

Institute of Public Administration (IPA)

Zagreb, Croatia



ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The Institute of Public Administration (IPA) is an association of scholars and experts in public administration established in 1997 with the purpose of promoting theoretical development, research and practice of public administration in Croatia. Its main purpose includes contribution to efficient and professional public administration as a prerequisite for the rule of law, development of economy and better community life. In order to achieve its main goal, the IPA advocates public administration research and theory development at the national and international levels, builds networks of public administration academics, professionals and practitioners, publishes an international scholarly journal, books, and other publications, performs scientific and research projects, shares best practices and offers consultancy, encourages students and young researchers to study public administration, promotes administrative education and in-service training of civil servants, and cooperates with public authorities at the national, local, regional, and European levels.

MEMBERS

The IPA counts a number of members and collaborators engaged in numerous projects and activities. They include academics from various scientific areas, mostly administrative scientists and law scholars, political scientists, sociologists, and economists, as well as experts-practitioners, public administration managers and professionals, public administration students, etc. The Institute has at its disposal administrative, legal, political science, economic, and various other types of expertise, enabling its engagement in consultancy work and projects at the national and international levels. Several members of IPA have performed important state, public, and professional functions and duties. The President of the Institute is Ivan Koprić, PhD, full professor of Administrative Science at the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb. Professor Ivan Koprić has been awarded the Alena Brunovska Award for teaching excellence for the year 2016 based on the decision of the NISPAcee Award Selection Committee.

ACTIVITIES

In performing its activities, the IPA aims to create an institutional framework for professional and public discourse concerning numerous existing and forthcoming proposals and measures for public administration reform, and it provides assistance in outlining alternative solutions for various important issues. The Institute is engaged in scientific research, professional, publishing, educational, and consultancy activities which involve a large number of people from Croatia and abroad. It regularly organizes domestic and international conferences, public forums, and other professional meetings. Since 2008, it has organized and co-organized several international scientific conferences and more than thirty professional scientific meetings and round tables in Croatia. Currently it is engaged in four research projects in collaboration with other institutions, two of which are international. The Institute also participates in scientific projects, studies and analyses for national and international organizations, in particular for the Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA). Alongside the quarterly international scientific journal *Croatian and Comparative Public Administration*, in English and Croatian, the IPA has published 4 books, 12 manuals for professional development and many other publications. The Institute has recently established the Centre for Local and Regional Governance.

Conferences

The Institute has organised scientific and professional conferences and workshops, on its own or in cooperation with partners. Competent theoreticians and practitioners specialised in public administration, administrative and public law, political and social science from both Croatia and abroad deliver their presentations dealing with a targeted issue. Since 2009, all the presentations of keynote speakers have been available for download. The IPA is a member of the Network of Institutes and Schools of Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe (NISPAcee) and participates in its conferences, as well as in other activities (lectures, papers, etc.). A number of conferences have been organized in cooperation with the International Political Science Association (IPSA), Croatian Political Science Association (HPD), Faculty of Law and Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, and other institutions.

Forums

For fifteen years, the Institute has successfully organised public forums and round tables dealing with challenging issues of administrative theory and practice. The forums consist of presentations held by two or three lecturers who point out their attitudes on a specific topical issue, followed by extensive discussion of all participants. The lecturers are renowned experts and eminent scholars in administrative science, administrative law,

local self-government, public policies, public finances, and in other related fields, from Croatia and abroad. Since 2012, the IPA and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung have organised the Forum for Public Administration which gathers prominent public administration specialists discussing current public administration issues and problems and providing policy proposals. The Institute organises an annual conference for public administration practitioners, experts, and scholars, aimed at opening new themes of administrative modernization, such as quality management, performance management, intermunicipal cooperation, administrative simplification, improving administrative justice, agency model in public administration, independent regulators, and others. The IPA holds theoretical discussions, emphasising theoretical and methodological issues in the field of public administration. It also organises lectures of renowned foreign professors and public administration experts, open to students and the public.

Training manuals

In 2008 the IPA launched a book series *Manuals for Professional Training*. Its main purpose is to publish contributions whose task is to improve and facilitate the professional training of civil servants. In that manner, the Institute has recognized its responsibility for active contribution to long-term processes of administrative modernization and Europeanization. The manuals are useful reading for students, civil society members, government and local officials, and other interested individuals. Twelve manuals have been published since 2008.

Books and textbooks

Members of the IPA have been actively engaged in publishing a wide range of scientific and professional literature in the book series *Contemporary Public Administration*. The books deal with administrative science, administrative law, political science, and other related scientific fields.

Awards and research grants

In 2015, the IPA established an award for best papers written by students and young scientists. *The Eugen Pusić Award* encompasses two categories, one for students and the other for young researchers. A research grant for young researchers from abroad was introduced in 2016. The grant aims to support comparative research within the

European Administrative Space, and is intended for young researchers (up to 35 years of age), primarily PhD candidates or post-doctoral fellows from abroad.

The Institute of Public Administration has established and organises:

- An annual conference
- Theoretical discussions on public administration
- A forum of public administration
- Round tables
- Lectures of foreign professors
- An award for best scientific papers produced by students and young scientists
- A research grant for young researchers from abroad
- Statements, participation in expert working groups, advocacy, cooperation with the media

CROATIAN AND COMPARATIVE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Croatian and Comparative Public Administration is a well-indexed international scholarly journal. It was launched in 1999 by the Institute for Public Administration. The journal is published quarterly (in March, June, September and December) in English and Croatian. The journal's co-publisher is the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb. The papers are accepted after a double-blind review process and the decision of an international editorial board. The Journal is indexed and abstracted in following international databases: Worldwide Political Science Abstracts, Social Services Abstracts, Sociological Abstracts, Public Affairs Information Service – PAIS International (ProQuest), Political Science Complete, Public Administration Abstracts (EBSCO Publishing, Inc., Ipswich, Massachusetts, SAD), Public Administration Database for Accessing Publications in European Languages – PA@BABEL (European Group for Public Administration), International Political Science Abstracts – Documentation Politique Internationale (Paris, France), and Hrčak (Zagreb). Several hundred papers are available for free download from the Institute's Internet page.

FUTURE PLANS:

- Organise the Forum of administrative practitioners
- Establishment of an expert consultancy team
- Courses of lifelong learning
- Further participation in international and national projects

Further information regarding our activities can be found at:

Website: <http://en.iju.hr/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ijuzagreb>

Facebook page: <https://hr-hr.facebook.com/Institut-za-javnu-upravu-138400509689744/>

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