The First Croatian Scientific Journal as a Site of Production and Circulation of Knowledge

Vlasta Švoger

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
PRODUCTION AND CIRCULATION OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE (SEMI-)PERIPHERY IN THE EARLY MODERN AND MODERN PERIOD
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The Journal

• 1665 – *Journal des Sçavants*,
  - *Philosophical Transactions*

• 1851 – *Arkiv za pověstnicu jugoslavensku* (Archives for the History of South Slavs)

• 1851-1875 – twelve volumes, printed in Zagreb and Venice

• Editor-in-chief: Ivan Kukuljević Sakcinski

• History, archaeology and art history

• Founded and published by the Society for South Slavic History and Antiquities

• Financial supports and membership fees
Political context

• The Society was founded 1850
• Freedom of the press in the HM was restricted; the Ban’s Government was an extended hand of Vienna; tendencies of absolutism
• Austrian “national” history vs. Croatian history as a “national science”
• 1878 – transformed into the Croatian Archaeological Society

Ivan Kukuljević Sakcinski (1816 -1889) Politician, writer, historian
The Society for South Slavic History and Antiquities

- The chief objective of the Society was to discover, study, collect, safeguard and publish historical sources
- List of 26 questions directed to friends of South Slavic history
- Aimed at finding, preserving and publishing written and material sources (archaeology, history, art, folklore and folk customs)
- Detailed description of historical sources in the Arkiv
- Artefacts were handed over to the National Museum
- Sources in Greek, Latin, Croatian and other Slavic languages
Forms of Knowledge in the *Arkiv*

- Scientific or scientific-popular texts from history, archaeology, art history, ethnology, history of Croatian literature
- Sources of political and legal history, church and cultural history, history of Croatian literature
- Collected during study journeys of Ivan Kukuljević and Mijat Sabljar, by copying relevant sources in the archives of Vienna, Venice, Rome and Naples or in local archives
- Biographies of distinguished individuals from Croatian political, cultural or religious history
- Bibliography of newly published books on history
- Geographic and historical description of regions
- Answers to questions published in the 1st volume
Authors

- Ivan Kukuljević Sakcinski
- Franjo Rački, the first Croatian historian by education
- Mijat Sabljar
- Ivan Mažuranić, politician and writer
- Mijat Stojanović, teacher and writer
- Ante Starčević, politician
Circulation of Knowledge

• Ordinary and honorary members of the Society
• Foreign institutions, societies, academies of science, museums and archives in the HM, in other European countries, the Smithsonian Institution in the USA
• Since 1854 Croatian *gymnasiums*
• Honorary members: Joseph Chmel, Pavel Josef Šafařík, František Palacký, Ismail Sreznjevski, Jakob and Wilhelm Grimm ...
• In 1851 – 258 members, six years later 396 members and 51 honorary members
• Ordinary members: civil servants, priests, army officers, writers, merchants, physicians, nobility
Conclusion

• The journal did not review sources and ascertain their credibility in a strictly critical manner
• It assembled prominent intellectuals, some of whom became professional historians
• It gave a significant contribution to the development of historic science in Croatia and aroused interest in cultural history
Thank you for your Attention!

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