

## PREFACE

### **FOR THE 30<sup>TH</sup> ISSUE OF THE »PODRAVINA«**

From the very beginning, the »Podravina« was conceived as an international scientific journal for the entire area of the Drava river basin – from the Dolomites to the Danube. This is why both its publishing board and its editorial board consist of scientists from Croatia, Hungary, Slovenia and Austria. All of them have greatly contributed to the development and quality of the journal, while Koprivnica has become their place of gathering. Still, the greatest number of published papers are related to the upper Croatian Podravina. The journal »Podravina« has so far established a large number of young researchers and scientists from this area, which is one of our main tasks. The journal was established with the goal to assist in founding the higher education in Koprivnica, so that in time it could become a university edition. Owing to circumstances, this has been made possible, so the University North in Koprivnica has been the co-publisher of the »Podravina« for the last three years in a row. Even earlier, the agile Historical Society Koprivnica, gathering a large number of associates of the »Podravina«, joined as a co-publisher of the journal. This cooperation, with the support of the Ministry of Science, provides the journal with certainty and continuity in publishing.

In its 30 issues, the »Podravina« (each issue with an average of 220 pages) has published more than 300 scientific papers and a few hundreds of reviews. A few journal editions contained some integral topics about the Podravina region, while the range of topics in the published papers is very wide. »Papers deal with relevant topics from the past and the present of the Podravina, and they contribute to the planning of the development of the area. The majority of published topics, with the participation of more than 200 associates (mostly doctors of science), refers to history, ecohistory, geography, demography, economy, ethnology, archaeology, tourism, etc. In the following 31<sup>st</sup> issue of the »Podravina« in the first half-year of 2017, we are going to print a professionally elaborated bibliography of all 30 issues of the journal, which will show the span of topics and the basic interest of an increasing number of associates. According to the evaluation by the readers and the scientific criticism, the »Podravina« has continuously managed to maintain the high quality of published papers. Therefore, on this occasion we would like to thank all authors, members of the publishing and the editorial board, as well as all other people who participate in the making of the journal, even more so because they do their job on volunteer basis, without any fee.

It is always possible to do even better; therefore, we constantly strive to improve the journal, both with new topics and with new authors. The competency of authors and the quality of papers are checked through careful reviews, as well as through the organization of scientific conferences and colloquiums. We will continue to do even more in the future. We will also struggle for obta-

ining an increasing support by the local community, because without it the »Podravina« could not be published. The conditions and the surroundings do not benefit the publishing of a good multidisciplinary scientific journal, but we are going to try to improve this precisely through continuous and carefully planned activities of the »Podravina«.

We hope to see you for the 40<sup>th</sup> and even the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of publishing the »Podravina«!

On the eve of Christmas 2016

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