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SUSTAINABILITY OF THE LINGUISTIC INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA THROUGH THE PROCESS OF PROTECTION OF LOCAL SPEECHES AS INTANGIBLE CULTURAL ASSETS

The paper will present the intangible linguistic cultural assets of the Republic of Croatia and their significance for the cultural identity of Croats and the Republic of Croatia as one of the signatory countries to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Republic of Croatia appointed the Commission for Intangible Heritage in 2002, and since then it has been considering and improving the process of protection, preservation and popularization of intangible cultural heritage. The aim of this paper is to present the intangible linguistic heritage of the Republic of Croatia, cultural assets and consequently the impact and importance of the protected cultural heritage on the community after its inclusion on the list. At the same time, the aim of the paper is to provide an overview of linguistic heritage assets as a basis for preserving linguistic and cultural identity. Speeches from Siče and Stari Perkovci will serve as basic and exemplary examples of protected intangible cultural assets. The paper will use the method of analysing and synthesizing the existing scientific material on linguistic heritage as well as the author's field recordings of protected speeches.

Keywords: intangible linguistic cultural assets, Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, speeches from Siče and Stari Perkovci, dialectology, language

1. INTRODUCTION

The cultural heritage of every nation is in its foundation, identity, existence in time and space, and is divided into tangible and intangible. Intangible cultural heritage is defined according to the Struna project of the Institute of Croatian Language and Linguistics as a set of artistic or symbolic intan-

gible skills, performances, expressions, knowledge and skills inherited from history¹. Furthermore, the term intangible cultural heritage is defined by Carek (2004: 69) who says that intangible heritage by definition includes customs, beliefs, knowledge, skills and appearances of spiritual creation transmitted by tradition, whereby societies, groups or individuals recognize them as heritage. In the Croatian Encyclopaedic Dictionary (2003: 95), the term heritage includes, among other explanations, this definition: heritage is the totality of preserved and nurtured cultural goods from the past, heritage, tradition. The Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia defines cultural heritage as: „Cultural heritage, tangible and intangible, is the common wealth of humanity in its diversity and uniqueness, and its protection is one of the important factors for recognizing, defining and affirming cultural identity. The Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia develops mechanisms and establishes measures for the protection of cultural heritage in order to ensure its sustainability, which includes the identification, documentation, research, maintenance, protection, use and promotion of its values.“² Cultural heritage is divided into tangible and intangible, and the focus of this paper will be on the intangible cultural heritage of the Republic of Croatia with an emphasis on linguistic intangible cultural heritage. For many years, especially since the ratification of the UNESCO Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2005, the Republic of Croatia has been intensively carrying out activities of valorisation, inventory documentation and promotion of intangible heritage. As the central body for the implementation of the 2003 Convention, the Ministry of Culture has registered more than 160 intangible cultural assets in the Register of Cultural Property of the Republic of Croatia by 2021, of which 17 are inscribed on three UNESCO Lists of Intangible Cultural Heritage (Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, 2021)³. Intangible cultural assets inscribed on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity from the territory of the Republic of Croatia are: Lacemaking in Croatia, Two-part singing and playing in the Istrian Scale, The Festivity of St. Blaise, the patron of Dubrovnik, Spring procession of Ljelje/Kraljice (Queens) from Gorjani, Annual Carnival Bell Ringers' Pageant from the Kastav Area, Procession Za Križen (Following the Cross) on the Island of

¹ <http://struna.ihjj.hr/naziv/nematerijalna-kulturna-bastina/24683/> (retrieved 6. 1. 2021).

² [https://minkulture.gov.hr/?id=349&pregled=1&datum=Wed%20Jan%2023%202019%2017:02:19%20GMT+0100%20\(srednjoeuropsko%20standardno%20vrijeme\)](https://minkulture.gov.hr/?id=349&pregled=1&datum=Wed%20Jan%2023%202019%2017:02:19%20GMT+0100%20(srednjoeuropsko%20standardno%20vrijeme)) (retrieved 10. 1. 2021).

³ <https://min-kulture.gov.hr/izdvojeno/kulturna-bastina/kulturna-bastina-na-unesco-ovim-popisima/17251> (retrieved 10. 1. 2021).

Hvar, Traditional Manufacturing of Children's Wooden Toys in Hrvatsko Zagorje, The Sinjska Alka, a knights' tournament in Sinj, Gingerbread craft from Northern Croatia, The bećarac, a vocal and vocal-instrumental song performed in the area of Eastern Croatia, in the regions of Slavonia, Baranja and Srijem, Nijemo Kolo, silent circle dance of the Dalmatian hinterland, Klapa singing, The Mediterranean diet, Folk songs from Međimurje, Art of dry stone walling, knowledge and techniques. Intangible assets inscribed in the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in need of urgent protection: Ojkanje singing. Intangible assets inscribed in the UNESCO Register of Good Safeguarding Practices for the intangible cultural heritage of the world: Ecomuseum „Bata-na“.⁴ It is evident from the above list that Croatia's intangible cultural heritage is extremely rich and that the Republic of Croatia, regardless of its size and the number of inhabitants in relation to other countries, is very rich and representative regarding the registered goods. I will mention here that the Siče speeches was also proposed for the inclusion in this most prestigious list, it has not been registered so far, which does not mean that it will not be in the near future.⁵

2. INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Protection and preservation of intangible cultural heritage is a fundamental concept in the context of protection and preservation of intangible cultural heritage and already mentioned UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage is taken as basis and a starting point. International interest in the protection and preservation of intangible cultural heritage grew in the period after the Second World War. War devastation, including the destruction of many significant cultural artefacts around the world, has awakened many to the need for protection. Since the establishment of the International Council of Museums in 1946 and the adoption of the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict in 1954 through the creation of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property in 1970 and the Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage from 1972, in the post-war years a number of efforts were made, both nationally and internationally, to identify and protect significant cultural heritage (Bonn, et al., 2017: 1–2).

⁴ The lists were taken from the official website of the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia.

⁵ Proposal for the inscription on the Representative List of Humanity are submitted on behalf of Croatia to UNESCO by the Commission of the Ministry of Culture and Media.

The pioneers in the field of intangible cultural heritage preservation can certainly be considered Foxfire Magazine (and later the Foxfire Museum) founded in 1966 whose goal was to document the culture of southern Appalachia. The 1960s Indians' independent effort began with a coordinated effort to ensure the survival of native languages, one such example being the Rough Rock Demonstration School, founded in 1966, in part to ensure that Navajo children are educated in their own language (McCarty, 2002: 36). Vincek notes that the Mondicault World Conference on Cultural Policies, held in Mexico City in 1982, marked a turning point in the international community's approach to preserving cultural heritage, and the Mexico City Declaration on Cultural Policies, which appeared at the conference, contained pieces of its artists, architects, musicians, authors and scientists, as well as anonymous artists' pieces, expressions of human spirituality and body, values that give meaning to life. It included both tangible and intangible works items through which people's creativity finds expression: languages, rituals, beliefs, historical sites and monuments, literature, works of art, archives and libraries" (Vincek, 2019 according to UNESCO, 1982). This marked, not only one of the earliest formal recognitions of intangible heritage by the international community, but also the conference called on UNESCO to start developing programmes for the preservation of intangible as well as tangible cultural heritage. In 1989, the General Conference of the Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore was adopted. A 2001 UNESCO report stated that intellectual property regimes provide inadequate protection for the intangible cultural heritage, and recommended that action be taken to improve international regulations, through a new standard instrument for the preservation of the intangible cultural heritage. The combination of increased interest in the intangible cultural heritage and specific calls for action stemming from the Washington DC Conference and the Director General Report in 2001 led to the convening of a meeting of experts in Paris to draft a convention for the preservation of the intangible cultural heritage. After several lengthy meetings to address issues such as the role of member states and effective methods of protection, UNESCO adopted the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage on 17 October 2003 (Bonn, et al., 2017: 4).

3. INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Intangible cultural goods can be various forms and phenomena of spiritual creativity that are transmitted by tradition or otherwise, particularly: language, local dialects, speeches and toponymy, oral literature of all kinds, fol-

klore in the field of music, dance, tradition, games, rituals, customs, as well as other traditional folk values and traditional arts and crafts.”⁶ For the last twenty years, UNESCO has supported the preservation of intangible heritage by labelling Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity for the first time in 2001, and since 2003 it has adopted the aforementioned Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Convention aims to: raise awareness and recognize the importance of intangible heritage and the need for its preservation, facilitate the creation of national inventories, promote the participation of stakeholders in identification and revitalization, promote understanding and respect for the heritage of different communities, ensure international cooperation and assistance. The Republic of Croatia possesses extraordinarily rich, diverse and long-preserved intangible heritage.⁷ Its preservation is largely supported by the establishment of numerous associations for the preservation of tradition, especially at the local level, as well as research and documentation of knowledge and skills and their transmission to new generations. An important issue of intangible heritage are the factors that lead to endangerment and extinction. The development of tourism, as well as the development of the economy and technology, affect the way of life and production in a positive and negative way, and the latter is the disappearance or commercialization of certain knowledge, skills and traditions. Since 1999, on the basis of amendments to the Act on the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Property, intangible cultural heritage is considered an asset of special interest to the Republic of Croatia (Berbić-Kolar et al., 2014: 215). Intangible cultural heritage is defined by Article 2 of the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (OG 5/05) and Article 9 of the Act on the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Property, which sets out three basic categories (Ministry of Culture, 2021): language, dialects, speeches and toponymy, and oral literature of all kinds, folklore in the field of music, dance, tradition, games, rituals, customs, as well as other traditional folk values and traditional arts and crafts. Since this paper deals primarily with intangible linguistic cultural heritage, I will single out all linguistic intangible cultural assets of the Republic of Croatia. The Croatian list of protected intangible linguistic cultural assets includes the following speeches:

⁶ Act on the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Property. URL: <http://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/271022.html> (retrieved 2. 1. 2021).

⁷ UNESCO. Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Available at: URL: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001325/132540e.pdf> (retrieved 3. 1. 2021).

1. Bednjan speech
2. Cokavian speeches of the island of Vis
3. Čabar speeches
4. Dubrovnik speech
5. Gacka chakavian speeches from the area of Otočac
6. Dubravica speech
7. Hum na Sutli speech
8. Speech and toponymy of the village Vidonje
9. Speech of the island of Susak
10. Speech of the Posavina village of Siče
11. Stari Perkovci speech
12. Zadar Arbanasi speech
13. Speeches of the Milnar areas
14. Grobnik chakavian speech
15. Istro-Romanian speeches
16. Labin speech group
17. Kajkavian Lower Sutla (Ikavian) speech
18. Kotorip group of speeches
19. Split speech (Split chakavian speech)
20. Šolta chakavian speeches
21. Štirogova speech group
22. Turopolje speech
23. The golden formula of the Croatian language ča-kaj-što
24. Žminj speech⁸

It can be seen from the above list that the Republic of Croatia takes care of the preservation of archaic speeches that are threatened with extinction, and in this context the list is expanded and supplemented every year. What makes Croatian cultural and linguistic reality special and unique is the inclusion of the Golden Formula of the Croatian language ča-kaj-što on the List of Protected Cultural Intangible Heritage. It is worth emphasizing the meaning and significance of including this formula because the Croatian language is very specific in its dialectal peculiarity of these dialects: Chakavian, Kajkavian and Shtokavian, which are recognized by the interrogative pronoun ča, kaj and što (šta). By introducing this golden formula on the list of protected intangible cultural assets, Croatian dialectology and linguistics gained special significance and value in relation to their dialects and their value in creating national identity

⁸ The list was taken from the official webpage of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia (retrieved 3. 1. 2021).

and linguistic recognisability in the wider European and world context. The Golden Formula of the Croatian Language *ča-kaj-što* was included in the list in 2019. The author of the „golden formula of the Croatian language *ča-kaj-što*“ is Dr Drago Štambuk, who proposed it for inclusion on the List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Croatia. This formula covers the past of the Croatian language and is the pillar around which the Croatian linguistic identity must be built. It describes the interconnectedness of Croatian dialects, which is greater than can be seen on the surface. It „encompasses all dialectal diversity in all its diversity, all the history of the Croatian literary language with all its dialectal stylizations, including the standard language, as it grew and was brilliantly confirmed. In addition, the golden formula points to the right approach to this standard language, an approach not from the point of view of dialectological expertise, but from the entire history of Croatian writing. That is exactly why *ča-kaj-što* is the golden formula of the Croatian language, „as academician Radoslav Katičić wrote in his review (Katičić: 2014).⁹

The list of protected intangible cultural assets of the Republic of Croatia is linked to the Commission that assesses which speech will be put on the list and the procedure for registration in the National Register of Cultural Goods of Croatia, which includes several steps of expert evaluation. There are two possibilities of entering an intangible cultural property in the Register of Cultural Goods of the Republic of Croatia (Ministry of Culture, 2021): Intangible cultural heritage on the List of Preventively Protected Goods, Intangible Cultural heritage on the List of Protected Cultural Property.

The Register database is the main source of data on legally protected intangible heritage. A large number of documents related to intangible heritage are available from the holder – the local community and various local and state institutions (such as museums, institutes, faculties). Holders, local community, local self-government, experts and scientists in local and state institutions submit proposals for entry of intangible heritage in the Register. The final decision on the census is made by the Ministry of Culture based on the opinion of a special expert commission for intangible cultural heritage. Preservation of intangible heritage is primarily ensured by its holders and the local community through the implementation of various projects and activities and cooperation with experts and scientists. International cooperation is realized through some regional projects that partially deal with issues of preservation of intangible heritage (Ministry of Culture, 2021). Based on the Act on the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Property (Official gazette No. 69/1999), the Croatian Council for Cultural

⁹ <https://www.matica.hr/kolo/424/zlatna-formula-hrvatskoga-jezika-ca-kaj-sto1-23623> (retrieved 7. 1. 2020).

Goods was established. The task of this Council is to monitor and improve the condition of cultural property. At the same time, the Council gives recommendations for the improvement of activities for the protection and preservation of cultural property, gets acquainted with the programmes for the protection of cultural property and their implementation (Ministry of Culture and Media, 2021).

4. SIČE AND STARI PERKOVCI SPEECHES AS EXAMPLES OF SUSTAINABILITY OF PROTECTED INTANGIBLE LINGUISTIC CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Siče and Stari Perkovci speeches are the only two protected speeches in the area of Slavonia, Srijem and Baranja in the Republic of Croatia. Both are protected by decisions of the Ministry of Culture of the republic of Croatia, the Siče speech was protected in 2008, and the Stari Perkovci speech in 2010. The Siče speech was protected by Professor Mate Kapović, PhD, from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb, and the speech from Stari Perkovci was protected by Profesoor Ljiljana Kolenić, PhD, from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and Associate Professor Emina Berbić, PhD, Kolar from the Faculty of Education, University of Osijek. Berbić-Kolar and Kolenić talk about Siče and Stari Perkovci speeches in the scientific monograph *Sičanske riči (Words of Siče)*, in which they state that the Siče speech is one of the Croatian protected speeches as an intangible cultural asset of the Republic of Croatia. In Slavonia it is the first protected speech, the second protected speech is the speech of Stari Perkovci, a place not far from Vrpolje in the immediate vicinity of Slavonski Brod and Đakovo. Below is the text of the decision on the protection of the Siče speech, which includes measures for the protection and sustainability of the protected cultural property.

It is the speech of Posavina village Siče protected by the Decision of the Ministry of Culture according to the Act on the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Property, Article 12, Paragraph 1 („Official gazette“, Vol. 69/99, 151/03 and 157/03) and the Ordinance on the Cultural Assets Register of the Republic of Croatia („Official Gazette“ Vol. 37/01). The Decision reads as follows: „It is hereby determined that the speech of Posavina village Siče be given the status of intangible cultural heritage as determined by the Article 9, Paragraph 1, Indent 1 of the Act on the Protection and Preservation of Cultural Property. For the cultural heritage in the Point 1 of this Decision, the following system of protection measures is to be applied: – promote the function and the importance of the heritage in the society, and the involvement of the heritage in the planning programmes – ensure the heritage sustainability through education, identification, documentation, scientific research, preservation,

protection, promotion, increase in value, possibility of passing it on to future generations through formal and informal education, and revitalization of the abandoned segments of the cultural goods – raise awareness in the public and support the protection and preservation of the goods by the identification of globalization process and social change towards a safeguarding concept of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Slavonia... 219 to avoid the danger of disappearance, destruction and commercialization of the goods, and to encourage close relationship and tolerance among people – encourage the drafting of local dictionary and grammar books – implement the nurture of mother tongue in the primary and secondary school curricula“ (Decision on the Protection of the Speech of the Posavina Village Siće, 2008, Berbić-Kolar, Galzina, Matanović, 2014: 218–219). Apart from the Siće speech, the Stari Perkovci speech is extremely important for Slavonia and Baranja, which was protected by the Ministry of Culture in August 2010, which also passed a Decision on the Protection of one of the most archaic Shtokavian speeches – the Stari Perkovci speech. The speech of Stari Perkovci is marked as an asset: Z – 4847. It is a very archaic speech that preserves the Old Shtokavian features and draws a connection with the original situation, i.e. Old Slavic and Old Croatian languages, and represents an exceptional national linguistic value. The Decision on the Protection of the Stari Perkovci speech contains the same guidelines for the protection and popularization as in the Siće speech. In order to exemplify the sustainability of these two speeches through all scientific, professional and popularization measures, the following text lists all activities carried out to protect and popularize the Siće and Stari Perkovci speeches from the moment of protection until today. Since measures for the sustainability of a protected cultural property primarily relate to the scientific description and popularization of the protected cultural property, the following paper will list all published scientific and professional books and articles, as well as projects aimed at sustainability of the protected property and its preservation and promotion of the cultural value of a nation, in this case Croatian. In addition to published books, articles and implemented projects, other activities carried out with the purpose of preserving these two protected speeches will be indicated. From the mentioned activities in scientific, professional and popularization sense, it will be clear that Siće and Stari Perkovci speeches are examples of good practice of sustainability of intangible linguistic cultural heritage of the Republic of Croatia in Europe and even in the world.

4.1. Speech of the Posavina village Siče

a) published papers

- Berbić-Kolar, E. & Kolenić, Lj. (2011). Sičanski govor, *Šokačka rič* 8, Bilić, A. (ed.). Vinkovci: Zajednica kulturno-umjetničkih djelatnosti, str. 115–132.
- Kolenić, Lj., Berbić-Kolar, E. & Matanović, D. (2011). Students on linguistic field research in eastern part of Croatia, *Kepzes es Gyakorlat*, 9. 1–2; 77–89.
- Berbić-Kolar, E. (2012). Fonološka i morfološka obilježja zaštićenih govora u Slavoniji, *Aktualna istraživanja u primijenjenoj lingvistici*, Osijek, str. 115–125.
- Kolenić, Lj., Berbić-Kolar, E. & Đurić, T. (2012). Student participation in preserving non-material cultural goods, *Kepzes es Gyakorlat Training & Practice*, Hajdicsne Varga Katalin (ed.). Kaposvar, Hungary.
- Kolenić, Lj. & Berbić-Kolar, E. (2014). Sveze riječi u sičanskom govoru. *Šokačka rič* 11. Bilić, Anica (ed.). Vinkovci: ZAKUD. 7–20.
- Berbić-Kolar, E. Galzina, V. & Matanović, D. (2014). Towards a safeguarding concept of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Slavonia, Baranya and Syrmia – aspects of digitization, processing, conservation and dissemination of sound, image and shape, *Medijska istraživanja*, Vol. 20, Num. 2, str. 213–231.
- Berbić-Kolar, E. Galzina, V. & Matanović, D. (2016). Evaluating intangible cultural heritage safeguarding in the case of Slavonia, Baranya and Syrmia, International multidisciplinary scientific conferences on social sciences and arts, Vol. 1, Num. 3, str. 71–78.
- Berbić-Kolar, E. Gligorić, I.M. (2018). O jeziku kao identitetu i vrijednoj kulturnoj baštini slavonskoga dijalekta, *Tadijino stoljeće: povijest, kultura, identitet* / Matanović, D. at al. (ed.), Osijek – Poznanj: Faculty of Education Osijek- Faculty of Polish and Classic Philology in Poznan.
- Berbić-Kolar, E. (2020). Usporedba tradicijskoga leksika dvaju mjesnih govora slavonskoga dijalekta: Bačkoga Monoštora i Siča, *Zbornik radova sa Znanstveno-stručnoga skupa Etnokulturni identitet Hrvata u Vojvodini: povijesni i suvremeni procesi*, Bara, M. Galović, F. & Mihaljević, L. (ed.), Zagreb: Catholic University of Croatia. 117–132.
- Berbić-Kolar, E. & Galzina, V. (2020). Digitization project of intangible cultural heritage in Slavonia, Baranya and Syrmia, *4. International Mediterranean Symposium*, Durmuş, Ali Arslan; Radik, Galiullin; Obidjon, Sofiyev; Eldar, Nabiyeviç (ur.), Mersin: Mer-Ak Mersin Akademi Yayınları, Mer-Ak Publishing House.

b) unpublished work (conference presentation)

Kolenić, Lj., Berbić-Kolar, E. & Matanović, D. (2010). Linguistic Field Research on Protected Croatian Languages, Education and Citizenship in a Globalising World. London.

c) published books

Berbić-Kolar, E. & Kolenić, Lj. (2014). *Sičanske riči*, Osijek: University of Osijek, Faculty of Teacher Education. (Figure 1)



Figure 1. Cover of the scientific monograph with Sičanske riči glossary

- Berbić-Kolar, E. at al. (2017). *Leksikon slavonske narodne medicine brodskoga Posavlja*, Osijek: Faculty of Education. (Figure 3)

4.2. Stari Perkovci speech

a) published papers

- Kolenić, Lj. & Berbić-Kolar, E. (2008). *Govor Starih Perkovaca*, Šokačka rič 5, Bilić, Anica (ed.), Vinkovci, Hrvatska. 82–92.
- Kolenić, Lj., Berbić-Kolar, E. & Matanović, D. (2011). Students on linguistic field research in eastern part of Croatia, *Kepzes es Gyakorlat*, 9. 1–2; 77–89¹⁰
- Kolenić, Lj. & Berbić-Kolar, E. (2012). Tradicijski sičanski leksik, *Šokačka rič* 9. Vinkovci: ZAKUD. 7–42
- Berbić-Kolar, E. (2012). Fonološka i morfološka obilježja zaštićenih govora u Slavoniji, Aktualna istraživanja u primijenjenoj lingvistici, Osijek. 115–125¹¹
- Kolenić, Lj., Berbić-Kolar, E. & Đurić, T. (2012). Student participation in preserving non-material cultural goods, *Kepzes es Gyakorlat Training & Practice*, Hajdicsne Varga Katalin (ed.). Kaposvar, Hungary.¹²
- Berbić-Kolar, E., Galzina, V. & Matanović, D. (2014). Towards a safeguarding concept of the Intangible Cultural Heritage in Slavonia, Baranya and Syrmia – aspects of digitization, processing, conservation and dissemination of sound, image and shape, *Medijska istraživanja*, 20(2); 213–231¹³
- Berbić-Kolar, E., Galzina, V. & Matanović, D. (2016). Evaluating intangible cultural heritage safeguarding in the case of Slavonia, Baranya and Syrmia, International multidisciplinary scientific conferences on social sciences and arts, 1, 3; 71–78¹⁴
- Berbić-Kolar, E. & Gligorić, I. M. (2018). O jeziku kao identitetu i vrijednoj kulturnoj baštini slavonskoga dijalekta, *Tadijino stoljeće: povijest, kultura, identitet* / Matanović, D. at al. Osijek – Poznan: Faculty of Education in Osijek – Fakultet of Polish and Classic Philology in Poznan.¹⁵
- Berbić-Kolar, E. (2018). Turkish loanwords in the Slavonian dialect, with an emphasis Stari Perkovci Speech as an example of a protected vernacular of the Republic of Croatia, *Balkanlar da Edebi iliskiler ve dil Aspects of Language and Literature relations in the Balkan*, Gore, Z. Delibegović Džanić, N. & Avci, I. (ed.). Ankara: Gece Kitapligi.

¹⁰ The paper mentions both speeches, of Siče and Stari Perkovci.

¹¹ same

¹² same

¹³ same

¹⁴ same

¹⁵ same

- Berbić-Kolar, E. & Čalušić Marković, A. (2020). Kulturno sjećanje na igru i igračke u staroperkovačkome govoru kroz kulturološki i jezični diskurs, *Dani hrvatske knjige i riječi: dani Balinta Vujkova / Čeliković, Katarina* (ed.), Subotica: Hrvatska čitaonica, Zavod za kulturu vojvođanskih Hrvata.
- Berbić-Kolar, E. & Galzina, V. (2020). Digitization project of intangible cultural heritage in Slavonia, Baranya and Syrmia, 4. *International Mediterranean Symposium*, Durmuş, A. A. at al. (ed.), Mersin: Mer-Ak Mersin Akademi Yayınları, Mer-Ak Publishing House.¹⁶

b) unpublished work (conference presentation)

- Kolenić, Lj., Berbić-Kolar, E. & Matanović, D. (2010). Linguistic Field Research on Protected Croatian Languages, Education and Citizenship in a Globalising World. London¹⁷

c) published books

Slavonska narodna medicina (picture book), Berbić-Kolar, E. (ed.), Po-savska hrvatska, 2013.¹⁸ (Figure 2)



Figure 2. Cover of the picture book *Slavonska narodna medicina* (Slavonian folk medicine)¹⁹

¹⁶ same

¹⁷ same

¹⁸ The picture book *Slavonska narodna medicina* was also published in digital form, digitization was done by Dr Marko Šošiće, Assistant Professor from the Faculty of Education, University of Osijek.

¹⁹ Author's work of a group of students of Class-Teacher Studies.

- Berbić-Kolar, E. at al. (2017). Leksikon slavonske narodne medicine brodskoga Posavlja, Osijek: Faculty of Education. (Lexicon) (Figure 3)

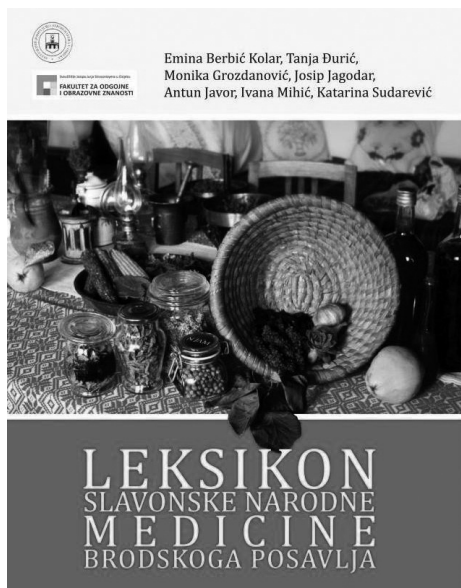


Figure 3. Cover of the Leksikon slavonske narodne medicine (Lexicon of Slavonian folk medicine)²⁰

d) Doctoral thesis

- Berbić-Kolar, E. (2009). Govori slavonskoga dijalekta brodskoga kraja, doctoral thesis, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Osijek (one of the studies on local speeches as part of the thesis was Stari Perkovci speech).

4.3. Projects including research and popularization of the Siče and Stari Perkovci speeches

All these projects were implemented by the Faculty of Education, University of Osijek:

²⁰ Authors Professor Berbić-Kolar and a group of students of the Class-teacher studies of the Faculty of Education.

1. Digitalization of Stari Perkovci speech, approved in August 2014, was carried out for a year, funded by the University of Osijek.
2. Intangible cultural heritage – protected speeches in Slavonia, approved in February 2015, was carried out for a year, funded by the University of Osijek.
3. Popularization of protected languages as an intangible cultural asset of the Republic of Croatia, the project was approved and financed by the Ministry of Science and Education in the period from September to December 2017.
4. Staroperkovački divani, the project was funded by the Ministry of Culture and Media, they project was implemented during 2018.
5. Kazivanje po staroperkovački (Talking in Stari Perkovci speech), the project was funded by the Ministry of Culture and Media, it was implemented during 2019.
6. Lexical contributions to the study of the Slavonian dialect on the example of collecting the lexical dictionary corpus of Stari Perkovci speech as an intangible cultural asset of the Republic of Croatia. The project was approved in June 2020 and will be implemented for three years, funded by the Faculty of Education.

4.4. Popularization of protected speeches through lectures, round tables and forums

On October 18, 2012, a lecture by Professor Ljiljana Kolenić, PhD, and Emina Berbić-Kolar, PhD, Assistant Professor, on Protected Speeches in Slavonia – Siče and Stari Perkovci was held at the City Library in Slavonski Brod and was open to citizens and On June 18, 2018, a scientific colloquium entitled On the Protection of Local Speeches was held. The colloquium was organized by the Institute for the Culture of Vojvodina Croats from Subotica, the Republic of Serbia. Professor Ljiljana Kolenić and Emina Berbić-Kolar, PhD, Associate Professor, spoke about examples of good practice: Siče and Stari Perkovci speeches, namely, about all phases of protection through all implemented activities and publishing of the dictionary of protected speech.

November 21, 2018, Associate Professor Emina Berbić-Kolar, PhD, gave an invited lecture entitled On the Protection of Local Speeches as an Intangible Cultural Property of the Republic of Croatia at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On December 12, 2018, a round table entitled The Position and Meaning of Intangible Linguistic Cultural Heritage in the Republic of Croatia and Neighbouring Countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of

Serbia was held. The round table was held in cooperation with the Faculty of Education and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Tuzla (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and the Institute for the Culture of Vojvodina Croats (Republic of Serbia). The round table was attended by: Professor Damir Matanović, PhD, and Associate Professor Emina Berbić-Kolar, PhD, from the Faculty of Education, Preofessor Ljiljana Kolenić, PhD, from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Osijek; Assistant Professor Klara Bilić-Meštrić, PhD, from the Croatian Studies in Zagreb on behalf of the Republic of Croatia, Professor Amira Turbić-Hadžagić, PhD, and Associate Professor Nihada Delinegović-Džanić, PhDm from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Tuzla on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as Tomislav Žigmanov and Katarina Čeliković from the Institute for the Culture of Vojvodina Croats on behalf of the Republic of Serbia.



Figure 4. Round table poster
The position and meaning of intangible cultural heritage²¹

²¹ The autor of the poster is Marko Šošić, PhD. Art., professor on Faculty of Education, J. J. Strossmayer University.

On March 4, 2020, Associate Professor Emina Berbić-Kolar, PhD, gave a lecture at the School of Economics and Office Technology in Slavonski Brod entitled Native Idiom in Croatian Language Teaching. The lecture was held on the occasion of the Croatian Language Day.

4.5. Siče and Stari Perkovci speeches in the media

The speeches from Siče and Stari Perkovci have been quite covered in the media, as evidenced by the links to newspaper articles that I cite in the footnotes. The popularization of these two speeches is certainly achieved through media coverage and appearances, namely through newspaper articles, portal articles (which are the most widely read a/n), radio and television news²². I would definitely single out Osijek, Slavenska and Slavonski Brod television, which have been following this topic for years and often have thematic shows dedicated to protected speeches and the Slavonian dialect in general.

4.6. Siče and Stari Perkovci speeches within the study programmes of the Faculty of Education, University of Osijek

The Faculty of Education can boast of four courses in its study programmes in which protected speeches and intangible cultural heritage are studied. These are Local idiom²³ (performed in the fifth year of Class-Teacher Studies), focused on independent student field research of Old Shtokavian dialects and Linguistic Cultural Heritage in the second year of graduate study of Early and Preschool Education. The aim of this course is to introduce students to the intangible cultural heritage of the Republic of Croatia and to conduct independent field linguistic research in Slavonia, Baranja and western

²² <https://www.ngbuntovnici.hr/index.php/separatum-votum/izdvojeni-glas/903-o-jezi-ku-kao-identitetu-i-vrijednoj-nematerijalnoj-bastini-uz-novi-radijski-ciklus-zastiti-mo-nas-sokacki-govor>
<https://radiong.hr/ministarstvo-znanosti-odobrilo-potporu-programu-popularizacije-izvor-nog-slavonskog-dijalekta/>
<http://www.zkvh.org.rs/index.php/vijesti/aktivnosti-zavoda/5119-zkvh-na-okruglom-stolu-o-jezicnoj-kulturnoj-bastini-u-slavonskom-brodu>
<http://www.glas-slavonije.hr/214309/4/Zasticeno-slavonsko-je-i-orubicko-kolo-na-dva-kata-suncana-cipka-i-stari-govor>
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https://slavonskiportal.com/232_sicanske_rici_jedinstveno_hrvatsko_jezicno_blogo

²³ At the Faculty, the course Native Idiom was originally taught under the name Slavonian Dialect and in that form was taken over from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Osijek, the lecturer was Professor Ljiljana Kolenić, PhD.

Srijem.²⁴ As for this academic year, an interdisciplinary doctoral study Educational Sciences and Perspectives of Education has been launched, within which there is a compulsory course Heritage Humanities in Education and an elective course Language and Identity in Education. Both courses deal with heritage, the compulsory course covers the entire tangible and intangible cultural heritage and is taught by the historian, Professor Damir Matanović, PhD and the linguist – dialectologist, Associate Professor Emina Berbić-Kolar, PhD, which covers the outcomes of heritage humanities topics in its entirety, while the elective course Language and Identity in Education focuses on the right of every child to linguistic expression in their organic speech. It can be seen from the above that the topic of intangible cultural heritage in the course curricula of the Faculty of Education extends to all levels from undergraduate to postgraduate, which indicates the specificity of our institution as a faculty that focuses on heritage research with the emphasis on research and protection of small local endangered speeches.



Figure 5. Example of filed teaching in Stari Perkovci (private collection)

²⁴ Kolenić, Berbić-Kolar, Matanović (2011) and Kolenić, Berbić-Kolar and Đurić (2012) wrote about student linguistic research at the Faculty of Education (former Faculty of Teacher Education).

5. CONCLUSION

The Siče and Stari Perkovci speeches are protected as intangible cultural assets of the Republic of Croatia, 13 years have passed since their protection (for the Siče speech) and 11 years (for the Stari Perkovci speech). According to the guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia within the decision on protection, numerous activities have been implemented to achieve the sustainability of the protected cultural property. The greatest progress and benefit are visible in the contribution to Croatian dialectology and linguistics, i.e. the study of Old Shtokavian as the most archaic form of speech in the Republic of Croatia. As already mentioned, it is interesting that both Slavonian speeches are from Brod-Posavina County, one speech is located west of Slavonski Brod (Siče), and the other east of Slavonski Brod (Stari Perkovci). The specificity of both protected speeches is the fact that they belong to the same area. The area covered by Brod-Posavina County is the area where there are places (rural areas) with the most archaic Old Shtokavian dialects that preserve the oldest state of the Croatian language. The visibility and importance of protected intangible cultural assets has been recognized by the local community, in which we especially emphasize Brod-Posavina County as the host of scientific, cultural and professional events related to these two intangible cultural assets. In support of this, we stress the fact that the Brod-Posavina County recognized the efforts of Professor Berbić-Kolar in the mentioned area and in 2013 awarded her the annual award for professional success, i.e. the protection and popularization of the Siče and Stari Perkovci speeches.²⁵ The area around the town of Slavonski Brod is the heart of Old Shtokavian and Šokci culture (ethnic group Šokci are active speakers of Old Shtokavian speeches and guardians of Šokci culture and tradition, and thanks to them and their active daily use of the Slavonian dialect they preserved this valuable Old Shtokavian dialect – Posavina subdialect of the Slavonian dialect). Precisely because the villages of Brod-Posavina are the most archaic and the Slavonian dialect is best preserved in all its forms, Professor Berbić-Kolar and her home institution, the Faculty of Education, as the bearers of most scientific, professional and popularization activities related to the two intangible cultural assets which were written about in the paper, proposed the establishment of the Centre for Research of Intangible Cultural Heritage in the city of Slavonski Brod as a centre for preservation of intangible cultural heritage of Slavonia, Baranja and Srijem. Launching such an important linguistic centre is a guideline that initiates new ideas and new

²⁵ http://www.bpz.hr/_Data/Files/130716131653921.pdf (retrieved 24. 1. 2021).

activities in the process of protection and recognition of intangible cultural assets of the Republic of Croatia. It is an idea that has been going on for the last ten years and will finally be realized in 2021. The centre will be part of the Slavonski Brod Fortress. The Brod Fortress is a monument of zero category and the location of the Centre in this important monumental space of the Republic of Croatia will be extremely important for the local, regional and national community, and especially for the Faculty of Education, which will be the first research centre for linguistic dialectological studies.²⁶ It is in this context it should be concluded that the sustainability, visibility and popularization of intangible Slavonian cultural assets will be the focus of the research centre which will start operating in the second half of 2021 and thus become the first such centre in Croatia and beyond. A group of young enthusiasts and scientists will have adequate resources for field work, storage, analysis and ultimately the publication of the collected linguistic results. Precisely for this reason, it is reasonable to believe that the Siće and Stari Perkovci speeches, as examples of protected intangible cultural assets, are the best examples of good practice that show that old dialects threatened with extinction can and should be revitalized.

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²⁶ About the establishment and equipping of the Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage <https://www.slavonski-brod.hr/vijesti/11066-odobrena-sredstva-za-financiranje-projekta-obnova-tvrđave-opremanje> (Retrieved 24. 1.2021).

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Emina BERBIĆ-KOLAR

ODRŽIVOST JEZIČNE NEMATERIJALNE KULTURNE BAŠTINE REPUBLIKE HRVATSKE KROZ PROCES ZAŠTITE MJESNIH GOVORA KAO NEMATERIJALNIH KULTURNIH DOBARA

Radom će se prikazati nematerijalna jezična kulturna dobra Republike Hrvatske i njihov značaj za kulturni identitet Hrvata i Republike Hrvatske kao jedne od zemalja potpisnica Konvencije o očuvanju nematerijalne kulturne baštine. Republika je Hrvatska ratificirala Konvenciju 2005., a Konvencija se primjenjuje od 2006. (kada ju je potpisalo trideset zemalja). Republika Hrvatska imenovala je Povjerenstvo za zaštitu nematerijalnih kulturnih dobara 2002. te već od tada promišlja i unaprjeđuje proces zaštite, očuvanja i popularizacije nematerijalne kulturne baštine. Proces zaštite nematerijalnih jezičnih kulturnih dobara u Republici Hrvatskoj temeljen je na Zakonu o zaštiti i očuvanju kulturnih dobara iz 1999. Svrha je rada dati prikaz nematerijalne jezične baštine Republike Hrvatske, a cilj je utvrditi način i postupak vrednovanja nematerijalnoga kulturnoga dobra koje je uvršteno na listu zaštićenih kulturnih dobara RH te posljedično utjecaj i značaj zaštićenoga kulturnoga dobra na zajednicu nakon uvrštavanja na listu. Ujedno je i cilj rada dati pregled jezičnih baštinskih dobara kao temelja očuvanja jezičnoga i kulturnoga identiteta. Kao temeljni i ogledni primjeri zaštićenih nematerijalnih kulturnih dobara poslužiti će sičanski i staroperkovački mjesni govori. U radu će se koristiti metoda analiziranja i sintetiziranja postojeće znanstvene građe o jezičnoj baštini kao i autoričine terenske snimke zaštićenih mjesnih govora.

Ključne riječi: *nematerijalno jezično kulturno dobro, Konvencija o očuvanju nematerijalne kulturne baštine, sičanski govor, staroperkovački govor, dijalektologija, jezik*