

## INTRODUCTION

The first issue of **Družboslovne razprave** (Papers in Social Sciences) was published ten years ago. At the time, Slovenia was one of the Yugoslav republics, and socialism, although disintegrating as a socio-cultural context of action, was still very much a reality of political domination.

Some six years later, we were witnessing the collapse of the multinational state as well as the collapse of socialism. In this sense, the transition period which ensued was one of building a new nation state as well as leaving behind a socialist past, of putting Slovenia on the map of Europe in a new perspective.

It is therefore appropriate that the first international issue of our magazine which is before you is devoted precisely to the problems of transition which seem most urgent to us. The other reason for choosing this topic is that we would like to join the lively debate on ex-communist bloc European countries, which is currently taking place in the international sociological community, especially as it is our conviction that sociologists from Eastern and Central Europe, who have a first-hand knowledge of the situation, are for some reason not active enough in this debate.

As was already mentioned, this is the first international issue of our magazine, but is by no means the last. From now on we plan a new English edition of **Družboslovne razprave** each year. You are of course invited to take a creative part in our endeavour.

Frane Adam  
Gregor Tomc