

Mladen Ančić

Mladen Ančić holds BA in History from the University of Sarajevo, MA in Medieval history from the University of Belgrade, as well as PhD also in Medieval History from the University of Zagreb (Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences). His doctoral thesis was published in 1997 as monograph entitled *Putanja klatna: Ugarsko-hrvatsko Kraljevstvo I Bosna u 14. stoljeću (Swing of the Pendulum: Hungarian-Croatian Kingdom and Bosnia in the 14th Century)*, Zadar – Mostar. He is currently professor of Medieval history at the Department of History, University of Zadar.

Scholarly and research activity of Dr. Ančić is focused on medieval history of eastern Adriatic coast and its hinterland, historiographical tradition and its place in the development of nationalism as "discursive formation" in the 19th and 20th centuries. All of these topics are developed in his book *Što "svi znaju" i što je "svima jasno": Historiografija i nacionalizam/What "everybody knows" and what is "clear to everyone": Historiography and nationalism*, Zagreb 2008. He also developed special interest in research of the early medieval history of Croatia (summarized in his book *Hrvatska u karolinškodoba/Croatia in the Carolingian era*, Split 2001) as well as in perception of eastern Adriatic and its hinterland in the famous Byzantine encyclopaedia *De administrando imperio*, usually attributed to the Emperor Constantine Porphyrogenitus. This is subject of his three papers published in two peer-reviewed journals and one edited volume from 2010, 2011 and 2011 respectively. Also among prime topics of his research-interest is process of medieval urbanization as exemplified in his book *Jajce: Portret srednjovjekovnog grada/Jajce: Portrait of the medieval town*, Split 1999, or his recent paper on demography of Split in 13th century, published in the edited volume from 2012. Dr. Ančić published in total five books, edited two volumes of medieval documents (in the series *Registra Medievalia Capitulorum Iadre et Spaleti* – vols. 1 and 3) and over fifty papers in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes in Croatian, English and Italian languages - most of which are accessible in electronic format through following link: <http://unizd.academia.edu/MladenAn%C4%8Di%C4%87>).

Dr. Ančić participated in number of national and international conferences. In 2012, he was invited by Croatian Studies Foundation of Australia to come to Sydney and present papers at the conference of Australian Association of Byzantine Studies, Society for Study of Early Christianity, both at Macquarie University (see also below). He also held public talk to the Croatian community in Sydney about past and present in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. As recognized expert in medieval history, Dr. Ančić was invited to participate in making of documentary series *Hrvatski kraljevi* (Croatian kings), broadcasted on Croatian national TV (HRT) on Sunday evening prime time TV in seven weekly episodes in 2011.

As Principal Investigator Dr. Ančić led from 2002 two research projects, funded by the Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sport. His first project was entitled "Estate, nobility and lordship" (project no. 0070017) and lasted from 2002 to 2006. The project produced thirteen papers published by PI and two papers by researcher Franjo Smiljanić. These papers focused on concept of land possession, development of lordship and its correlation with the growth of state structures and institutions during the late Middle Ages.

His second project, also funded by the Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sport was entitled "Basic parameters of social construction of Croatian medieval realities" (project no. 269-0190610-2536) and lasted from 2007 to 2013. As PI Dr. Ančić coordinated work of three other researchers, who together with PI produced two books and twenty five papers in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes published in Croatia, Germany and Turkey. Topics covered in these books and papers defined basic categories of medieval civilization, starting from the Slavic roots of medieval institutions on the eastern Adriatic and its hinterland to the formation of modern historiographical discourse on the Middle Ages in Croatia.

Meanwhile Dr. Ančić mentored three doctoral candidates as primary supervisor. All candidate in due time finished their thesis and successfully defended them in 2011 and 2013.