



**HRVATSKO FILOZOFSKO DRUŠTVO**  
*Croatian Philosophical Society*

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## *25th Days of Frane Petrić*



International interdisciplinary conference

# LANGUAGE AND COGNITION

**SECOND CIRCULAR**



Cres, Croatia, 25–28 September 2016

## General information

<b>Date</b>	28 September – 1 October 2016
<b>Venue</b>	hotel <i>Kimen</i> , Cres, Croatia
<b>Official languages</b>	Croatian, English, German
<b>Programme</b>	plenary lectures parallel session presentations
<b>Dodatni program</b>	book presentations cultural programmes
<b>Contact address</b>	dfp@hrfd.hr

## Important dates and deadlines

<b>Sending the completed <i>Application Form</i></b>	27 June 2016
<b>Confirmation of acceptance of presentations (including an <i>Accommodation Form</i>)</b>	11 July 2016
<b>Sending the completed <i>Accommodation Form</i></b>	18 July 2016
<b>Conference registration fee payment</b>	15 September 2016

# Croatian Philosophical Society

The Croatian Philosophical Society ([CPS](#)) was established in 1957, and is one of the oldest professional associations in Croatia and the region of South-East Europe. During the course of half a century, the CPS has become an unavoidable platform for philosophical life in the region and one of the key cultural institutions in Croatia.

During the first decades, the activities of the CPS revolved around the journal *Praxis* and the *Korčula Summer School*, which contributed with their international reputation to the affirmation of the Society in the region and wider, and became a prolific communication base for both domestic and foreign authors. At the beginning of the 1980s, the further development of Croatian philosophy was greatly invigorated once the journal [Filozofska istraživanja](#) was established, which filled the void after *Praxis* closed in the mid-1970s. Shortly after the first issue of *Filozofska istraživanja*, CPS also started publishing the journal [Synthesis philosophica](#), and in 1990 the journal [Metodički ogledi](#) as well. The “*Filozofska istraživanja*” and “*Collected Works of Pavao Vuk-Pavlović*” book series are to be singled out as the Society’s the most known and influential publishing successes.

The Croatian Philosophical Society has been active in organising conferences, public discussions and roundtables, always looking to critically reflect current states of affair with their choice of topic. Amongst the conference activities of the CPS, the following are to be singled out: the *Days of Frane Petrić* (since 1992, Cres), the *Lošinj Days of Bioethics* (since 2002, Mali Lošinj), *Philosophy and Democracy* (since 2005, Dubrovnik), the *Mediterranean Roots of Philosophy* (since 2007, Split), *Philosophy of Media* (since 2011) and the regular *Annual Symposium* of the CPS in Zagreb, held since the Society was established in 1957.

The rich tradition of the Croatian Philosophical Society and the activities that correspond to current issues, along its interdisciplinary and international orientation, have ranked the Society amongst the relevant philosophical societies in the world. Accordingly, the CPS has been a permanent member of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies (Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de Philosophie – [FISP](#)) since 2006, and has to date hosted the annual meeting of the FISP Steering Committee twice.

## Days of Frane Petrić

In collaboration with the Town of Cres, the hometown of the Renaissance philosopher Frane Petrić, the Croatian Philosophical Society co-founded an international scientific conference the [Days of Frane Petrić](#) in 1992. During the past quarter of a century of continuous work, the *Days* have become one of the leading scientific-cultural events gathering philosophers and scientists of the widest range of backgrounds. Many world renowned authors have partaken in the *Days of Frane Petrić*, and in the last 25 years over a thousand presentations were given by participants coming from more than 40 countries.

Each year, the *Days of Frane Petrić* comprise two conferences – one with regular annual theme dedicated to Croatian philosophy, and especially to the work of the great Renaissance polyhistorian from the Island of Cres, after whom the event was named, while the other focuses on a new topic each year. This year the main topic is “Language and Cognition”. Since 2013 the central activity of the project “Scientific Incubator: Training in Scientific Research” is also held in the framework of the *Days of Frane Petrić*. The aim of the “Scientific Incubator” project is to motivate students for scientific research and way of thinking.

Since the very beginning, the distinguishing features of the *Days of Frane Petrić* have been interdisciplinary approach, promoting dialogue and adopting a pluri-perspective attitude which accepts and appreciates both scientifically and non-scientifically relevant contributions, and which values different cultural and philosophical traditions and specificities.

## “Language and Cognition” conference circular

Although the philosophy of language has established itself as a separate philosophical discipline at a late date within the history of philosophy, language has been the inevitable object of philosophical reflection since the very beginning of the history of philosophy. To be sure, it was not often the independent subject of philosophical discussions, but it was nevertheless regularly considered within some philosophical disciplines such as ontology, logic, rhetoric, and poetics. Moreover, as the science of valid thinking, logic developed a concept of thinking that was closely tied to the use of language through the investigation of terms, propositions, and combinations of propositions into inferences, whereby special attention was paid to the issue of the truth value of propositions.

Hamann, Herder, Humboldt, and the German romantics began to develop the philosophy of language as a separate philosophical discipline in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. They were all driven by the need to return to the issue of the original unity of being, thinking, and speech that had fallen into oblivion in the preceding period in modern philosophy. However, the emergence and development of linguistics as a separate science of language was of decisive importance for the further development of the philosophy of language. At that time, linguistics was being developed as a scientific field of study in two ways: as language typology (Friedrich Schlegel, Wilhelm von Humboldt) and as comparative-historical linguistics (Franz Bopp, Jacob Grimm, *Junggrammatiker*), the latter of which was to confirm its position as the strongest branch of linguistics in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Some time later, especially in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the prevailing positivism of comparative-historical linguistics found a serious opponent in the structuralism that was emerging in modern linguistics. Although the synchronic approach found many more adherents in structuralism than did the diachronic or historical approach, these two approaches were united in the work of Ferdinand de Saussure, the founder of structuralism in linguistics. The second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century saw two linguistic movements that renewed the connection of linguistics to philosophy. The first of them was transformative generative grammar, whose author and most distinguished representative, Noam Chomsky, advocated the renewed study of the rationalist Port-Royal Grammar (1660) for the modern generative approach in the study of language and “universal grammar”. The second was cognitive linguistics, which strives to connect itself with philosophy as well as anthropology, psychology, neuroscience, and artificial intelligence into a multidisciplinary cognitive science.

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, language became central to investigations in philosophy as well, and not only within one school of thought, but among its most differing and even opposed movements. One may therefore rightly speak about the “linguistic turn” that characterizes a significant part of modern philosophy based on the insight that thinking and language are both interconnected and interdependent. This turning point has taken two main forms. On the one hand, it manifested itself within the analytic philosophy of language (Frege, Wittgenstein, the Vienna Circle) as the reduction of epistemological concerns to the problem of language, thereby developing a form of analysis of the logical structure of language, understood in principle nominalistically and in concord with the dominant scientific paradigm. On the other hand, Cassirer, and later Heidegger and Gadamer, but also the fields of phenomenology and philosophical hermeneutics developed, in accordance with Humboldt, a notion of thinking that is linguistically structured, and a notion of language as a medium for thinking that plays a decisive role not only in our cognition, but also in the formation of reality.

Modern linguistics pays great attention to the relationship between thinking and language. Following Herder, American linguists such as Edward Sapir see linguistics within the framework of anthropology and raise the question as to how the grammatical and lexical structure of a specific language influences the way its speakers think or form their concepts. The remarkably strong hypothesis that thought is dependent upon language was formulated by Benjamin Lee Whorf. In more recent times, cognitive linguistics has made the relationship between language and cognition the very core of its interest, thereby relating linguistics once again to philosophy.

Since many other sciences have begun to occupy themselves with language as the object of their research, e.g. psychology, sociology, semiotics, communicology, biology, and neuroscience, some new interdisciplinary branches of modern linguistics have developed, each of which contribute to the study of the relationship between language and cognition from different viewpoints, e.g. psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, pragmatics, biolinguistics, and neurolinguistics.

Bearing in mind the development of investigations into and reflections upon language as outlined above, one of the tasks of this symposium is to examine the possibility of converging the philosophical and the scientific approach to language and speech by showing the limits and flaws of every reductionist approach, as well as by casting light on the conceptual framework within which science understands language from a philosophical perspective. In this context, it should be noted that contributions related to issues of language are expected and welcome from both philosophers of different schools of thought and scientists of different disciplines.

The topic of this year's conference – the relationship between language and thinking, which includes the issue of how language relates to being (reality, world) – has always been an essential one for philosophy. Is language only a means by which our thought expresses and communicates itself, but from which thought is in essence independent? Is thinking inseparable from language such that everything thinkable is expressible as well? Or are language and thinking so intrinsically interconnected that language predetermines and conditions the possible ways of thinking? Are name and the named being connected by nature or by convention, and does therefore the being itself manifest itself in language, and thus language takes part in the cognition of its truth? Or is language an arbitrary system of signs for which speech only subsequently and externally signifies beings, which are in and of themselves completely independent of language? Does, consequently, the study of language contribute to the cognition of that which is expressed by language, or is the study of language irrelevant to cognition? Do the structures of language and being correspond, or is there a gap between them that must be bridged by the arbitrary relationship between the linguistic sign and meaning?

These are some of the questions that are to be raised at this year's international interdisciplinary conference "Language and Cognition", questions its participants could try to answer. We invite you to contribute to the success of this conference with a presentation that further reflects upon this topic.

**Assoc. Prof. Igor Mikecin, PhD**  
President of the Programme Committee

## Application

If you are interested to participate in the work of the conference, please send us the completed **Application Form** (in the attachment to this circular) at the e-mail address: [ljfjezic@gmail.com](mailto:ljfjezic@gmail.com). Alternatively, registration forms can be faxed (fax no.: +385 (0)1 6117 012) or posted (postal address: Hrvatsko filozofsko društvo, "Language and Cognition" Conference, Krčka 1, HR-10000 Zagreb, Croatia).

Working languages of the conference are Croatian, English, and German. The deadline for sending completed Application Forms is **27 June 2016**. Received applications will be considered, and the participants informed of the organisers' acceptance of their presentations by 11 July 2016 at the latest.

Presentations will be given in parallel sessions. Each presentation is allotted 15 minutes (discussions are to be held at the end of each session which consists of three to four presentations), except plenary presentations which are allotted 30 minutes. Each conference room is equipped with a computer and projector. The symposium programme will be sent to participants at the beginning of September, while the abstract booklet will be available at the opening ceremony.

The Croatian Philosophical Society plans to publish a selection of papers from the conference in the journals *Synthesis philosophica*, *Filozofska istraživanja*, and *Metodički ogledi*. The deadline for sending papers based on presentations given at the "Language and Cognition" conference is **15 December 2016**.

## Registration fee

All participants have to pay registration fee of **1400 HRK (190 €)**. There are two kinds of registration fee:

- **FEE 1: 1400 kn ili 190 €**  
(includes double-room hotel accommodation with full board, participation in all events organised during the conference, and conference materials),
- **FEE 2: 1700 kn ili 230 €**  
(in addition to the above includes an organised round trip by bus Zagreb–Cres–Zagreb, 25 and 28 September 2016).

The **deadline for payment is 15 September 2016**. Participants from abroad need to pay the amount to the account of the Croatian Philosophical Society – IBAN: HR4423600001101509268; SWIFT-CODE: ZABAHR2X (Zagrebačka banka; Bank Address: Zagrebačka banka d.d., Trg bana J. Jelačića 10, HR–10000 Zagreb).

## Accommodation

All participants are provided double-room accommodation with full board at the *Kimen* hotel at which the conference will be held. Single-room accommodation is also available to participants, and is charged an extra 23 € a day, which is to be paid at the reception upon departure. Participants will also be sent an *Accommodation Form* containing all accommodation details (dates of arrival and departure, choice of room, persons arriving in company) together with the organisers' confirmation of acceptance of presentations.

For further information about accommodation, please contact us at [dfp@hrfd.hr](mailto:dfp@hrfd.hr).

## Travel information

The town of Cres is located on the island of Cres, Croatia.  
Conference will take place in the *Kimen* hotel (Melin I/16, Cres).

**By a personal vehicle or a regular bus line:** The Town of Cres is approximately 180 km south from Zagreb, easily accessible via highway Zagreb–Rijeka. There are regular [ferry lines](#) operating between the mainland and the island of Cres: from Brestova (mainland–Istria) to Porozina (island Cres), and Valbiska (island Krk) to Merag (island Cres). Round trip Zagreb–Cres–Zagreb prices with a [regular bus line](#) range from 230 HRK (30 €) to 320 HRK (42 €).

**By plane:** Zagreb is connected with all major cities in Europe. [Zagreb airport](#) is located at the outskirts of the city, 30 minutes of a bus ride from the city centre. [Shuttle bus](#) operates between Zagreb Airport (Pleso) and Zagreb main bus station every 30 minutes. From main bus station in Zagreb participants can use [regular bus line](#) to Cres.

The island of Krk (next to the island of Cres) has a small airport ([Rijeka airport](#)) so you may also take it under consideration. Other possibilities are airports in [Zadar](#), [Pula](#), and [Trieste](#). Notice that regular bus connections between island of Krk and the island of Cres are not so often.

**By an organized bus from Zagreb to the *Kimen* hotel, Cres:** Organized bus for participants of the “Language and Cognition” conference will departure from Zagreb on **Sunday, 25 September 2016**, at **13:00** h. Gathering place is in front of the [International](#) hotel (Miramarska 24, Zagreb). Traveling with the organized bus provides a comfort of arriving directly from Zagreb to the *Kimen* hotel in Cres.

Departure of the organized bus from Cres (*Kimen* hotel) to Zagreb is on Wednesday, 28 September 2016, at 15:00 h (estimated time of arrival in Zagreb is 19:30 h).

The seat in organized bus can be reserved using the *Accommodation Form* that will be sent together with confirmation of acceptance of presentation till 1 July 2016 at the latest. *Accommodation Form* should be sent to the organizers with all the details noted till 15 July 2016 (to the address: [ljfjezic@gmail.com](mailto:ljfjezic@gmail.com)). If you plan to travel to Cres this way, you need to pay **Registration Fee 2**.

For further information about travelling to Cres, please contact us at [dfp@hrfd.hr](mailto:dfp@hrfd.hr).

### *Cres, Croatia*

#### **Main features of the Island of Cres:**

- Valun Tablet – one of the oldest Croatian Glagolitic monuments from the 11th century, written bilingually: the first row in the Glagolitic alphabet, and the second and third in the Latin alphabet (Carolingian), displayed in the Valun Parish Church
- The only preserved Roman bridge on the Eastern coast of the Adriatic just outside Beli
- Lubenice – a stone town with 4000 years of uninterrupted history. It is a Medieval fort, erected on the edge of a 378 meter high precipice, and a jewel of Croatian rural architecture. One of the most beautiful beaches on the Island is the one beneath Lubenice, in the cove of St. Ivan, which the German newspaper *Bild* listed as the 15th most beautiful beach in the world.

## Main features of the Town of Cres:

- The remains of a rampart in Cres: a cylindrical tower to the Northwest of the Town, three city gates (Bragadina, the Northern Gate of Marcela and St. Mikula)
- The parish church of St. Mary of the Snows from the 15th century with a bell tower from the 18th century
- A City Loggia from the 16th century with the stocks. The Loggia has always been the heart of the town's public life, today it is the liveliest in the morning when it turns into an open market.
- A City Museum from the 15th century, the house in which the philosopher Frane Petrić of Cres was born. It is also called Arsan because in the past it used to be an arsenal.
- A Franciscan friary with the Church of St. Francis from the 14th century. The distinguishing feature of the friary is a double cloister: the outer Renaissance cloister with family crypts, in which members of eminent Cresian families were buried, and the inner, older cloister with a centrally placed well, on which the oldest Cresian coat of arms from the 14th century is engraved. The friary also contains a museum with a collection of old master paintings and sculptures, an ethnographic collection and a collection of liturgical books. A true rarity of the museum is a Glagolitic missal, printed in Senj in 1494.

## Contact

Hrvatsko filozofsko društvo (Croatian Philosophical Society)  
Dani Frane Petrića (Days of Frane Petrić)  
“Croatian Philosophy in Interaction and Context” Conference  
Krčka 1, HR–10000 Zagreb

Tel.: +385 (0)1 6111 808

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E-mail: [dfp@hrfd.hr](mailto:dfp@hrfd.hr)

Please send your **Application Form** by **27 June 2016** at the address:

[ljfjezic@gmail.com](mailto:ljfjezic@gmail.com)

(Ljudevit Fran Ježić, PhD, Conference Secretary)

We are looking forward to meeting you in Cres!

**Assoc. Prof. Igor Mikecin, PhD**  
President of the Programme Committee