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## **CROATIA EHPS NATIONAL DELEGATE: ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017**

### **I) Health Psychology in the country**

In 2017, Croatian health psychologists have actively participated in public discussion on the changes of the Health Care Law, and have submitted their comments and proposals, mainly regarding the role and status of psychologists in different fields of health practice.

### **II) Education, training & professionalization**

#### **1. PROMOTION OF HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY**

In February 2016, the “10<sup>th</sup> Psychology Week” was organized by the Croatian Psychological Association, in more than 100 Croatian cities, including numerous public contributions. Among them, there were many public presentations on the promotion of health and quality of life, with Croatian expert health psychologists as lecturers.

Information on EHPS and its activities were regularly well announced and materials disseminated at all relevant Croatian psychology web-sites and conferences.

#### **2. EDUCATION AND TRAINING INITIATIVES/PROGRAMS**

Meetings of the Division of Health Psychology of the Croatian Psychological Association are held regularly, four times per year, dealing with professional issues and always including some educational topic.

Health psychologists in Regional Psychological Associations have continued to be very active in 2017, offering education, counselling, publishing and researching.

The Croatian ND continued to participate in the EHPS e-courses committee, along with Marta Marques (committee chair), Efrat Neter, and Jan Keller. EHPS e-courses are short online meetings led by an expert on topics of interest for the EHPS community, and offered to EHPS members for free. After the experimental stage in 2014, they were regularly run in 2015 and in 2016, but were paused during the 2017 due to organizational issues.

### III) Activities

#### 1. CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

In November 2017, the “25th Croatian Annual Psychology Conference” was organized in Zadar, Croatia, with the main topic: *Psychology in Human rights’ Promotion and Protection, and Social Justice*. There were many health psychology contributions and activities in the conference programme.

#### 1. PUBLICATIONS

In 2017, Volume 3 with two issues was released of the Croatian journal: *The Journal of Applied Health Sciences*. This journal has the international editorial board, it is peer reviewed, and is publishing original research, theoretical and methodological scientific and professional papers from all areas of health sciences, in Croatian and in English language. More about it at: <http://jahs.eu/about/>

Online publication – the textbook *Psychology of Pain* by Sabina Alispahic (author) was offered for free download to the Croatian Psychological Association members. It is available at: [http://www.ff-eizdavastvo.ba/Books/Psihologija\\_boli.pdf](http://www.ff-eizdavastvo.ba/Books/Psihologija_boli.pdf)

#### 2. PLANNED/FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES

We are proud to announce that the 33<sup>rd</sup> EHPS Annual Conference will be organized in Dubrovnik, Croatia, September 3-7, 2019, decided by the EHPS EC in 2016. The organization work has started and continued in 2017.