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UVODNIK

V človeškem življenju 50-letnice delujejo rahlo stresno. Pol stoletja življenja običajno pomeni samoizpraševanje o minulem, zavedanje minljivosti se izostri, strah pred fizičnim upadanjem moči postaja vseprisoten.

Glede tega so institucije mnogo na boljšem: ob njihovih 50-letnicah je pol stoletja znamenje zrelosti, preizkušene kakovosti, ki se ne bo starala, ampak modrila, postajala le še boljša. Mladostni videz je pri njih nezaželen, šteje častiljiva starost, 100- in večletnice.

To stopnjo petdesetletne zrelosti slavimo s tematsko število Teorije in prakse. Z njo se spominjamo 50-letnice institucionaliziranega delovanja sociologije na Slovenskem, skorajšnje 50-letnice delovanja FDV in 50-letnice znanstvenoraziskovalnega in pedagoškega delovanja zaslužnega profesorja, akademika dr. Zdravka Mlinarja.

Začetki institucionaliziranega profesionalnega sociološkega delovanja na ozemlju Slovenije po drugi svetovni vojni, namreč segajo v leto 1959, ko je bil ustanovljen Inštitut za sociologijo in filozofijo. Ustanovila ga je Univerza v Ljubljani z namenom raziskovanja na področju sociologije in filozofije. Kot navaja Kroflič, Inštitut za sociologijo in filozofijo ni nastal čez noč z odločbo, ampak ima njegovo nastajanje »korenine v družbeno-ekonomskih razmerah tedanjega časa«, ki je slovenskim razumnikom omogočil prepričati družbene ustanove in politike, da je ustanovitev inštituta »nujna družbena potreba« (Kroflič, 1999: 17).

Kot piše Malešič (v Kalin Golob, 2009: 246), smo raziskovalke in raziskovalci Inštituta za družbene vede v 50-letnem obdobju s teoretsko utemeljenim in metodološko korektnim poseganjem v družbeno stvarnost pomembno vplivali na razvoj družbenih ved v Sloveniji in svetu ter s tem posredno tudi na družbeni razvoj. Med temi raziskovalci je treba ob polstoletnici institucionaliziranega delovanja sociologije posebej izpostaviti akademika prof. dr. Zdravka Mlinarja. V tem obdobju je namreč eden ključnih utemeljevalcev in usmerjevalcev razvoja moderne sociologije v Sloveniji, v Jugoslaviji in tudi v mednarodnem merilu.

V miselni in raziskovalni prostor sociologije je vstopil že kot študent prava sredi petdesetih let, ko je prof. Goričarju predlagal ustanovitev sociološkega proseminarja. Sprva se je posvečal problematiki urbane in ruralne sociologije ter lokalne demokracije.

Kmalu pa se je začel vključevati tudi v primerjalne mednarodne raziskave in ad hoc projekte, npr. v ZDA, Indiji, Poljski, Šrilanki in drugod. Empirično raziskovanje je nadgrajeval s teoretičnimi deli o družbeno-prostorskih spremembah in razvoju. Kot soavtor s Henryjem Teunejem je objavil knjigo

Developmental Logic of Social Systems (1978), ki jo urvrščajo med temeljna svetovna dela teorije ('grand theories') družbenega razvoja v zgodovinskem kontekstu večstoletnih sprememb. S svojo zgodnjo obravnavo globalizacijske teorije se je postavljaj ob bok sodobnim sociološkim piscem v svetu. V tem obdobju je iz splošne sociološke teorije razvil in utemeljil prostorsko sociologijo. Kot profesor je odločilno vplival na uvajanje in modernizacijo študijskih programov sociologije v Sloveniji; ustanovil je raziskovalni center za prostorsko sociologijo, deloval kot dekan fakultete, kot (so)ustanovitelj in prvi predsednik Slovenskega sociološkega društva, kot predsednik Jugoslovanskega združenja za sociologijo, opravljal vodilne vloge v ISA, član uredniških svetov priznanih družboslovnih revij. Mlinar je kot profesor in/ali raziskovalec deloval na številnih univerzah po svetu in imel pionirsko vlogo pri vključevanju našega sociološkega delovanja v svet.

Zdravko Mlinar je eden najbolj izvirnih in družbeno angažiranih slovenskih socioloških piscev s številnimi objavami pri nas in v svetu.

Tako ugledni posamezniki s svojim delom globoko zaznamujejo institucije, zato smo ob skorajšnji 50-letnici naše fakultete (1961–2011) ponosni, da so jo sooblikovali ljudje, kot je kolega Mlinar. V skoraj petih desetletjih FDV dobro izpolnjuje zastavljene naloge: s študijskimi programi daje obsežno, aktualno in sistematično znanje o družbi in družbenih pojavih. Njihov razvoj, poglobljanje in razmah v mednarodno okolje je kakovostno povezan s prepletom raziskovalnega in izobraževalnega področja v izrazito interdisciplinarnih modulih. Z novimi oblikami interaktivnega dela v novih bolonjskih programih, tutorstvom, vseživljenjskim učenjem, s pomočjo organizirane prakse in sodelovanjem strokovnjakov v pedagoškem delu (t. i. praktikumi) želimo dati študentkam in študentom vseh stopenj temeljit in širok strokovni temelj za obvladovanje zahtev in konkurenčnost pri zaposlitvi.

»Fakulteta za družbene vede je danes osrednja in največja slovenska interdisciplinarna izobraževalna ter znanstvenoraziskovalna ustanova na področju družboslovja. Po skoraj polstoletnem obstoju sodi med starejše članice UL in s tem tudi med najstarejše slovenske visokošolske ustanove. Od ustanovitve do danes je doživela in preživela tudi nemirne čase, v katerih je dokazala svojo trdoživost in prilagodljivost, predvsem pa odzivnost na potrebe družbene prakse« (Kalin Golob, 2009: 253).

Trije ugledni jubileji so zato gotovo zadosten razlog, da jih ujamemo in zanamcem ohranimo v tematski številki Teorije in prakse.

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EDITORIAL

Fiftieth anniversaries tend to be somewhat stressful in the life of humans. Half a century of life usually leads to self-reflection on the past, one's consciousness of the finite nature of life becomes more acute, an apprehension surrounding the loss of physical strength becomes omnipresent.

In this regard institutions get the better part of the deal: their 50th anniversary is a mark of maturity, tried and tested quality, of their growing wiser rather than merely older, becoming only better with time. A youthful appearance is not very desirable with institutions; a respectable age, centenaries and multiples thereof are what counts.

This stage of fifty years of maturity is celebrated by this present special feature issue of "Teorija in praksa", celebrating the 50 years of institutional sociology in Slovenia, the nearing 50th anniversary of the Faculty of Social Sciences and the 50th anniversary of scientific research and pedagogical activity of professor emeritus, academician Dr. Zdravko Mlinar.

The beginnings of professional institutional sociological activity on Slovene territory after World War II date back to 1959 when the Institute of Sociology and Philosophy was founded by the University of Ljubljana with the aim of conducting sociological and philosophical research. As Kroflič states, the Institute of Sociology and Philosophy did not emerge overnight by way of an administrative decision. Instead, its creation has its "roots in the socio-economic situation of the time," which allowed Slovene intellectuals to convince institutions and politicians alike that the founding of the institute was an "urgent social necessity" (Kroflič, 1999: 17).

As stated by Malešič (in Kalin Golob, 2009: 246), we researchers at the Institute of Social Sciences, throughout its 50 years of existence, have had a significant impact on the development of social sciences in both Slovenia and the world through theoretically well-founded and methodologically correct intervention in societal reality, thus also indirectly impacting social development. Among these researchers particular mention must be made of Academician Prof. Dr. Zdravko Mlinar on this occasion of the 50th anniversary of institutional sociological study. Throughout this period he was namely one of the key founding and guiding figures of modern sociology in Slovenia, in Yugoslavia and at an international scale.

He embarked on sociological thought and research already as a law student in the mid nineteen-fifties when he suggested the founding of a sociology proseminar to Prof. Goričar. Urban and rural sociology and local democracy were the focus of his early work.

Early on in his work he also became involved in comparative international research and ad hoc projects in the United States, India, Poland, Sri Lanka and elsewhere. He followed up on empirical research with theoretical works on socio-spatial change and development. He co-authored *Developmental Logic of Social Systems*

(1978) with Henry Teune, one of the grand theories of social development in the historical context of change through the centuries. His early work on the theory of globalisation puts him shoulder to shoulder with contemporary sociological authors from around the world. On the basis of his research and general theory he developed and established spatial sociology. As professor he had a decisive influence on the introduction and modernisation of sociology curricula in Slovenia; he founded a spatial sociology research centre, acted as Faculty Dean, (co-)founder and first President of the Slovenian Sociological Society, President of the Yugoslav Sociological Association, assumed leading positions in the ISA, and was a member of the editorial boards of esteemed sociological journals in Europe and USA. Mlinar was active as professor and researcher at numerous universities around the world and played a pioneering role in bringing our sociological work to the world stage.

Zdravko Mlinar is one of the most original and socially involved Slovene sociological authors, boasting many publications at home and in several languages abroad.

Such esteemed individuals and their work leave a profound mark on any institution. On the eve of the 50th anniversary of our Faculty (1961–2011) we are extremely proud that it was developed by individuals like our colleague Mlinar. Through its nearly five decades of life the Faculty of Social Science has been implementing its calling well: its curricula provide broad, topical and systematic knowledge of society and social phenomena. Their development, deepening and dissemination in an international environment have a qualitative link with the intertwining of research and pedagogical work in highly interdisciplinary modules. New forms of interactive work with the new Bologna programmes, tutorships, lifelong learning, organised practical application and the collaboration of experts in pedagogical work offer our students at all levels a solid and broad basis for the requirements of today in a competitive job market.

“Today the Faculty of Social Science is Slovenia’s central and largest scientific research institution in the field of social sciences. After almost half a century in existence it is among the oldest members of the University of Ljubljana and thus also among the oldest higher education institutions in Slovenia. It has gone through turbulent times from its founding days until today, surviving well and proving its tenacity and adaptability as well as first and foremost its responsiveness to the needs of practical social science” (Kalin Golob, 2009: 253).

These three august anniversaries certainly offer sufficient reason for us to capture this moment and offer to posterity a special feature edition of “Teorija in praksa”.

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