
Editorial *Uvodnik*

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Tematska številka revije *Studia universitatis hereditati* 13 (2) je posvečena Osorju – mestecu na stičišču otokov Cresa in Lošinja v Kvarnerskem zalivu na Hrvaškem. Njegova prostorska lega že sama razkriva niz napetosti in dvojnosti: med dvema otokoma, med kopnim in morjem, med vidno in nevidno dediščino, med zgodovino in mitom. Takšna navidezna samoumevnost Osorjevega pomena je dolgo zakrivala kompleksnost procesov, ki so ga skozi dolga obdobja oblikovali kot dinamičen zgodovinski prostor stalnih okoljskih, družbenih in kulturnih preobrazb.

Dvostranski raziskovalni projekt Osor onkraj mita (N6-0292), ki ga financirata Javna agencija za znanstvenoraziskovalno in inovacijsko dejavnost Republike Slovenije (ARIS) ter Avstrijski znanstveni sklad (FWF) v okviru programa Weave, je nastal iz potrebe po kritičnem premisleku in poglobljenem razumevanju Osorja kot zgodovinskega prostora, kjer dolga kontinuiteta življenja presega zmožnosti ene same discipline ali linearne časovne perspektive. Projekt tako prerašča klasične disciplinarne okvire in se približuje transdisciplinarnemu pristopu, obravnavajoč Osor kot enoten kopenski in morski organizem, v katerem se naravni procesi, materialni ostanki, zgodovinski viri in simbolne krajine povezujejo v integriran analitični okvir. Več kot 3.000 let neprekinjene poselitve zahteva razumevanje prostora v relacijskem, večplastnem kontekstu, kjer se časovne ravni, družbeni procesi in okoljski pogoji medsebojno prepletajo.

The thematic issue of the journal *Studia universitatis hereditati* 13 (2) is dedicated to Osor, a town at the junction of the islands of Cres and Lošinj in the Kvarner Bay in Croatia. Its spatial location alone reveals a series of tensions and dualities: between two islands, between land and sea, between visible and invisible heritage, between history and myth. The apparent self-evidence of Osor's significance has long obscured the complexity of the processes that have shaped it as a dynamic historical space of constant environmental, social, and cultural transformations over long periods of time.

The bilateral research project Osor beyond the myth (N6-0292), funded by the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency (ARIS) and the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) as part of the Weave program, arose from the need for critical reflection and in-depth understanding of Osor as a historical space where the long continuity of life exceeds the capabilities of a single discipline or linear temporal perspective. The project thus transcends classical disciplinary frameworks and adopts a transdisciplinary approach, treating Osor as a unified terrestrial and marine organism in which natural processes, material remains, historical sources, and symbolic landscapes are linked within an integrated analytical framework. More than 3,000 years of continuous settlement require an understanding of space in a relational, multi-layered context, where temporal levels, social processes, and environmental conditions are intertwined.

Tematska številka, ki je pred vami, je rezultat tega pristopa. Združuje prispevke, ki se metodološko in vsebinsko naslanjajo na dolgoletno kontinuiteto raziskovanja tega izrazitega mesta. Razprave povezujejo geološke in arheološke raziskave, podvodno in krajinsko arheologijo, analize materialne kulture, bioarheološke podatke ter ponovno kritično ovrednotenje historiografskih in epigrafskih virov. Takšna raznolikost metod ni zgolj seštevek pristopov, temveč produktiven dialog, ki omogoča kontekstualno, primerjalno in sintezno interpretacijo, s čimer Osor obravnava kot zgodovinski palimpsest, kjer se naravni procesi, materialne sledi in človeške prakse prekrivajo ter preoblikujejo skozi čas.

Na tematsko izhodišče prostora in krajine se neposredno navezuje prispevek skupine avtorjev »Potopi prst v morje ... Geoarheološki pogled na obalno okolje in pomorsko dostopnost obalnega mesta Osor v severnem Jadran« (Slobodan Miko, Nives Doneus, Dea Brunović, Ozren Hasan, Michael Doneus, Tim Kinnaird, Petra Hus, Filip Šegović, Nikolina Ilijanić, Martina Šparica Miko, Martin Fera), ki analizira geoarheološke značilnosti obalnega prostora, dolgoročne okoljske spremembe in dostopnost pristanišč ter izpostavlja vlogo naravnih procesov pri oblikovanju osorskega morskega prostora in kanala Kavanela skozi holocen.

Perspektivo krajine nadaljuje prispevek skupine avtorjev »Gor in dol po hribu: gradišča in suhozidne ograde na kvarnerskih otokih Cresu in Lošinju v podatkih daljinskega zaznavanja« (Nives Doneus, Martin Fera, Michael Doneus, Dalibor Branković, Vito Benveniste), ki se osredotoča na arheološko zaznavanje vidnih in skritih struktur v kraškem agropastoralnem okolju ter opozarja na potencial daljinskega zaznavanja pri razumevanju prazgodovinskih krajin kot celostnih, večplastno organiziranih prostorov.

Prehod od krajine k človeku in njegovim družbenim praksam prinaša prispevek Martine Blečić Kavur »Vzpon železne dobe v Osorju na primeru reprezentativne materialne kulture«, ki se osredotoča na pogrebne kontekste in materialno kulturo začetka železne dobe, osvetlju-

The thematic issue before you is the result of this approach. It brings together contributions that are methodologically and substantively based on many years of continuous research into this remarkable place. The discussions connect geological and archaeological research, underwater and landscape archaeology, analyses of material culture, bioarchaeological data, and a critical re-evaluation of historiographical and epigraphic sources. Such diversity of methods is not merely a sum of approaches, but a productive dialogue that enables contextual, comparative, and synthetic interpretation, treating Osor as a historical palimpsest where natural processes, material traces, and human practices overlap and transform over time.

The thematic starting point of space and landscape is directly linked to the contribution of a group of authors, 'Dip Your Finger in the Sea ... Geoarchaeological View on Coastal Setting and Maritime Accessibility of the Coastal Town of Osor, Northern Adriatic' (Slobodan Miko, Nives Doneus, Dea Brunović, Ozren Hasan, Michael Doneus, Tim Kinnaird, Petra Hus, Filip Šegović, Nikolina Ilijanić, Martina Šparica Miko, Martin Fera), which analyses the geoarchaeological characteristics of the coastal area, long-term environmental changes and the accessibility of ports, and highlights the role of natural processes in shaping the Osor marine area and the Kavanela channel throughout the Holocene.

The landscape perspective is continued by the contribution of a group of authors, 'Up and down the Hill: Hillforts and Dry Stonewall Enclosures on the Kvarner Islands of Cres and Lošinj in Remote Sensing Data' (Nives Doneus, Martin Fera, Michael Doneus, Dalibor Branković, Vito Benveniste), which focuses on the archaeological perception of visible and hidden structures in the karst agropastoral environment and highlights the potential of remote sensing in understanding prehistoric landscapes as holistic, multi-layered spaces.

The transition from landscape to man and his social practices is brought about by Marti-

je oblikovanje simbolnih prostorov, družbenih identitet in mrež interakcij ter umešča Osor med ključna zgodnježeleznodobna središča vzhodnega Jadrana.

Rimsko obdobje Osorja je v tematski številki osvetljeno z več komplementarnih zornih kotov. Prispevek Irene Lazar »Izbrane steklene najdbe iz Apsorja (Osorja) – odraz bogastva in prestiža« obravnava steklene najdbe kot indikatorje potrošnje, tehnoloških inovacij in vključenosti Osorja v širše trgovske mreže rimskega sveta. Analiza raznolikih provenienc steklenih posod poudarja vlogo Osorja v procesih romanizacije severnega Jadrana.

Umetnostnozgodovinski pogled na rimski Osor ponuja prispevek Katarine Šmid, »Kariatida z Osorja (Apsorus): provincialna reinterpretacija klasičnega motiva«, ki se posveča interpretaciji marmorne kariatide kot primera provincialne apropiacije klasičnih ikonografskih in slogovnih vzorcev. Članek razpravlja o kronologiji, funkciji in simbolnem pomenu skulpture ter jo umešča v širši kontekst avgustejske tradicije in lokalnih interpretativnih praks.

Vprašanje urbanizacije in administrativne vloge Osorja v rimskem obdobju sistematično obravnava prispevek Nives Doneus in Andreja Sironić »Rimska urbanizacija severnojadranskega otoka Cresa: ponovna ocena arheoloških virov iz Osorja, s Cresa in iz Belega«. S kritično presojo epigrafskih, arhitekturnih in arheoloških virov ter z uporabo novih absolutnih datumov članek ponovno ovrednoti dolgoletne razprave ter potrdi Osor kot ključno urbano središče arhipelaga.

Prispevek Zrinke Ettinger Starčić in Igorja Miholjeka »Osorski akvatorij: pregled podvodnih arheoloških raziskav« povzema rezultate večdesetletnih raziskav v osorskem akvatoriju. S povezovanjem starejših in novejših raziskav članek poudarja pomen morskega prostora za razumevanje kontinuitete poselitve, pomorskih dejavnosti in vsakdanjega življenja v Osorju od antike do novega veka.

Tematsko številklo zaokroža prispevek Zrinke Mileusnić »Naj Osor znova postane velik:

na Blečić Kavur's contribution 'The Emergence of the Iron Age in Osor through Representative Material Culture', which focuses on burial contexts and material culture at the beginning of the Iron Age, sheds light on the formation of symbolic spaces, social identities, and networks of interaction, and places Osor among the key early Iron Age centers of the eastern Adriatic.

The Roman period of Osor is illuminated from several complementary perspectives in this thematic issue. Irena Lazar's contribution, 'Selected Glass Finds from Apsorus (Osor) – Reflection of Wealth and Prestige', examines selected glass finds as indicators of consumption, technological innovation, and Osor's integration into the wider trade networks of the Roman world. The analysis of the diverse provenance of glass vessels emphasizes the role of Osor in the processes of Romanization of the northern Adriatic.

An art-historical view of Roman Osor is offered by Katarina Šmid's contribution 'The Caryatid from Osor (Apsorus). A Provincial Reinterpretation of a Classical Motif', which focuses on the interpretation of the marble caryatid as an example of provincial appropriation of classical iconographic and stylistic patterns. The article discusses the chronology, function, and symbolic meaning of the sculpture and places it in the broader context of the Augustan tradition and local interpretative practices.

The question of urbanisation and the administrative role of Osor in the Roman period is systematically addressed in the contribution by Nives Doneus and Andreja Sironić, 'The Roman Urbanisation of the Northern Adriatic Island of Cres: Re-Evaluation of Archaeological Sources from Osor, Cres and Beli'. Through a critical assessment of epigraphic, architectural, and archaeological sources and the use of new absolute dates, the article reevaluates long-standing debates and confirms Osor as a key urban center of the archipelago.

The contribution by Zrinka Ettinger Starčić and Igor Miholjek, 'The Osor Aquatorium: An Overview of Underwater Archaeological Re-

dostopna arheologija med otokom in oblakom», ki obravnava razkorak med izjemno arheološko vrednostjo Osorja in njegovo omejeno sodobno dostopnostjo. S poudarkom na digitalnih dediščinskih orodjih, zlasti konceptu digitalnega dvojnika, članek dostopnost razume kot večdimenzionalen dediščinski izziv ter Osor predstavi kot pilotni primer trajnostnega in vključujočega upravljanja dediščine na majhnih ter oddaljenih najdiščih.

Zbrane razprave ne stremijo k dokončni sintezi zgodovinskih sprememb Osorja, temveč odpirajo številna nova raziskovalna vprašanja in perspektive. Zahvala gre vsem raziskovalcem, ki so prispevali k soustvarjanju te tematske številke in potrdili pomen kritičnega dialoga. Takšno razumevanje Osorja kot zgodovinskega palimpsesta, podprto s transdisciplinarnimi interpretacijami, presega dihotomijo med zgodovino in mitom ter Osor potrjuje kot trajno odprt prostor, kjer se preteklost, pokrajina, človek in domišljija srečujejo v kontinuiranem ustvarjanju pomena.

search', summarizes the results of decades of research in the Osor aquatorium. By linking older and more recent research, the article emphasizes the importance of the marine environment for understanding the continuity of settlement, maritime activities, and everyday life in Osor from antiquity to the modern era.

The thematic issue is rounded off by Zrinka Mileusnić's contribution 'Make Osor Great Again: Accessible Archaeology Between Island and Cloud', which addresses the gap between Osor's exceptional archaeological value and its limited contemporary accessibility. With an emphasis on digital heritage tools, particularly the concept of digital twins, the article understands accessibility as a multidimensional heritage challenge and presents Osor as a pilot case of sustainable and inclusive heritage management at small and remote sites.

The collected discussions do not aim to provide a definitive synthesis of the historical changes in Osor, but rather open up numerous new research questions and perspectives. Thanks go to all the researchers who contributed to the creation of this thematic issue and confirmed the importance of critical dialogue. This understanding of Osor as a historical palimpsest, supported by transdisciplinary interpretations, transcends the dichotomy between history and myth and confirms Osor as a permanently open space where the past, landscape, people, and imagination meet in the continuous creation of meaning.