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AN OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF ONOMASTICS IN CROATIA

Byzantine emperor and writer Constantine VII Porphyrogenitus made a comprehensive list of Croatian idioms in his work *De Administrando Imperio* [*On the Governance of the Empire*]. In addition to listing the idioms, Constantine VII was the first to explain their etymology, claiming that „Croats are those who own a lot of land“. He was also the first to mention historical traditions of the arrival of Croats in today's regions, saying they were led by five brothers: Kluka, Klobek, Kosinc, Muklo, Hrvat and two sisters: Tuga and Buga. Apart from explaining the meaning of the name Hrvat [Croat] in the Slavic language, Porphyrogenitus also explains the etymology of many other names assigned to peoples.

Faust Vrančić is rarely mentioned as the first Croatian etymologist. In his 1595 *Dictionary*, he gave an analysis of Hungarian words belonging to Slavic languages. Vrančić's follower and the first Croatian onomastician was Pavao Ritter Vitezović (1652–1713), who relied on folk speech and historical sources. According to Putanec, Vitezović made the largest list of names with their many variations. Furthermore, we will mention Franc Miklošič and Tomo Maretić. Relying on the documents from Dalmatian cities dating back to 9th – 15th century, Konstantin Jireček compiled registers of Roman, Greek, Old Christian, and other foreign names, Slavic names in Dalmatian cities from the 10th to the 15th century along with surnames and nicknames in Dalmatian cities from the year of 1000 to 1500, according to Putanec. Finally, of great importance are the works of the following Croatian onomasticians: Valentin Putanec, France Bezlaj, Antun Mayer, Otto Franck, Petar Skok, Božidar Finka, Blaž Jurišić, Mate Suić, Mate Šimundić, Petar Šimunović, Stjepko Težek, Živko Bjelanović, Stjepan Babić, Dunja Brozović Rončević, Anđela Frančić, Domagoj Vidović, and others.

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1. Introduction

Although onomastics as a scientific discipline developed within lexicology, some of the basic works in onomastics were written at the end of the 17th and in the first half of the 18th century. Onomastics (Croatian term „imenoslovlje“) studies primarily personal names, surnames, nicknames, and names of geographical objects. Onomastics, thus, studies names in their comprehensiveness and versatility. In the past, the primary division of onomastics went in two directions: anthroponyms, i.e. people's personal names, surnames, and nicknames and toponyms, i.e. names of geographical objects and localities. Sometimes, in addition to this division, ethnonymy as the naming of peoples is also included. Such a classification is outdated, and onomastics as a scientific discipline has undergone changes in the classification and in terminology, which, just like in other scientific disciplines, had to be created and harmonized with other Slavic onomastic terminology.

Onomastics has acquired the status of an independent linguistic discipline in the last half-century, while the study of development, structure, and meaning of names existed well before. The aim of the paper is to show that the idioms of onomastics in Croatia are old with their own development path. Petar Šimunović has already written about the foundations and development of onomastics, and the most important onomasticians in Croatia. However, given that onomastics as a scientific discipline flourished and has gained significant popularity in the contemporary period, the need arose to include contemporary onomasticians in addition to Šimunović's division, on which this paper will be based, and to present their scientific achievements in the mentioned linguistic discipline.

2. Development of onomastics as a scientific discipline

Byzantine emperor and writer Constantine VII Porphyrogenitus made a comprehensive list of old toponyms in his work *De Administrando Imperio* [*On the Governance of the Empire*] and was the first to propose the etymology of the name Hrvat [Croat] deriving the Greek form of the Croatian name Κροάτης from the Greek word *khōra* meaning „land“ and explaining that the name Croat actually means „those who own a lot of land“. (Matasović, 2019: 81).

Today, this is considered folk etymology (Matasović, 2019: 81). This interpretation was supported by Vojislav Nikčević, 1987.

Ranko Matasović¹ wrote about the etymology of the name Hrvat and concluded that *Хъrvatъ is a Proto-Slavic form of the name traditionally recorded in Slavic studies. This pronunciation corresponds to the mid-ninth century pronunciation. According to Matasović, *Xurwātu is the form of the name that can be reconstructed in Proto-Slavic, around 600 BC, and the Proto-Slavic form of the name *Xurwātu > *Хъrvatъ is Latin *C(h)roata*, and Greek Khrōbátos, i.e. Khrōbátōi, whereby Slavic [wa] was adapted as [va] (in writing: <ba>). Furthermore, the author states that Constantine Porphyrogenitus recorded the Greek form that was mediated by the Frankish pronunciation of *Chroatae*, which is close to the recorded form in „Trpimir’s Deed of Donation“ from the 9th century, i.e. the genitive plural *Chroatorum* (Matasović, 2019: 82).

Greek Khrōbátōi contains Slavic [wa] adapted as [va] (in writing: <ba>). Greek adaptation is only credible if mediated by Latin. There is no reason why Byzantine Greek writers „would not write the Slavic *Xərwater as *Kharbatoī, *Khrouatoī etc. Writing with a sequence <-oba-> is understandable only if this is an adaptation of the medieval-Latin *Chroatae*. If the Greek form in Porphyrogenitus was mediated by Frankish, in Frankish pronunciation *Chroatae* probably stood for <xruwater> or <xrowater>, which is close to the recorded mid-ninth century’s form of the genitive plural *Chroatorum* used in „Trpimir’s Deed of Donation“. That the Greek form of the Slavic name in the 10th century would be mediated by Frankish (or Latin with the Frankish pronunciation) is not unusual, if known that Porphyrogenitus wrote about Croats precisely in the context of territorial disputes between Byzantium and

¹ The relevant onomastic literature rarely states that the first Croatian etymologist was Faust Vrančić (Šibenik, January 1, 1551 – Venice, January 20, 1617). Vrančić comes from a renowned Šibenik family, and his life was extremely influenced by his uncle Antun Vrančić, who educated him in Hungary, and then sent him to study in Padua and Venice. In 1605, Vrančić left the royal court, and a year later he renounced his bishop’s title and continued his struggle against the Reformation. On his way home, he died in Venice in 1617, and was buried in the church of St. Mary of Mercy on the island of Prvić in Prvić Luka. He is the author of several scientific works, and among lexicographic works the most important is the *Dictionary of the Five Most Noble European languages, Latin, Italian, German, Dalmatian and Hungarian (Dictionarium quinque nobilissimarum Europae linguarum, Latinae, Italicae, Germanicae, Dalmatiae et Ungaricae)*, which was printed in Venice in 1595. This was the first time that the Croatian language has been included among the five most important European languages. In the 1595 *Dictionary*, he gave an analysis of Hungarian words belonging to Slavic languages, which can be considered the beginning of the first etymological dictionary in the Croatian language. Vitezović followed in his footsteps by recording many toponyms.

the Frankish Empire, and that part of his passages dedicated to Croats were directed against Frankish pretensions“ (Matasović, 2019: 86).

Porphyrogenitus' work *De Administrando Imperio* contains a large amount of data on the oldest Croatian history, but also on many customs and state organization of the peoples who were neighbors or vassals of the Byzantine Empire. In the 29th chapter of this work, Porphyrogenitus writes that Diocletian settled Dalmatia with Roman families and founded the city of Split in which he built a palace. Dalmatia covered the area from the Danube, which the Romans once crossed to find unarmed Slavs, who were also called Avars, and captured them. Since then, every Easter, the Romans would send a border guard from Salona through Klis to the Danube. Slavs and Avars, after many years, invaded and overpowered the Roman border guards, took their military signs, crossed Klis, and conquered Salona. The Romans were driven away, and they took refuge in towns and islands in Dalmatia where they lived at the time of Porphyrogenitus writing *De Administrando Imperio*. The cities of the Byzantine Dalmatia as well as its peoples (Croats, Serbs, people from Zahumlje, Travunja, Konavle, Duklja, and the Neretva) gained independence from Byzantium and had their own rulers and county prefects who were not baptized. These people, too, were predominantly unbaptized. From the time of Basilio I, they accepted baptism, Byzantine rule, and rulers from the people's dynasties (Margetić, 1977: 6–7).

Chapter 30 of Porphyrogenitus' work contains valuable information about the earliest history of Croats and Croatia. In this work, he records the historical tradition of Croats who came to today's homeland led by five brothers: Kluk, Klobek, Kožočes, Muklo, and Hrvat, and two sisters Tuga and Buga, moving to Dalmatia with their people, and defeating the Avars who lived there. Other Croats remained in Bijela Hrvatska [White Croatia] along the Upper Vistula, around the present-day city of Krakow, recognizing Frankish rule. Some of the Croats who came to Dalmatia separated and conquered Illyricum and Pannonia. Dalmatian Croats spent several years under the Franks who used to torture them and kill their children. They started an uprising and defeated the Franks by killing their leader Kocil. Pope Heraclius baptized Croats who pledged allegiance to him and made a promise that they would not go to war, but that the ships would be used for fishing (Margetić, 1977: 9).

3. Croatian onomasticians

The first onomasticians in Croatia, who systematically engaged in onomastic research, was Pavao Ritter Vitezović. In his research, he relied on folk speech and historical sources and at the turn of the 18th century he made the largest list of names with their many variations. Since most of the onomastic

terminology was made only in the 20th century, Vitezović's terminology clearly defined the terms **a. nomen** = name; **b. adj.** = adjective – derived from first name, diminutive, surname, holidays; **c. diminutive** – hypocoristic and real diminutive; **d. patronymic** = surname, ending in -ić, -vić, -ević.; **e. metronymic** = surname derived from female name, with the same suffixes as in patronymic (Putanec, 1968: 47–48). Other onomastic terms were not recorded in Vitezović and were made relatively late.

The subject of Vitezović's study is the development of names. He classified anthroponyms into several groups and listed a number of variants of names. In his dictionary, he also interprets the genesis of biblical names and the names of saints. Furthermore, in his work *Lexicon Latino-Illyricum* he puts accent marks on names. Therefore, Vitezović can be rightly considered the pioneer of the onomastic research in Croatia and the first Croatian anthroponomastician.²

After Vitezović's contribution to Croatian onomastics, we should certainly mention Franc Miklošič³ and Tomislav Maretić.⁴ The latter focused on anthroponomastics and published a study *O narodnim imenima i prezimenima* [*On Folk Names and Surnames*] in 1886. He recorded a large number of Croatian and Serbian anthroponyms. In 1893, he published his first work in Croatian hydronymy entitled *Imena rijeka i potoka u hrvatskim i srpskim zemljama* [*Names of Rivers and Creeks in Croatian and Serbian Countries*], *Nastavni vjesnik* I. From 1907 until his death in 1938, he edited *Akademijin Rječnik* [*The Academy's Dictionary*].⁵

² Cf.: Putanec, 1968: 45–88.

³ Franc Miklošič (1813–1891) is a Slovenian philologist and Slavist. His capital works in onomastics include: *Die Bildung der Ortsnamen aus Personennamen* [*The Formation of Place Names from Personal Names*] from 1860 and *Die slavischen Ortsnamen aus Appellativen* [*The Slavic Place Names from Appellatives*] I–II, 1872–74. In the 19th century, Franjo Miklošič developed the most prolific onomastic activity on a comparative basis, in terms of onomastics in other Slavic countries: a) word formation of Slavic personal names and surnames, with an indication of whether they were realized in toponymy (1860), b) word formation of Slavic toponyms 1. from appellatives (1872), 2. from anthroponyms (1864). Onomastic studies are also found in his other works.

Some scientists spell the name Miklošič, and some Miklošić. Since it is a Slovenian surname, Miklošič is correct.

⁴ Tomislav Maretić (1854–1938) is a Croatian linguist, translator, Slavist, and anthroponomastician. He wrote following works: *Gramatika i stilistika hrvatskoga ili srpskoga književnog jezika* [*Grammar and Stylistics of the Croatian or Serbian Literary Language*] and *Gramatika hrvatskoga jezika za niže razrede srednjih škola* [*Grammar of the Croatian Language for Lower Grades of Secondary Schools*] from 1889. This also meant the victory of Croatian „vukovci“ and their linguistic theories of the Croatian language. Moreover, Maretić translated classical works belonging to world literature. He translated the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*.

⁵ The 1880 saw the publication of the comprehensive *Rječnik hrvatskoga ili srpskoga jezika* [*Dictionary of Croatian or Serbian language*]. It was published by the Yugoslav Academy

Since onomastics is a multidisciplinary study, the works of a famous historian and philologist Konstantin Jireček are of exceptional significance.⁶

Jireček laid the scientific foundations for Slavic onomastics. The subject of his study is the period of the Middle Ages, and his work *Romani u gradovima srednjega vijeka* [*The Romans in the Cities of the Middle Ages*] is important for the discipline of onomastics. The work was printed in Vienna from 1901 to 1903. He studied personal names and oiconyms in Roman towns of the Croatian littoral and especially in Dubrovnik (Šimunović, 2009: 65).

Of utmost importance for the onomastic study is also *Rječnik iz književnih starina srpskih* (1863. – 1864.) [*The Dictionary of Serbian Literary Antiquities* (1863–1864)] written by Đuro Daničić and transferred into the large *Academy's Dictionary*. This dictionary offers exceptional data on older anthroponyms in our territories.

In addition to these authors, Croatian onomastic material is also based on the works of France Bezlag⁷, Anton Mayer, Otto Franck, Konstantin Jireček, and others. They all studied the older linguistic layers of the western Illyricum.

2.1. Croatian onomastics in the 20th century

In Croatia, onomastics as a scientific discipline and systematic study of names was popularized in the first half of the 20th century. This means that until the first half of the 20th century, there was little real onomastic research.

The establishment of *The Interacademic Committee of Onomastic Sciences* was of utmost importance for the discipline. After World War II, more precisely in 1946, the book *Cadastre National de l'Istrie* was published,⁹ followed by more onomastic research. The book was based on a census of the

of Sciences and Arts in Zagreb. It is a great source for the study of our idionymy, containing many of our anthroponyms and toponyms interpreted from the point of view of etymology.

⁶ Konstantin Jireček was born on 24 June 1854 in Vienna and died on 10 January 1918 in Vienna. He is a renowned historian, geographer, and philologist. He is the grandson of the famous scientist Pavel Jozef Šafárik. He worked as a professor in Prague and Vienna. Significant are his works from the history of Southeast Europe. In his works, he puts emphasis on the medieval period.

⁷ France Bezlag (1910–1933) was a Slovenian linguist and onomastician. Founder and editor of *Onomastica Jugoslavica* (1969–1991). His works include: *Stratigrafija Slovanov v luči onomastike* [*Stratigraphy of the Slavs in the Light of Onomastics*] (1958); *Etimološki slovar slovenskega jezika* (*Etymological Dictionary of the Slovenian Language*, I–IV, 1976–2005).

⁸ Anton Mayer (1883–1957) was a Croatian classical philologist and Indoeuropeanist. He is considered the most important researcher of Croatian Illyrian onomastics. *Die Sprache der alten Illyrier I–II* [*The Language of the Ancient Illyrians*] is still of great importance to Indoeuropeanists today.

⁹ Cf.: Šimunović, 2009: 88.

population in Istria in 1946 (Istrian surnames). Back then, Istria was part of the Italian state. In addition to the *Cadastre*, the *Index Patronymique* containing a list of Istrian surnames in alphabetical order was also published. Famous Croatian linguists such as Petar Skok and Mirko Deanović were among the contributors.

The Interacademic Committee of Onomastic Sciences was established in the 1960s, followed by more systematic onomastic research (at Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts, JAZU). The incentive for the establishment of the Committee was given by Petar Skok, and the Committee was founded after his death in September 1956. The aim was also to create a dictionary of anthroponymy, a dictionary of toponymy, a dictionary of personal names, surnames, nicknames, etc.

Scientific symposiums certainly had a major role in promoting onomastic research, as of 1975. The first symposium was devoted to the general theme of onomastics (Tivat, 22–24 October, 1975), the second was held in Skopje with the theme of permeating of anthroponomy and toponymy (6–9 October, 1977), followed by symposia in Dubrovnik, where anthroponomic issues and geographical terminology were discussed (*Onomastica Jugoslavica* X, 1982); moreover, in Portorož the themes of hydronymy and anthroponymy was discussed (14–17 October, 1981); while in Mostar, historical onymy until the end of the XVI century was the theme (9–12 October, 1983). The last onomastic symposium before the dissolution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was held in Podgorica, and the theme was the name structure (19–23 April, 1990). Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (HAZU, Razred za filološke znanosti) organizes an international scientific conference in honor of Petar Skok every four years. After the Homeland War, the scientific conference initially called *The Days of Petar Skok* was organized in Croatian cities quadrennially. The conference was later renamed *Etymological and Onomastic Conference in Honor of Petar Skok* (so far held in Zagreb, Pula, Zadar, Krk, Vukovar, Korčula, Gospić, Zadar, and Međimurje) (Frančić, 2015: 79).

Through their research, participation in scientific conferences, but also through their involvement in the development of terminology and through following contemporary onomastic methods used by other Slavic peoples, Croatian onomasticians significantly influenced the affirmation of onomastics as an independent scientific discipline in the 20th century. An important contribution for the study of Croatian onomastics was made by: Blaž Jurišić, Milivoj Pavlović, Mate Suić, Valentin Putanec, Božidar Finka, Stjepan Babić, Stjepko Težak, Mate Hraste and, of course, Petar Skok as the central figure of Croatian onomastics in the first half of the 20th century (Frančić, 2015: 77).

This paper diachronically lists biographical data on our prominent onomasticians.

The greatest Croatian onomastician in the 20th century is **Petar Skok** (Jurkovo Selo, Žumberak, March 1, 1881 – Zagreb, February 3, 1956). He is the founder of Roman studies in Croatia, and his works have significantly contributed to the study of onomastics in Croatia. In addition to linguistic and onomastic research, he also dealt with literary criticism, writing under the pseudonym P. S. Mikov. He laid the foundations for all onomastic research. Particularly noteworthy is his contribution to the study of toponyms. His works include: books *Dolazak Slavena na Mediteran* [*Arrival of Slavs in the Mediterranean*] (Split, 1934) and *Slavenstvo i romanstvo na jadranskim prostorima* [*Slavic and Roman Studies in the Adriatic Areas*] (Zagreb, 1950, I–II); discussions: *Postanak Splita* [*Genesis of Split*] (Anali Historijskog instituta JAZU u Dubrovniku 1, 1952, 19–62), *Postanak hrvatskoga Zadra* [*Genesis of Croatian Zadar*] (Radovi Instituta JAZU u Zadru 1, 1954, 37–68), and many other discussions.¹⁰ He is the author of *Etimologijski rječnik hrvatskoga ili srpskoga jezika I–IV* [*Etymological Dictionary of the Croatian or Serbian language I–IV*] (1971 – 1974), which includes many onyms along with other lexicon. His unfinished manuscript containing over 10.000 entries was published posthumously by Valentin Putanec in three volumes: Book one (A–J) 1971, Book two (K–poni') 1972, and Book three (poni' – Z) 1973. It was published by the Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts, Zagreb, edited by Mirko Dejanović and Ljudevit Jonke.

With his scientific work, Skok significantly influenced the development of onomastics, and he was one of the most important European experts in the field in his time.

Anđela Frančić quoting Petar Šimunović referring to Petar Skok states: „Despite the objections concerning etymological and young grammarians' methods in dealing with names, it is an undeniable fact that Skok 'with his work and authority enabled [...] Croatian onomastic science to go beyond the borders of Croatia and elevated it to the enviable height of European onomastics of that time', according to Šimunović“ (Frančić, 2015: 77).

Older onomastic research until the mid-20th century was based on the comparative method. In addition to the term comparative, the term etymological method is also used. Although the comparative method is used in contemporary research, today special attention is given to extra-linguistic features of names. The aim is to explain names at linguistic and extra-linguistic levels and

¹⁰ Petar Šimunović refers to entire Skok's onomastic bibliography in: V. Putanec, P. Šimunović, *Onomastička bibliografija* [*Onomastic Bibliography*] (Djela Jazu 68, 1987, No. 271–272, 480–487, 3986–4921) (Šimunović, 2009: 67).

join other scientific disciplines to offer comprehensive solutions in reconstructing the names.

The author of the first Croatian dialectological dictionary is **Blaž Jurišić** (Vrgada, 1891 – Zagreb, 1974). From 1930 to 1941, he was the editor-in-chief of *Hrvatska revija* [Croatian Journal]. He was a professor at the Higher Pedagogical School in Split from 1945 to 1949, after which he worked for JAZU's Adriatic Institute in Zagreb, and later for the Language Institute until his retirement in 1959, leading the Onomastic Working Unit. In the context of onomastics, he mostly dealt with toponyms of the Croatian littoral and explored the origins of the surnames of his native region Vrgada (research in Šopot). His most important onomastic works include: *Toponimika zapadne Istre, Cresa i Lošinja* [Toponymy of Western Istria, Cres, and Lošinj] and *Iz pomorske toponomastike zadarskog i šibenskog područja* [From the Maritime Toponomastics of the Zadar and Šibenik Area].

He explored speech in his native Vrgada: *Rječnik govora otoka Vrgade* [Dictionary of the Speech of the Island of Vrgada] (Zagreb 1966) and maritime terminology: *Pomorski izrazi u Vitezovičevom rječniku* [Maritime Expressions in Vitezović's Dictionary] (Zagreb 1956). *Dnevnik Blaža Jurišića* [The diary of Blaž Jurišić] (Zagreb 1994) was published posthumously.¹¹

Distinguished Serbian philologist **Milivoj Pavlović** (1891–1974) wrote several studies on dialectological features related to all parts of the former Yugoslavia. His made a significant contribution to onomastic research. He has collaborated on the development of Croatian and Serbian onomastic terminology.¹²

Historian, philologist, and archaeologist **Mate Suić** (1915–1995) made an exceptional contribution in archaeology, history, linguistics, and especially in toponomastics. The center of his occupation was the prehistoric, ancient, and early medieval period. In his scientific papers he explored toponyms: *Istočnojadranska obala u Pseudo-Skilakovu Periplu* [The East Adriatic Coast in Pseudo-Skilak's Journey] (Rad JAZU, 1955), *O imenu Zadra, Ime otoka i grada Hvara* [On the Name of Zadar, The Name of the Island and the Town of Hvar] (1995), *Vrijeme i prostor u istočnojadranskoj toponimiji* [Time and Space in the East Adriatic Toponymy] (1988), etc.

From 1948, Croatian linguist **Valentin Putanec** (1917–2004) was the head of the Department of Onomastics and the Department of Lexicography at the then Institute of Language. He was the secretary of the Interacademic Committee of Onomastic Sciences and the Republic Committee of Onomastic Sciences. In 1996, he was awarded the „Order of Danica Hrvatska with the

¹¹ Cf.: Šimunović, 1974: 233–235.

¹² Cf.: Šimunović, 1974: 231–233.

Face of Ruđer Bošković“ for his outstanding contribution to Croatian science. His scientific work is very important for the development of onomastics, but also of linguistics.

His most important works include: *Leksik prezimena SR Hrvatske* [*Lexicon of the Surnames in SR Croatia*] (1978) edited by P. Š.; *Esej o jezičnom znaku i onomastici te antroponimiji u Hrvatskoj* [*Essay on the Linguistic Sign and Onomastics and Anthroponymy in Croatia*] (1976, pp. 1–48), *Retrospektivna onomastička bibliografija* [*Retrospective Onomastic Bibliography*] (Djela JAZU, 1987, co-authored by P. Šimunović). He prepared *Etimologijski rječnik P. Skoka* [*Etymological Dictionary by Petar Skok*] which he worked on for 25 years, first as Skok’s collaborator, and then as the editor and author of this famous work. He also wrote *French-Croatian Dictionary*, which includes more than 70 000 French entries, and *Priručnik za proučavanje povijest leksikografije* [*Handbook for the Study of History of Lexicography*].

Božidar Finka (1925–1999) studied the toponymic material of the Chakavian area (Zadar – Šibenik). In 1975, he became a member of JAZU, and since 1988 he has been a regular member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. He wrote *Hrvatski pravopis* [*Croatian Spelling Manual*] with Stjepan Babić and Milan Moguš. His contribution to the study of Croatian dialectology is significant. His most important works are: *Rad na prikupljanju obalne toponomastike u sjevernoj zadarskoj regiji* [*Work on Collecting Coastal Toponomastics in the Northern Zadar Region*], Ljetopis JAZU, 63, 423–430, 1958; *Obalna toponomastika u sjevernoj zadarskoj regiji* [*Coastal Toponomastics in the Northern Zadar Region*], Radovi instituta JAZU u Zadru, 6–7, 427–451, 1960; *Stanje i razvojne perspektive hrvatsko-srpske onomastike* [*The State and Developmental Perspectives of Croatian-Serbian Onomastics*], PAN, Prace onomastyczne, 5, 21–27, 1961; *Neki dijalekatski problemi u obalnoj toponomastici sjeverne zadarske regije* [*Some Dialectological Problems in Coastal Toponomastics of the Northern Zadar Region*], PAN, Prace onomastyczne, 5, 161–170, 1961; *Toponomastička istraživanja na obalnom potezu Privlaka – Rogoznica* [*Toponomastic Research on the Coastal Area Privlaka – Rogoznica*], Ljetopis JAZU, 67, 305–306, 1963; *Prilog utvrđivanju onomastičke terminologije* [*Contribution to the Determination of Onomastic Terminology*], Jezik, XI, 60–62, 1963; *Leksički problemi u toponomastici* [*Lexical Problems in Toponomastics*], Zbornik za filologiju i lingvistiku MS, VI, 117–123, 1963; *Hydronyms in the Coastal Toponymy of the Zadar and Šibenik Area*, Zbornik referatov, SAZU, 67–76; *Ojkonim – ojkonimija* [*Oiconym – Oiconymy*], Jezik, XXXII, 15–16, 1984.

Božidar Finka is the author of over 400 publications.¹³ It is his merit in establishing the onomastic terminology. Finka first tried to define the general concepts of onomastics. Anđela Frančić writes that Finka's yield to Croatian onomastic terminology is reflected in three papers, and the first paper is *Prilog utvrđivanju onomastičke terminologije* [*Contribution to the Determination of Onomastic Terminology*], published in 1963. In this work, Finka interprets „the synonymous use of terms: synonymous terms toponomastics, toponymy and toponymics, referring to the branch of onomastics which studies geographical names. The other two works, written about 20 years later (1984), are actually the answers to readers' questions. When asked if „ime“ [name] and „naziv“ [term] are synonyms, Finka replies that the use and meaning of these two words are completely demarcated, i.e. 'term implies the content, notion, concept of the entire group, and the name is directly assigned to a specific object and only that object with our entire knowledge of it forms the content of the name in question. These two categories also differ in spelling – the terms are spelled in lowercase and the names in uppercase'" (Frančić, 2013: 63–64).

Frančić concludes: „Finka scholarly explains the etymology and etiology by associating it with other similar names in Croatian (historical and contemporary) onymy. Having written dozens of works in onomastics, Božidar Finka made an undeniable contribution to the Croatian onomastics. He recorded a large number of names used among people but not recorded in written sources – taking into account the sociolinguistic environment, relying on previous research, he tried to give answers related to the etiology and etymology of individual toponyms – he warned about the correct forms of individual toponyms and their declensional characteristics – he formed clear spelling instructions on the writing of multi-word toponyms – he contributed to the formation and establishment of Croatian onomastic terminology“ (Frančić 2013: 66–67).

One of the most prolific Croatian linguists, **Stjepan Babić**, was born on 29 November 1925 in Oriovac. He was educated in Slavonski Brod, Osijek, and Zagreb. He studied Folk Language and Literature (A), Russian Language and Literature (B), and German Language (C) at the then Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb since 1949. He graduated in 1955. In the same year, he became assistant to the famous Croatian linguist Ljudevit Jonke. Since 1963, he has been a member of the editorial board of the journal *Jezik*, and since 1970, he has been editor-in-chief for 34 years (Ham, 2021: 121–122). In 1977, he became an associate member of HAZU, and since 1991, he has been a full member. He was a vice president of „Matica hrvatska“ from 1989 to 1992. He

¹³ Cf.: Šimunović, 2003: 13–17.

was awarded the Bartol Kašić Award for his significant scientific contribution to the study of the Croatian literary language in 1990 and the „Order of Danica Hrvatska with the Face of Ruđer Bošković“ for his outstanding contribution to science in 1995. He is the author of more than a thousand scientific and professional papers and eighteen books.¹⁴ He died in Zagreb on August 27, 2021. His most important works are: *Prezimana, toponimi, etnici i ktetici u književnom jeziku* [*Surnames, Toponyms, Ethnicity, and Ktetics in Literary Language*], Jezik 23, Zagreb 1976, pp. 139–144; *Sva prezimana SR Hrvatske* [*All surnames of the Republic of Croatia*], Parent publication: Jezik: časopis za kulturu hrvatskoga književnog jezika, 24 (1977), 3–4; pp. 126–127, Zagreb.

His works are included in today's school curriculum.¹⁵

Distinguished Croatian philologist and educator **Stjepko Težak** (1926–2006) focused on the field of dialectology and methodology of teaching the Croatian language. He is responsible for the introduction of film teaching in primary schools (*Metodika nastave filma* [*Methodology of Film Teaching*], 1990).

He contributed to the field of onomastics: *O poštostavljanju imena i prezimana* [*On Shtokavian Versions of Names and Surnames*], Jezik, XXII, Zagreb, 1974, pp. 18–25.

Folklorist and archivist **Velimir Mihajlović** (1928–1994) is the author of the following works: *Ime po zapovesti i imperativni onomastikon srpskohrvatskoga jezika* [*The Name on Command and the Imperative Onomasticon of the Serbian-Croatian Language*] (Nolit, Belgrade, 1992) and *Ime kao sudbine* [*The Name as Destiny*], completed by V. Živojinović in 2002 and published as *Srpski prezimenik* [*Book of Serbian Surnames*]. The book includes over 10.000 Serbian, Croatian, Montenegrin, and Bosniak surnames.

¹⁴ Cf.: Ham, 2011: 97–125.

¹⁵ He is the author of the following works: *Hrvatski pravopis* [*Croatian Spelling Manual*], co-authored by Božidar Finka and Milan Moguš, 1st forbidden edition 1971 [reprints: London 1972., Zagreb 1990], 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2002, 2003; *Pregled gramatike hrvatskoga književnog jezika* [*Review of the Grammar of the Croatian Literary Language*], co-authored by Stjepko Težak, 1973), later editions include *Gramatika hrvatskoga jezika* [*Grammar of the Croatian Language*], 1992 (7th ed.), *Gramatika hrvatskoga jezika: priručnik za osnovno jezično obrazovanje* [*Grammar of the Croatian Language: Handbook for Basic Language Education*], 2000 (12th ed.); *Tvorba riječi u hrvatskom književnom jeziku 1. (nacrt za gramatiku 1986), Word Formation in the Croatian Literary Language 1. (Draft for Grammar 1986), Povijesni pregled, glasovi i oblici hrvatskoga književnog jezika* [*Historical Review, Sounds, and Forms of Croatian Literary Language*] (1991), *Hrvatski školski pravopis* [*Croatian Spelling Manual for Schools*] (co-authored by Sanda Ham and Milan Moguš, 2005); *Glasovi i oblici hrvatskoga književnog jezika* [*Sounds and Forms of Croatian Literary Language*] (2007), and many others.

3.2. Croatian onomastics from Petar Šimunović to the present day

In the second half of the twentieth century, Petar Šimunović applied contemporary methods in onomastic research. Frančić states: „In the 1960s, Petar Šimunović will appear with his works on the topic of names and give a distinctive mark to contemporary Croatian onomastics with his books (Šimunović 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009) and shorter works. Šimunović started the only Croatian journal of onomastics, raised onomastic offspring, and made Croatian onomastics recognizable on a European and world scale“ (Frančić, 2015: 77–78).

Distinguished Croatian onomastician and dialectologist **Petar Šimunović** (1933 – 2014) received his doctorate with the research topic *Toponymy of the Island of Brač*. From 1964, he worked at the Institute of Croatian Language and Linguistics (the then JAZU). In 1970 he became the Head of the Department for Onomastic Research, and since 1991, he has been a regular member of HAZU. In the same year, he became a chairman of the *Onomastics Committee*. His works are fundamental to the study of onomastics. In 1998, he was awarded the „Order of Danica Hrvatska with the Face of Ruđer Bošković“ for his outstanding contribution to Croatian science.

Although the popularization of onomastics as a scientific discipline occurs in the first half of the 20th century, Petar Šimunović is responsible for its further development. His scientific oeuvre contains a large number of works devoted to anthroponymy and toponymy. It is impossible to list all his works and we will mention the most significant ones: *Toponimija otoka Brača* [*Toponymy of the Island of Brač*] (1972); Josip Bratulić – Petar Šimunović, *Prezimena i naselja u Istri: narodnosna statistika u godini oslobođenja I* [*Surnames and Settlements in Istria: Statistics of People in the Year of Liberation I*], Istra kroz stoljeća VI/35, Pula – Rijeka, 1985, 316 pp.; *Leksik prezimena SR Hrvatske* [*Lexicon of the Surnames in SR Croatia*] (1976, co-ed. by Valentin Putanac); *Prezimena i naselja u Istri* [*Surnames and Settlements in Istria*] (I–III, 1985 – 1986, co-ed. by Josip Bratulić) – elaborated version *Cadastre National de l'Istrie*; *Naša prezimena: porijeklo, značenje, rasprostranjenost* [*Our Surnames: Origin, Meaning, Prevalence*], Nakladni zavod Matice hrvatske, Zagreb 1985; *Istočnojadranska toponimija* [*East Adriatic Toponymy*], Logos, Split 1986; Valentin Putanec – Petar Šimunović, *Retrospektivna onomastička bibliografija hrvatsko-srpska do godine 1975* [*Retrospective Onomastic Croatian-Serbian Bibliography until 1975*] (ed. by Peter Rogulja, Djela JAZU 68, Razred za filološke znanosti, Zagreb 1987); *Hrvatska prezimena: podrijetlo, značenje, rasprostranjenost* [*Croatian Surnames: Origin, Meaning, Prevalence*], Golden marketing, Zagreb, 1995; *Toponimija hrvatskoga jadranskog*

prostora (2005); [*Toponymy of Croatian Adriatic Region*] (2005); *Hrvatski prezimenik* [*Book of Croatian Surnames*], 2008), co-ed. by Franjo Maletić; *Uvod u hrvatsko imenoslovlje* [*Introduction to Croatian Onomastics*], Golden marketing – tehnička knjiga, Zagreb, 2009, and many other discussions.

As opposed to the etymological method, which was particularly represented in the works written in the first half of the 20th century, Šimunović equally includes contemporary onomastic methods in his works.

Dunja Brozović Rončević states the following: „Petar Šimunović continued his onomastic research following Skok’s ideas, but he also significantly improved them in accordance with modern language achievements. In his scientific work, he did not limit himself to the diachrony and the etymological interpretations of names but paid special attention to dialectological research in the field, synchronous descriptions of individual organic speeches, sociological elements that influenced the etiology of names and the functioning of names in the context of the linguistic and social community“ (Brozović Rončević, 2003–2004: 3).

Šimunović left a strong imprint on Croatian onomastics in the second half of the 20th century, but at the same time he had an exceptional influence on the development of Croatian onomastic terminology. In *Uvod u hrvatsko imenoslovlje* [*Introduction to Croatian Onomastics*] (2009) P. Šimunović included a chapter „Priručni rječnik hrvatskih onomastičkih termina“ [„Reference Dictionary of Croatian Onomastic Terms“], in which he lists and defines about 80 onomastic terms. In this chapter, Šimunović omitted a number of onomastic terms. This is why there are inconsistencies in the choice of terms in the *Dictionary* and even in their definitions.

„Anthroponomastics is defined as a part of onomastics that studies anthroponyms, and toponomastics as the science that studies geographical names; anthroponymy is the entirety of anthroponyms of a given territory (at a certain time and in a certain language); toponymy is the sum of toponyms, anthroponyms are proper names for persons; toponym is a special onymic category that refers to geographical objects; and in the case of the names of populated and desolated places, he prefers the terms econymy and economastics, that is, their latinized forms“ (Šimunović, 2009: 74–79).

For example, the following terms are not included: onymization (conversion of a common name into a proper name); proprialization (conversion of a common noun and other words into a proper name). Furthermore, Šimunović does not include the entries of onomastics, personal name, surname, nickname, etc.¹⁶

¹⁶ According to Ankica Čilaš-Šimpraga and Anđela Frančić, the inconsistency in terminology

Thus, the absence of many terms required in the onomastic description is evident.

In co-authorship with Mate Hraste and Reinhold Olesch, he published a three-volume *Chakavian Dictionary Chakavisch-deutsches Lexikon I–III* (Chakavian dictionary including German terms and Chakavian texts) from 1979 to 1983.

Šimunović followed in Skok's footsteps and gave a more modern and complete list and description when studying names structures. He laid the foundations for all onomastic research, and he also had tremendous credit for compiling onomastic terminology.

Brozović Rončević rightly concludes: „Petar Šimunović is undeniably the most respected Croatian onomastician, known both in Croatia and in the world and recognized as a ‘metaphor’ of Croatian onomastics. Carefully collecting and interpreting Croatian names for decades, he gave us permanent monuments of memory because, as he himself points out, ‘a people who loses their memory, loses their identity’“ (Brozović Rončević, 2003–2004: 6).

Philologist and university professor Živko Bjelanović (1933–2021) has made a significant contribution to onomastics. He published two monographs, one dictionary and included his all works in the 2007 book *Onomastičke teme* [*Onomastic Themes*]. He wrote: *Imena stanovnika mjesta Bukovice* [*Names of Inhabitants of Bukovica*], Split, 1978; *Antroponimija Bukovice* [*Anthroponymy of Bukovica*], 1988; *Rječnik antroponima Bukovice* [*Dictionary of Anthroponyms of Bukovica*], Belgrade, 1989, and *Onomastičke teme* [*Onomastic Themes*], Hrvatska sveučilišna naklada, Zagreb, 2007. The latter work consists of the first part in which toponyms of ethnonymic origin are discussed; along with toponyms, oiconyms in Dalmatia, etc.; the second part is dedicated to anthroponymy, with an emphasis on family nicknames, and in the third

is also reflected in the following examples: „appellativization/deonymization is the conversion of anthroponyms (and proper names in general) into an appellative“, and onymization is „conversion of a common name into a proper name“; along with the anthroponomastic suffix, reference is made to the anthroponomastic formant, a term which does not exist in the *Dictionary* (there is the term anthropoformant); we would expect the occurrence of the term topoformant, but it misses – there is only a toponomastic base (and there is no anthroponomastic base); there is hydronymization („conversion of the appellative or any other onym to hydronym“), and there are no terms hodonymization, horonymization, oronymization; onymization („conversion of a common name into a proper name“) and proprialization (conversion of a common noun and other words into proper name) are synonyms, each of them is listed separately with no mutual reference; based on the definition („personal name of the deity“) and examples („Perun, Vesna, Mokoš, Morana, Jarilo“) given with the term theonym, it can be concluded that this term covers only pagan (polytheistic) and not Christian (monotheistic) religion; in the *Dictionary* we do not find entries onomastics, personal name, surname, nickname (...)“ Čilaš Šimpraga; Frančić, 2019: 30).

and final part the author deals with onomastic lexicography and lexicology. *Onomastic Themes* are one of the most significant works in the contemporary period.

Onomastician and university professor **Vladimir Skračić** was born on February 16, 1946, in Murter. His contribution to the study of toponymy and toponomastic terminology is exceptional. In 2003, he founded the Center for Adriatic Onomastic Research (now the Center for Adriatic Onomastics and Ethnolinguistics) within the University of Zadar, and from 2008 to 2013 he was at the head of the scientific project *Onomastica Adriatica*. He is the author of the books *Toponimija srednjeg i vanjskog niza zadarskih otoka* (*The toponymy of the outhter and middle chains of the Zadar islands*) (1996) and *Toponomastička početnica* (*Manual of Toponomastics*) (2011). In *Manual of Toponomastics*, Skračić defined toponomastics as a scientific discipline, terms from toponomastics, the relationship of toponomastics to other disciplines and methods of field work in toponomastics. In addition to the above, he defines terms from other onomastic subdisciplines.

„As this is a kind of textbook, and not a dictionary, the author does not provide lexicographically fully systematic definitions of terms. One of the important features of his terminology is the creation of toponomastic terms needed in the research of Adriatic „marine“ toponymy, such as paralonym, hormonym, diaplonym, bentonym, etc.“ (Čilaš Šimpraga; Frančić, 2019: 30).

He has written several scientific papers on toponomastics: *Neke značajke kornatske toponimije* (*Certain characteristics of the toponymy of the Kornati islands*). Radovi Filozofskog fakulteta u Zadru, 24. Razdio filoloških znanosti, 14, Zadar 1985, 39–50.; *Odras ljudskoga rada u obalnoj toponimiji sjevernodalmatinskih otoka* (*Reflections of man's work in the coastal toponymy of the North-Dalmatian islands*). Radovi Filozofskog fakulteta u Zadru, 26. Razdio filoloških znanosti, 16, Zadar 1987, 93–112.; *Toponimija kornatskog otočja* (*The Toponymy of the Kornati Isles*). *Onomastica Jugoslavica*, 12, Zagreb 1987, 17–218 (+ dvije karte).; *Karakteristični zadarskootočni toponimi* (*Typical toponymics of the Zadar islands*). Radovi Filozofskog fakulteta u Zadru, 27. Razdio filoloških znanosti, 17, Zadar 1988, 17–34.; *Tragom Skokove jadranske toponimije* (*On the traces of Skok's toponomastics on the Adriatic*). *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 3, Zagreb 1994, 111–123. *Imena mjesta i otoka Murtera (identifikacija – distribucija – etimologija)* (*The names of places and those of the island of Murter (identification - distribution - etymology)*). *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 4, Zagreb 1995, 127–142.; *Karakteristični zadarskootočni toponimi* (*Typical toponymics of the Zadar islands*). Radovi Filozofskog fakulteta u Zadru, 32–33. Razdio filoloških znanosti, 22, Zadar 1995, 45–68.; *Toponomastička građa – osnova za definiranje statusa nastanjenja*

nosti kornatskih otoka (*Toponymic Material – Basis for Defining the Status of Inhabitedness of Kornati Islands*). U: Kornati – Prirodna podloga, zaštita, društveno i gospodarsko valoriziranje. Meštrov, M., Durbešić, P., Kerovec, M. (ur.). Zagreb: Hrvatsko ekološko društvo – Ministarstvo kulture RH – NP Kornati, 1996, 501–509.; Talasozoonimi i ribarski termini u istočnojadranskoj toponimiji (*Thalasozyonyms and fisherman terminology used in East Adriatic toponymy*). U: Tisuću godina prvog spomena ribarstva u Hrvata. Finka, Božidar (ur.). Zagreb: Hrvatska akademija znanosti i umjetnosti, 1997, 197–217.; Izlog suvremene etimologije (*A Showcase of Contemporary Etymology*). Vojmir Vinja, Jadranske etimologije, Jadranske dopune Skokovu etimologijskom rječniku, KNJIGA I, A–H, HAZU – Školska knjiga, Zagreb, 1998. Čakavska rič, 27, 1, Split 1999, 133–136.; Pravilnosti u jadranskoj nesonimiji (*Regularities in Adriatic Nesonymia*). Radovi Filozofskog fakulteta u Zadru, 36. Razdio filoloških znanosti, 26, Zadar 1999, 63–71; Nazivi vjetrova i strana svijeta u jadranskoj toponimiji (*Names of the Winds and the Cardinal Points in the Adriatic Toponymy*). Folia onomastica Croatica, 12–13, Zagreb 2003, 433–448.; Jurić, Ante; S k r a č i ć, V l a d i m i r. Metodologija istraživanja. U: Toponimija otoka Ugljana. Skračić, Vladimir (ur.). Zadar: Sveučilište u Zadru, Centar za jadranska onomastička istraživanja, 2007, 163–171.; Toponomastička početnica – opći pojmovi i metoda terenskih istraživanja (*Manual of Toponomastics. Terminology and Field-Work Methods*). Zadar: Sveučilište u Zadru, 2011, 196 str.; S k r a č i ć, V l a d i m i r; Jurić, Ante, Korpus suvremenih toponima (*Contemporary toponimic corpus*). U: Toponimija kornatskog otočja. Vladimir Skračić (ur.). Zadar: Sveučilište u Zadru, Centar za jadranska onomastička istraživanja, 2013, 191–309.; Nesonim Dugi Otok (*The Dugi Otok Nesonym*). Miscellanea Hadriatica et Mediterranea, 4, 1, Zadar 2017, 137–161.; Bentonimi – toponimi morskoga dna (*Bentonyms – toponyms of the seabed*). Folia onomastica Croatica, 29, Zagreb, 2020, 203–220.¹⁷

The study of onomastics is conducted also by Croatian linguist **Dunja Brozović-Rončević** (1960). The subject of her study is onomastics, historical toponymy, anthroponymy, lexicology, and lexicography. She worked on *Povijesni toponimijski rječnik Hrvatske* [*Historical Toponymic Dictionary of Croatia*] (1991–1996 and 2002–2006). She has been a member of the International Committee of Onomastic Sciences since 2002. She was a member of the editorial board of the journals *Rasprave Instituta za hrvatski jezik i jezikoslovlje* (*Discussions of the Institute of Croatian Language and Linguistics*) and *Folia onomastica Croatica*.

¹⁷ A complete list of works by Vladimir Skračić is presented in the paper Ante Jurić: Bibliografija radova Vladimira Skračića, Sveučilište u Zadru, Centar za jadransku onomastiku i etnolingvistiku, Zadar, 2021., str. 11–19.

She wrote the following onomastic works: *Hidronimi s motivom vrelišta na povijesnom hrvatskom jezičnom području* [*Hydronyms with a Motif of Springs and Wells in the Historical Croatian Language Area*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 6, Zagreb, 1997 [1998], 1–40; *Hrvatska hidronimija u slavenskom i tzv. staroeuropskom okružju* [*Croatian Hydronymy in Slavic and so-called Old-European Environments*], *Croatica*, 45–46, Zagreb, 1997 [1998], 35–55; *Važnost hidronimije za proučavanje slavenske etnogeneze* [*The Importance of Hydronymy for the Study of Slavic Ethnogenesis*], *Filologija*, 29, Zagreb, 1997 [1998], 1–24.; *O sinonimnim indoeuropskim korijenima u hidronimiji* [*On Synonymous Indo-European Roots in Hydronymy*], *Suvremena lingvistika* 41–42, Zagreb 1996, 95–101; *Onomastika u hrvatskoj leksikografiji* [*Onomastics in Croatian Lexicography*], *Radovi Leksikografskog zavoda Miroslav Krleža*, 10, Zagreb, 2001 [2007], 173–178; *Ustroj onomastičkih natuknica (na primjeru Hrvatskoga enciklopedijskog rječnika)* [*Organization of Onomastic Entries (Illustrated by the Example of Croatian Encyclopedic Dictionary)*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 11, Zagreb, 2002, 43–52; *Onimija u dvojezičnim rječnicima* [*Onymy in Bilingual Dictionaries*], *Filologija*, 36–37, Zagreb 2001 [2002], 95–113; *Zoonimi u hrvatskim prezimenima* [*Zoonyms in Croatian Surnames*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 11, Zagreb, 2002 [2003], 225–240 (co-authored by Nada Vajs); *Enciklopedija hrvatskih prezimena* [*Encyclopedia of Croatian Surnames*], S. Grgić, D. Boras, D. Brozović Rončević, D. Vitek (eds.), Zagreb: Nacionalni rodoslovni centar, 2008; *Onimi u srednjovjekovnom pjesništvu na starohrvatskome jeziku* [*Onyms in Medieval Poetry in the Old Croatian Language*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 18, Zagreb, 2009, 53–119 (co-authored by Amir Kapetanović); *Toponomastičke bilješke. Slavonija, Baranja i Srijem: vrela europske civilizacije* [*Toponomastic Notes. Slavonia, Baranja and Srijem: the Sources of European Civilisation*], Vol. I, Zagreb 2009, 217–219; *Egzonimi* [*Egzonyms*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 16/2007, Zagreb, 23–32; *Nacrt za zoonomastička istraživanja (na primjeru imena konja)* [*A Draft for Zoonomastic Research (Illustrated by the Example of Horse Names)*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 17/2008, Zagreb, 37–58 (co-authored by Ankica Čilaš Šimpraga), and others.

From 1985 to 2002, Croatian linguist **Andela Frančić** (1961) worked at the Institute of Croatian Language and Linguistics. Since 2002, she has been a professor at the Faculty of Philosophy (today Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences), University of Zagreb, where she teaches the course *Introduction to Croatian Onomastics*.

Her most significant works are: *Međimurska prezimena* [*Međimurje Surnames*], Institute of Croatian Language and Linguistics, Zagreb, 2002.

She has published scientific articles including: *Ženska osobna imena u Mariji na Muri* [*Female Personal Names in Marija na Muri*], *Rasprave Zavoda za jezik*, 13, Zagreb, 1987, pp. 175–189; *Međimurska oikonimija i književni jezik* [*Međimurje Oiconymy and Literary Language*], *Rasprave Zavoda za jezik*, 14, Zagreb, 1988, 51–58; *Međimurski obiteljski nadimci* [*Međimurje Family Nicknames*], *Rasprave Zavoda za hrvatski jezik*, 20, Zagreb, 1994, 31–66; *Prilog proučavanju međimurske oikonimije: dvoleksemni ojkonomi s pridjevima donji/gornji* [*Contribution to the Study of Međimurje Oiconymy: Two-Lexeme Oiconyms with Adjectives Lower/Upper*], *Rasprave Zavoda za hrvatski jezik*, 21, Zagreb, 1995, 25–50; *Mađarski elementi u međimurskoj antroponimiji, Mađari i Hrvati u svjetlu prožimanja kultura i jezika* [*Hungarian Elements in the Međimurje Anthroponymy, Hungarians and Croats in the Light of the Permeation of Cultures and Languages*], *Pécs*, 1997, 169–175; *Nasljednost osobnih imena* [*Inheriting Personal Names*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 6, Zagreb, 1997, 41–62; *Antonimija u hrvatskoj ojkonomiji* [*Antonyms in Croatian Oiconymy*], *Rasprave Instituta za hrvatski jezik i jezikoslovlje*, 23–24, Zagreb, 1997 – 1998, 77–102 (co-authored by Milica Mihaljević); *Osobno ime u imenskoj formuli* [*Personal Name in the Name Formula*], *Riječki filološki dani*, 2, Filozofski fakultet, Rijeka, 1998, 209–214; *Imensko-prezimska homonimija* [*Name-Surname Homonymy*], *Bibliotheca Croatica Hungariae*, VIth International Slavic Days, Sambotel – Pécs, 1998, 234–242; *Preimenovanje naselja i (onomastička) komunikacija* [*Renaming Settlements and (Onomastic) Communication*], *Filologija*, 30–31, Zagreb, 1998, 451–458; *Uvid u osobna imena rođenih 2001* [*Insight into Personal Names of Those Born in 2001*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 11, Zagreb, 2002, 77–93; *Rečka mikrotoponimija* [*Reka microtoponymy*], *Rasprave Instituta za hrvatski jezik i jezikoslovlje*, 29, Zagreb, 2003, 373–389; *Značenje imena, Semantika prirodnog jezika i metajezik semantike* [*Meaning of Names, Semantics of Natural Language and Meta-Language of Semantics*], *Croatian Society of Applied Linguistics*, Zagreb – Split, 2005, 235–241; *Proučavanje hrvatske antroponimije u 20. stoljeću* [*Study of Croatian Anthroponymy in the 20th Century*], *Hrvatski jezik u dvadesetom stoljeću* [*Croatian Language in the Twentieth Century*], *Matica hrvatska*, Zagreb, 2006, 405–421, *Antroponimija u Hrvatskim pučkim popijevkama iz Međimurja* [*Anthroponymy in Croatian Folk Songs from Međimurje*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 12–13, Zagreb, 2006, 121–137; *Što je osobno ime* [*What is a Personal Name*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 15, Zagreb, 2006, 71–80, and many others.

Among Croatian onomasticians, a significant place belongs to **Doma-goj Vidović**. He was born on November 20, 1979 in Metković. He attended elementary school in Metković and Pučišće on the island of Brač, and gram-

mar school in Metković. In March 2004, he obtained the diploma of professor of linguistics and Croatian language and literature at the then Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb, defending the thesis entitled *Draft for Vidonje Anthroponymy and Toponymy*. Since 1 September 2004, he has been employed at the Institute of Croatian Language and Linguistics working on the project *Onomastic Research in Croatia* as a research assistant. In the same year, he enrolled in the postgraduate scientific study of linguistics. He worked on the project *Onomastic and Etymological Research of the Croatian Language*. In 2020, he was appointed Head of the Department of Onomastics and Etymology, at the Institute of Croatian Language and Linguistics and its branch in Metković (2014).

The subject of his close interest is onomastics in the Croatian border areas (Lower Herzegovina, Boka Kotorska) and accentology, and he also translates from Esperanto. He regularly publishes popular scientific articles on the origin of Neretva and Brač genera in local journals and is a member of the editorial board of the Croatian Neretva Proceedings. (Vidović, 2011: 335–336)

He is currently working on the projects of the Department of Onomastics and Etymology, the *Croatian Web Dictionary* (MREŽNIK) and the *Croatian Linguistic Terminology* (JENA). Since 2020, he has been one of our national experts for the standardization of geographical names.¹⁸ Vidović's scientific opus consists of many scientific papers: *Nacrt za vidonjsku antroponimiju* [*Draft for Vidonje Anthroponymy*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 14, Zagreb 2005, 147–177; *Dobranjska prezimena i nadimci* [*Dobranje Surnames and Nicknames*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 15, Zagreb 2006, 191–216; *Pregled toponimije dalmatinskoga i hercegovačkoga Zažablja* [*Review of Toponymy of Dalmatian and Herzegovinian Zažablje*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 16, Zagreb 2007, 289–319; *Prilog proučavanju odraza svetačkog imena Juraj u hrvatskoj onomastici* [*Contribution to the Study of the Reflection of the Saint's Name George in Croatian Onomastics*], *Rasprave IHJJ*, 33, Zagreb 2007, 431–447; *Prezimena sela Vid u Neretvanskoj krajini* [*Surnames of the village of Vid in the Neretva Region*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 17, Zagreb 2008, 139–168; *Toponimija sela Dubljani* [*Toponymy of the Village of Dubljani*], *Rasprave IHJJ*, 33, Zagreb 2008, 431–448; *Gradačka toponimija* [*Gradac Toponymy*], *Folia onomastica Croatica*, 18, Zagreb 2009, 171–222; *Pogled u metkovski prezimenski sustav* [*Insight into the Metković Surnames System*], *Hrvatski neretvanski zbornik*, Zagreb: Društvo Neretvana i prijatelja Neretve 2009, 93–112; *Prilog proučavanju odraza svetačkog imena Ivan u hrvatskoj onomastici* [*Contribution to the Study of the Reflection of the Saint's Name*

¹⁸ Cf.: <http://ihjj.hr/istrazivac/domagoj-vidovic/28/> (28 April 2022).

Ivan in Croatian Onomastics], Rasprave IHJJ, 35, Zagreb 2009, 347–364; *Hrvatska narodna imena u istočnoj Hercegovini s posebnim osvrtom na imena Stojan i Vuk, Stojan Vučićević: književnik i žrtva* [*Croatian Folk Names in Eastern Herzegovina with Special Reference to the Names Stojan and Vuk, Stojan Vučićević: Writer and Victim*], Zbornik Petoga neretvanskoga književnog, znanstvenog i kulturnog susreta, Opuzen – Zagreb: Neretvanska riznica umjetnina i inih vrijednosti, Hrvatska kulturna zaklada, Hrvatsko slovo 2010, 172–188; *Opuzenska prezimena – brojnost i postanje* [*Opuzen Surnames – Number and Origin*], Hrvatski neretvanski zbornik, Zagreb: Društvo Neretvana i prijatelja Neretve 2010, 71–90; *Iz ojkonomije stolačkoga kraja* [*From the Oiconymy of the Stolac Region*] Stolačko kulturno proljeće, 8, 2010, 213–227; *Obiteljski nadimci u Pučišćima na otoku Braču* [*Family Nicknames in Pučišća on the Island of Brač*], Rasprave IHJJ, 36/2, Zagreb 2011, 345–367; *Iz neretvanske ojkonomije: imena službenih naselja 1857. – 2001.* [*From the Neretva Oiconomy: the Names of Official Settlements 1857 – 2001*], Hrvatski neretvanski zbornik 3, Zagreb: Društvo Neretvana i prijatelja Neretve 2011, 206–233; *Ojkonomija Neretvanske krajine* [*Oiconymy of the Neretva Region*] Croatica et Slavica Iadertina, Zadar, IX/I (2013), 3–30; *Zažapska onomastika* [*Zažablje Onomastics*], Folia onomastica Croatica 23 (2014), Zagreb, 277–293; *Pogled u toponimiju sela Hrasno u istočnoj Hercegovini* [*View into the Toponymy of the Village of Hrasno in Eastern Herzegovina*], Folia onomastica Croatica 24 (2015), 93–123; *Imotska prezimena* [*Imotski Surnames*], Croatica et Slavica Iadertina, Zadar, XII/I (2016), 41.63.; *Prilog proučavanju odraza svetačkoga imena Ilija u hrvatskoj antroponimiji* [*Contribution to the Study of the Reflection of the Saint's Name Eliah in Croatian Onomastics*], Folia onomastica Croatica 25 (2016), 167–182; *Akademiku Šimunoviću u spomen i na čast* [*In Remembrance and Honor of Academician Šimunović*], Zbornik radova Filozofskoga fakulteta u Splitu, 11 (2018), 211–213; Ankica Čilaš Šimpraga, Dubravka Išić Majić, Domagoj Vidović, *Rječnik suvremenih hrvatskih osobnih imena* [*Dictionary of Contemporary Croatian Personal Names*], Folia onomastica Croatica, 28 (2019), Zagreb, 217–221; *Pogled u prezimenski fond Hrvata u Crnoj Gori* [*Insight into the Croats' Surname Fund in Montenegro*], Folia onomastica Croatica 28 (2019), 179–205; *Imena naselja, ulica i trgova između administrativnih odluka i onomastike* [*Names of Settlements, Streets and Squares Between Administrative Decisions and Onomastics*], Hrvatski jezik 2022, 1, 16–20.

As can be seen from the above rich list of scientific papers, in the narrow sense Domagoj Vidović studies onomastics in the marginal Croatian areas, engages with accentology and translations from Esperanto. In his work *Akademiku Šimunoviću u spomen i na čast* [*In Remembrance and Honor of*

Academician Šimunović], Vidović mentions the following: „Academician Petar Šimunović was a great scientist, but also a great enthusiast, and a lover of his vocation, and a fervent narrator, and an oral transmitter of knowledge. Few will be able to surpass all these titles“ (Vidović, 2018: 211).

Vidović, similarly to Šimunović, uses modern research methods in his scientific papers, and often presents data collected through field research. The parallel between Vidović and Šimunović does not stop there. Šimunović explored the toponyms of his native island of Brač, and Vidović made a significant contribution to the study of the Neretva region with his works. Both scientists wrote popular scientific papers, with the aim of popularizing onomastic sciences in the territory of the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, etc.

Undoubtedly, Šimunović did this in his time, and Vidović is doing so now, aiming to familiarize the people with the importance of personal names and surnames, but of course also with the names of geographical objects, guided by the fact that the name is a sign. *Nomen est omen!*

Petar Šimunović made an indisputable contribution to Croatian and European onomastics, and he also had a considerable influence on the popularization of onomastics as a scientific discipline, selflessly passing his knowledge to younger generations. His works will always be the basis for onomastic research. Vidović, one of those who learned from Šimunović, follows his scientific guidance in his own research.

4. Conclusion

A review of the historical development of onomastics in Croatia shows that names have always had an important function in identifying the holders of a personal name, nickname, and surname as the youngest anthroponymic category. However, names have always been used also for orientation in space, i.e. names of geographical objects, toponyms. People had an important role in giving these names. The chronology of the development of anthroponymic categories and the introduction of the obligatory first and last name formula is discussed marginally in the paper. The emphasis is instead placed on the development of anthroponyms, onomastic terminology (*nomen* = *name*; *adj.* = *adjective* derived from first name, diminutives, surnames, holidays; *diminutive* – hypocoristic form and real diminutive; *patronymic* = *surname*, *metronymic* = *surname from female name*).

The study of the development, structure, and meaning of names is presented diachronically through the works of the most important onomasticians. The first onomastician in Croatia, who systematically engaged in onomastic

research, was Pavao Ritter Vitezović. In his research he relied on folk speech and historical sources. At the turn of the 18th century, he made the largest list of names with their many variations.

The paper also presents the development of toponyms, toponymy, toponomastics. Furthermore, the ethnonym Hrvat was explained. Byzantine emperor and writer Constantine VII Porphyrogenitus listed a number of old toponyms in his work *De Administrando Imperio*, recorded data on the oldest Croatian history, and was the first to propose the etymology of the name Croat. In this work, he derived the Greek form of the Croatian name Κροάτης from the Greek word *khōra* meaning „land“, relating the meaning of the name Croat to the meaning of „those who own a lot of land“.

Ranko Matasović states that *Хъrvatъ is a Proto-Slavic form of the name traditionally recorded in Slavic studies, and this pronunciation corresponds to the mid-9th century pronunciation.

In the initial phase of the development of onomastics, significant contributors were also Franc Miklošič and Tomislav Maretić (the latter focused on anthroponomastics), and the philologist Konstantin Jireček, who laid the scientific foundations of Slavic onomastics. In addition to these authors, Croatian onomastic material is also based on the works of France Bezlag, Anton Mayer, Otto Franck, and others. They all explored the older linguistic layers of the western Illyricum.

Until the first half of the 20th century, there was little real onomastic research, followed by a sharp increase in the interest in onomastic research, which resulted in the flourishing of this scientific discipline and its independence. Already then it becomes clear that onomastic science in Croatia has its own diachronic and synchronic development. An important contribution to the popularization of this scientific discipline was the establishment of the *Interacademic Committee of Onomastic Sciences* (founded in 1956) and the organization of onomastic scientific conferences. The incentive for the establishment of the *Interacademic Committee of Onomastic Sciences* was given by Petar Skok, with the aim of creating a dictionary of anthroponymy, toponymy, personal names, surnames, nicknames, etc.

In the first half of the 20th century, the central figure in Croatian onomastics was Petar Skok, who significantly influenced the development of the discipline through his scientific work. Following closely the development of onomastics in other Slavic peoples, he became familiar with modern methods, participated in the development of onomastic terminology raising it to the height of European onomastics at that time.

Croatian linguist Božidar Finka gave an undeniable yield to onomastic terminology, spelling norms regarding the writing of toponyms, especially

multi-word toponyms, their declension, while taking into account the socio-linguistic characteristics of names. Blaž Jurišić, Milivoj Pavlović, Mate Suić, Valentin Putanec, Stjepan Babić, Stjepko Težak and others also made a significant contribution in the formation of onomastics as an independent discipline and its popularization.

In the 1960s, Petar Šimunović will give a recognizable mark to contemporary Croatian onomastics with his onomastic research and scientific works. Following in the footsteps of Petar Skok, he became undeniably the most respected Croatian onomastician.

In addition to Šimunović, other onomasticians are also mentioned: Živko Bjelanović, Vladimir Skračić, Dunja Brozović Rončević, Anđela Frančić, and Domagoj Vidović.

Due to onomastics flourishing in the 21st century, it is almost impossible to include the scientific contributions of all contemporary onomasticians, but this paper opens opportunities for further and more complete research.

The hypothesis of the paper is to show that the idioms of onomastics in Croatia are old and have their own diachronic and synchronic developmental path. Apart from Petar Šimunović's article *Hommage istaknutim onomastičarima* [*Hommage to Prominent Onomasticians*] and Anđela Frančić's *Suvremena hrvatska onomastika, izazovi, potrebe i mogućnosti* [*Contemporary Croatian Onomastics, Challenges, Needs, and Opportunities*] (2015), there is no relevant literature which would include an overview of the development of onomastic science in Croatia, along with an explanation of the meaning of the name Croat, development of the name formula, primary division of onomastics, development of terminology, all of which is presented here with a diachronic list of biographies of famous onomasticians. Therefore, this paper can stimulate discussions and new scientific insights.

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PREGLED POVIJESNOGA RAZVOJA ONOMASTIKE U HRVATA

Bizantski car i pisac Konstantin VII. Porfirogenet u djelu *O upravljanju carstvom* navodi brojne hrvatske idiome. Uz navođenje idioma, Konstantin VII. prvi navodi i etimologiju naziva pa tako piše da su „Hrvati oni koji posjeduju mnogo zemlje“. Prvi je naveo povijesne predaje o dolasku Hrvata u današnje krajeve koje su predvodili petorica braće: Kluka, Klobek, Kosinc, Muklo, Hrvat i dvije sestre: Tuga i Buga. Osim o značenju imena Hrvat na slavenskom jeziku, Porfirogenet navodi i etimologiju brojnih drugih naroda.

Faust Vrančić se rijetko spominje da je bio prvi hrvatski etimolog. On je u svom *Rječniku* iz 1595. dao analizu mađarskih riječi koji pripadaju slavenskim jezicima. Vrančićev sljedbenik, prvi onomastičar u Hrvata, bio je Pavao Ritter Vitezović (1652. –1713.) koji se oslanjao na narodni govor i povijesne izvore te je prema Putancu načinio najveći popis imena s njegovim brojnim varijacijama. Nadalje, će biti riječi o Francu Miklošiću i Tomi Maretiću. Konstantin Jireček je temeljem isprava iz dalmatinskih gradova od 9. do 15. st. sastavio registre: rimskih, grčkih, starokršćanskih i ostalih stranih imena, slavenskih imena u dalmatinskim gradovima od 10. do 15. st. te prezimena i nadimaka u dalmatinskim gradovima od 1000. do 1500. godine kako to navodi Valentin Putanec. Od iznimne važnosti su djela hrvatskih onomastičara: Valentina Putaneca, Franca Bezlaja, Antuna Mayera, Otta Francka, Petra Skoka, Božidara Finke, Blaža Jurišića, Mate Suića, Mate Šimundića, Petra Šimunovića, Stjepka Težaka, Živka Bjelanovića, Stjepana Babića, Dunje Brozović-Rončević, Anđele Frančić, Domagoja Vidovića i dr.

Ključne riječi: *povijesni razvoj onomastike, hrvatski onomastičari, osvrt na život i djelo hrvatskih onomastičara*