



Symposium invitation

10th ANATOMY OF ISLANDS

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURES OF ISLANDS

Lastovo,
26 – 28 September 2022

We have the pleasure of inviting you to the 10th anniversary Anatomy of Islands symposium. Its theme is environmental futures and perspectives of islands in view of climate change. The Anthropocene, one disputed label for the current period, is marked by climate change and pollution among many other major difficulties, as a consequence of human activities that affect ecosystems and their sustainability and adaptability. Environmental health reflects on the health of people and society in general; this is why we call for reflection and discussion on the connection and possible harmonization of natural resources with humanity as part of nature.



Anthropogenic impact on the environment is becoming increasingly apparent, especially in the Mediterranean. The Mediterranean is warming faster than the global av-

erage, and sea level rise and coastal erosion threaten the loss of arable land. Unsustainable management of the coast and catchment areas causes extreme droughts and floods, an increased risk of fire and direct endangerment and destruction of biodiversity.

The impact of climate change on small islands is discussed as being even more intense than on the mainland due to island specifics such as small geographical areas, vulnerable communities, remoteness, isolation, limited natural resources, and vulnerable ecosystems. Some researchers recognise these specificities as potential for environmental sustainability. Extensive scholarly debate has been ongoing on possible futures, and, in one of the scenarios, it is predicted that by the end of this century, the sea will flood tens of thousands of islands that are less than one metre above sea level and consequently reduce the territory of island states in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. It is also speculated that this could lead to environmental migration and hence lead “flooded islanders” to the position of environmental migrants and displaced persons, not to mention the destruction of many plant and animal species. All of these issues are in the focus of numerous academic disciplines that negotiate various visions of environmental futures.

Since 1988, when the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) was founded, a number of adopted international resolutions

and agreements have confirmed the relevance of climate change. Adaptation to climate change and slowing it down are lengthy processes that require continuous and planned implementation and involvement of all stakeholders. Due to visible and ubiquitous environmental, social and economic factors, awareness raising, adaptation to the current and slowdown of expected climate change are often highlighted as major global development goals and challenges. Such adaptation also requires acclamation of already proven, culturally specific forms of local knowledge, while in scientific terms it presupposes a multidisciplinary approach according to which the effects of global change will be explored by connecting natural and social sciences and humanities.

Islands are at the forefront of facing the challenges of adapting to climate change and island communities are pioneers in finding and implementing sustainable climate solutions and in developing their own climate resilience strategies.

Climate change and environmental vulnerability affect the future of human society. Different narratives about environmental futures often range from discourses of crises and disasters to optimistic, sometimes utopian visions of alternative futures. We are exposed to ideas and predictions of potential futures with a lack of interconnectedness of environmental science research, macroeconomics and business planning with climate policy and governance research in the social sciences and humanities. Environmental futures are also the subject of daily thoughts, hopes and actions of individuals. In the process of grasping and interpreting the futures and taking action on them, there is an interaction between the “professional” (scientists, governments, economic entities) and the “popular” (public), which reflects the hierarchies of knowledge and distribution of power. Visions of environmental futures have a strong impact on environmental policies.

Throughout history, islands have often been labelled as “places of resilience”, while island communities and societies, living in isolated and resource-constrained environments, have resisted challenges by finding their own solutions. For centuries, islanders have been building their own local knowledge, that is, specific cultural responses that have made it possible for them to cope with weather and natural changes (storms, winds, droughts, diseases). In this regard, island communities have developed specific forms of sociability and solidarity in everyday life, especially in times of crisis and disaster. On the other hand, as climate and the environment change, so do island societies. Modern littoralization, deagrarianization, excessive urban development, touristification and depopulation affect island strategies and practices of resilience to environmental extremes strongly and most often adversely.

The issues of environmental futures marked by ubiquitous crises, constant insecurity and uncertainty, require a redefinition of our interpretations of the world based on the binaries of local and global, human and non-human, natural and cultural. Moreover, environmental futures in the context of island communities presuppose the opening of perspectives that are not exclusive and that go beyond the blind spots of one-sided interpretations and imposed considerations. As before, inspired by multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches, we invite experts from different professions to join the discussions that will enable mapping of new imaginaria of island futures in which local knowledge will be the starting point and inspiration for the challenges of new climate transformations.

Topics:

- island aspects of environmental and climate development policies
- building futures on the islands as places of coexistence of humanity and nature
- architectural, urban planning and ecological solutions and

planning of island areas in response to climate change and other changes

- development of environmentally friendly slow tourism
- challenges of island communities in the past: traditional and local knowledge
- the role of civil society in the design and implementation of innovative environmental projects on islands
- impacts of infectious diseases: island peculiarities
- environmental education and the role of upbringing and education in building a sustainable environmental future of islands
- green museums and museological presentation of the ecology and sustainable development of islands
- European islands as leaders in energy transition and environmental sustainability
- perceptions of the roles of local committees, local island self-governments, county and national institutions, civil society and individuals in the implementation of environmental projects and education on islands

To mark the end of the five-year cycle of symposiums and workshops held on Lastovo, a special introductory session of the symposium will be dedicated to the various topics connected with the island itself.

ORGANISERS

Anatomy of Islands –
Centre for Research
and Development,
Vis



Dobre Dobričević
Association,
Lastovo

CO-ORGANISERS

Institute of
Ethnology and
Folklore Research,
Zagreb



Department of
Ethnology and
Anthropology,
University of Zadar

PLACE AND TIME

City of Lastovo, Community Centre,
Monday, September 26, 2022 –
Wednesday, September 28, 2022

PARTICIPATION FEE

Registration fee per person is 40 euros (students 20 euros). All symposium events (including the excursion through Lastovo), the summary booklet, and final dinner are included in the registration price. The costs of transportation and accommodation are covered by the participants themselves. Members of the association "Anatomy of Islands – Centre for Research and Development" will receive a 20% discount on the registration fee.

The entrance to the symposium is free for the interested population of the island of Lastovo, as well as for members of the local organizer, the "Dobre Dobričević" Association.

LANGUAGES

Working languages of the symposium will be Croatian and English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Applications should be sent by e-mail to:

info@anatomija-otoka.com

Submission deadline is July 20, 2022.

PRESENTATION SUBMISSION

- Full name of the presenter
- Name of the institution
- Website (personal or institutional)
- Phone/mobile number
- E-mail
- Type of presentation (individual, panel)
- Title
- Technical requirements (PC or Mac, projector, audio)
- Language of the presentation
- Presentation abstract (up to 300 words)
- Short biography (up to 100 words)

INDIVIDUAL PRESENTATIONS

Individual lecture submission abstracts should have up to 300 words and include a biography of up to 150 words. The presentations will be organized in thematic sessions of 90 minutes. Each presentation will take 20 minutes followed by a 10-minute discussion.

PANEL PRESENTATIONS

We encourage submissions thematically grouped into panel presentations. An individual panel presentation should take up to 90 minutes, with 3 to 5 speakers presenting, followed by

a discussion. All panel speaker applications (up to 300 words per presentation) should be sent together, along with the title and short description of the panel (also up to 300 words).

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Marina Blagaić Bergman, PhD, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research, Zagreb; Joško Čaleta, PhD, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research, Zagreb; Anica Čuka, PhD, Department of Geography, University of Zadar; Anamarija Frankić, PhD, Department of Ecology, Agronomy and Aquaculture, University of Zadar / College of Science and Mathematics, University of Massachusetts Boston; Zrinka Ljubešić, PhD, Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb; Ilan Kelman, PhD, Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction, Institute for Global Health, University College London and University of Agder, Norway; Agnès Michelot, Faculty of Law, Political Sciences and Management, La Rochelle University; Iva Niemčić, PhD, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Research, Zagreb; Tomislav Oroz, PhD, Department of Ethnology and Anthropology, University of Zadar; Ana Perinić Lewis, PhD, Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb; Jelena Puđak, PhD, Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar, Zagreb; Marie-Ange Schellekens-Gaiffe, PhD Centre for Political and Legal Studies, La Rochelle University; Nenad Starc, PhD, Institute of Economics, Zagreb; Sean Turner, doctoral student, Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb

ORGANISATION COMMITTEE

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