc. Particularly noteworthy were the archaeological theme exhibitions: *Croats and Carolingians*; *Vučedol*; *the Neanderthals*, and more recently the exhibition of sculptures of Roman emperors’ found in what was classical Naronā, as well as permanent exhibitions in Ilok and Osijek.

Numerous papers have been published in a number of archaeological periodicals and monographs of sites. Croatia has organised notable international scientific conferences in Pula-Medulin and Motovun in co-operation with the International Research Centres of the University of Zagreb and the Croatian Archaeological Society, respectively.

2. 1. 2. Croatian Archaeological Heritage

Archaeological heritage in Croatia represents a unique European example of the global ethno-cultural movements that often occurred in the prehistoric and historical periods in the regions of Pannonia and the Danube. These movements from different Euro-Asian regions (Central Asia/the Black Sea, the Baltic, the Central Mediterranean, Central Europe and the Balkans/Asia Minor) reached the land and islands of present-day Croatia. As a result, there are layers of numerous immovable and moveable artefacts as testimonies to the migrations of people, goods and ideas. The eastern Adriatic coastland, protected by the karst of the Dinara mountain range, represented an extraordinarily favourable landscape for sessile forms of organisation of life based on the sea, while the more northerly continental, peri-Pannonian margin

of the Carpathian Basin represented an unparalleled “corridor of peoples” exposed to various influences.

The field of Croatian archaeology, usually subdivided into the branches of prehistory, classical antiquity, the Middle Ages and the modern era, analyses and investigates all important segments in the development of human culture. Due to its interconnection with language and other distinctive features of culture, archaeology deals with national culture to strongly promote Croatia in the world. Therefore its basic efforts are continuously directed at positioning Croatian cultural heritage in the European and global context.

In the past, the territory of Croatia went through several prehistoric and historical waves of “globalisation” (Palaeolithic, Neolithic, Indo-European, Roman antiquity, late antiquity – Justinian’s Reconquista, Slavic, Carolingian, Ottoman, Byzantine, mediaeval [Renaissance] and modern-age) and was permanently exposed to influences from various centres of power. This natural position provided numerous generations of Croatian archaeologists and European lovers of the past with a great deal of unique cultural-historical monuments and rich multiple layers from the Palaeolithic to the modern era.

To be a custodian of the rich cultural-historical heritage layered in Croatia’s ground from the prehistoric, classical, mediaeval and modern-era periods, certainly is a responsible, extraordinarily complex, long-lasting and particularly expensive process. It is a matrix that has generated and fed Croatian archaeology and secured a lasting tradition for Croatian archaeologists.

At the same time, it is an unavoidable and vital link in the reflections on the strategy of the future archaeological presentation of Croatia as a member of the European Union, where the cultures of the Mediterranean, Central Europe and Danube have intersected for thousands of years.

Presenting Croatian archaeological heritage as a first-class segment of cultural-historical tourism resources, and as such an important lever for the economic

development of contemporary Croatia, is only the top of a hill, at the foot of which we can glimpse the complex course ahead.

We have witnessed how historical events are forgotten if there are no testimonies. The main endeavour of archaeologists is to prevent such a situation and, for present and future generations, establish the foundations of a *new Croatian archaeology*, which will soon assume an active role in the global context.

3. DETERMINING STRATEGIC GOALS

Any reflections on the position and future role of Croatia as a state, and thus Croatian archaeology as a scientific field within the area of humanities, in a new global context, on the threshold of accession to the European Union, start from the basic values that form and determine the pillars of Croatian identity.

Firstly, it represents a lasting natural resource and an area where three important European cultural macro-regions intersect: the Mediterranean, Central Europe and the Danube region. This is followed by the incomparably rich multi-layered quality of its cultural heritage and, finally, the Croatian language.

1.

The realisation of clearly thought-out programmes of co-operation involving archaeologists is possible by identifying and organising interdisciplinary partner programmes or *clusters*, comprised of complementary scientific projects that encompass the overall national archaeological heritage in the period from the Palaeolithic to the modern era.

In this way, around the already designed and confirmed in practice programmes of continuous scientific research of the Institute of Archaeology of the Republic of Croatia, with its current two complex scientific programmes authorised by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia, a realistic possibility of creating a network of further scientific programmes (clusters) has been realised. Its bearers are Croatian scientists (in Croatia and abroad) who are able to actively participate in parts of the archaeological national programmes.

The core of the Institute of Archaeology's strategy consists of existing scientific programmes of continuous research activities: *The Genesis and Continuity of the Material Culture of the Croats*.

Within the framework of such a national programme, scientific interdisciplinary partner programmes (*clusters*) have been planned, some of which have already started. The Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia has accepted and the Institute of Archaeology continuously implements the following scientific programmes/clusters:

1. Cluster

“The Genesis and Continuity of the Material Culture of the Croats” (code – 19706859), comprising six scientific projects (the prehistoric identity of the first agricultural populations; the genesis and development of Bronze Age communities; the development and mobility of protohistoric communities; the northern Croatian Littoral in the context of the ancient defence system; the ancient archaeological topography of Croatia; and the mediaeval settlement of northern Croatia).

2. Cluster

“Croatian Mediaeval Archaeological Heritage within the European Context (5th-17th century)” (code – 1970677), comprising a total of five interdisciplinary scientific projects designed and led by the Institute of Archaeology in co-operation with the Archaeology Department of the Institute for Historical and Social Sciences at the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Zagreb, and the Archaeology Department of the University of Zadar. The research focuses on the study of: the development of the culture of the Croats in the territory of northern Dalmatia from the 7th until the 12th century; the mediaeval archaeological heritage of southern Croatia from the 5th until the 17th century; the mediaeval archaeological heritage of Croatia (5th – 17th century); and bioarchaeological research on the mediaeval populations of Croatia.

3. Further Clusters

Further scientific programmes/clusters, within the programmes of the continuous research activities of the Institute of Archaeology, will gradually be realised, initially on the basis of a clearly-planned framework and real needs.

It is planned to design the following interdisciplinary scientific programmes:

- *The Palaeolithic, the First Cultural Ecumenical Movement in Europe;*
- *The Croatian Danube Region – Cultural and Scientific Landscape (from Prehistory until the Modern Era);*
- *“Archaeological Topography from Prehistory to the Modern Era in the Area of the Drava and Sava Interfluve”*
- *Generating an Archaeological and Bioarchaeological Database for Croatia;*

- *The Urban Archaeology of Croatia in the Context of Europe (from Classical Antiquity to the Modern Era);*
- *The Classical Antiquity Urban and Rural Archaeological Heritage of Croatia;*
- *The Old Christian Archaeological Heritage of Croatia;*
- *Justinian's Reconquista in the Adriatic – Late Antiquity Heritage;*
- *Croatia's Early Mediaeval Heritage in the European Context;*
- *Vrana – the Heritage of the Benedictines and Knightly Orders (Templars, Hospitalers);*
- *“Urban Archaeology of Royal Biograd in the Middle Ages in the Context of Continental and Mediterranean Europe”*
- *Fortifications of the High Middle Ages and Modern Era in Croatia in the European Context;*
- *Archaeology of the Modern Era on the Territory of Croatia in the European Context (Venice, Ottoman Empire, Habsburg Empire, Hungary, Industrial Age);*
- *Genesis, Language and Culture: an Example from Croatia – archaeological, palaeoethnological, physical (recent molecular anthropological research) and linguistic documentation (toponomastics) with the aim of modelling the human population of certain regions of Croatia;*
- *Speleoarchaeology and Archaeological Karst Heritage;*
- *The Hydroarchaeological Heritage of Croatia in the Mediterranean Context;*
- *Archaeology, Hydrology, Geology, Climatology – a Background of Life;*
- *Experimental Archaeology*
- *The Archaeological IT Documentation Centre of Croatia – ARHINDOKS.*

2.

The role of the Institute of Archaeology in the formation of a future *Croatian Archaeological School*, for example in the Croatian part of the Danube Region, along the Adriatic or other presentable sites would seem to be of particular importance. As part of the activities of the Institute of Archaeology, it is planned to include an archaeological team in specialised *archaeological and natural parks* all over Croatia as part of *archaeological and interdisciplinary Croatian and international scientific*

youth camps. This activity will be implemented on the basis of direct co-operation between the Institute of Archaeology and higher education institutions and museums.

3.

Young graduate archaeologists, but also young researchers and scientists from scientific areas closely connected with archaeology, need to be invited and included as scholarship recipients or junior researchers in Institute of Archaeology' activities.

4.

The Institute of Archaeology plans to establish, and has already partly set up inter-institutional co-operation with higher education institutions, including active participation in undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate archaeology studies.

5.

The Institute of Archaeology plans, in accordance with its needs and abilities, to establish a *network of branch offices* all over Croatia for the implementation of individual scientific programmes.

6.

Transparent activities of the Institute of Archaeology are planned in the form of ongoing publishing activities, contact with the media, organising archaeology theme and interdisciplinary exhibitions in Croatia and abroad, and also ongoing contact with museums.

7.

The Institute of Archaeology will establish, maintain and cultivate permanent contacts with relevant scientific institutions in Europe and the world with the aim of promoting the results and knowledge of archaeological research and including experts in individual scientific projects.

8.

It is of vital importance that the Institute of Archaeology establishes connections with various complementary public scientific-research institutes in the Republic of Croatia with the aim of establishing a permanent interdisciplinary connection programme.

9.

The Institute publishes a series of scientific, professional and popular monographs in a special edition called CROATIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE.

Final Conclusions on the Strategy of the Institute of Archaeology

The Scientific Strategy of the Institute of Archaeology and the objectives stated therein were shaped according to the realistic assumptions that, apart from certain minor amendments, in the planning period from 2010 to 2015 the Institute of Archaeology will keep its present organisational structure and its status will remain unchanged. **It is therefore realistic to assume that in the stated period the Institute will also formally gain the status of a national public research institute specialised in the field of humanities and in particular archaeology and its constituent branches (prehistory, antiquity, the Middle Ages and the modern era).**

Naturally, the implementation of the Institute of Archaeology's Strategy will depend on the Institute's future structure.



The Institute's Director and the Scientific Programme Managers and the Commission members that drew up the document are responsible for the implementation of the objectives stated in the Institute of Archaeology's Strategy.

On the basis of the Commission report and the observations of the Commission for Monitoring the Quality of Scientific Research, the Director will submit an annual report on the results of the Strategy's implementation to the Scientific and Administrative Council of the Institute of Archaeology.

At its regular session, held on 23rd of November 2010, at the proposal of the Commission for Drawing up the Strategy, the Scientific Council of the Institute of Archaeology adopted the Strategy of Scientific Research Activities of the Institute of Archaeology for the Period from 2010 to 2015.

Development Plan (Vision)

Continuous activities over the years (since 1961), in particular since 1992, have proved the Institute of Archaeology to be a central Croatian research institute for the study of archaeology. The Institute has already gained the status of a national public institution, as its basic task is the research of archaeology and its branches throughout

the entire territory of Croatia and in regions populated by Croats throughout history. **In this sense, the Institute of Archaeology is already the only national scientific institution for archaeology in Croatia.** Among relevant national scientific research institutions in Europe, the Institute of Archaeology already occupies the position of a central national institute for the study of Croatian archaeology.

The Institute's scientific activities, drawn up at the time of its establishment, are of particular importance to its core activity even today, as it is a long-term well thought-out process that has been continuously adjusted to the needs of society and the profile of the institution. Therefore, the level which the Institute of Archaeology has reached in most areas is comparable with the position of similar research institutions in Europe.

The Institute of Archaeology's scientific potential has significantly improved since its establishment, especially in the segment of care for young scientists and researchers. The Institute's technology is adjusted to study, fieldwork and research, so that its scientific potential compares well with the achievements of the best among similar institutions in Europe.

2. The Institute of Archaeology's Strategic Objectives at the National and International Level

1. At the level of the Institute of Archaeology:

- improving the standard of scientific research activities through better monitoring of project activity results;
- fostering interdisciplinary research;
- encouraging better co-operation between projects from various branches of archaeology on common tasks within the Institute;
- enabling the mobility of young researchers (junior and post-doctorate researchers) within the Institute of Archaeology with the aim of providing broader professional experience;
- establishing clear criteria for the advancement of scientists and a corresponding system of employment of the best young scientists;
- restructuring of technical and administrative services with the aim of improving efficiency;

- additional IT training for technical and administrative services, administrative staff and employees;
- promoting activities aimed at partial self-financing of the Institute of Archaeology by offering various services.

2. At the national level:

- acquiring the formal status of a public national research institute for the study of archaeology;
- making efforts to obtain greater support from society and the state for archaeological research;
- popularising research results;
- increasing the standard of culture and educating the public on certain professional archaeological problems;
- enabling the professional training of students and young researchers and scientists at the Institute of Archaeology and abroad;
- giving chances to gain experience by working on project tasks (student volunteer work, professional training of young researchers and scientists);
- establishing specialised postgraduate studies in the Institute's fields of expertise;
- lecturing on undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate courses on the basis of co-operation agreements with various Croatian universities.

3. At the international level:

- active participation in international scientific projects;
- strengthening co-operation and networking with leading international archaeological institutions and individual archaeologists, particularly in the region and elsewhere in Europe, through co-operation on related, particularly archaeological, research themes;
- promoting the ongoing education of scientists in international scientific institutions;
- promoting postgraduate education abroad (scholarships), additional training (workshops) and the gaining of experience;
- promoting the publication of research results in international journals, particularly archaeological reference journals.



Basic Tasks, Strategic Tasks for the Period 2010-2015, and a Projection for the Period 2010-2020

The Institute of Archaeology's basic tasks are based on the Permanent Scientific Research Activities Programme and do not have a specific timeframe for their implementation.

Strategic tasks are planned for the mid-term period of five years from 2010-2015, and there is a projection of long-term tasks for the period 2010-2020.

The Institute of Archaeology's basic task is the study of Croatian archaeology, its history, and the archaeological heritage of the prehistoric, classical antiquity, mediaeval and modern era periods on the territory of Croatia and in regions populated by Croats throughout history.

This basic task is realised through scientific research work as part of the Institute's individual scientific programmes (clusters), but also through project co-operation that enables the publishing of results at the level of the entire Institute.

The results of the Institute's work in scientific and other projects are regularly published in the Institute's own publications or in co-publications, which brings Croatia's rich archaeological heritage to the scientific community and other interested readers.

1.

Programme "The Genesis and Continuity of the Material Culture of the Croats"

Basic task: field collection of data on immovable and moveable archaeological heritage in Croatia and in regions populated by Croats throughout history; applying archaeological methodology, historical sources, toponymy and an interdisciplinary approach to the periods of prehistory, classical antiquity, the Middle Ages and the modern era.

2.

Programme "Mediaeval Archaeological Heritage in the European Context (5th-17th centuries)"

Basic task: field collection of data on immovable and moveable archaeological heritage in Croatia and in regions populated by Croats throughout history, applying

archaeological methodology, historical sources, toponymy and an interdisciplinary approach to the periods of late classical antiquity, the early, high and late Middle Ages, and the early modern age.

3.

Production and Publishing of basic papers on Croatian archaeology

Teamwork as part of individual scientific programmes or between individual scientific projects of the Institute of Archaeology with the aim of preparing, producing and publishing scientific papers on Croatian archaeology, particularly its branches (prehistory, antiquity, Middle Ages and the modern era).

Preparing scientific editions of the Institute's series *Monographs of the Institute of Archaeology*, including in co-operation with other cultural institutions and publishers in the Republic of Croatia.

4.

ARHINDOKS – generating publicly accessible web resources on Croatian archaeology

The programme of the Institute's ongoing scientific research activities combines the scientific programmes of the Institute and the University of Zadar, and also the Archaeology Department of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. Croatian archaeological heritage, particularly that which is connected with the Institute's field research, is included in digitalisation and interdisciplinary networking. Through this, a database has been formed and management and research tools developed to serve as a sound foundation for other humanities.

Basic task: the digitalisation of Croatian archaeological heritage (collecting, preparing and digitally archiving relevant archaeological documentation); generating a computer-based corpus of individual archaeological periods; creating publicly accessible databases; creating a digital map of Croatian archaeological assets by period.

Raising the Standard of Croatian Archaeology

Archaeology plays a special role in society, having exceptional characteristics.

Getting to know the sources of Croatian archaeology and work on its promotion is a special task of the Institute of Archaeology's scientists.

Within the scope of its activities, the Institute of Archaeology permanently strives to raise the standard of information on archaeology in the press and electronic media.

- Co-operation with Universities and State and Public Institutions

The Institute of Archaeology has co-operated with most Croatian universities, various public and state institutions, such as the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, the National Geodetic Administration, all institutes in the field of humanities, and numerous institutes from other fields of science. Such co-operation with institutes is occasional, though co-operation agreements have been signed with universities and museums.

The Institute of Archaeology endeavours to promote the spread of archaeological knowledge at all levels, including co-operation with ministries and the media, as well as lecturing at the universities of Zagreb and Rijeka. The Institute's scientists lecture on archaeology at the University of Zadar, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb, the Department of Croatian Studies of the University of Zagreb, and at the University of Rijeka. At the same time, they are members of the Commission for the Appointment to Higher Academic Levels, as well as mentors and reviewers. Some scientists have been active in the Regional Scientific Council for Humanities, the Commission for State Awards in Humanities and Assessing the Scientific Projects and Programmes of the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia, as well as evaluating scientific projects from abroad (for ex: ARRS - Republic of Slovenia).

Strategic tasks:

Continuing activities with the University of Zadar on undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate doctoral archaeology studies, and also the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Zagreb and the University of Rijeka.

- Public and professional lectures, theme exhibitions, book presentations, workshops
- Archaeological advice and expertise

Strategic Objectives for the Period 2010-2015

The Scientific Council has defined the Institute of Archaeology's long-term strategic development objectives, and its concrete tasks, methods and deadlines for their realisation for the mid-term period from 2010 to 2015, keeping in mind the projection

for the period 2010-2020, but above all the realisation of the basic tasks in the most effective way and to the highest standard.

- Raising the standard of archaeological scientific research activities and their international identity to make them comparable at all levels with similar research in the European context
- Fostering measures to ensure the clearer international distinctiveness and identity of the Institute of Archaeology's activities, and the increased mobility of scientists on certain projects or programmes and their scientific activities
- More active participation in international scientific projects
- Creating (public) web resources on Croatia's archaeological heritage
- Administrative restructuring and improving the personnel structure of the Institute of Archaeology
- Participating in the design and implementation of specialised postgraduate doctoral archaeology studies and actively participating in higher education at Croatian universities
- Creating the conditions for realising higher levels of additional income
- Finally solving the problem of adequate premises and the ongoing upgrading of the (field, study, laboratory) equipment of the Institute of Archaeology

Methods and Timeframe for the Implementation of Strategic Tasks and Goals

Task/goal	Responsible for implementation	Timeframe
Programme: “Genesis and Continuity of the Material Culture of the Croats”	Science Programmes Manager	2010-2015 and beyond
Programme: “Mediaeval Archaeological Heritage of Croatia in the European Context (5 th -17 th centuries)”	Science Programmes Manager	2010-2015 and beyond
Publishing papers on Croatian archaeology	Authors, director, publishing and IT activities service	2010-2015 and beyond
Creating public data banks on archaeology	ARHINDOKS	ongoing
Co-operation with universities and public institutions	All scientific staff of the Institute of Archaeology	ongoing
Public scientific and professional lectures and workshops	All scientific staff of the Institute of Archaeology	ongoing
Providing archaeological advice and language expertise	All scientific staff of the Institute of Archaeology	ongoing

Analysis of the Environment

Advantages

The Institute of Archaeology is the only Croatian scientific institution whose basic task is the study of Croatian archaeology. In other words, it is the only national institute of archaeology.

The Institute has continuously and systematically conducted this task ever since its establishment. Changes in the Institute's structure and even its name have had no significant impact on the fundamental role it plays.

National Status

The Institute of Archaeology has been active in the whole of Croatia and has co-operated in many fields with Croatian universities in Zadar, Zagreb and Rijeka, as well as state and regional administration bodies.

The Institute has affirmed itself as an instrument of thorough archaeological research in Croatia, and has confirmed its place among the institutes of humanities with which it has established direct co-operation.

Team Work: Besides systematic archaeological research, scientific studies are one of the Institute's core activities. Teamwork on scientific projects and programmes has been worked out in a detailed manner in the Institute.

Young Scientists and Researchers

The Institute has dedicated particular attention to young researchers and scientists, who have participated in all scientific programmes and projects. The high quality of this process, which resulted in a 100% success rate in programme completion by a dozen of the Institute's junior researchers, has been recognised by the relevant ministry and announced publicly. This provides the motivation to continue the great success achieved with junior researchers and to employ these exceptional young scientists in scientific posts in the institution that educated them.

International Identity

Participating in international projects and research is one of the Institute's priorities. It is particularly motivating that the Institute has already been recognised by

international science (*Centre of Excellence of the Slovakian Academy of Science in Nitra*). Among similar scientific institutions in Europe and the USA, the Institute has been identified as a partner with great potential, both in terms of its multilayered archaeological holdings and its competent scientists. This certainly calls for further networking with European associations of archaeological institutions and, of course, corresponding multilateral projects in which Croatian archaeology would participate. Certain scientists from the Institute are members of international bodies dealing with individual branches of archaeology. This confirms the perception of the Institute as having a tradition of long-term high-quality activities.

Publishing Activity

The Institute of Archaeology has been involved in relatively extensive publishing activity, particularly in the last decade. For instance, it has published the internationally recognised academic journal specialised in archaeology *Contributions of the Institute of Archaeology*, which is very frequently visited on the *Hrčak* scientific portal.

The Institute of Archaeology is involved in a rich exchange of the Institute's publications and is thus accepted as a permanent and recognised national institute.

Public Access and Social Role

As the Institute of Archaeology is a public scientific research institution of the Republic of Croatia, the attention of its staff is directed towards public access to archaeological resources and data that can be used for the needs of various ministries, administrative bodies, etc.

Premises and Infrastructure

Since its establishment in 1961, the Institute has been located on three sites in entirely inadequate premises and conditions. Today, before its final move to an optimal facility, the Institute is located on two separate locations, which makes the functioning of the Institute significantly harder. Still, not even this has diminished or slowed down the Institute's overall successful development curve. Thanks to its exceptionally successful participation in the Government's large infrastructural projects (motorways, etc), the Institute has succeeded in providing the equipment and

infrastructure to carry out high-quality fieldwork and studies within the existing facilities, which will be used until the forthcoming move to a new location.

Disadvantages

- Fragmentary scientific research is evident from the large number of scientific projects that need to be systemised and included as larger segments in present or future scientific programmes. This can also be achieved by working out larger projects within departments specialising in various archaeological periods and branches of archaeology (prehistory, antiquity, the Middle Ages and modern era).
- Inadequate staffing is evident from the insufficient number of technical staff in the library, ARHINDOKS (documentarists, draughtsmen), and accounting.
- International projects have recently not been evident at the Institute of Archaeology to a satisfactory extent, and generally speaking, the number of such European (archaeological) projects and programmes in the field of humanities is much smaller compared to the projects/programmes in other areas of science in Europe and the world. However, sufficient participation in bilateral and multilateral projects with European partners would enable the further development of Croatian archaeology and the Institute of Archaeology.
- Insufficient mobility of researchers has resulted in the need for an even greater presentation of Croatian archaeological issues on the international scientific stage (congresses, etc). However, it is important that the need has been recognised for scientists from the Institute to participate abroad as part of inter-institutional international co-operation.
- An insufficient proportion of its own resources in the Institute's budget represents a complex problem that can be solved by generating additional income through carrying out contractual projects on the market. However, this is an area vulnerable to external influences and therefore not always suitable for the Institute.

- Inadequate visibility of the results of project activities is a result of the fact that scientific programmes and projects reflect long-lasting ongoing activity, which in archaeology varies from site to site, depending on the character, volume and cultural layers. These problems are being solved as part of complex, expensive and long-term interdisciplinary activities which will certainly influence the extent to which results are visible.

Opportunities

The Croatian archaeological space is unique in comparison to other European spaces and has offered inexhaustible possibilities for archaeological research into all periods of European history.

Croatia's extraordinarily rich archaeological heritage represents a challenge not only for Croatian archaeologists but also for scientists from abroad, who in future – within the ERA – will be able to co-operate on the realisation of numerous scientific projects of various sizes.

Risks and Dangers

- Insufficient financial support from society is evident in reduced support for the humanities, and consequently the field of archaeology, which is especially sensitive to this. The character and specific features of archaeology call for field research which is complex and very expensive, as it inevitably includes interdisciplinary co-operation (costly analyses) and physical labour and logistics in the field.
- Insufficient financing is evident from the fact that the Institute of Archaeology is largely financed from the state budget (for cold standby, salaries, etc), and scientific work on contractual projects depends exclusively on the possibilities of the budget, which by no means corresponds to the real needs of all the contracted programmes and projects.
- Young scientists and researchers at the Institute of Archaeology, due to insufficient financial resources for scientific projects in which junior researchers participate, represent a separate threatened category. The problem is that no financial means are earmarked for the training of young scientists and researchers or for their inclusion in work places on the Institute's

individual programmes and projects. This indeed is a very serious problem for the Institute's further development and the recruitment of younger researchers.

- Endangered archaeological assets are a consequence of large infrastructural projects which although they enable the inclusion of archaeology before interventions are carried out, at the same time contribute to the devastation of Croatia's archaeological cultural-historical heritage. Therefore working on archaeological topography and registering heritage should be a priority because it would indirectly enable the recognition and conservation of Croatian and European heritage.

4. CONCLUDING REMARKS

On the basis of a clearly defined strategy of scientific research activities, based on the programme concept of continuous research activities and interdisciplinary partner projects around the existing core scientific research institution, the Institute of Archaeology, realistic preconditions have been met for the foundation of a strong national scientific research institution of the Republic of Croatia in the shape of the Croatian Institute of Archaeology.

Such a national institute, conceived along the lines of relevant institutions in some fifteen countries of the European Union (e.g. Austria, Germany, etc), would have its branches all over Croatia, e.g. in Zadar. The establishment of an International Research Centre of the Croatian Institute of Archaeology (IRC Ilok, IRC Zadar) is planned in the Croatian Danube Region, in Ilok (around the planned *Ilok Archaeological Park*), and on the Adriatic in Zadar. This would enable the establishment of strong scientific ties between all segments of the continental and coastal parts of Croatia, which is necessary at this historical moment on the eve of Croatia's accession to the European Union. At the same time, this would open up realistic possibilities of networking with scientists and archaeologists from all over Croatia and abroad, who would gradually join individual partner projects of the Croatian Institute of Archaeology.

In order to provide the essential preconditions for the implementation of permanent national scientific research programmes as well as the interdisciplinary scientific partner programmes of the Institute of Archaeology, we propose the

establishment of a *Don Frane Bulić Foundation for Fostering Research in Croatian Archaeological Heritage*.

From the financial means of the Foundation, it would be possible to support:

- the Institute of Archaeology's work in archaeological parks and branch offices at particularly important and presentable complex sites;
- the acquisition of relevant field and cabinet equipment, and professional literature;
- the publishing of a series of scientific and popular monographs of CROATIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE;
- the organising of ARCHAEOLOGICAL THEME and INTERDISCIPLINARY EXHIBITIONS in order to present the archaeological segment of the cultural-historical and tourist identity of the Republic of Croatia abroad and in Croatia;
- the securing of conditions for young researchers and scientists;
- series of (popular) lectures on Croatia's archaeological heritage abroad and reciprocal lectures given by Croats living and working abroad in their homeland.

At present, it is both possible and necessary to establish an *archaeological network* to realise the strategic programmes of the scientific research activities of the Institute of Archaeology. An important necessary precondition for the future work of such an *archaeological network* is the enlargement of its interdisciplinary programme. By involving a spectrum of collaborators from other fields of science from Croatia and abroad, such a network is enriched and completed.

Our fellow Croatian archaeologists who live abroad, as well as experts of Croatian origin from various fields of science, grouped around the realisation of proposed scientific programmes and projects, can, along with us, take large steps in presenting the cultural-historical heritage preserved by Croatia. In addition, they can also contribute as members of the editorial staff of existing and future scientific publications, as reviewers and promoters of scientific journals, collaborators and co-organisers of archaeological theme exhibitions, and as evaluators of scientific programmes, projects and university programmes.

In our opinion, the fact that archaeology is multidisciplinary and oriented to interdisciplinary co-operation is of particular importance, and represents a chance for its further development.

Due to the character of its objectives and new methods of research, analysis, evaluation, protection and saving of data, archaeology *overlaps with numerous disciplines from the field of natural, technical, biomedical, biotechnical, social and human sciences*. As a result, it is clear that *de facto* there are no areas in which archaeologists do not see great possibilities for interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary co-operation.

This information reveals the need and opportunity to significantly enlarge the potential network of scientific co-operation between Croatian archaeology and leading Croatian scientists in other scientific fields in centres all over the world. In these centres, owing to the already proven advanced technology and accumulated knowledge, interdisciplinary answers could be obtained to clearly formulated questions. This is due to the fact that contemporary archaeology is not only looking for artefacts, but also seeking interdisciplinary answers to clearly defined questions.

Croatia is unique and independent. It needs to preserve its cultural heritage and to work intensively in the field of culture, because, among other things, it is our own exceptionally valuable *product of Croatia* which allows us to stand with dignity before the world. Ultimately, the future of Croatian tourism is in fact *cultural tourism*. Expert teams in Croatia have to examine all periods of past cultures free from any ideological bias. This job cannot be conducted solely as a local task, but as basic international interdisciplinary research. Accordingly, the methodological approach to the area that we have inherited from numerous generations of populations in a continued millennial sequence of populations, organisation and utilisation has to be well thought-out.

The basic requirement for the realisation of the programme of creating an archaeological (interdisciplinary) network of Croatian scientists is certainly the decision to establish a Croatian Institute of Archaeology as a national scientific research institution of the Republic of Croatia, along with the Don Frane Bulić Foundation for Croatian Archaeological Heritage. However, before its founding, we have an extraordinarily important step before us, and that is opting for the aforementioned ideas and guidelines. This is only possible with the support of the

**state – not only verbal support, but also practical support and understanding.
That is how we see the *future of the past* of Croatia.**

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At its Session held in Zagreb on 24th November 2010, the Institute of Archaeology's Administrative Council adopted the *Strategy of Scientific Research Activities of the Institute of Archaeology*.

Reg. no: 959/2010

In Zagreb, 24th November 2010

President of the IARH Administrative Council:

Academician Nenad Cambj