



Dear colleagues,

The project team of the Croatian Science Foundation funded project „Solidarity economy in Croatia: anthropological perspective” (SOLIDARan) and Institute for Anthropological Research are announcing the call for papers for the conference:

Practicing solidarity for the future

14-16 September 2022

Zagreb, Croatia

The aim of the conference is to bring together an international group of scholars from various disciplines (our own team is already quite interdisciplinary) and to engage not only in presenting diverse research, but to get the chance to meet and discuss.

The conference will, hopefully, be in-person, but we will have to accept the possibility of a hybrid conference, depending on the epidemiological situation.

Conference venue: Oris, Kuća arhitekture / House of Architecture
Kralja Držislava 3, Zagreb

There will be no conference fee for participation.

There will be the possibility for papers presented at the conference to be submitted as articles for the project's final e-publication that is due by the end of the project (2024).

The language of the conference will be English.

Plenary speakers:

- **Professor Cristina Grasseni, University of Leiden**

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/staffmembers/cristina-grasseni#tab-1>

- **Professor Peter Simonič, University of Ljubljana**

<https://www.ff.uni-lj.si/en/staff/peter-simonic>

If you are interested in participation, please submit your **abstract** (max 500 words), keywords (3 to 5) and author(s) details (name, affiliation, e-mail) by **May 1st 2022** to: olga.orlic@inantro.hr

For any questions do not hesitate to contact us via the abovementioned mail.

The information about the conference will be available on:

http://solidaran.inantro.hr/en/home_page/

Practicing solidarity for the future

To state that we are living in times of change might sound like a cliché, but one has to bear in mind that in each cliché there is a kernel of truth. Climate change, conflicts, poverty, food insecurity and other negative influences (like the current Covid pandemic) are affecting humans and all other living beings, as well as our planet. People have started developing various strategies for coping with these challenges and uncertainties. It has been recognised that the main generator of global inequalities and environmental and societal damage is profit-oriented capitalist entrepreneurship with almost no civic regulation. Therefore, it is opposed by diverse approaches aiming at fostering change in the present, in order to pave the way toward a more just and sustainable future. These efforts include numerous alterglobalisation movements, degrowth and yet another quite broad umbrella term - social and solidarity economy (SSE).

Interest in SSE practices and initiatives significantly increased following the economic crisis in 2008, when many people personally experienced inequality and injustice, generated by the contemporary capitalist system. While certain similar practices had already been established and known to researchers (Laville 2010), during and after the crisis there was a proliferation of new initiatives “from below”, which aim at achieving sustainability and fairness. Their goal is not only to alleviate the negative effects of capitalist structures and practices, but to create and sustain economic alternatives to capitalism (Kawano et al 2009).

Scholars from various disciplines, but especially in the social sciences and humanities, have been engaging in theoretical and applied research resonating with the above mentioned agenda of fighting global inequality and developing economic activities in a way that benefits both people and the planet. The broad, heterogeneous and growing body of research on the social and solidarity economy is building important links between the complex field of academia and the social and economic influence that the researched phenomenon itself effectuates.

The conference invites papers and research on these kinds of activities and movements, their goals, successes and challenges. The dynamics of the initiatives change, the people involved in the initiatives are fluctuating, their life trajectories are diverse and all of this influences the movements as well as their impact on society.

Some of the topics this conference will aim to address are:

- conceptualisations of social and solidarity economy and its practices in the past and present
- SSE in the context of postsocialist economic transition
- transformative power and impact of SSE-related initiatives
- gender-related issues within the SSE movement
- negotiating class, ethnic, religious and other identities within and through SSE initiatives
- individual agency and global change within SSE
- the formation of communities of practice in SSE initiatives

- SSE initiatives in contexts of disaster (including the Covid pandemic)
- the political role(s) of the SSE (civic participation and empowerment, democratic governance, community building...)
- the SSE and social and political movements and worldviews (anarchism, democratic socialism, religious movements...)
- the practice of SSE research as advocacy; the complex position of the practitioner/activist/researcher
- affects and emotions in SSE movement practices
- “competing visions”; negotiating differences in SSE practices
- SSE-related policies (from local to global)
- visibility of SSE practices in the public sphere (media coverage, public discourse analysis)
- SSE and education (popularisation/advocacy of SSE, generational transmission)

Best wishes,

Scientific and Organizing Committees of the “Practicing solidarity for the future” conference