

ANNUAL  
REPORT

2023

PEACE INSTITUTE



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Ljubljana 2024

# AN OPEN-MINDED, THINKING AND POLITICALLY ACTIVE COMMUNITY BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUALITY.

## MISSION

Through its scientific research and public action, the Peace Institute strives for an open community capable of critical thinking and founded on the principles of equality, accountability, solidarity, human rights and the rule of law. The Institute develops research, education and outreach activities in the fields of social sciences and humanities in four thematic fields: politics, human rights and minorities, media, and gender. It is an advocate for vulnerable groups and works with them to eliminate discrimination. As a prominent research and civil society actor in Slovenia, the region, and internationally, it is an indispensable reference in its fields of operation. It collaborates with other related stakeholders (institutes, universities, NGOs) and individuals at the local, regional, and international level.

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Iztok Šori, PhD, director

# INTRODUCTION

*"Sometimes, I feel as though I am alone in my efforts for peace. Yet, I remind myself that I must maintain and inspire hope. I believe that deep in their hearts and minds, every person desires peace, despite all misguided trust in a toxic and war-prone social contract. I continue to strive for peace through peaceful means, building the peace institutions we lack, nurturing pacifists, and trying to involve more people in genuine peace efforts. Sometimes I succeed, and in those rare moments, I experience a sense of a small miracle."*

Yurii Sheliazhenko in a video address at the Think Peace event: Awakening of the peace movement?, Koper, 17 April 2023.

Yurii Sheliazhenko is a Ukrainian peace activist who firmly rejects all forms of violence and promotes dialogue, respect for international law, and human rights. He warns that the demonisation of any party in wars is political propaganda. He emphasises that on both sides of a conflict are people who are often either misled or forced to engage in life-and-death combat. He fights for the right to conscientious objection and defends men in court who refuse military mobilisation. He collaborates with the Belarusian peace organisation "Our House" and the Russian Movement of Conscientious Objectors. In his speeches, he discusses how the Ukrainian side has also made tragic mistakes, which is considered a blasphemous stance not only in Ukraine but also in Slovenia and other Western countries; one such strategy is "victory first, then peace," which precludes any talks that could halt the killing and lead to peace.

Over the past year, we have had to accept, with great bitterness, the fact that Yurii will not be able to come to the Peace Institute as a visiting researcher, where he would have studied peace movements and later transferred his findings back to his homeland. For a year, we endeavoured to secure his visa, only to be thwarted in the end by a bureaucratic Catch-22, where one institution cannot act until another does, and the second institution cannot act until the first has done so. With this, not only has the Peace Institute suffered a loss, but so too has all of Slovenia, a country founded on the principles of pacifism.

Soon after, on 3 August 2023, the Ukrainian security service raided his apartment on the accusation of justifying Russian aggression, even though he has consistently condemned it. They seized his computer and other equipment and placed him under house arrest. His statements are now being examined by experts in forensic linguistic analysis to determine whether he is an enemy of Ukraine. Because of this, we have begun to wonder whether, aside from bureaucratic obstacles, there might be other reasons why his visa for Slovenia was not approved.

Yurii Sheliazhenko is under arrest for telling the truth. Just as Julian Assange is in prison for revealing the truth about US war crimes in Iraq, or Edward Snowden in exile for revealing the extensive spying of the US intelligence services at home and around the world. Just as

hundreds of thousands of Russian opponents of Putin's policies and the attack on Ukraine are persecuted and imprisoned. We know almost nothing about the latter, only occasionally we hear about one of these tragic stories, such as the one about Alexei Moskalov, who was imprisoned last year because his daughter drew an anti-war drawing.

Yurii Sheliazhenko is in custody because he opposes the imperatives of toxic masculinity, which at home, in school, in politics and in the media train boys from birth to kill and be killed on command. Be a real man and join the army, the ads say. Men—because they are men—respond to the draft, put on uniforms and give up their right to life. They become nothing more than a tool in the hands of politicians and generals who calculatedly hide statistics about soldiers killed. Until men resist the logic of militarism, until there are no more Yuriis or Tal Mitnicks in the world, who resisted conscription into the Israeli army because he did not want to take part in the massacre in Gaza, politicians will always be able to resort to war instead of resolve conflicts through talks and other non-violent means.

Therefore, thank you to all Yuriis who bravely and indiscriminately oppose nationalisms, imperialisms and authoritarianisms, defend the peace and equality of all people, believe in utopias and inspire hope that a better world is possible. This ethos also guides the work of the Peace Institute.

# 2023 IN NUMBERS

29  
employees

1  
programme  
group

37  
projects

123  
bibliographics  
units in SICRIS

12  
scientifics  
articles

2  
books

6  
chapters in  
monographs

26  
conference  
papers

16  
monitoring  
reports

35  
media  
appearances

17  
public events

38  
educational  
workshops

152  
website posts

6015  
library units

# SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

**The Peace Institute received a plaque of appreciation from the Nyamirambo Women's Center of Rwanda**

In October 2023, the [Nyamirambo Women's Center](#) organised a Symposium on the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its existence and activities for the empowerment of women. The symposium was attended by Vlasta Jalušič, the initiator of the founding of the NWC, and received a plaque of appreciation to the Peace Institute for support and assistance in the development of the organisation.

In 2007, with the financial support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, as part of the project of international development cooperation and with own funds helped establish the Nyamirambo Women's Center – NWC. The NWC's mission is to provide education and vocational training to women who did not or do not have this opportunity, and thereby obtain better employment opportunities. In 15 years, we implemented a total of 7 development projects. We are proud to be part of this extremely successful and exciting story.



**Mojca Pajnik was appointed vice-president of the COST campaign Data Matters: Challenges of European Migration and Border Control**

The action, coordinated by Aristotle Tympas from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens Panepistimiopolis, brings together more than a hundred researchers in the field of migration, border regimes, information technologies and critical data studies. More about the project funded by [COST](#), European Cooperation in Science and Technology.

# THEMATIC FIELDS

HUMAN RIGHTS AND MINORITIES POLITICS MEDIA  
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Monument to the erased, Center Rog, Ljubljana.  
Photo: PI Archive.



# HUMAN RIGHTS AND MINORITIES

In the human rights and minorities field, we **researched** paths of (political) empowerment of migrants, national systems for the integration of persons under international protection and immigrant children, radicalisation of young people in prisons, rights of defendants and prisoners with intellectual and/or psychosocial disabilities, the needs of victims of hate crimes, the consequences of large-scale migration of the population during and after the war in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, and online hate speech and disinformation in Slovenia. We **defended** the rights of the erased, prisoners with disabilities and migrants, and acted against racism, intolerance and militarisation. Under the auspices of the National Preventive Mechanism at the Ombudsperson, we **visited** police stations, prisons and educational institutions. We conducted **education** for lawyers, probation officers, judges, prosecutors and representatives of supervisory mechanisms on international standards, case law, and practices important for defendants and detainees with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities, conducted **presentations** of the Human Rights Guide and organised a **seminar** on strengthening the voices of migrant women in integration and inclusion policies. We **hosted** the Ombudsman from Turkey, Mr. Sadettin Kalkan, with a delegation of human rights experts from various institutions from Turkey. We have started implementing three **new projects**, among them CIFER, which builds a coalition and trust between the migrant, local, educational, and NGO communities to promote anti-discrimination and inclusion both within and outside institutions.



# HIGHLIGHTED ACHIEVEMENTS

## Safe arrival programmes for refugees

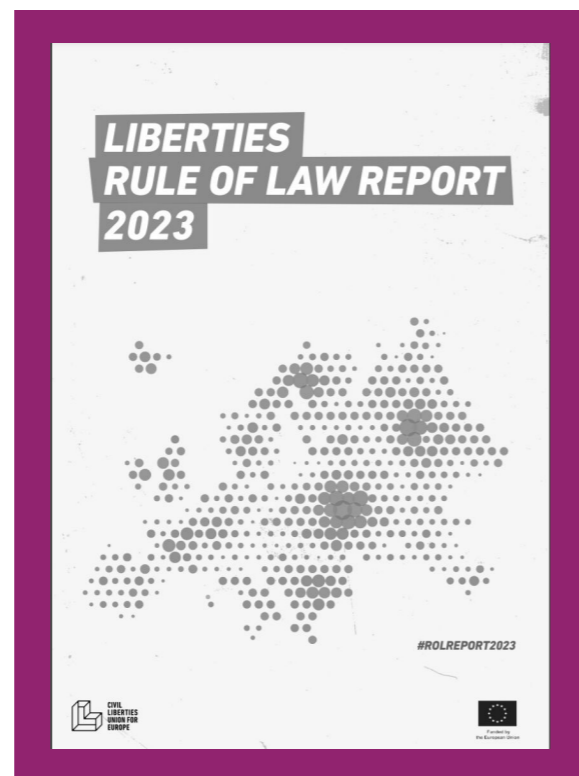
We prepared recommendations for the establishment of additional safe routes to Slovenia for persons in need of international protection. These are safe and orderly routes for refugees, offering a legal stay in a third country, where their international protection needs are taken care of. In addition to the already established models (family reunification, humanitarian admission through humanitarian visas and schemes related to study or work), we proposed a model of private sponsorship of the arrival, reception and integration of persons with international protection, which is a novelty in Slovenia.

## In the Rule of Law Report 2023, we contributed a report for Slovenia

The European network of non-governmental organisations (Civil Liberties Union for Europe) published the fourth Rule of Law Report 2023, which presents the state of freedoms, democracy and human rights in the 18 countries of the European Union (EU). It is the most in-depth shadow report on the rule of law to date, more comprehensive than the European Commission's annual review, and covers the areas of justice, media freedom, civil society, and human rights in 2023. The situation in Slovenia since the replacement of the far-right government demonstrates that countries can rehabilitate their democracy, as the report records efforts to re-establish independent institutions (e.g., public broadcasting) and to cancel and reimburse penalties that were illegally imposed on citizens for participating in protests under the previous government.

## Shadow report to the Committee for the Prevention of Torture on the occasion of the fourth periodic report

This year, the UN Committee against Torture considered Slovenia's fourth periodic report. In light of this, we submitted a shadow report with the Legal Centre for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment, in which we focused on the situation of foreigners, asylum seekers, the situation of the erased in Slovenia, the situation of Roma, and legislation and training in cases of sexual violence and gender-related violence. The report is accessible [HERE](#).



## Two handbooks in the field of preventing youth radicalisation in prison and probation settings

The Handbook for Strengthening the Protection of the Human Rights of Young Adults in Prison is based on research that included interviews with young adults about their experiences while serving a prison sentence. The Handbook for Understanding the Early Signs of Radicalisation Among Young Adults in Prisons contributes to a greater understanding of the social and individual dimensions of radicalisation as well as timely detection and action by redirecting attitudes and behaviour among threatened, suspected or already radicalised young detainees in re-education institutions.

## National report Building Responsible Action for Inclusive Local Communities

Report Building Responsible Action for Inclusive Local Communities is the first result of the international project City for Everyone – Building Responsible Action for Inclusive Local Communities (CIFER). The report aims to offer fundamental knowledge for further activities and comprehensive information about problems in the field of racism, xenophobia, and intolerance in Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia.

## Legislative and judicial responses to the “refugee crisis” in Slovenia and Austria: A comparative perspective

In the journal Dve domovini/Two Homelands (No. 57, 2023), which is dedicated to migration, Neža Kogovšek Šalamon compares the key normative approaches to dealing with the 2015–2016 “refugee crisis” in Slovenia and Austria and the reactions of the judiciary to these approaches in both countries. The analysis is qualitative and based on selected examples of the most important legislative changes. The article considers the populist context of these changes as understood by political scientists. These show that a new wave of populism has also appeared with the crisis—the populist labelling of migrants as Others.



### NO to policy about migrants without migrants!

To contribute to solving the challenges posed by increased immigration, we must strengthen both individuals and local communities and structures, while it is crucial to also enhance mechanisms for direct participation of migrants in shaping policies that relate to their situation. At the local level, within the project Strengthening Migrant Voices, an online pilot platform for e-participation, **DECIDIM**, has been launched, aimed at increasing the political voice of migrants living in the City Municipality of Ljubljana. At the

national level, a report has been published, which offers some of the freshest reflections and information on the possibilities for political participation of migrants. Internationally, we conducted a study trip to Brussels, where representatives of non-governmental, migrant, and local community organisations visited the European Parliament and met with MEPs from the countries that make up the project's international consortium. We were received by Matjaž Nemeč, S&D/SD; Thomas Waitz, Greens; Jan-Christoph Oetjen, Renew Europe; and Stelios Kouloglou, The Left.



Study trip to Brussels. Photo: PI Archive.

### REPRESENTATION OF PERSONS WITHOUT STATUS IN SLOVENIA

*The representation of persons without status is based on the Peace Institute's past projects in the field of erasure, in the framework of which we provided legal aid to the erased. Since the completion of the mentioned projects, we have continuously represented several individuals in Slovenia who still reside without a regulated status, or we have represented them in procedures leading to the arrangement of permanent residence permits: in procedures before the police, in administrative procedures before the local administrative unit or the Ministry of the Interior, and we have informed relevant authorities such as the Ombudsperson about their situations. Most of these individuals are older people who were erased from the register of permanent residents, while some were also rejected asylum seekers or refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina who later failed to arrange their status.*

In 2023, after more than seven years of effort, three of our clients obtained permanent residence permits. We successfully ensured that the Ministry of the Interior "recognised" the Slovenian citizenship of refugee children born in Slovenia. With our assistance, one client, the child of an erased individual, acquired Slovenian citizenship. Furthermore, we, along with Amnesty

International Slovenia and the Civil Initiative of Erased Activists, attended a meeting with the President of the National Assembly (Parliament), Urška Klakočar Zupančič. We continued our collaboration with the Office of the President of the Republic of Slovenia in efforts to amend legislation, enabling erased individuals to obtain permanent residence permits under equitable conditions. In this context, we prepared draft amendments to the Act Regulating the Legal Status of Citizens of Former Yugoslavia Living in the Republic of Slovenia (ZUSDDD). These were subsequently forwarded by the President of the Republic Nataša Pirc Musar to Prime Minister Robert Golob in October 2023. Other important demands for redress include appropriate compensation, additional reparative measures, investigating the responsibility for the erasure, incorporating it in educational curricula, formally recognising it, and issuing apologies. The legislative proposal is also supported by the Association of Erased Residents of Slovenia, and over 2,000 individuals have signed a petition urging the Prime Minister to enact such legislative measures.

In memory and as a reminder of the erasure, one of the most severe and mass violations of human rights in independent Slovenia, the Park of the Erased was opened in October at the Ljubljana Rog Centre, featuring a memorial monument in the shape of the letter Č.



The President of the DZ received representatives of Amnesty International Slovenia, the Civil Initiative of Erased Activists and the Peace Institute. Photo: Matija Sušnik, source: DZ website.

We provide representation pro bono and with funds raised through our campaign. You can support our work for the erased by allocating part of your income tax or a donation to the Peace Institute (<https://www.mirovni-institut.si/podpri/>).

# FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

BAJT, Veronika. *Ethnic discrimination : strategies of research and measurement*. 1st ed. Ljubljana: Peace Institute, 2023. X, 173 pages, graph. repr., tabs. ISBN 978-961-96019-2

ČEFERIN, Rok, KOGOVSŠEK ŠALAMON, Neža, KOROŠEC, Damjan, ZOBEC, Barbara. Javno spodbujanje sovraštva, nasilja ali nestrpnosti : 297. člen. In: KOROŠEC, Damjan (ed.), et al. *Veliki znanstveni komentar posebnega dela Kazenskega zakonika (KZ-1)*. Posodobljena izd. Ljubljana: Uradni list Republike Slovenije: Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, 2023. Vol. 3, pp. 463–509.

KOGOVSŠEK ŠALAMON, Neža. *Legislative and judicial responses to the "refugee crisis" in Slovenia and Austria : a comparative perspective. Dve domovini : razprave o izseljenstvu*. [Printed ed.]. 2023 [No.] 57, pp. 7–23. ISSN 0353-6777.

KOGOVSŠEK ŠALAMON, Neža, BOBNAR, Tatjana, SKERBIŠ, Peter. Prepovedano prehajanje meje ali ozemlja države : 308. člen. In: KOROŠEC, Damjan (ed.), et al. *Veliki znanstveni komentar posebnega dela Kazenskega zakonika (KZ-1)*. Posodobljena izd. Ljubljana: Uradni list Republike Slovenije: Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, 2023. Vol. 3, pp. 567–588.

KOGOVSŠEK ŠALAMON, Neža, FILIPČIČ, Katja. Kršitev enakopravnosti : 131. člen. In: KOROŠEC, Damjan (ed.), et al. *Veliki znanstveni komentar posebnega dela Kazenskega zakonika (KZ-1)*. Posodobljena izd. Ljubljana: Uradni list Republike Slovenije: Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, 2023. Vol. 1, pp. 616–625.

KOGOVSŠEK ŠALAMON, Neža, FILIPČIČ, Katja. Trgovina z ljudmi : 113. člen. In: KOROŠEC, Damjan (ed.), et al. *Veliki znanstveni komentar posebnega dela Kazenskega zakonika (KZ-1)*. Posodobljena izd. Ljubljana: Uradni list Republike Slovenije: Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, 2023. Vol. 1, pp. 282–295.

# NEW PROJECTS

## Project leader at PI:

Veronika Bajt

**Collaborators:** Ana Frank, Brankica Pečkovič, Franja Arlič, Zoran Fijavž

## Partners:

University of Ljubljana, Faculty for Social Sciences

**Funding:** ARIS – Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency (targeted research programme), Ministry of Digital Transformation

## Analysis of Online Hate Speech and Disinformation in Slovenia and Developing of a Proposal for Action

Project duration: 1 Oct 2023 – 31 Mar 2025

With the widespread adoption of digital technologies, internet usage has encompassed the entire active population in developed countries. While these advancements have enhanced the economy and everyday life, they have also introduced negative aspects. Notably, these include hate speech, where negative communication targets disadvantaged groups, and disinformation, involving the deliberate spread of false information for harmful purposes. This constitutes an abuse of freedom of speech, which has assumed new dimensions with its migration to the internet. Users across Slovenia and the EU are aware of these dangers and support the creation of a unified EU digital agenda. Numerous initiatives have been implemented, ranging from analyses and action plans to codes of conduct, culminating in the comprehensive measures of the Digital Services Act.

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/analysis-of-online-hate-speech-and-disinformation-in-slovenia-and-development-of-a-proposal-for-action/>

## Project leader at PI:

Maja Ladić

**Collaborators:** Vlasta Jalušič, Lana Zdravković, Veronika Bajt, Ana Frank, Franja Arlič

## Partners:

Peace Institute – coordinator  
Center for Peace Studies (Croatia), Menedek (Hungary), France Terre d'Asile (France), Malmö University, Sweden

**Funding:** European Commission (Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme), Ministry of Public Administration (NGOs Fund)

## A City for Everyone – Building Responsible Action for Inclusive Local Communities (CIFER)

Project duration: 1 Apr 2023 – 31 Mar 2025

The project underscores the intrinsic link between the integration of the migrant population and the implementation of anti-racist policies, emphasising that both must progress concurrently. It recognises the crucial role of local communities in successful integration and highlights the necessity of forming coalitions and fostering trust among migrants, local authorities, social and sports organisations, cultural institutions, educational bodies, and NGOs. These collaborations aim to promote anti-discrimination and inclusion both within and beyond institutional settings. As part of this initiative, anti-racist training sessions are conducted for observers, i.e., representatives from local, educational, and non-governmental communities. Additionally, there is a focus on developing action plans against racism at the city level.

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/city-for-everybody-building-responsible-action-for-inclusive-local-communities/>

**Project leader at PI:**

Lana Zdravković

**Collaborators:** Amela Meštrovac**Partners:**

Codici – Cooperativa sociale onlus, Lapsus – Laboratorio di analisi storica del mondo contemporaneo (Italy), Documenta – Centar za suočavanje s prošlošću, Institut za društvena istraživanja, Institut za etnologiju i folkloristiku (Croatia), Maska, University of Regensburg (Germany)

**Funding:** EU programme CERV (European Remembrance)

**MY HOME. Refugees, Migration and Forgotten Memories after the Yugoslav Wars**

Project duration: 1 Feb 2023 – 31 Jan 2025

The project aims to encourage an international and multidisciplinary debate on recent European history and the democratic transition after the Yugoslav wars in the 1990s and the emergence of independent successor states. Special emphasis is placed on researching the consequences of large-scale population migration during and after these wars. An important research question is how these social, economic, and political changes have affected life choices and how societies have changed or adapted their political beliefs and social organisation, including concerning issues that arise in the present. The focus of the analysis is on the concept of "home" in the post-war relocation processes: the theme is breaking, remaking, and remembering home in all its practical and psychological meaning.

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/moj-dom-refugees-migration-and-erased-memories-in-the-aftermath-of-yugoslav-wars/>



Presentation event "Human Rights Guide - Learn about human rights and get help", National Museum, October 2023. Photo: PI Archive.

# CURRENT PROJECTS

**JUSTICE FOR ALL: Enhancing the Rights of Defendants and Detainees with Intellectual and/or Psychosocial Disabilities: EU Cross-Border Transfers, Detention and Alternatives**

Project leader at PI: Katarina Vučko

Funding: European Union, Ministry of Public Administration (NGOs Fund)

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/justice-for-all-enhancing-the-rights-of-defendants-and-detainees-with-intellectual-and-or-psychosocial-disabilities-eu-cross-border-transfers-detention-and-alternatives/>

**Counter-hate: Improving the Assistance of Victims of Hate Crimes Through a Victim-centred and Intersectional Approach**

Project leader at PI: Maja Ladić

Funding: European Union, Ministry of Public Administration (NGOs Fund)

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/counter-hate-improving-the-assistance-of-victims-of-hate-crimes-through-a-victim-centred-and-intersectional-approach/>

**SERENY – Strengthening Approaches for the Prevention of Youth Radicalisation in Prison and Probation Settings**

Project leader at PI: Katarina Vučko

Funding: European Union, Ministry of Public Administration (NGOs Fund)

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/sereny-strengthening-approaches-for-the-prevention-of-youth-radicalisation-in-prison-and-probation-settings/>

**Human Rights Guide II**

Project leader at PI: Iza Thaler (until April 2023), Katerina Kočkovska Šetinc

Funding: European Commission, Erasmus +

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/human-rights-guide-ii/>

**Strengthening Migrant Voices in Inclusion Policies**

Project leader at PI: Lana Zdravković

Funding: European Union, Ministry of Public Administration (NGOs Fund)

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/empowering-migrant-voices-on-integration-and-inclusion-policies-emvi/>

**Complementary Pathways in South-East Europe (COMP4SEE)**

Project leader at PI: Katarina Vučko

Funding: European Union, Ministry of Public Administration (NGOs Fund)

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/comp4see/>

**FRANET Research Network**

Project leader at PI: Majda Hrženjak

Funding: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/research-network-franet/>

# POLITICS



Rally for Palestine, Republic Square, 18/12/2023. Photo: Črt Piksi, source: Movement for Palestinian Rights FB page.

*„The Slovenian government, like many others, has shown unconditional support for Israel, disregarding the political context and endorsing Israel's occupation policies. Such stances are unlikely to facilitate peace and only deepen feelings of helplessness among oppressed Palestinian women, as well as among many European women who perceive a lack of principles and justice in the actions of Western governments. Moreover, the fight against anti-Semitism has been used by some to undemocratically suppress pro-Palestinian protests in European cities. Opposing the construction of settlements in occupied territories, the displacement of people, the confinement to ghettos, and the harm caused to adults and children is a stand against policies of ethnic cleansing. Criticizing these actions does not, by any reasonable definition, equate to supporting anti-Semitism or endorsing Hamas.*

*We urge representatives of the Slovenian political elite, both from the government and the opposition, to champion the respect for human rights and equality for all. It is crucial to recognise that not all Israelis align with Netanyahu's policies, nor are all Palestinians members of Hamas. There are advocates for peace and nonviolence on both sides who acknowledge each other's equal rights. However, these voices often find themselves suppressed by more radical elements, with the tacit support of various countries, including our own. This suppression is evident in the plight of many intellectuals and activists who have been forced to flee their countries. We strongly back these individuals' efforts to find a peaceful political resolution and expect our political leaders to support these endeavours as well.“*

**Not all Palestinians are Hamas, not all Israelis are Netanyahu**

Statement of the Peace Institute, 18 October 2023

In the thematic field of politics, we have **researched** populism in politics and media, citizenship and solidarity, platform economy, local initiatives, and the role of cities as political actors, hate speech, and the transnationalisation of elderly care. We **defended** the rights of platform workers, democratic institutions and processes, freedom of speech and peace politics. We **followed** the functioning of the rule of law in Slovenia, the realisation of pre-election commitments by political parties, and **engaged** in activities to preserve public healthcare and introduce a fair healthcare contribution. We also **designed** the host programme for a researcher and peace activist from Ukraine at the Peace Institute and have embarked on the lengthy process of arranging permits for his arrival. We **hosted** Valeria Sekisova, representative of the Ukrainian non-governmental organisation Right to Protection. We **conducted training sessions** on the methods trade unions employ to empower platform workers. We initiated three **new projects**, one of which combines innovative research and data collection concerning labour market dynamics in service and manufacturing sub-sectors. This project focuses on certain EU Member States where migrant workers are employed for fixed periods, as well as the three candidate countries for EU membership, which serve as the countries of origin for the workers.

# HIGHLIGHTED ACHIEVEMENTS

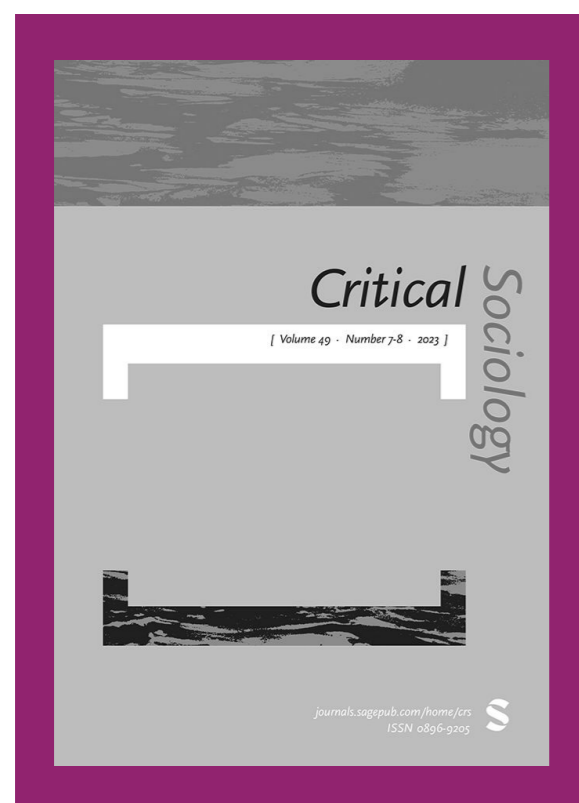
## Addressing the “refugee crisis” in Slovenian parliamentary debates

In the article [The Transversal Political Logic of Populism: Framing the “Refugee Crisis” in Slovenian Parliamentary Debates](#), authors Mojca Pajnik and Emanuela Fabjan analyse how Slovenian politicians responded to migration during and after the “refugee crisis” (2015–2019). Their analysis reveals that the characteristics of populist communication range from exclusionary, ethno-nationalist frameworks to inclusive discourses of solidarity. This variation reflects the transversal political logic of populism in relation to the ideologies of the political actors involved.



## Unfree wage labour

Maja Breznik published the article [Unfree Wage Labour](#) in the journal *Critical Sociology*, where she develops the concept of “unfree wage labour”—a situation where a worker must (temporarily and conditionally) hand over her labour to a third party, who then sells it to buyers of labour (e.g. agency work). From the perspective of contractual freedom and legal equality, it does not seem to matter whether the worker sells their labour to an employer or an intermediary. However, there is no doubt that the intermediary increases the dependence and subordination of the worker and that the latter has less control over her working and living conditions. The arguments show that his contractual freedom has decreased to the extent that we can speak of unfree wage labour.



## The Voice of the People

PI (co)operates within the Voice of the People initiative, which connects more than a hundred non-governmental organisations and thousands of individuals, and coordinates its actions through weekly meetings and strategic meetings with more than 15 regularly/ weekly participating organisations. In 2023, the Voice of the People monitored the government coalition's implementation of its pre-election commitments across 11 areas of public policy. Its advocacy efforts were particularly focused on preserving public healthcare and introducing a fair healthcare contribution. On the first anniversary of Robert Golob's government, it highlighted unfulfilled government commitments. By submitting proposals for the implementation of promised healthcare reforms and raising awareness of the harmfulness of government policies and measures, it contributed to the widespread recognition of poor

management by the responsible ministry, leading to the replacement of the minister.

## Sociological and computational analysis of hate speech

A round table [on sociological and computational approaches to hate speech analysis](#) was held at the Faculty of Humanities, University of Primorska, as part of the Slovenian Sociological Society's meeting in October 2023. The discussion, led by Anne Frank, featured Veronika Bajt, Matthew Purver, Boshko Koloski, and Jaya Caporusso. It addressed the challenges of interdisciplinary research on hate speech and explored the potential for collaboration at the intersection of disciplines. The round table focused on understanding hate speech from an intersectional perspective, discussing not only the current situation but also potential solutions to emerging challenges and the contribution of social science thought to these solutions.



Discussion on sociological and computational approaches to the hate speech analysis, Slovenian Sociological Society meeting, 20 October 2023. Photo: PI Archive.

## THINKING PEACE

In 2023, we continued our Thinking Peace series, engaging guests in public discussions to explore the nature of peace, the essence of war, and strategies to achieve peace that does not generate conflict. These discussions focus on peace, one of the most fundamental values of the PI. We define peace not merely as the absence of war and conflict but as the promotion of effective, non-violent politics that must be actively maintained. In April, we held a session titled *Awakening of the Peace Movement?* in Koper. There, we engaged with guests to discuss the groundwork for a European peace initiative, the potential need for forming principled or unprincipled coalitions across different ideological views, and whether the recent surge in mass peace demonstrations might signify the emergence of a European or even global peace movement poised to engage all major war participants and possibly help end the conflict in Ukraine. The event in November was dedicated to journalistic reporting from war zones. The discussion was held in the Hall of the Judgement Tower within the Minoriti Cultural Quarter in Maribor. This session

opened up questions about the nature of journalistic work and the risks faced by journalists reporting from war zones. It also explored how an extensive information war unfolds under altered conditions, examining the impacts on reporting, censorship, and the dissemination of propaganda during conflicts.

Recordings of all events are available at <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/misliti-mir/>.

The public talks series, initiated at the onset of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, aimed to explore ways to halt the war and establish peace, understand how the conflict reshapes the identities of the warring nations, affects global politics, and the alternatives offered by peace movements. Despite the ongoing presence of around 110 conflicts worldwide, the series could not foresee the severe developments in October, involving the massacre by Hamas and Israel's intensive military response in Palestine. In reaction, we supported various appeals and actions calling for peace, an end to the Israeli occupation of Gaza, cessation of actions described as genocidal against the population, and called for the recognition of Palestine.

## FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

BREZNIK, Maja, MOČNIK, Rastko. *Mémoire du socialisme en Slovénie : recherche du passé entre interprétation politique et interprétation académique. Le Portique. 2e semestre 2022, No. 47, pp. 163–180. ISSN 1283-8594.*

BREZNIK, Maja, TURNŠEK, Maja. *Platformno delo: kartiranje razprav in konceptov. Revija za geografijo. [Printed ed.]. 2023, 18 [No.] 2, pp. 5–22, illustr. ISSN 1854-665X.*

BREZNIK, Maja. *Unfree wage labour. Critical sociology. Nov. 2023, Vol. 49, No. 7-8, pp. 1125–1139. ISSN 0896-9205.*

HRŽENJAK, Majda, BREZNIK, Maja. *Care migration in care homes for older people in the European semi-periphery between Slovenia and former Yugoslav countries. In: VAH JEVŠNIK, Mojca (ed.), TOPLAK, Kristina (ed.). Further discussions on labour mobility in the EU. 1st ed. Ljubljana: Založba ZRC, 2023, pp. 79–102, illustr. ISBN 978-961-05-0801-4.*

ZDRAVKOVIĆ, Lana. *Konec koncev : konec ali nov začetek?. Anthropos : časopis za psihologijo in filozofijo ter za sodelovanje humanističnih ved. [Printed ed.]. 2023, Vol. 55, No. 1, pp. 45–58. ISSN 0587-5161.*

PAJNIK, Mojca, FABIJAN, Emanuela. *The transversal political logic of populism : framing the refugee crisis in Slovenian parliamentary debates. Europe-Asia studies. 2023, Vol. 75, No. 5, pp. 742–768, illustr. ISSN 0966-8136.*

THIELE, Daniel, PAJNIK, Mojca, SAUER, Birgit, ŠORI, Iztok. *Borderless fear? : how right-wing populism aligns in affectively framing migration as a security threat in Austria and Slovenia. Journal of language and politics. 2023, Vol. 23, No. 2, pp. 1–21, illustr. ISSN 1569-2159.*



Maribor, 16 October 2023. Photo: PI Archive.

# NEW PROJECTS

**Project leader at PI:**

Iztok Šori

**Collaborators:** Tjaša Turnšek

**Partners:**

Democracy International (Germany), Estonian Human Rights Centre (Estonia), Portuguese Women's Platform (Portugal), Lota's Box (Croatia), Bulgarian Association for the Promotion of Citizens Initiative (Bulgaria), Forum 2000 (Czech Republic)

**Funding:** The Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values (CERV) programme

**Parliament for the Future of Europe**

Project duration: 1 Jan 2023 – 30 Sep 2024

The aim is to activate and place marginalised social groups at the core of the debate on the future of Europe. In the six countries with the lowest voter turnout in the European Parliament elections in 2019, the project, through a series of international and local events, contributes to adapting the recommendations of the Conference on the Future of Europe to make them more inclusive, democratic and adapted to the needs of marginalised communities, as well as mobilising citizens for participation in the upcoming European elections in 2024.

Website:

<https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/parliament-for-the-future-of-europe/>

**Project leader at PI:**

Maja Ladić

**Collaborators:** Ana Frank

**Partners:**

University of Ljubljana, Faculty for Social Sciences

**Funding:** ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

**Policy coherence for (sustainable) development – assessment of the effects of Slovenian national policies on developing countries and on the sustainable development of the Republic of Slovenia**

Project duration: 1 Oct 2023 – 30 Sep 2025

The purpose of the research project carried out in partnership with the Faculty of Social Sciences is the preparation of system solutions for enforcing the principle of policy coherence for (sustainable) development, to ensure high-quality international development cooperation to help developing countries and to further use the meagre available resources be enriched by the positive influence of other policies.

Website:

<https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/policy-coherence-for-sustainable-development-assesment-of-the-effects-of-slovenian-national-policies-on-developing-countries-and-on-the-sustainable-development-of-the-republic-of-slovenia/>

**Project leader at PI:**

Veronika Bajt

**Collaborators:** Maja Breznik, Katerina Kočkovska Šetinc, Amela Meštrovac

**Partners:**

The European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (Austria), Center for Development Evaluation and Social Science Research (Bosnia and Herzegovina), De Burcht Institute (the Netherlands), Economic Faculty of Belgrade University (Serbia), University of Jyväskylä (Finland), University of Tartu (Estonia)

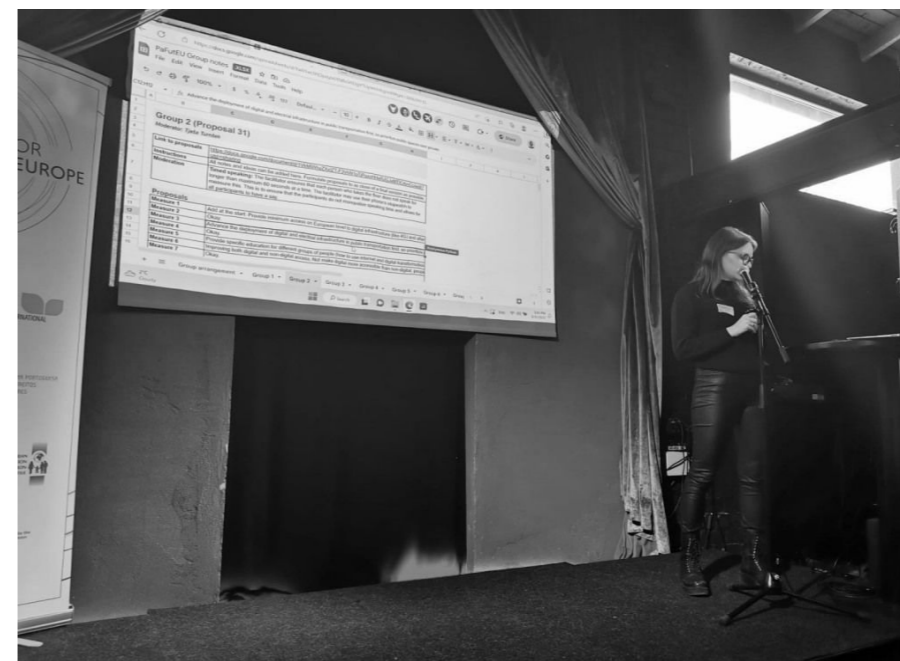
**Funding:** European Commission

**JUSTMIG: Sustainable and Socially Just Transnational Sectoral Labour Markets: Industrial Relations and Labour Market Adjustment to the Rise in Temporary Labour Migration**

Project duration: 1 Nov 2023 – 31 Oct 2025

The JUSTMIG project brings together innovative research and data collection on the dynamics of the labour market in the service and production subsectors in six EU Member States (Austria, Estonia, Finland, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Slovenia) where migrant workers work for a fixed period, and in three candidate countries for membership in the EU (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Ukraine), which are the countries of origin for workers. In addition to analyses of sectoral labour markets and employment relations, the eight partners of the expert consortium will develop evidence on the adaptation of employer-employee relationship structures in selected countries in response to the increasing employment of migrant workers on fixed-term contracts or temporary outsourcing.

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/justmig-sustainable-and-socially-just-transnational-sectoral-labour-markets-industrial-relations-and-labour-market-adjustment-to-the-rise-in-temporary-labour-migration/>



The first Citizens' Panel within the project 'Parliament for the Future of Europe', 30. March - 1 April 2023, Tallinn, Estonia. Photo: PI Archive.



# CURRENT PROJECTS

## Hate speech in contemporary conceptualizations of nationalism, racism, gender and migration

Project leader at PI: Veronika Bajt (coordinator)

Funding: ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/hate-speech-in-contemporary-conceptualizations-of-nationalism-racism-gender-and-migration-2/>

## Transnationalisation of eldercare – diversities, recruitments, inequalities (TE-DRI)

Project leader at PI: Majda Hrženjak (coordinator)

Funding: ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/transnationalisation-of-eldercare-diversities-recruitments-inequalities-te-dri/>

## The future of social dialogue in the platform economy: The case of Slovenia

Project leader at PI: Maja Breznik, coordinator: Maja Turnšek (Faculty of Tourism, Maribor)

Funding: ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/the-future-of-social-dialogue-in-the-platform-economy-the-case-of-slovenia/>

## Everyday life and life course of old people living in poverty

Project leader at PI: Majda Hrženjak

Research leader: Vesna Leskošek (Faculty of Social Work, Ljubljana)

Funding: ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/everyday-life-and-life-course-of-old-people-living-in-poverty/>



International scientific seminar 'Identity of Europe: War, Politics, and Ideology', 28. August -1 September 2023, Inter University Center, Dubrovnik, Croatia. Photo: PI Archive.

## Enacting Citizenship and Solidarity in Europe "From Below": Local Initiatives, Intersectional Strategies and Transnational Networks

Project leader at PI: Mojca Pajnik

Funding: VolkswagenStiftung

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/enacting-citizenship-and-solidarity-in-europe-from-below-local-initiatives-intersectional-strategies-and-transnational-networks-ecseuro/>

## Implementation of the research residency programme for a researcher from Ukraine, Dr Yurii Sheliazhenko

Project leader at PI: Brankica Petković

Funding: Network of European Foundations – NEF, Civitates programme, Fund for Solidarity with Ukraine



Meeting of the project group 'Enacting citizenship and solidarity in Europe from below', 11 - 15 April 2023, Bern, Switzerland. Photo: PI Archive.

## Populist Backlash, Democratic Backsliding, and the Crisis of the Rule of Law in European Union

Project leader at PI: Mojca Pajnik

Funding: Norface and ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/populist-backlash-democratic-backsliding-and-the-crisis-of-the-rule-of-law-in-european-union/>

<https://www.popback.org/>

„We call on the Government and in particular the competent Ministry of Culture to create the conditions for the successful functioning of the print media in Slovenia. Many European governments have already helped the media over the years with subsidies, changes in legislation and the transformation of newspapers into public services. They have realised that, in an age of disinformation and fake news, the information of citizens depends on an independent, autonomous and self-reliant press, and democracy depends on this for its very survival. Our government has not yet taken up this responsibility and is thus allowing the print media to continue to decline.

We also call on the professional and general public, aware of the long-standing professional, solidarity and altruistic attitude of the Večer team, to actively engage, support and demand from the owners and the government the immediate implementation of its demands. At the same time, we call on organisations, companies, citizens to support Večer and become its subscribers..

For many years, the journalists of Večer have been the most committed members of the wider journalistic community, striving for independent and responsible work of journalists and media in Slovenia, especially when the authorities or owners try to hinder them in their work in the interest of the public. In recent years, they have strongly supported the journalists' collectives of STA and RTV Slovenia. Večer journalists Matija Stepišnik and Petra Lesjak Tušek have led the Slovenian Journalists' Association, where they have worked to ensure that Slovenian journalism is a free and safe profession, that the media have fair conditions in which to operate, and that the public understands and supports good and independent journalism.

**The Peace Institute would like to express its strong support for the Večer team and its efforts to ensure that Večer and its building will continue to be part of Maribor's identity and the Slovenian media landscape.“**

Letter of support to the collective of the Večer newspaper, 16 November 2023



Letter of support, Iztok Šori, 16 November 2023, Court Tower in the Minoriti Cultural Quarter, Maribor. Photo: PI Archive.

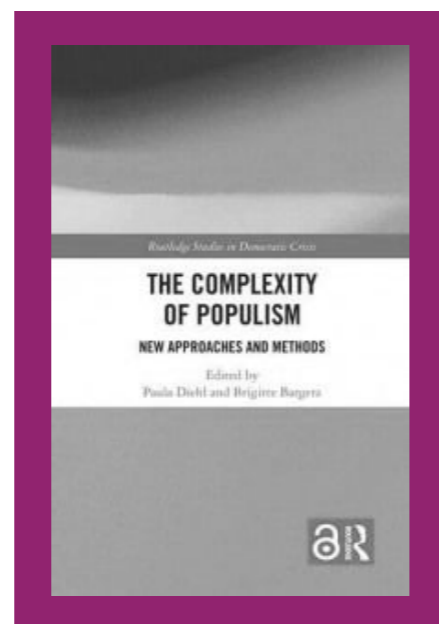
# MEDIA

In the media thematic field, we **researched** the monitoring role of civil society and journalists in Slovenia, focusing on issues such as disinformation and hate speech, the current state of media offerings, and potential solutions for enhancing the democratic media system. Additionally, our research explored the portrayal of emotions in journalism and assessed media freedom and integrity in the Western Balkans and Turkey. We **attended** meetings of regional and international networks in the media field, especially in the network of media centres and institutes in South-Eastern Europe—South East European Network for Professionalisation of Media (SEENPM)—and maintained regular partnerships with related organisations abroad intending to integrate and contribute to the regional and international development of free and responsible media. We also participated in the preparation of recommendations for the prevention of hate speech in the chapter on the media. We **coordinated and mentored** the monitoring of the implementation of the amendment to the Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (implemented by legal professionals Ana Bajt and Urban Lečnik Spaić). Together with Liberties, we co-signed an open letter endorsed by over 40 journalist associations and organisations dedicated to media freedom and human rights across the EU. This letter urges Members of the European Parliament to support the robust and effective European Act on Freedom of the Media. Additionally, we have launched **three new projects**, including Affective Media. This initiative develops innovative approaches to media studies by exploring the affective turn. It encompasses analyses of ownership structures, the emotional labour in media, and the impact of affects on social networks.

# HIGHLIGHTED ACHIEVEMENTS

## Transformations of the Media Sphere: Opportunity Structures for Populism

Routledge published *The Complexity of Populism: New Approaches and Methods* (ed. Paula Diehl and Brigitte Bargetz), which includes a chapter by Mojca Pajnik entitled Transformations of the Media Sphere: Amplifying Opportunity Structures for Populism. The chapter shifts the focus from “media populism” as a political style to addressing structural changes in the media landscape. Populism is formed at several levels: on the macro level with the concentration of media ownership, processes of deregulation, digitisation and platformisation of media and social networks; on the meso level with the affective turn in the media and the precarious model of journalism; on a micro level with ideological orientations.



## Amicus curiae brief on the legal and factual aspects of the constitutionality review of amendment to the Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act (ZRTVS-1B)

With backing from the Legal Network for the Protection of Democracy, in March, the Association of Journalists of Slovenia, the Peace Institute, PIC – Legal Centre for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment, and the Institute for the Culture of Diversity Open submitted an amicus curiae brief to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia. In the brief, we argued that the amendment to the 2005 Radiotelevizija Slovenija Act was essential to safeguard media freedom and the public's right to information, necessitating that the 2022 amendment be enacted promptly. We contend that the ZRTVS-1B amendment incorporates all necessary safeguards to maintain the independence of public media, prohibit political interference in media management and oversight, and establish the conditions needed to address ongoing assaults on the

## Prevention of Hate Speech in the Media

Brankica Petković participated in the Strategic Council of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for the Prevention of Hate Speech, contributing to the formulation of the Recommendations for the Prevention of Hate Speech, which the Council published in July 2023. The recommendations regarding the prevention of hate speech in the media were taken into account in two government documents—in the draft Media Act, which the Ministry of Culture sent for public consideration in December 2023, and in the Recommendations for the implementation of advertising campaigns by ministries, bodies comprising ministries and government departments, which were adopted by the government in December 2023.

institutional autonomy, editorial freedom, and journalistic independence of the public media.

## Monitoring the media influences the formation of populist attitudes

The journal *East European Politics* recently published an article titled *Aligning Populist Worldviews of Citizens to Media Preferences: Peculiarities of an Illiberal Political Context*, authored by Mojca Pajnik, Nejca Berzelak, and Ajda Šulc. This article explores the impact of media monitoring and understanding the role of media in society on the formation of populist public attitudes. The findings, drawn from opinion polls, suggest that exposure to tabloid media and political parties' newsletters has a more significant influence on shaping populist attitudes than exposure to public media. Additionally, the research indicates that individuals who view the media as vital democratic actors tend to exhibit less populist sentiment compared to those who perceive the media as part of the



“elites” who deceive the populace and propagate falsehoods. The study also highlights that the formation of populist attitudes varies depending on the ruling power.



Panel discussion 'How to protect the freedom and integrity of NGOs in the EU?', 20 June 2023, Pritličje. Photo: PI Archive.

## #NEVLADNIKI

*We, non-governmental organisations, are people—hard-working, proud, indispensable.*

*We are non-profit and cooperation-oriented. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are formed by individuals uniting around a common purpose. Every day, thousands of NGOs in Slovenia strive to create a better society, crafting numerous narratives about their efforts to enhance and improve the lives of individuals and communities. Sometimes, this involves opposing practices that are harmful to people and the environment. On this website, we share some of these stories—about the efforts made and the obstacles overcome.*

Web page: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/nevladniki/>

The production of stories about NGO workers is part of the project Protection of the gatekeeping role of civil society and journalists in Slovenia. The Peace Institute, the Association of Journalists of Slovenia and Pod črto participate in the project. We published 15 stories written by journalists Monika Weiss, Lenart J. Kučič and Luka Lukić. We presented the work and visions of the environmental association Proteus, the Workers' Consultancy, the association for sustainable development Duh časa, the self-help association for the homeless Kralji ulice, the Museum of Madness, the Drogart association, the Sledilnik data platform, the Legal Network for the Protection of Democracy initiative, the work of firefighters, the Association of Journalists of

Slovenia, The Institute for Housing and Spatial Studies, the 8 March Institute, the Srebrna nit association, which cares for the older adults, the civil-societal coalition Voice of the People and the Spominčica association, the association for help with dementia.

As part of the project, the Association of Journalists of Slovenia has established a platform for reporting attacks on journalists and the media within Slovenia. This platform is designed for journalists who, in the event of an attack, can fill out a questionnaire to provide the public with detailed information about the incident. It serves as a tool for the systematic recording and monitoring of attacks, raising public awareness about such issues. The platform collects reports of physical attacks, threats, and verbal assaults that exceed reasonable criticism of a journalist's work. It also covers systemic and financial threats to the media. However, it is not intended for reporting economic pressures faced by journalists from within their own media organisations.

Pod črto (Bottom Line) published several episodes of a podcast about non-participation in elections as part of the project. They collected data on voter participation in all local, national, presidential, and European elections in Slovenia over the past 30 years. Using this data, they identified which electoral districts and municipalities experienced the lowest turnout in these elections from 2019 to 2022. We visited one of these locations to engage with the citizens and gain insights into their perspectives on voting and political engagement.

## FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

SCHNYDER, Gerhard, RADL, Marlene, TOTH, Fanni, KUCUKUZUN, Melek, TURNŠEK, Tjaša, CELIK, Burçe, PAJNIK, Mojca. Theorizing and mapping media ownership networks in authoritarian-populist contexts: a comparative analysis of Austria, Hungary, Slovenia, and Turkey. Media, Culture & Society, Sage Journals.

PAJNIK, Mojca, BERZELAK, Jernej, ŠULC, Ajda. Aligning populist worldviews of citizens to media preferences : peculiarities of an illiberal political context. *East European politics*. 2023, vol. 39, no. 3, pp. 554–573.

PAJNIK, Mojca. Transformations of the Media Sphere: Amplifying Opportunity Structures for Populism. In: DIEHL, Paula, BARETZ, Brigitte, ed. *The Complexity of Populism: New Approaches and Methods*. Routledge, 2023.

PETKOVIĆ, Brankica, ed. MEDIA SELF-REGULATION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY: Examples, challenges and recommendation, 2023.

PETKOVIĆ, Brankica, ed. LOW PRIORITY FOR ETHICAL ISSUES: Media self-regulation in Albania, 2023.

PETKOVIĆ, Brankica, ed. GOOD MODELS, LIMITED IMPLEMENTATION: Media self-regulation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2023.

PETKOVIĆ, Brankica, ed. LIMITED CAPACITIES AND LACK OF SUSTAINABILITY: Media self-regulation in Kosovo, 2023.

PETKOVIĆ, Brankica, ed. WEAK MECHANISMS AND OUTDATED CODE OF ETHICS: Media self-regulation in Montenegro, 2023.

PETKOVIĆ, Brankica, ed. IMPERATIVE OF BOOSTING CAPACITIES AND REINFORCING EFFECTIVENESS: Media self-regulation in North Macedonia, 2023.

PETKOVIĆ, Brankica, ed. HIGH PROFESSIONALISM WITH LIMITED REACH: Media self-regulation in Serbia, 2023.

PETKOVIĆ, Brankica, ed. DIFFICULT TASK IN SUPPRESSED MEDIA ENVIRONMENT: Media self-regulation in Turkey, 2023.

PETKOVIĆ, Brankica, ed. MODELS OF MEDIA SELF-REGULATION: Examples of Good Practice, 2023.

PETKOVIĆ, Brankica, ed. MOBILIZATION FOR PROTECTING THE PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE MEDIA: Mapping Good Practices of Media Activism, 2023.



Comic strip 'What are NGOs?', by Ciril Horjak – dr. Horowitz.

# NEW PROJECTS

## Project leader at PI:

Mojca Pajnik

**Collaborators:** Marko Ribač, Brankica Petković, Majda Hrženjak, Tjaša Turnšek, Roman Kuhar, Peter Sekloča, Rok Smrdelj

## Partners:

Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Humanities, University of Primorska

**Funding:** ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

## Affective Media: Transformations of Public Communication

Project duration: 1 Oct 2023 – 30 Sep 2026

The research investigates the “affective turn” in media, highlighting a shift brought about by factors such as the digitisation of editorial offices, new employment forms, and the disruption of established professional ideologies in journalism. Central to our project is the application of feminist epistemology, which challenges traditional dichotomies between reason and emotion. By recognising the value of knowledge derived from embodied experiences, feelings, and beliefs in both the workplace and daily life, we gain deeper insights into the affective social dynamics of hybrid media. This approach acknowledges that understanding these dynamics requires more than just analysing technological changes, which is the primary focus of most existing research. Our foundational premise posits that media relations are shaped not only by economic factors related to the means of production but also by the emotional labour and feelings that traverse public and private spheres.

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/afective-media/>

## Project leader at PI:

Brankica Petković

**Collaborators:** Franja Arlič

## Partners:

Foundation Mediacentar Sarajevo (project coordinator), SEENPM, Albanian Media Institute, Kosovo Press Council, Montenegro Media Institute, Macedonian Institute for Media, Novi Sad School of Journalism, Bianet

## Funding:

European Commission

## Our media: A civil society action to generate media literacy and activism, counter polarization and promote dialogue

Project duration: 1 Feb 2023 – 31 Jan 2026

a) to foster enhanced regional cooperation and promote media freedom and integrity across the Western Balkans and Turkey; b) to increase media activism and the involvement of civil society organisations in the development of media policies and their formulation; c) to boost the capacity of media-related civil society organisations, as well as other civil society groups in both urban and rural areas, to develop effective media and information literacy practices; d) to elevate the role and responsibility of journalists, editors, and self-regulatory bodies within the media sector in promoting media and information literacy; e) to empower female citizens, particularly young individuals, to engage in media activism, defend media freedom, and combat polarisation; f) to raise awareness about emerging trends, opportunities, and risks that could influence the future of media in the Western Balkans and Turkey.

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/our-media-a-civil-society-action-to-generate-media-literacy-and-activism-counter-polarization-and-promote-dialogue/>

## Project leader at PI:

Brankica Petković

**Collaborators:** Mojca Pajnik, Tjaša Turnšek, Franja Arlič

## Partners:

Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften – OEAW, Vienna (project coordinator), Univerzity Karlovy, Prague, Università di comunicazione e lingue, IULM, Milano, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Krakow, Community Medien Institut für Weiterbildung, Forschung und Beratung (COMMIT), Vienna, COFAC - Cooperativa de Formação e Animação Cultural, C.R.L. (Universidade Lusófona), Lisbon, Tallinn University, Talin, Institut Mines-Télécom (IMT), Palaiseau, Mary Immaculate College, Limerick

## Funding:

European Commission

## MeDeMAP – Mapping Media for Future Democracies

Project duration: 1 Mar 2023 – 28 Feb 2026

a) to establish a comprehensive overview and understanding of the state of democracy within the EU, focusing on its challenges, strengths, and threats, and examining the corresponding role and functioning of media and journalism; b) to review the regulatory and self-regulatory frameworks governing both traditional and new media, as well as the operational context for journalists; c) to review the democratic characteristics of media offerings and evaluate media support for public participation, encompassing all media channels, their roles, and financial resources; d) to analyse media usage, information needs, and democratic attitudes among people in diverse societies and media environments; e) to explore potential strategies for developing a more resilient democratic media system, and for enhancing political participation and civil society engagement.

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/mapping-media-for-future-democracies/>

# CURRENT PROJECTS

## RESILIENCE: Civil Society for Media Free of Hate and Disinformation

Project leader at PI:

Brankica Petković

Funding: European Commission, NEAR

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/resilience-civil-society-for-media-free-of-hate-and-disinformation/>

[www.seenpm.org](http://www.seenpm.org)

## Defending and Strengthening the Role of Civil Society and Journalists in Protecting Democracy in Slovenia

Project leader at PI:  
Brankica Petković (coordinator)

Funding: NEF – Network of European Foundations (Civitates Programme)

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/defending-and-strengthening-the-role-of-civil-society-and-journalists-in-protecting-democracy-in-slovenia/>

Solve situations and find out your masculinity type.

BODY



EMOTIONS



SEXUALITY



EXCLUSION OF WOMEN\*



HOMOPHOBIA



ANTIFEMINISM



YOUR RESULT



# GENDER

In the thematic field of gender, we **researched** masculinities concerning addressing gender-based violence, preschool education, care work, sex work, military families, and gender equality. We **advocated for** the rights of sex workers and participated in public debates on the proposal of the Long-Term Care Act. We participated in a panel where we reiterated the hard-won sexual and reproductive rights, and in discussion groups, where we addressed violence and reproductive rights. We were highly engaged in the field of **education**, where we conducted a comprehensive series of workshops aimed at preventing gender-based violence, targeting educational workers and youth. Additionally, we facilitated training sessions for agents of change, who then led peer workshops focused on promoting non-violent masculinities. Furthermore, for the employees at Sparkasse, we conducted a workshop titled The Role of Communication and Overcoming Conflicts in the Workplace, designed to enhance workplace relations and communication skills. We began implementing **two new projects**, Gender Equality Rules, where we create content on gender equality through forum theatre and podcasts, and FemQueer, which connects organisations in the context of feminist and queer theories, and whose ultimate goal is the preparation of a strategic document for gender equality.

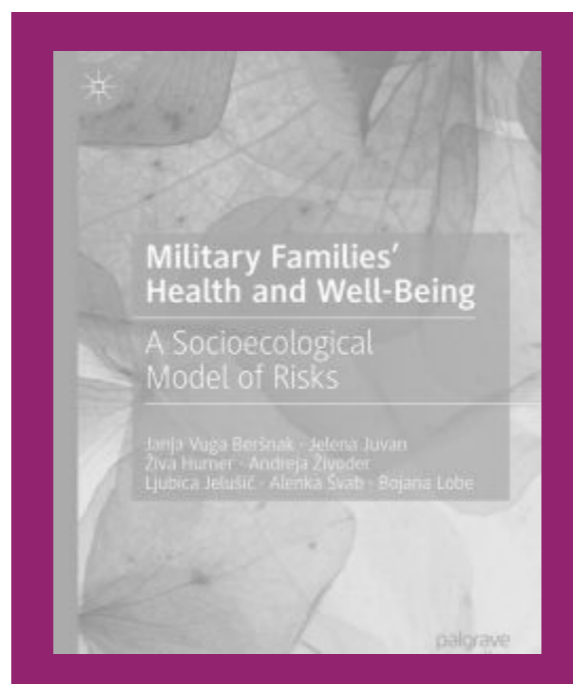
# HIGHLIGHTED ACHIEVEMENTS

## A book on health and well-being of Slovenian military families

Book [Military Families' Health and Well-Being. A Socioecological Model of Risks](#), published by Palgrave, examines the well-being and health status of military families. The book was written by a multidisciplinary group of researchers, consisting of sociologists, psychologists and methodologists: Živa Humer (Peace Institute) and Janja Vuga Beršnak, Jelena Juvan, Andreja Živoder, Ljubica Jelušič, Alenka Švab and Bojana Lobe (Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana). It includes data from more than 800 surveys and more than 40 interviews with military service members, spouses and civilians. The authors explore the tension between the demands of two demanding institutions—the military and the family—and how they negotiate the well-being of families. The book uses a unique, integrative approach to the observation and analysis of military-specific risk factors and protective factors for the health status of military families at various socio-ecological levels, including satisfaction and dissatisfaction in relationships, violence in intimate partner relationships, relationships between parents and children, child welfare, substance abuse, depression and PTSD.

## Chapter Changing and challenging work-life negotiations for men and organizations

Majda Hrženjak's article [Changing and Challenging Work-Life Negotiations for Men and Organizations](#) in Routledge Handbook on Men, Masculinities and



Organizations: Theories, Practices and Futures of Organizing, shows that existing research focuses on middle-class heteronormative dual-career couples in the Global North and childcare. Men are seen primarily as fathers, torn between norms of masculinity such as focus on work, competitiveness and providing for the family financially, and androcentric norms of the ideal worker perpetuated in organisations. In the conclusion, the author highlights questions for a critical evaluation of the concept of balancing professional and private life: researching different sectors of work and new working conditions brought about by digitalisation; a broader understanding of the concept of care; pluralisation of families and intimacy; life course perspective and coordination as a potential starting point of resistance to neoliberal work norms.

## Professional meeting on occupational risks in sex work

As part of the project Occupational Risks in Sex Work at the Intersection of the Political Framework and Social Stigma (ORIS), a professional meeting of stakeholders who come into contact with sex workers in their work was held in June at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana. The meeting was intended to present the results of the research work with an emphasis on the occupational risks faced by sex workers in Slovenia. In recent years, sex work has been intensively digitised and migrated to platforms such as Onlyfans, which on the one hand contributes to reducing risks, but simultaneously brings new forms of violence and discrimination. Even if it is work that is in many ways similar to other forms of work, sex workers face specific occupational risks, including stigma, client violence, psychological stress, precarious employment and repressive policies. The event featured two organisations from abroad that defend the rights of sex workers and implement support programmes for them, such as health counselling, free testing for sexually transmitted diseases, psychosocial

support, support for people who want to start or stop sex work, and financial counselling. The meeting was also attended by sex workers who spoke about their experiences.

## Gender equality in the light of sexual and reproductive rights

For several decades, we have witnessed increasing tendencies to restrict sexual and reproductive rights. The rise of modern anti-feminist movements in Slovenia and beyond gives impetus to mass protests against the right to abortion, the Istanbul Convention, and the restriction of sex education in public education, which remind us of the impertinence of already fought for rights. At the round table discussion Feminism and Reproductive Rights, organised by PI and the Department of Sociology, the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana, we reflected on the role of feminist movements in the struggle for sexual and reproductive rights throughout history and questioned the importance of feminist integration and responding to populist and essentialist discourses of anti-feminist movements. [Podcast](#).



International scientific conference 'Transformations of Work Through the Lens of Sex Work', 22-23 June 2023, Filozofska fakulteta, UL. Photo: PI Archive.

## PREVENTION OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

At PI, we have been implementing various projects for many years that deepen existing perspectives and develop new ones in research and activist work within the field of gender equality, masculinity, and gender-based violence. In 2023, we carried out two projects focused on this topic, intending to empower young people, challenge gender stereotypes, and foster healthy and positive relationships: Action for Equality – Questioning Masculinity and Engaging Youth in Ending Gender-Based Violence and Activating Non-Violent Masculinities (CarMia).

The Action for Equality project focuses on preventing gender-based peer violence, addressing hegemonic masculinities, challenging traditional gender roles and engaging young people in gender equality efforts. Throughout the year, we held many workshops on the topic of preventing gender-based violence for teachers. The project was joined by actor Nik Škrlec and actress Nika Rozman, who held workshops for young people on the topics of online violence, gender-based violence and stereotypes, and together with young people looked for solutions for empowerment and prevention of abuse. Youth from primary school Brezovica pri

Ljubljani, Gimnazija Ledina and Gymnasium, electrical and maritime school Piran created 8 videos that raise awareness about violence of all kinds. The videos are available on the PI YouTube channel.

By raising awareness, training and mobilising young men in the direction of rejecting violence and a critical attitude towards hierarchical, dominant and privileged relationships between people, the CarMia project works in the field of reducing all forms of gender-based violence. For this purpose, we developed and tested a peer-to-peer change agent approach focused on critical reflection on masculinity in gender-based violence in preventive work with young people. We held 19 workshops in six secondary schools and one non-formal education programme for young adults, in which 370 young people between the ages of 15 and 18 participated. In cooperation with young people and *Danes je nov dan*, we have also developed an educational online game Rules of the Masculinity Game, which makes young people aware of stereotypes of masculinity and gender-based violence, and simultaneously presents an innovative pedagogical tool for the work of youth and counselling workers and teaching staff.

Game link: <https://masculinity-games.mirovni-institut.si/en/>

## FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

HRŽENJAK, Majda. Changing and challenging work–life negotiations for men and organizations.

KOGOVSŠEK ŠALAMON, Neža, FRELIH, Mojca, UČAKAR, Tjaša. Criminality of prostitution abuse : A socio-legal study of case files in Slovenia. *Politička misao*. 2023, vol. 60, no. 2, pp. 61–81.

KOGOVSŠEK ŠALAMON, Neža, FRELIH, Mojca, UČAKAR, Tjaša. Socio-legal Aspects of Criminal Law Approach to the Criminal Offence of Exploitation of Prostitution in Slovenia *Revija za kriminalistiko in kriminologijo*. Jul.–Sep. 2023, Vol. 74, No. 3, pp. 191–202.

KOGOVSŠEK ŠALAMON, Neža, FILIPČIČ, Katja. Prisilna sklenitev zakonske zveze ali vzpostavitev podobne skupnosti : 132.a člen. In: KOROŠEC, Damjan (ed.), et al. Veliki znanstveni komentar posebnega dela Kazenskega zakonika (KZ-1). Posodobljena izd. Ljubljana: Uradni list Republike Slovenije: Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, 2023. Vol. 1, pp. 644–659 Collection of regulations.

VUGA BERŠNAK, Janja, HUMER, Živa, LOBE, Bojana. Characteristics of pandemic work-life balance in Slovenian military families during the lockdown : who has paid the highest price?. *Current sociology*. Sep. 2023, Vol. 71, No. 5, pp. 866–886.

VUGA BERŠNAK, Janja, JUVAN, Jelena, HUMER, Živa, ŽIVODER, Andreja, JELUŠIČ, Ljubica, ŠVAB, Alenka, LOBE, Bojana. Military families' health and well-being : a socioecological model of risks. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, cop. 2023. XVI, 203 pages.



Final conference 'Caring Masculinities in Action', 4-6 December 2023, Graz, Austria. Photo: PI Archive.



# NEW PROJECTS

**Project leader at PI:**

Živa Humer

**Collaborators:** Mojca Frelj, Amela Meštrovac

**Partners:**

Kulturno umetniško društvo Transformator (coordinator), Centar za kazalište potlačenih POKAZ (Croatia), Radio Marš

**Funding:** Active Citizens Fund Programme in Slovenia

**Equality of gender rules: Creating equal society for all**

Project duration: 1 May 2023 – 31 Apr 2024

The project operates in the field of gender equality and the prevention of gender-based violence. The project group has toured high schools and colleges in Slovenia and Croatia, presenting interactive theatre performances about sexual and gender-based violence, drawing on real-life stories. Theatre serves as a tool to explore potential societal changes through reflection and practical exercises applicable in various everyday situations. The objective of these performances is to engage young people actively and encourage their participation in proposing changes or additions to existing legislation.

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/equality-of-gender-rules-creating-equal-society-for-all/>

**Project leader at PI:**

Živa Humer

**Collaborators:** Mojca Frelj, Franja Arlič

**Partners:**

Nowa Training Beratung Projektmanagement (coordinator, Austria), Verein Fur Manner- Und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark (Austria)

**Funding:** European Union (Erasmus+)

**FemQueer: Common strategies for gender equality**

Project duration: 1 Sep 2023 – 31 Aug 2024

Gender equality is a cornerstone of democratic societies and is crucial for organisations involved in adult education. Raising gender awareness is essential for educators, project workers, project managers, and stakeholders in this field, as it facilitates the creation of an inclusive learning environment for all individuals, regardless of their gender identity or background. The project aims to network with organisations that focus on feminist and queer theories, exchange various theoretical and practical approaches, and share experiences with partner organisations and target groups. It also involves the implementation of workshops and exchange meetings, culminating in the preparation of a strategic document for gender equality.

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/femqueer-common-strategies-for-gender-equality/>

**Project leader at PI:**

Mojca Pajnik

**Collaborators:** Leja Markelj

**Partners:** Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana (coordinator), Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana

**Funding:** ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

**Gender, Democracy and the Neoconservative Anti-gender Movement**

Project duration: 1 Sep 2023 – 31 Aug 2024

**Purpose and goals of the project:** Our research (Kuhar, 2017; Kuhar and Pajnik, 2020) indicates that the alleged “gender” threat, mobilised as an empty signifier by movements opposing gender theory, is conveyed through short messages that inspire fear, create moral panic, and instil a sense of threat while simultaneously reproducing simplistic essentialist notions of what is considered normal and natural. The proposed project will test this thesis by employing the concepts of “politics of fear” (Wodak, 2015) and “affective rule” (Sauer and Penz, 2017). Additionally, the research aims to augment existing studies with a legal and sociological analysis of the practices of movement actors, such as citizen initiatives, amicus curiae briefs, and other forms of strategic litigation. An intersectional legal and sociological analysis is imperative because the strategic use of “strategic litigation” and “human rights” concepts in national and transnational efforts to counter “gender theory” represents a key strategy of this movement.

Website: <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/projekti/spol-demokracija-in-neokonservativno-anti-gender-gibanje/>



Final event of the European project 'Engaged for Equality', 15-16 November 2023, Florence, Italy. Photo: PI Archive.

# CURRENT PROJECTS

## Caring Masculinities in Action (Carmia)

Project leader at PI: Majda Hrženjak

Funding: European Union, Ministry of Public Administration (NGOs Fund)

Website:  
<https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/caring-masculinities-in-action-carmia/>

## FIERCE – Feminist movements revitalizing democracy in Europe

Project leader at PI: Mojca Pajnik

Funding: European Union

Website:  
<https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/fierce-feminist-movements-revitalizing-democracy-in-europe/>

<https://fierce-project.eu/>



Second meeting of the FIERCE International Research Consortium, 11-12 May 2023, Aalborg, Denmark. Photo: PI Archive.

## Engaged in Equality – Challenging masculinities and engaging adolescent boys to end gender-based violence

Project leader at PI: Živa Humer

Funding: European Union

Website:  
<https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/engaged-in-equality-challenging-masculinities-and-engaging-adolescent-boys-to-end-gender-based-violence/>

## Early Care and the Role of Men (ECAROM)

Project leader at PI: Majda Hrženjak

Funding: European Commission, Justice programme

Website:  
<https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/early-care-and-the-role-of-men-ecarom/>

## Occupational risks in sex work at the intersections of policy framework and social stigma (ORIS)

Project leader at PI: Iztok Šori (coordinator)

Funding: ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

Website:  
<https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/projects/occupational-risks-in-sex-work-at-the-intersections-of-policy-framework-and-social-stigma-oris/>

# PROGRAMME GROUP EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN TIMES OF GLOBAL GOVERNANCE

In our programme group, we conceptually and research-wise explore fundamental questions of human rights, equality, diversity, and non-discrimination. These concepts are at a historical crossroads, influenced by globalisation, neoliberal governance, and the proliferation of social crises. While political and legal principles concerning these issues have never been so comprehensively regulated, their significance is increasingly undermined in the name of security, combating terrorism, and protecting national sovereignty in the age of globalisation. Some groups are even denied rights, indicating that the priority is human status, not humanity (Balibar 2007; Arendt 1971/2003). We reassess the meanings of equality and “natural rights” throughout history, particularly through the lens of social contract theory, and focus on studying modern conceptualisations of human rights, (in)equality, diversity, and multiculturalism as understood by scholars such as H. Arendt, J.W. Nickel, J.H. Schaar, D. Miller, W. Kymlicka, Iris M. Young, B. Parekh, and others.

**Programme leader:** Mojca Pajnik

**Members:**

Veronika Bajt, Maja Breznik, Mojca Frelj, Majda Hrženjak, Živa Humer, Vlasta Jalušič, Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, Marko Ribač, Iztok Šori, Lana Zdravković

**Funding:** ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency

**Website:** <https://www.mirovni-institut.si/en/equality/>

In 2023, our focus was on the evolving issues of human rights, equality, and non-discrimination amid the re-traditionalisation and re-patriarchalisation of society. We deepened our understanding of concepts such as equality, discrimination, and crisis, while exploring the erosion of human rights and their impact on law and society. We examined how exclusionary ideologies such as racism, nationalism, and populism intersect with emergency situations necessitated by pandemic management and wars, and how crises are used as pretexts to extend authoritarian tendencies within established governance frameworks. We investigated how public institutions, civil society, and new social movements can “rediscover” human rights and advocacy for equality. We also organised a symposium that concentrated on research methodologies, examining the connections between methodological approaches including interviews, textual and visual analyses, ethnographic methods, and randomised control studies. The proceedings of the programme group, titled *Inequality in Times of Crisis and the Rise of Authoritarianism*, are currently being prepared.



Symposium of the Peace Institute Programme Group on Methodological Procedures, 6 September 2023, Ljubljana. Photo: PI Archive.

# ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

## Board

Chair: Lev Kreft, PhD

Members:

Darko Štrajn, PhD

Vlasta Jalušič, PhD

Roman Kuhar, PhD

Živa Humer, PhD

Maja Ladić, PhD

## Scientific council

Chair: Tanja Rener, PhD

Members:

Mojca Pajnik, PhD

Mateja Sedmak, PhD

**Director:** Iztok Šori, PhD

**Managing director:** Franja Arlič, MA

# STAFF

In 2023, the staff at the PI strengthened, reaching a total of 29 colleagues. We welcomed Urška Hartman, who coordinates office work, researcher Ana Frank, and assistant Katerina Kočkovska Šetinc, alongside young researchers Sergeja Hrvatič and Zoran Fijavž. Our team's educational background spans across political science, sociology, cultural studies, philosophy, social and cultural anthropology, national studies, law, and economics. Four of our members are engaged in the pedagogical process at the University of Ljubljana: Prof. Mojca Pajnik, Prof. Vlasta Jalušič, Assoc. Prof. Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, and teaching assistant Marko Ribač. They play a pivotal role in transferring the scientific findings from the Institute to the students. Additionally, our colleague, Assoc. Prof. Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, is a distinguished jurist and the Constitutional Court judge. The Institute also regularly hosts interns from both Slovenian and international universities, providing them training as part of ongoing projects. We are committed to maintaining a stimulating, healthy, and safe working environment through various policies and activities.



Iztok Šori, PhD  
Director



Franja Arlič, MA  
Managing Director



Amela Meštrovac  
Expert Assistant



Ana Frank, PhD  
Researcher



Brankica Petković, MA  
Researcher



Iza Thaler  
Consultant



Jasna Babić Zrimšek, MA  
Communications Coordinator



Katarina Vučko  
Consultant



Katerina Kočkovska Šefinc  
Assistant



Lana Zdravković, PhD  
Researcher



Leja Markelj  
Assistant



Maja Breznik, PhD  
Researcher



Maja Ladič, PhD  
Researcher



Majda Hrženjak, PhD  
Researcher



Marko Ribač, PhD  
Assistant Researcher



Martina Kerec  
Librarian



Mojca Frelj, MA  
Researcher, Coordinator



Mojca Pajnik, PhD  
Researcher



Monika Bohinec  
Assistant Office Manager



Neža Kogovšek Šalomon, PhD  
Researcher



Sandi Abram, PhD  
Researcher



Saša Panić  
Researcher



Sergeja Hrvatič  
Junior Research Fellow



Tjaša Turnšek  
Assistant



Urška Hartman  
Assistant Office Manager



Veronika Bajt, PhD  
Researcher



Vlasta Jalušič, PhD  
Researcher



Zoran Fijavž  
Junior Research Fellow



Živa Humer, PhD  
Researcher

# NETWORKING AND PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION

## MEMBERSHIP IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH NETWORKS, COUNCILS, COMMISSIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Divided Societies, Inter University Centre Dubrovnik (Mojca Pajnik, study programme associate)  
 COST Action: Platform Work Inclusion Living Lab P-WILL (Maja Breznik, board member)  
 Council for European Studies (Mojca Pajnik, member)  
 Data Matters: Sociotechnical Challenges of European Migration and Border Control (DATAMIG), COST, (Mojca Pajnik, vice president)  
 European Consortium for Political Research, ECPR (Mojca Pajnik, member, Vlasta Jalušič, member)  
 Eurofound (Maja Breznik, national correspondent)  
 European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, ERCI (Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, member)  
 European Commission on Sexual Orientation Law – ECSOL (Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, member)  
 European Nationality Experts in Death Penalty Work (Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, member)  
 European Network against Gender Based Violence (Vlasta Jalušič, member)  
 European Sociological Association (Majda Hrženjak, member)  
 Global Carework Network (Majda Hrženjak, member)  
 Identity of Europe, Interuniversity Centre Dubrovnik (Vlasta Jalušič, course co-director)  
 International Association of Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) (Marko Ribač, member)  
 International Law Association – Committee on Human Rights in Times of Emergency (Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, representative of Slovenia)  
 International Law Association – Committee Migration and International Law (Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, representative of Slovenia)  
 IAPh, International Association of Women Philosophers (Vlasta Jalušič, member)  
 IPSA, International Association for Political Science (Vlasta Jalušič, member)  
 Commission for Ethics in Research, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana (Mojca Pajnik, member)  
 Coordination of independent non-profit research and infrastructure institutes (KOsRIS) (Iztok Šori, member, PI representative)  
 "Normalizing the Far Right" at the Center for Interdisciplinary Research, Bielefeld University (Mojca Pajnik, founding member of the research group)  
 Odysseus Academic Network of Experts in Asylum and Migration (Neža Kogovšek Šalamon, member)  
 Scientific Committee, European University Institute's Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom (Brankica Petković, member)  
 Slovenian Communication Science Society (Mojca Pajnik, member of the supervisory board)  
 Slovenian Sexological Association (Veronika Bajt, member, Leja Markelj, member, and Iztok Šori, member)

Slovene Sociological Association (Veronika Bajt, member of the presidency, Maja Breznik, member, Majda Hrženjak, member, and Iztok Šori, member)  
 Social Science Data Archive Board (ADP) (Iztok Šori, member)  
 The Research Network for Domestic Workers' Rights (Majda Hrženjak, member)  
 Scientific Council of the Peace Institute (Mojca Pajnik, member)

## MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER NETWORKS, COUNCILS, COMMISSIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Civil Liberties Union Europe (Iztok Šori, PI representative)  
 Association City of Women, Ljubljana (Lana Zdravković, member of the General Assembly, Amela Meštrovac, member of the Board of Directors)  
 EAPN – European Network to Fight Poverty (Mojca Frelj, member)  
 EAPN EU Inclusion Strategies Group (EUISG) (Mojca Frelj, deputy representative for Slovenia)  
 EAPN SLO – European Network for the fight against poverty in Slovenia (Mojca Frelj, member)  
 EELN, European Equality Law Network (Katarina Vučko, member)  
 ENS European Network on Statelessness (Katarina Vučko, PI representative)  
 EUISG group (Živa Humer, representative)  
 Voice of the people (Brankica Petković, PI representative)  
 LEAP, Legal Experts Advisory Panel (Katarina Vučko, PI representative)  
 Interdepartmental Commission for Human Rights (Katarina Vučko, PI representative)  
 Network of inclusive organisations (Leja Markelj, PI representative)  
 SEENPM, South East European Network for Professionalisation of the Media (Brankica Petković, PI representative)  
 Slovenian EAPN network (Živa Humer, member of the EAPN network)  
 Strategic Council of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for the Prevention of Hate Speech (Brankica Petković, member)  
 Council of the Centre for Peace Studies, Zagreb (Lana Zdravković, member)  
 Council for Gender Equality at Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (Majda Hrženjak, member)  
 Council of the Republic of Slovenia for Children and Family (Živa Humer, NGO representative)  
 Sophia publishing house (Maja Breznik, founder and member of the Publishing Council)  
 Zavod Oštro, Center for investigative journalism in the Adriatic region (Mojca Pajnik, member of the Expert Council)  
 Women's Lobby of Slovenia (Živa Humer, member of the Council)

## MEMBERSHIP IN EDITORIAL BOARDS OF SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

Družboslovne razprave [ISSN: 0352-3608] (Iztok Šori)  
 Global media and communication [ISSN: 17427665 17427673] (Mojca Pajnik)  
 Hannah Arendt Net [ISSN: 1869-5787] (Vlasta Jalušič)  
 Journal of alternative and community media [ISSN: 22065857] (Mojca Pajnik)  
 Men and masculinities [ISSN: 1552-6828] (Majda Hrženjak)  
 Migracijske i etničke studije [ISSN: 1333-2546, ISSN 1848-9184] (Mojca Pajnik)

# PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Aalborg University, Denmark  
 ADYFE, Austria  
 Albanian Media Institute, Albania  
 Amnesty International Slovenia  
 Antigone, Italy  
 Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece  
 Asociación "Hombres Iguales AHIGE Andalucía", Spain  
 Association of Employers of Slovenia (ZDS)  
 Association of Free Trade Unions of Slovenia  
 Association of Journalists of Slovenia  
 Association of Municipalities of Slovenia  
 Baltic Society for Human Rights, Latvia  
 Bianet, Turkey  
 Bottom line  
 Bulgarian Association for the Promotion of Citizens Initiative, Bulgaria  
 Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, Bulgaria  
 Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Belgium  
 Centre for Civil Liberties, Ukraine  
 Centre for Development Evaluations and Social Research (CREDI), Bosnia and Herzegovina  
 Centre for Equality Advancement, Lithuania  
 Centre for the Theater of Suppressed POKAZ, Croatia  
 Centre of Women's Studies and Policies, Bulgaria  
 Codici – Cooperativa sociale onlus, Italy  
 COFAC – Cooperativa de Formação e Animação Cultural, CRL (Universidade Lusófona), Lisbon  
 Community Medien Institut für Weiterbildung, Forschung und Beratung (COMMIT), Austria  
 COSPE, Italy  
 Croatian Law Center, Croatia  
 Democracy International, Switzerland  
 Dissens Institut für Bildung und Forschung e. V., Germany  
 Documenta – Centre for Coping with the Past, Croatia  
 Dortmund University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Germany  
 Embassy of Human Rights, Moldova

Estonian Human Rights Centre, Estonia  
 European Alternatives, Romania  
 European Public Law Organisation, Greece  
 Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana  
 Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade, Serbia  
 Faculty of Humanities, University of Primorska  
 Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana  
 Faculty of Social Work, University of Ljubljana  
 Faculty of Social Work, University of Ljubljana  
 Faculty of Tourism, University of Maribor  
 Forum 2000, Czech Republic  
 Foundation for Access to Rights, Bulgaria  
 Foundation Mediacentre Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
 Fundación 1 Mayo – Research institute related CCOO trade union (FIM), Spain  
 Fundación EMET Arco Iris, Spain  
 Georg-August Universität Göttingen (UGOE), Germany  
 Gmajna Cultural Association  
 Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany  
 GYLA Legal Education Support Foundation, Georgia  
 Háttér Society (HS), Hungary  
 Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Slovakia, Slovakia  
 House of Human Rights Zagreb, Croatia  
 Human Rights Voice, Lithuania  
 Institut Mines-Télécom (IMT), Palaiseau  
 Institute for Education and Cultural Activities Bob  
 Institute for Housing and Spatial Studies  
 Institute for Masculinity Research and Gender Studies (VMG), Austria  
 Institute for Recent History  
 Institute for Social Research, Institute for Ethnology and Folkloristics, Croatia  
 Institute of Research for Development, France  
 Istituto degli Innocenti, Italy  
 Instituto Politecnico de Braganza, Portugal  
 International Institute for Human Rights and Peace, France  
 Istituto Degli Innocenti di Firenze (IDI), Italy  
 Jagiellonian University (JU), Poland  
 Jagiellonian University, Krakow  
 Jožef Stefan Institute  
 Karlovy University, Prague, Czech Republic  
 Koç University, Turkey

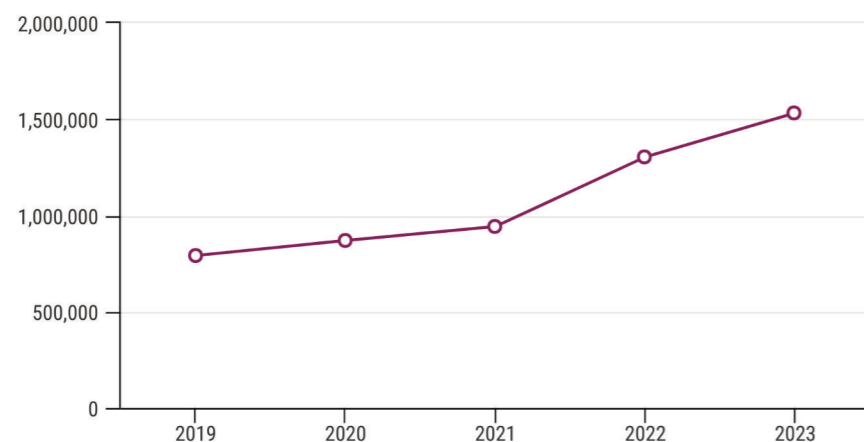
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 Kosovo Press Council, Kosovo  
 KUD Transformer  
 Lapsus – Laboratorio di analisi storica del mondo contemporaneo, Italy  
 Legal Centre for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment (PIC)  
 Linköpings University (LiU), Sweden  
 Lithuanian Gay League (LGL), Lithuania  
 Lota's Box, Croatia  
 Loughborough University London, England  
 Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights, Austria  
 Macedonian Institute for Media, North Macedonia  
 Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, Ireland  
 Mask  
 Mediacentre Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
 Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS), Cyprus  
 Mental Health Perspectives, Lithuania  
 Migrant Advisory Council of the City of Graz, Austria  
 Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of the Republic of Slovenia  
 Montenegrin Media Institute, Montenegro  
 MoveGLOBAL e. V., Germany  
 Municipality of Berlin Mitte, Germany  
 Municipality of Empoli, Italy  
 Municipality of Lustenau, Austria  
 Novi Sad School of Journalism, Serbia  
 Nowa Training Beratung Projektmanagement, Austria  
 Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften (OeAW), Vienna, Austria  
 People's Advocate Albania, Albania  
 Philosophical Institute ZRC SAZU  
 Pixel – Associazione Culturale, Italy  
 Platform for the International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM), Belgium  
 PlinEU, Poland  
 Polish Academy of Sciences, Polska  
 Portuguese Women's Platform, Portugal  
 Prodos Consulting, Italy  
 Radio Marš  
 Red Barnet (SCD), Denmark  
 Reform – Resource centre for men, Norway  
 Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa, Italy  
 Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence, Italy  
 SEENPM

Sindikat Mladi plus  
 Slovenska filantropija  
 Smart Venice, Italy  
 Social Action and Innovation Centre (KMOP), Greece  
 Social Science Research Institute, University of Iceland (UI), Iceland  
 Stichting De Burcht/De Burcht Institute, The Netherlands  
 Südwind, Austria  
 Surt Fundacio de Dones Fundacio Privada, Catalonia, Spain  
 Symbiosis, Greece  
 Tallinn University, Tallinn  
 Tartu Ülikool/University of Tartu, Estonia  
 The Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of The University of Oxford (UOXF), Great Britain  
 The European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Austria  
 The Kentro Merimnas Oikogeneias Kai Paidiou (KMOP), Greece  
 The University of Brescia (UNIBS), Italy  
 The University of Girona (UdG), Spain  
 Today is a new day  
 Umanotera, Slovenian Foundation for Sustainable Development  
 Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain  
 Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED), Spain  
 Università Ca'Foscari (UNIVE), Italy  
 Università di comunicazione e lingue, IULM, Milan  
 Universität Bern, Switzerland  
 Universitat de Barcelona (UB), Spain  
 Universität Hamburg, Germany  
 Universität Wien, Austria  
 Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Belgium  
 University for Continuing Education Krems, Austria  
 University of Barcelona, Spain  
 University of Cambridge, England  
 University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli", Italy  
 University of Florence (Italy)  
 University of Gdansk, Poland  
 University of Palermo, Italy  
 University of Regensburg, Germany  
 University of Vienna, Austria  
 Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Spain  
 Verein Für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark, Austria  
 VILABS, Greece  
 Work With Perpetrators EN (WWP), Germany

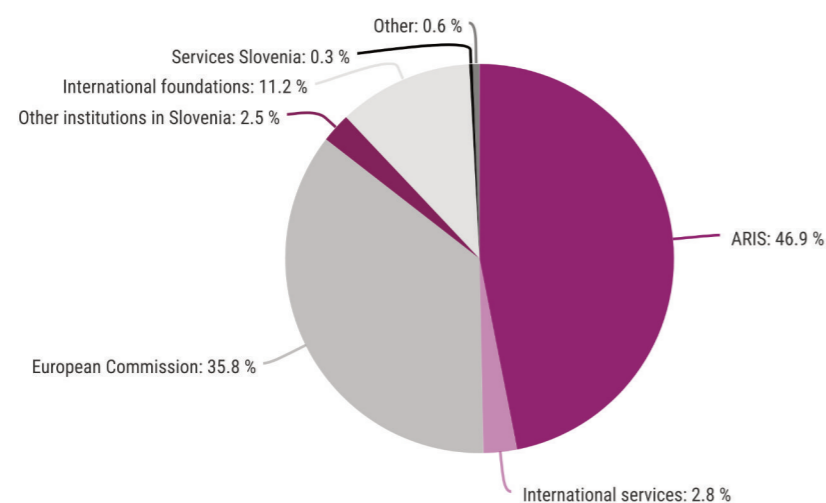
# FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

In 2023, the Institute's financial operations were very successful, as we recorded an 18% increase in revenue. Financing from domestic sources as well as from the European Commission and international foundations has increased. The growth is largely related to the successful landing of public tenders, which remain the main source of funding (67%), while smaller shares are occupied by stable funding from the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency – ARIS (27%) and the provision of services for the market, such as studies or educational activities (3%). We are particularly pleased that we were able to allocate more funds to the programme group, which has a positive effect on the Institute's scientific development.

REVENUE TREND OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS



FUNDING SOURCES



# LIST OF FINANCIERS

- Active Citizens Fund in Slovenia
- European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)
- ARIS – the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency
- European Commission (EU):
  - AMIF
  - Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme
  - COST
  - Erasmus+
  - External Action
  - Horizon 2020
  - NEAR
  - Progress
- Migration Policy Group
- Ministry of Digital Transformation
- Ministry of Public Administration (NGOs Fund)
- NEF – Network of European Foundations (Civitates Programme)
- Norface
- Open Society Foundations
- Volkswagen Stiftung







