



SVEUČILIŠĆE J. J. STROSSMAYERA U OSIJEKU  
**FILOZOFSKI FAKULTET**  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES



First Call for Papers

## **ICLOS – INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LITERATURE IN OSIJEK**

J. J. Strossmayer University of Osijek

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, PhD study programme in Literature and  
Cultural Identity

**2 and 3 March 2018**

**Date of the conference:** 2 and 3 March 2018

**Conference venue:** Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Lorenza Jägera 9, Osijek, Croatia

**Deadline for proposals:** 15 December 2017

**Notification of acceptance by:** 15 January 2018

**Conference fee:** 100 HRK (approx. 15 EUR)

**Deadline for paying conference fee:** 20 February 2018

**Working language:** English (and Croatian)<sup>1</sup>

**Deadline for submission of papers:** 30 May 2018

Students of the PhD study programme in Literature and Cultural Identity at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Osijek are pleased to announce the first International Conference on Literature in Osijek, which will take place from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Osijek, Croatia. It will provide an opportunity for young scholars (MA and PhD students, graduates and scholars who have recently obtained a PhD) to present and discuss their academic papers in a friendly, yet professional environment. Providing an opportunity for exchange of information, ideas, and views, the aim of the conference is to connect young and promising researchers who share an interest in literature.

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<sup>1</sup> Simultaneous translation into English will be provided for potential presentations in Croatian.

## **TOPIC: Affirmation of Fundamental Human Values in Literature**

The affirmation of fundamental human values is an omnipresent intention in art. The affirmation degree of these values has been changing through history, but they have survived until today, which is confirmed primarily by literary works and art as a whole.

Readers often (consciously and unconsciously) require from a literary text to affirm their own system of values, or to question it, and strive toward a better one. In the literature of the Western society, this is reflected in the affirmation of the values that were marginalized in certain periods as well as in the most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century: morality, empathy, love, sacrifice, forgiveness, spiritual growth, honesty, patriotism, etc.

The need for the return of these values appears due to responsibility of literature toward the reader, resulting in the emergence and promotion of thematically optimistic literary works. Such works portray a spectrum of different life situations, such as dealing with problems, conflicts with oneself and/or others, accepting oneself, and relationships with the society. In the end, the heroes learn to cope with what has defined them (childhood, difficulties, life situations, everyday problems, loss, etc.) and reconcile with themselves and the society, which indicates the fundamental message of this kind of literature: life events are meaningful since we learn from them, and every person has their own place in the world that needs to be accepted.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century, literature was marked by an aspiration for direct and indirect social, philosophical, and identity criticism. Fundamental human values have seemingly gone out of fashion, hiding on the margins of high literature, but they have clearly been present in popular and children's literature. Nonetheless, they still had a large audience at that time, suggesting that the readers continue to feel the need for art that affirms their system of values.

In the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the situation in the mainstream literature as well as in the academic community is changing because of the above emphasized fact that the audience has had enough of art that does not satisfy and enlighten it spiritually, thus the affirmation of fundamental values returns to the focal point of literature and academic community.

We invite young scholars to contribute to the conference by researching the affirmation of fundamental human values in literature, reexamining their perceptions over time, and critically studying the relationships between socio-historical circumstances and given topics. Interdisciplinary research is also welcome; research topics are not limited to one literary period.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- **Affirmation of fundamental human values in general** (humanity, morality, empathy, love, sacrifice, heroism, forgiveness, spirituality, faith, sincerity, tradition, nation, nobleness, tolerance, etc.)
  
- **Affirmation of fundamental human values and an individual**
  - acceptance and development of identity
  - acceptance of life
  - acceptance of death
  - acceptance of physical flaws and illnesses
  - acceptance of life circumstances
  - acceptance of one's own otherness
  - the right to fundamental human rights
  
- **Affirmation of fundamental human values and a family/group/community/society**
  - acceptance of family members
  - acceptance of a partner
  - acceptance of friends
  - the right to a second chance
  - the right to say "no"
  - integration of minorities/indigenous peoples
  - acceptance of racial/class/religious/ethnic otherness

Presentations will last up to 20 minutes with additional 10 minutes for questions, comments, and discussion. The application form, along with an abstract of the proposed paper (up to 250 words) and a short biography should be submitted by e-mail to the organizers ([internationalconferenceiclos@gmail.com](mailto:internationalconferenceiclos@gmail.com)) by 15 December 2017. Notification of acceptance of abstracts will be given by 15 January 2018.

#### **PAPERS:**

Selected papers will be published in a special issue of an international double blind peer-review academic journal [Anafora](#), indexed in the following databases: Hrcak, Erih Plus, Central and Eastern European Online Library (CEEOL), Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), MLA International Bibliography, MLA Directory of Periodicals, EBSCO Host (Humanities Source Ultimate), Web of Science (Emerging Sources Citation Index), and Google Scholar. You will receive an e-mail with paper submission guidelines after the conference.

**REGISTRATION FEE:** 100 HRK (approx. 15 EUR)

Registration fee includes:

- admission to all presentations
- promotional materials and program
- refreshment during coffee breaks
- dinner reception

The deadline for paying the conference fee is 20 February 2018 and the amount should be transferred in HRK to the following account:

Institution: Filozofski fakultet Osijek

Address: Lorenza Jägera 9

City and country: 31000 Osijek, Croatia

IBAN: HR8423600001102484368

BIC: ZABAHR2X

Additional charges: All transfer and bank charges will be charged to the sender.

Reference: ICLOS – Name and surname of participant

No refunds of registration fees will be given for participation cancellations.<sup>2</sup>

**ACCOMMODATION:**

Conference participants will be responsible for organizing and paying for their accommodation. Accommodation recommendations can be found on our website. If we succeed in providing accommodation grants, you will be informed on our website.

For more information, visit our website (<http://www.ffos.unios.hr/projekti/ICLOS/>) and [Facebook](#) page or contact us by e-mail: [internationalconferenceiclos@gmail.com](mailto:internationalconferenceiclos@gmail.com).

Organizing committee:

Biljana Oklopčić, PhD, Associate Professor

Sanja Matković, PhD candidate

Ana-Marija Posavec, PhD candidate

Sara Galić, PhD candidate

Ana Gudelj, PhD candidate

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<sup>2</sup> Organizers reserve the right to cancel the conference in case of natural disasters or other unpredictable events that would make it impossible to hold the conference. In that case, organisers will only be responsible for refunding the registration fee.