



# **Humanities Speak Many Languages: The Language of Summaries Published in Croatian Journals in the Field of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology**

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# INTRODUCTION

## AIM

- to initiate discussion and share our reflections on specificities in the field of ethnology and cultural anthropology, being part of the humanities
  - in the process of communicating of the results of scientific research,
  - on question of legitimacy of using English language as the primary foreign language in which papers and article summaries of ethnological and cultural anthropological research are published
  
- the use of English is widespread and growing, both in scientific and everyday communication

- anthropological knowledge and ethnographic writing → locally and regionally based empirical data and knowledge, often derived and presented by narrative sources (informants) in local languages and dialects
- Susan DiGiacomo (workshop at the METM 2018 conference)
- ethnologists and cultural anthropologists face multiple ethical challenges "in their fieldwork" that entail different levels of responsibility: towards individuals and communities
- Does anthropological research contribute in any way to the surveyed community or to the individuals participating in the research?

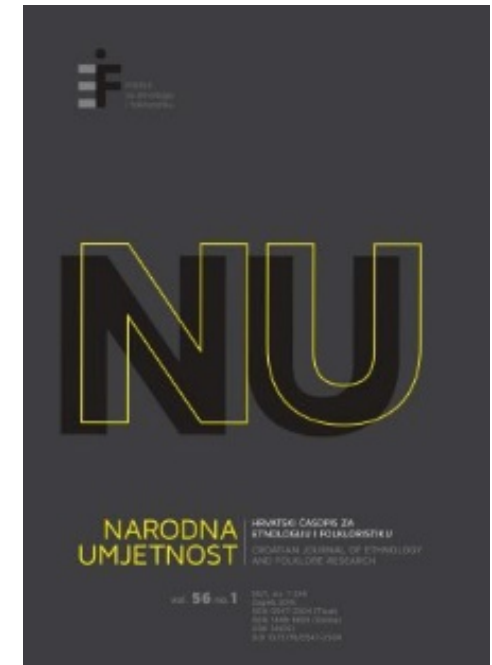
- practices in publishing articles in scientific journals in the field of ethnology and cultural anthropology
- English language → the 'language of science' or the *lingua franca* of the scientific communication
- a challenge in scientific communication in English, for the field of ethnology and cultural anthropology and the humanities → a technical, but also an epistemological question
  - “Redefining national identity in Macedonia. Analyzing Competing Origin Myths and Interpretations through Hegemonic Representations”
- the subject matter of scientific and professional articles in the Croatian ethnology and cultural anthropology journals has a dominant local, regional and national interest

# METHODOLOGY

- “Etnološka tribina: godišnjak Hrvatskog etnološkog društva“
- “Narodna umjetnost: hrvatski časopis za etnologiju i folkloristiku“
- “Studia ethnologica Croatica“

2014 – 2018

The types of journal articles:  
original scientific paper, preliminary communication,  
review article and professional paper





5 issues

ETNOLOŠKA TRIBINA

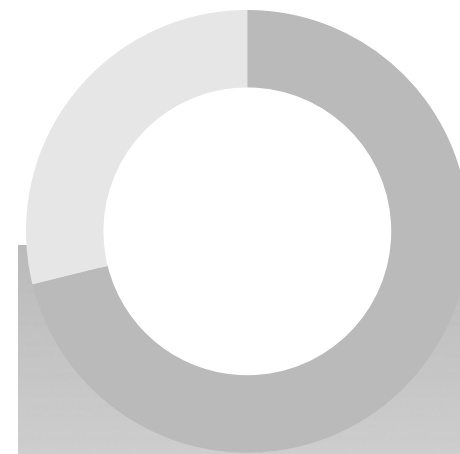
47 articles



10 issues

NARODNA UMJETNOST

91 articles



5 issues

STUDIA ETHNOLOGICA  
CROATICA

56 articles

# RESULTS

- Languages of the full text of the articles:
  - 46.4% Croatian language (90/194),
  - 48.5% English (94/194),
  - 4.6% Serbian (9/194),
  - 0.5% Bosnian (1/194)
- Languages of the article summaries:
  - 46% Croatian (184/400),
  - 48.5% English (194/400),
  - 5.5% languages other than English (22/400)
    - Albanian 3, Bayash Romanian 1, Bosnian 1, Polish 1, Romani Chib 1, Serbian 9, Slovak 1, Slovenian 4, Spanish 1

- all three journals publish primarily in Croatian as domestic language and in English as the primary (or only) foreign language
- different editorial strategies for publishing in English
- new and specific editorial practice → summaries, and occasionally full-text articles, in languages other than English



# CONCLUSION

- the importance of language practices and publishing in the non-English languages, in the Croatian context, is recognized
- it is advisable to publish articles in multiple languages → multilingualism
- Multilingualism → accomplished by translating full-text articles into multiple languages, but also by publishing summaries not only in English but also in languages other than English, according to the subject or community that is in the focus of the research

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