



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF METHODOLOGIST OF SOCIAL SCIENCES IN BELGRADE

in cooperation with



THIRD TOPICAL INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

“IMPORTANCE OF APPLICATIVE RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND SOLVING PRACTICAL PROBLEMS IN MODERN SOCIETY“

BOOK OF ABSTRAKT

**SERBIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS
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“IMPORTANCE OF APPLICATIVE RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND SOLVING PRACTICAL PROBLEMS IN MODERN SOCIETY“

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www.metodolog.org
institut.skp@gmail.com
info@ppf.edu.rs

Editors:

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Designed by

Associated professor Srdjan Blagojević

Technical support

Šćepan Lakušić

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PREFACE

The contemporary world and its perspective today are characterized by increasingly complex and difficult to resolved situations with an increased role of scientific knowledge in the social processes. With the growing importance and influence of scientific knowledge in the development of human society, the opportunities for the implementation of inadequate scientific research of the society also have a growing trend, as does the possibility of abusing the results of such research.

Hence, the development of the methodology of social sciences and specific methodologies within it, as well as their consistent and responsible application can contribute to the development of contemporary societies and their political, economic, legal, social, cultural and technological prosperity.

In order to stimulate faster development of the methodology of social sciences and specific methodologies within it, towards the end of 2009, the International Association of Methodologist of Social Sciences was founded, as a voluntary, non-governmental, non-party and non-profit association situated in Belgrade. Perhaps the question arises why the International Association of Methodologist was founded in the scientific field of Social Sciences? The answer is quite simple. Science and scientific truth, namely, true scientific knowledge is international in its origin and consequences. Legitimate, reliable and valid scientific knowledge can be obtained exclusively through a valid selection and by adequate application of scientific methods, techniques, instruments and procedures, which the scientific methodology focuses on.

The Association was established induced by an increasing need for a valid and reliable diagnostic and prognostic research of social tendencies. Any arbitrariness in the scientific research of social phenomena and processes leads to incorrect results. What is worse, such results can point the decision-making process and social behavior in the wrong direction. The consequences caused by such situation can last for decades and even centuries.

In order to avoid such mistakes and to ensure competence in scientific research of society, it is necessary to rely heavily on the Methodology of Social Sciences. Competent scientific research of contemporary social phenomena and processes can only be implemented with the support of the leading experts in the field of Methodology of Social Sciences and sciences belonging to this corpus. These are, beyond doubt, those scientific and research workers who have obtained their MA and PhD thesis in the field of Methodology of Social Sciences, viz., from the field of Methodology of individual sciences in the corpus of Social Sciences, which was necessary to assemble and organize within our professional international association.

Social Sciences Methodologist MISSION

The strategic mission of the Social Sciences Methodologist, as well as the methodologists in other fields of science, is to develop the existing and discover new methods of acquiring scientific knowledge, and also to solve the problems of conceptualization and design of scientific research.

Social Sciences Methodologist GOALS

Main goals of Social Sciences Methodologist are:

1. to critically address all the research in social sciences;
2. to warn of the consequences of inadequate scientific research;
3. to oppose the teaching of methodology by incompetent personnel;
4. to continuously point to the need for discovering scientifically truthful knowledge and
5. to permanently point to the harmfulness of quasi-scientific data and knowledge on the development of contemporary societies.

Social Sciences Methodologist TASKS

At the stage of development of the contemporary states, methodologists of social sciences are engaged in achieving the following strategic tasks:

1. development and affirmation of the methodology of social sciences;
2. correct application of methodological and method knowledge in scientific-research and professional practice;
3. scientific-methodological education and training of scientific-research personnel and their promotion;
4. evaluation of scientific research, adequate application of scientific and methodological knowledge and contribution to the development of such knowledge;
5. adequate participation of competent scientific workers – methodologists in scientific research of society, development of conditions for such research and its application in social practice;
6. issuing scientific monographs, editions, books, textbooks, manuals and other publications in the field of methodology of social sciences and humanities and special methodologies there within.

In less than ten years of its existence and work, the International Association of Methodologist of Social Sciences has become a prestigious international professional association in a significant area for the socio-humanistic scientific field – the methodology of scientific research, which is the basis for acquiring fundamental, epistemological knowledge indispensable for systematic scientific research implementation in all social domains.

In pursuing its sublime scientific mission, the International Association of Methodologist has over the past nine years organized two conferences in cooperation with relevant scientific institutions from abroad “The Role of Forecasting Research in the Development of Contemporary Society” and “The Role of Futurology in the Research of Modern States”.

New Conference Goals

1) to point to the significance of applied research for the development of science and solving the problem of practice in contemporary society, as well as on socially unacceptable attitude towards these research in social sciences in an argumentative and critical manner;

2) to warn of consequences inadequate applied research would have on the development of modern society;

3) to indicate the harmfulness of quazi-scientific results in applied research on future development of society;

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Conference Topics

- (1) General, developmental and problematic issues of applied research in social sciences and their importance for the development of science and the promotion of social practice.
- (2) The relationship between applied and developmental diagnostic and prognostic research in social sciences.
- (3) The role and significance of applied research in:
 - Economy;
 - Political sciences;
 - Social work;
 - Legal sciences;
 - Pedagogy and Andragogy;
 - Sociology;
 - Demography;
 - Psychology;
 - Organizational sciences;
 - Philosophy and Theology;
 - Archeology and Ethnology.
 - History;
 - Language and Literature;
 - Defense sciences;
 - Military sciences;
 - Sciences related to police;
 - Sports sciences;
 - Art
 - Culture and Communication, and
 - other social sciences and humanities.
- (4) Application of scientific methods in the process of applied research
- (5) Application of basic methods of knowledge in applied research.
- (6) Application of general methodology in applied research.
- (7) Application of methods for data collection in applied research.
- (8) Application of quantitative methods in applied research.
- (9) Application of qualitative methods in applied research.
- (10) The importance of applied research in the Economy.
- (11) The importance of applied research in the study of social activities.
- (12) Application of applied research in the public sector.
- (13) The relation between operational and applied research and their importance for the development of science and solving the problems of social practice in modern countries.
- (14) Strategies of qualitative research in social sciences
- (15) Applied research: slightly more and somewhat different.
- (16) Conceptualization and re-conceptualization of applied scientific research projects.

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GLOBAL ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION IN THE FIELD OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WITH REGARDS TO THE APPLIED RESEARCH

Neđo Danilović

Milija Bogavac

Union "Nikola Tesla" University, Faculty of Business and Law
danilovic.nedjo@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The paper analyzes the global situation in the field of research and development by region from an epistemological point of view. In doing so, global and regional trends in the allocation of research and development resources are illustrated in an argumentative, systematic and impartial manner. In the explication of the observed trends, correlations of research and development investment between individual regions in the world were identified and regularities in the levels of development of regions (countries within them) and total gross allocations to research and development from different sources (business sector, government budgets, higher education, private sector, overseas and non-affiliated sources) revealed. The purpose of the research is to point out to the scientific and the general public in the world, especially to the governments of individual countries and international organizations, the current global and regional trends in investment and distribution of the total gross resources intended for research and development. The results of the research could help countries to assess the areas in which they must primarily engage in order to significantly advance public policies in the field of research, development and innovation. The primary literature underlying this research includes the documents and estimates of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics from June and February 2019, the UNESCO eAtlas for Research and Experimental Development, the Report and Appendices on the European Innovation Table and Indicator Databases, and others sources cited in the reference list. In the research, almost all basic methods of cognition with emphasis on analysis, synthesis, classification, generalization and inductive-deductive method were applied. Comparative method was a general scientific methods used, with previously defined unique comparables for comparison. From the group of data collection methods, the method of analyzing the content of documents was predominantly applied.

Key words: research, development, innovation, region, gross domestic expenditure on research (GERD), gross domestic product (GDP).

METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS OF SCIENTIFIC-THEORETICAL RESEARCH

Dževad Termiz¹

Nedeljko Stanković²

¹Faculty of Political Sciences in Sarajevo
dzevad.termiz@fpn.unsa.ba

²Evropskog univerziteta u Distriktu Brčko
stankovicnedeljko@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Research is an integral part of everyday (scientific) practice whose essential feature is the occurrence of various problems. The smallest and least elaborated segment in all methodologies, even those that are considered the best, is theoretical scientific research. In scientific-research practice, all research is necessarily theoretical-empirical, since they possess an empirical basis (social reality) and/or theoretical impetus, as well as due to the role and importance of theoretical scientific research throughout the research process from the pre-project stage, the design and development stages of the research project and research implementation according to the tested and verified project all the way to the preparation of the research report and the results of the research and application of the acquired knowledge in science and social practice. Essential provisions of the distinction between the theoretical and empirical research are basically reflected in the procedure of determining the subject of research and determining its importance, the application of scientific research methods and the implementation of the procedure of conceptualization and design of the research project. Essentially, reference can be made to the preponderance of the participation of theoretical or empirical research in the overall process of acquiring scientific knowledge through scientific research.

Key words: science, methodology, theory, scientific theory, research, scientific research, problem(s).

THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY IN THE ECONOMY: BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS

Rossana Piccolo¹

Sinisa Zaric²

¹Università degli studi della Campania - Luigi Vanvitelli, Italy,
rossana.piccolo@unicampania.it

²University of Belgrade, Belgrade (Serbia)
sinisha.zaric@gmail.com

APSTRAKT

Many traditional models are based on static assumptions that in fact fail to detect the random behavior of the market, which remains a key issue in the theory of financial markets (Rigoni, Gloria, 2016).

The Theory of Efficient Markets assumes that investors are rational, thus being inadequate to grasp important aspects of human choices that are in fact irrational (Franzolini, 2010).

Kahneman and Tversky managed to reconcile psychological and economic aspects, a merit that won him the Nobel Prize in 2002. Among their most important contributions to the modern economy is the Prospectus Theory, according to which investor choices are based on the function of probability weighting (Ferrari, 2016).

Based on the Prospectus theory and the work of Kahneman and Tversky, Thaler published in 1980 a document that Kahneman called "the founding text of Behavioral Economics".

Behavioral Finance studies the actual behavior of investors in making investment choices, acting as an alternative approach to classical financial theory (Barone, 2003).

Keywords: Traditional finance, behavioral economics, psychology and sociology

THE NEW BUSINESS MODEL OF THE UNIVERSITIES

Venelin Terziev¹

Margarita Bogdanova²

¹Vasil Levski National Military University, Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria,
terziev@skmat.com

²Tsenov Academy of Economics – Svishtov, Bulgaria
m.bogdanova@uni-svishtov.bg

ABSTRACT

The report examines the phenomenon of academic capitalism and the potential consequences of its spread, and the capacity of universities to meet the challenges of entrepreneurship as an organizational management model. Special emphasis is placed on the differentiated effect on universities, depending on the area in which they conduct teaching and research, as well as on the peculiarities of the university business model in the changing environment of the higher education schools. The goal of the present publication is to study the phenomenon academic capitalism and the potential consequences of its distribution as well as the universities' possibilities to meet the challenges of entrepreneurship by establishing organization (business) management model that is adequate to their environment. Universities are one of the oldest organization structures in the world history. Yet since 1088 with the Bologna University establishing, they develop as academic centres with relative autonomy of teaching and have entirely democratic nature. Several models of universities' structure and management form gradually in the course of years.

Keywords: academic capitalism, university business model, universities.

CRIMINAL LIABILITY: METHODOLOGY, LAW, PRACTICE

Vladimir S. Dzhatiev

Russian academy of advocacy and notariate, Moscow, Russia
djatiyev@mail.ru

ABSTRAKT

The article presents a conceptually new way of understanding criminal liability. Criminal liability is recognized as a public and legal relationship between the state and the person, who committed the crime, that stems from a legally forced conviction as an act of applying a legal norm. Correction of the legal relation of said liability by other judicial decisions due to the positive or negative changes of the convicted personal characteristics is permitted. It is stressed that the legal relation is the only form of criminal responsibility. Any private or arbitrary interference in the relation of criminal responsibility is denied. The significance of application of criminal law as means of state government of society is addressed.

Keywords: criminal liability, a norm of criminal law, purview of a norm of criminal law, a sanction of a norm of criminal law, application of a norm of criminal law, incentive norms of criminal law, compromise in criminal law, state government of society.

ACTION RESEARCH OF THE LIFE QUALITY OF PEOPLE WITH VARIOUS MENTAL DISORDERS AT THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Aleksandar Halmi
University of Zadar
alhalmi@unizd.hr

ABSTRACT

Action research has seen rapid development, both in our country and around the world. Numerous contemporary social problems and growing awareness of the possibilities of actively treating them impose the need to actively search for manners and ways of discovering and mastering these areas of social reality that significantly deviate from social standards and cause attention and interest of the community. Considering that social problems are phenomena that need to be changed and that action research is a theoretical and methodological procedure for introducing changes in certain spatially and temporally defined areas of social reality (families and social groups in microsocial frameworks, i.e. local communities), the application of action research of the quality of life of persons with various mental disorders in the Republic of Croatia will be presented here. Classical epidemiological studies of psychiatric morbidity are focused on determining the incidence of disease for particular diseases, discovering new causes, ways of spreading, course and outcome. However, contemporary epidemiological research in the field of psychiatry is increasingly addressing social and environmental factors in the etiopathogenesis of mental disorders. In this sense, research into the ecological and social structures of people with various mental disorders and the quality of their life prevails. However, despite a strong increase in interest in measuring the quality of life of people with different mental illnesses, this type of evaluation research is only rarely conducted due to the unreliable metric characteristics of the measurement instruments. In this paper, the authors present a self-guided instrument called the Quality of Life Questionnaire (upitnik kvalitete života – UKŽ). The instrument assesses subjective perceptions of the quality of life in seven life areas, which are covered by 24 questions. The results of the confirmatory factor analysis indicate a seven-factor structure with a good index of fit of the manifest variables to latent dimensions. Factor points also indicate significant correlation coefficients between clients' social functioning and a certain levels of satisfaction with various services at the level of local communities in the Republic of Croatia.

Key words: action research, mental disorders, quality of life, life satisfaction, instruments of assessment.

THE ADVANTAGES AND LIMITS OF ACTION RESEARCH

Milosav Milosavljević

Full Professor, Belgrade University, Faculty of Political Sciences (retired)
milosav.milosavljevic@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Action research is a particularly appropriate and applicable type of research, based on the idea of designed, systematic and organized social change in the interest of people and their communities based on active, creative and goal-oriented cooperation of researchers and citizens, aimed at improving their social conditions, meeting needs and overcoming personal, family and community problems.

Different synonyms: field intervention research, action sociology, democratic quasi experiment, experimental social innovation, action experiment. Action research integrates the ideas of pragmatic philosophy and politics, critical, systemic and humanistic theories and democratic-political conception, especially participatory democracy. It is, *par excellence*, humane when it changes the position of the researched and contributes to social change and resolving social problems.

Advantages:

1. the choice of research subject depends primarily on practical social change, which is decided on an equal participation of the researcher and the respondents (citizens) 2. Action research is aimed primarily at improving the social circumstance of people, social groups and communities, rather than testing scientific hypotheses or theories. 3. The social circumstance or problem is viewed as a whole. 4. Research is part of the process of change and emancipation of subjects, so it is directed towards changes in the 'object' of the research. 5. In action research, the equal role of participants and subjects in all its stages is played by the researcher and respondents, on the basis of constant and open communication and mutual understanding and responsibility. 6. The researcher and the citizens participate equally in the implementation of social actions and changes and 7. The researcher conducts action research, not only in cooperation with individuals and groups of citizens, but also with institutions and structures in the community (compare Halmi, 1989). **Significant weaknesses:** - 'varied' theoretical grounding and the absence of generally accepted theoretical and methodological foundations; - use of non-scientific methods and techniques (persuasion, lobbying, presentation, mobilization, organizing, motivating, group discussions, etc.). - continuity and duration - the decision to cease or continue the research depends, both on the researchers and their institutions or organizations, and on the citizens, contracting authorities or those interested in the project and decision-makers in the organizations or communities where they are implemented; - territorial and social orientation to the local level and communities - impossibility for global application; - lack of capacity on part of the researcher to control the research process...

Key words: action research, advantages, limits.

THE GENERAL PHENOMENON OF CORRUPTION

Ivana Ivanovik

Institute for researching public opinion, TEAM Institute Skopje
ivanovikivana@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Most social phenomena consist of certain behaviors of a larger number of people important to social movements and events. Human behavior in modern society organized in states as the highest form of social organization is largely determined by various rules of conduct that regulate relations between people. If such rules did not exist in human society, there would be total chaos and disorganization.

The existence of the rules of conduct in an organized society does not in any way mean that every individual respects them. On the contrary, there are always individuals who violate those rules. Such violations of the rules already adopted impede the fostering of normal human relations and cause greater or lesser harm to the interests of the other members of society and thus to the interests of the community as a whole.

Key words: corruption, society, phenomenon, crime, anti-corruption, behavior.

OPEN THEORETICAL-METHODOLOGICAL AND PRACTICAL ISSUES IN RESEARCH OF SOCIOBILITY

Milan I. Miljević

Full Professor of Belgrade University (retired)
milan.miljevic@asp.edu.rs

ABSTRACT

„...existing cannot be the truth“.

E. Bloch

The subject of this paper are open theoretical and methodological questions in the research of sociability, whose explication seeks for the answers to the central research question as follows: *Whether, and if yes, when and how do norms perform the selection of the idea(s)/theory(ies), organization(s) of the “world of life” and “world of work”; idea(s) and norm(s) of social action; ideas/theories, organizations/institutions and norms of social action and what is then the actual result of the social action.*

Qualitative research design focuses on the critique of alienated social activity (traditional and bureaucratized “social work”) from the point of view of genuine, humane human life, as well as the critique of the existing social life and its models (at local, national, regional and global levels) from the point of view of a practice that hosts within the essential human social aspects and dimensions, namely, from the standpoint of the totality of a person’s true needs, whose satisfaction leads to the realization and development of basic human abilities.

The main finding of the research is aimed at proving that sociability is one of the essential and constituent components of human origins and development and determination in general, which is appropriate to its essence, and that sociality is also sociability, amicability, community = the immediate medium of human survival – its environment. Social are all those relations, organizations and institutions of the “world of life” and “world of work”, states, processes, things and objects, which stand in any relation to man as a social being: social conditionality and connection between the human beings and their life and actions in a particular community – elements of social structure, functional subsystems of the social system. Social determination is one of the essential and constitutive provisions making man a man, for he lives only in the social community which is a prerequisite and at the same time the result: political-ethical ideals, doctrines, types of order, subjects, political, cultural and economic processes and relations, institutions/organization, functioning of the government, methods of protection and security of subjects, communication, especially organization of information, interpretative categories of policy, especially social policy. The problem of the truth about sociability and social in concrete-historical situations cannot be validly considered (analyzed, described, explained, understood and predicted) outside of practice, which implies that interpreting practice as an immediate utility (one of the lines of pragmatism) or practice as a criterion of truth (vulgar Marxism) is more than one-sided.

At the end of the paper, the author asks an open question: whether the existing fragmented and crushed (quantitative and qualitative) studies of sociability and in sociability the beginning of the end of the science of the sociability and the social, or are they sufficient reason and a suitable ground for a large syntheses of the social?

Key words: science, criterion of truth, sociability, social, practice.

APPLICATION OF CONCEPTUALIZATION IN RESEARCHING GENOCIDE AGAINST SERBS, JEWS AND ROMA DURING WORLD WAR II IN NDH AND KOSOVO AND METOHİJA

Dragan Tančić¹

Bojan Ševo²

Jovan Simijanović

Institute for Serbian Culture in Priština – Leposavić,

¹dragan_tancic@yahoo.com; ²bojansevo78@gmail.com; ³jovan_simijanovic@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The conceptualization of research is the initial phase of the process of all scientific research, which begins with the observation of phenomena, processes, problems, through the senses and statements of others. A good example is the observation of genocide as a phenomenon and process during World War II, where 55 million people were killed in combat or bombing, epidemics and famine, out of which 10 million were victims of genocide (Russians, Jews, Serbs, Roma, Ukrainians, Armenians). The genocide against Jews, Serbs and Roma committed during the Second World War in the territories of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, NDH (Independent State of Croatia) and Kosovo and Metohija has been kept in silence throughout the past decades, in an attempt to erase it from the world and national histories; in order to revise the undisputed historical events that could be perceived through the senses and testimonies of others, original documents from that time and epistemologically relevant archival material. By means of the conceptualization and reconceptualization models of research, genocide is investigated on a scientific basis as a phenomenon and a process, starting with the choice of the research problem and its articulation, discovering the research topic, designing the project, conceptual sketch, drafting a scientific idea and research, all the way to the application of a model of a typical research subject of conceptualization itself.

Key words: conceptualization, reconceptualization, genocide against Serbs, Jews and Roma, Second World War.

APPLIED RESEARCH IN FUNCTION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

Srdan Blagojević

Srdan Starčević

University of Defense, Belgrade, Military Academy

¹srdjan.blagojevic@mod.gov.rs ²srdjan.starcevic@vs.rs

ABSTRACT

Defense and security are the primary functions of politics and the political system. Defense systems of states have evolved over time along with the overall development of the state and society, to which they have greatly contributed. The fact that the modern world is also burdened with numerous contradictions, conflicts of interests, clashes of politics, ideologies, cultures, religions, indicates a permanent need for the defense function. Since it is a developmental function, defense is also a research activity, because it is basically a complex process always aimed at detecting (anticipating) potential risks to the security of the state and society and finding the best ways (methods) to deter and counter threats (attacks). The above facts indicate a strong link between science and scientific knowledge and defense as an essential state function. The paper makes a special reference to the place, role and importance of applied research in the implementation and development of defense activities.

Key words: defense, function of defense, applied research.

APPLIED RESEARCH IN ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC POLICIES

Docent Ermin Kuka, PhD¹

Docent Emir Tahirović, PhD²

¹University of Travnik, Faculty of Law
ermin.kuka@hotmail.com

²University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Administration
emir.tahirovic@fu.unsa.ba

ABSTRACT

Public policies are a tool for effectively solving specific socio-political problems and reliably addressing open issues. Therefore, it is often stated that they are concrete, relevant and coherent policies in practice, since they are aimed at rationally eliminating detected problems by choosing one of several alternative options offered. Due to its exceptional social importance, particular attention is paid to public policy analysis or policy analysis. Policy analysis cannot be conducted without the use of methods, techniques and tools developed within the framework of contemporary social science methodology. In addition, no relevant system analysis and scientific research, not even public policy and policy analysis, are fully feasible, effective and sustainable without the use of previous, applied research. This gives rise to the main thesis that applied research from other sciences and scientific disciplines (economics, political science, sociology, logic, demography, statistics, public sector economy) are in the function of a comprehensive and wide development of public policies as scientific disciplines within the political sciences, but also public policy analysis as its subdiscipline. Research focuses on identifying the real impact of applied research on the totality of public policy analysis. The presented case study shows that applied research from other sciences and scientific disciplines has produced excellent results and support in affirming and strengthening the process of formulating and implementing public policies in order to solve socio-political problems. The conclusion is that by incorporating applied research into policy analysis, adequate and applied solutions can be provided for a wider range of socio-political problems and heterogeneous interests, which inevitably produce the contemporary development of society and the state.

Key words: public policy, applied research, public policy analysis, problem, game theory.

THE IMPORTANCE OF APPLIED RESEARCH OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND CONCEPTS OF INDUSTRIES 4.0

Vlado Radić¹
Nikola Radić²

Faculty of Business Economics and Entrepreneurship, Belgrade,

¹vlado.radic@vektor.net ; ²bra.radici@hotmail.com

ABSTRACT

The emergence of new manufacturing technologies has been gaining momentum over the recent years. Analysis and their impact on economic activities in any branch are very important, as they take into account the potential opportunities of technologies, as well as the challenges posed by their application. There is great uncertainty underlying the development and adoption of new technologies. Their complexity and interdependence mean that all actors in society – governments, companies, academia and civil society – are responsible for working together to better understand and respond appropriately to the emerging trends. Interpersonal understanding is necessary if we are to shape a collective future that is in line with our shared values and goals. There needs to be a comprehensive and global shared view of how technology is changing our lives and the lives of future generations, which it already does. The changes are so profound that from the perspective of human history (due to the transformation of the economic, social and cultural contexts in which we live), there has never been an age of greater imbalance between the possible prosperity or potential danger.

The concept of “Industry 4.0” has a “horizontal character” – it is equally important for all industrial sectors. It is also very significant to point out that this does not imply a one-sided development only in the domain of information technology. It is a very complex concept based on a symbiosis of knowledge from a broad range of manufacturing technologies and digital technologies for processing and transferring information, with the ultimate outcome of creating cyber-physical systems as a radically new technological entity.

Key words: industrial revolutions, new technologies, Industry 4.0, innovation, digital transformation.

THE APPLICATION OF THE HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE METHOD, ANALYSIS AND SYNTHESIS IN THE STUDY OF HERALDIC-HISTORICAL SOURCES ON THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE CROATIAN COAT OF ARMS

Marko P. Atlagić¹

Filip M. Obradović¹

Petar D. Tančić²

¹University of Priština, Faculty of Philosophy

²European University, Brčko District, Faculty of Political Sciences

ABSTRACT

The authors have applied scientific methods, primarily through the use of historical and comparative methods, as well as analysis and synthesis, to scientifically investigated the hitherto known historical-heraldic material and written sources on the emergence, development and use of the “chess board”, as a heraldic symbol for one of the Croatian tribes in the pre-heraldic period, and as the coat of arms of the Croatian people and the state in the heraldic era. Historical and comparative scientific method and comparison, as well as basic methods: analysis and synthesis were used to conduct research on scientific basis of all known heraldic-historical resources up to this day including the “chess board” that was first a symbol of one of the Croatian tribes and later the symbol of Croats and the main heraldic element (shield) in the Croatian coat of arms. In this context, an analysis and synthesis of heraldic sources was performed as follows: ceramic handicraft from Vučedol, 5000 years old; Seal of the Croatian Kingdom: “Regnum sigillum” on the charter of the Cetingrad Council of 1 January 1527; memorial thaler of Ferdinand I issued on the occasion of failed Turkish attack on Vienna in 1529; painting of Croatian nobility in the Zagreb Cathedral from 1691, by Bernard Bobić; tomb from 1624 of the Croatian Ban Toma Bakač in the Zagreb Cathedral; the work of I. Seinbacher *Allgemeines grosses und vollstandiges Wappenbuch*, II; Fig.2; Travel bag of Ludovit Gaj; The curtain in the old theater on Markov Square in Zagreb, painted by Vjekoslav Karas in 1858; The work of I. Bojničić, *Der Adel von Kroatien und Slavonien*, Nuremberg 1899; memorial thaler of Ludwig II Jagelović from 1525; an oil painting by Hans Burgkmeier (1472-1559); *Cista privilegiorum* – a case for storing charters from 1643; National Guard of Požega flag from 1848; a flag carried at the premiere of “Porin” by V. Lisinsky at the Croatian National Theater in Zagreb in 1851; passport issued to the actor I. Freudebnreich by the city of Zagreb in 1868; Legislative Article No. 18 of the Croatian Parliament of 1883; The roof of St. Mark’s Church in Zagreb was restored in 1878 and on that occasion the roof tiles were painted using the coat of arms of Croatia; the curtain of Bukovac in the Croatian National. Based on the research of these historical heraldic sources, the authors have come to the conclusion that the “chess board” in the form of a symbol of one of the Croatian tribes appears in the pre-heraldic period, and as a symbol of the Croatian people and Croatia in the heraldic era and lasts to this day. The authors also analyzed the so-called coat of arms of NDH (Independent State of Croatia) i.e. Ustasha coat of arms and concluded that the appearance of the first white field in the shield is not a feature of the Ustasha coat of arms, since that field first appeared 500 years earlier. However, the red field was also in use almost interchangeably at the same time. The Ustasha coat of arms features a square above the shield with the capital U. This is a feature of the Ustasha coat of arms. We further came to the conclusion that the authentic “chess board” as the coat of arms of Croatia is the one with the red square field that comes first.

Key words: coat of arms, heraldic, sources, “chess board”, Croatia.

MONITORING THE SCIENTIFIC AND SOCIAL EFFECTS OF RESEARCH USING THE DOCUMENT CONTENT ANALYSIS METHOD

Milivoje Pajović

**Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Serbia, Serbian Armed Forces,
Peacekeeping Operations Centre
milpajovic@gmail.com**

ABSTRACT

Ever since a growing interest of scientific circles in the potentials of the method of analyzing the document content a little more than six decades ago started, the debate, controversy and discussion about the position and role of this method, its capabilities and characteristics, as well as the attempt to reach a consensus on its final definition has been ongoing. However, all this time, this method has been applied, to a greater or lesser extent, in research, first and foremost as an operational method for data collection, but more and more often as a method that can be used in all phases and stages of the scientific research process, from defining the research problem and subject, all the way to the production of the research report and research results. The paper examines the possibility of applying the method of documents content analysis in monitoring the effects produced by the results of scientific research and their possible practical application. Through monitoring of these effects and application of the scientific methods, a credible test of the reaction of the scientific and general public is provided, which is of particular importance in the social sciences, especially in the political science research. The possibility of applying this method in monitoring the effects of scientific research and in the practical application of research results is a confirmation of the establishment of scientific capacities of this method defined through the existing logical and epistemological basis and operational technical instruments.

Key words: document content analysis, monitoring effects, science and practice, research results.

MULTICRITERIA OPTIMIZATION OF LOGISTICS PROCESSES USING THE FUCOM-SWOT MODEL

Dragan Pamučar¹

Vesko Lukovac²

University of Defense, Belgrade, Military Academy

¹dpamucar@gmail.com; ²lukovacvesko@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

Optimization of logistics processes and activities in the function of sustainability of the supply chain is a big challenge for logistics companies. It is necessary to streamline the process in accordance with the strict market requirements, while respecting the aspects of sustainability, which is not an easy task. Multi-criteria decision-making can be a tool that contributes to optimizing logistics processes from the point of view of making the right decisions and evaluating different strategies in different logistics subsystems. This paper considers the storage system as one of the most important logistics subsystems in a company. Evaluation of conditions and bar code technology implementation in order to optimize the storage processes was performed. A SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) matrix was established, consisting of a total of 27 elements. In order to determine the weights of all factors at the first decision-making level and its indicators at the second level of the decision-making hierarchy, an original model was developed. This model involves the development of the Gray Full Consistency Method (FUCOM) and integration with the SWOT analysis.

Key words: FUCOM, SWOT, multicriterion optimization.

THE IMPORTANCE OF APPLICATION OF THE SOCIOLOGICAL METHOD IN APPLIED RESEARCH

Srđan Starčević¹

Srđan Blagojević²

University of Defense, Belgrade, Military Academy

¹srdjan.starcevic@vs.rs ²srdjan.blagojevic@mod.gov.rs

ABSTRACT

One of the two main causes of the emergence of sociology, as a new social science in the 19th century, is the need to subject society and social phenomena to scientific cognition characteristic of mature natural sciences, capable of establishing scientific laws, and to include in their register of knowledge those that can be applied in solving human problems (e.g. in agriculture, industrial production, transport, construction, etc.). Following the grand ambitions of Auguste Comte and other eminent sociologists of the 19th and early 20th centuries to interpret and explain society as a whole, sociology has subsequently reduced its ambitions to medium scale theories and split into narrower, and thus more applicable in practice, specific sociologies. Along with the development of sociology and the divisions between different sociological currents, a sociological method was developed into which all the essential disagreements of these currents were included. Although numerous methodological approaches are often used in contemporary sociology in order to study a particular problem, there is a tendency to deviate from what we might call “large methodological choices” in favor of merely applying techniques to collect data and interpret them in a narrow framework. The authors examine the relationship between the sociological method and applied research and point to its threefold importance: first, as a source of inspiration for applied research, second as an indispensable mediator between the collected data on the one hand and their systematization and drawing general conclusions on the other, and, third, as an important part of the great theoretical choices that place the subjects of applied research in a broader social context.

Key words: sociological method, applied research, social context, sociological imagination.

AN APPROACH TO ESTIMATING BUSINESS ORGANIZATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROCESS OF TRANSPORT OF PERISHABLE GOODS BY APPLICATION OF THE PROCESS FUNCTION METHOD

Vesko Lukovac¹
Nenad Teodorović²
Dragan Pamučar³

University of Defense, Belgrade, Military Academy

¹lukovacvesko@yahoo.com; ²nteodorovic0@gmail.com; ³dpamucar@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Transport of goods, people and information is one of the basic needs of the modern society. During the transport process, the subject of transport may be contaminated with various substances which may then adversely affect its quality. Highly perishable goods are particularly sensitive to external influences that can affect the change in the properties of the goods and the deterioration of their quality. The process function method, as one of the most well-known methods for assessing the level of organization, is a highly effective tool for diagnosing an existing condition and identifying what needs to be improved. The process function method can evaluate the organization of business functions, organizational units, areas of work, business elements, jobs, etc. In this paper, the method of process functions was applied to evaluate the level of organization of the process of transportation of perishable goods in an organization specialized for its transport.

Key words: estimating organization, transport, perishable goods, process functions

PROBLEMS OF APPLIED RESEARCH IN THE SPORTS PSYCHOLOGY

Jelena Petrović

University of Defense, Belgrade, Military Academy
jelenailicpetrovic@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Sport psychology is one of the younger branches of applied psychology, which, according to the unofficial and generally accepted division of psychology in Serbia, falls within the domain of work psychology, whose *differentia specifica* is the field it covers and the sample of respondents, while it is treated as a separate field of applied psychology around the world. The methods and techniques are attributed lesser importance in determining the subject itself, and they are a mix of interdisciplinary methods and techniques taken from other fields of psychology, sometimes combined with methods of other related sciences that have the same subject of measurement. Therefore, the obtained results often have a multidisciplinary significance and application, usually in the fields of sports and medical sciences, but also military and security sciences. However, while the focus of this interdisciplinary approach is the man, in the sports sciences more and more attention is being paid to the development of technique and technology, as well as to the mass tests and results obtained on large samples, while man, as an individual, is no longer the primary focus, even with the help of the scientific public, through the imposition of standards for the writing of scientific papers and direct promotion of quantitative research.

Key words: applied psychology, sportspeople, sample.

IMPORTANCE OF APPLIED RESEARCH IN DEVELOPING THE CONCEPT OF FOOD SOVEREIGNTY OF COUNTRIES

Slaviša N. Arsić¹

Mitar Kovač²

¹. University of Defense, Belgrade, Military Academy
arsic.slavisa@gmail.com

².Project Management College, Belgrade
mitar.kovac21@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Nutrition, as a vital need of a society, in the face of increasing global demand, becomes a matter of national security for the materially developed countries. In spite of economical flexibility and resilience in case of instability, dependence on food imports can expose them to the effects of food crisis if they undercut the harvest, turmoil ensues in the supplier countries or they become subject to economic sanctions. The concept of “food security” and access to food through the exchange of goods on the world market in a uni-polar world has not eradicated famine on the planet and is instrumental in directing political decisions of countries that cannot satisfy domestic demand for food through their own production.

Food sovereignty is the society’s response to the shortcomings of the food security approach so far and a realistic platform that offers equitable and stable nutrition solutions for the population.

Key words: food sovereignty, food security, national security, population nutrition.

APPLIED RESEARCH IN TERMS OF DEVELOPING THE CONCEPT OF TOTAL DEFENSE

Željko Jokić

University of Defense, Belgrade, Military Academy
antras1209@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Defense as a vital state function involves a carefully selected and adequately implemented conceptualization process. There are numerous concepts around the world according to which countries organize and regulate their defense systems, in line with their respective defense needs and capabilities. The concept of total defense is one of them. Since it involves mobilizing all social and state resources for the defense of the country and its interests, the concept of total defense must be largely based on the results of properly planned and conducted scientific, professional and action research. This paper will discuss the importance of applied research for the development of such a complex concept, opted for by a number of countries, including the Republic of Serbia.

Key words: defense system, conceptualizing defense, total defense concept.

APPLICATION OF THE MODELING METHOD IN THE MILITARY ACTIVITIES OPERATIONAL PLANNING PROCESS

Zoran Karavidić

University of Defense, Belgrade, Military Academy
zkaravidic@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The operational planning process is a prescribed procedure for making complex military decisions. Based on the decisions made, resources in the military units are directed, and it can be said that the operational planning process is an essential guideline of military activities towards the set goals. As regards the military activities, a special role is played by the modeling method, which is recognized in various applications of simulations, war games, training and other relevant content. The paper will put a special focus on the position, role and importance of the modeling method in the comprehensively considered operational planning process. Although intended to serve the profession, the process must be based on scientific knowledge, i.e. in order for it to be practicable, it must be based around an adequate application of scientific methods.

Key words: operational planning process, modeling method, model elements

THE USE OF GEOINFORMATION SYSTEMS IN APPLICABLE RESEARCH THROUGH THE EXAMPLE OF CARTOGRAPHIC MODELING OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES AT THE TERRITORY OF THE CITY OF KRAGUJEVAC

Nenad Galjak¹

Slaviša Tatomirović²

University of Defense, Belgrade, Military Academy

¹galjaknenad@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The great potential of geoinformation systems (GIS) sources from their potential to integrate a large amount of information about an area. It enables people to collect, organize, manage, analyze, communicate and distribute geographic information. Topographic maps created in GIS not only show information, but also serve as support in various queries, analyses, planning and management.

This paper discusses the main advantages of GIS over conventional technologies applied, which are reflected in the better integration of information from a wide range of sources; more effective presentation of information in a comprehensible form; capacity to simulate the impact of possible decisions in sensitive areas or particular geographical locations; the capacity to simulate the impact of the use of various types of weapons, and the capacity to compile extensive sets of socially and politically relevant information and to integrate it into an accessible system well suited for public use.

The idea behind this paper is high-quality and efficient cartographic modeling of demographic changes in the census, between the 1991 census and the 2011 census, using the Geographic Information System, namely the product of the US Company ESRI and their software package ArcGis. The area taken for the test presentation of the prospects of cartographic modeling of demographic changes using GIS was a municipality in the Šumadija district – the territory of the city of Kragujevac. Special emphasis was given to the number of immigrants from Kosovo and Metohija who arrived at the city of Kragujevac between 1999 and 2011. The cartographic display of the census modeling used the cartographic methods already implemented in the ArcGis software package. The cartographic methods that were used are the methods of card diagrams, the methods of cartograms, the area method of points. The topographic maps created in GIS not only display information, but also serve as support in various queries, analyses, planning and management.

Key words: geoinformation system, geosystem, geodesy, cartography and photogrammetry

THE IMPORTANCE OF APPLIED RESEARCH IN THE PROCESS OF IDENTIFICATION OF IMPORTANT FACTORS OF MOTIVATION TO WORK OF PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS OF THE SERBIAN ARMED FORCES

Milan Kovačević¹

Dejan Nikolić²

¹ General Staff of the Serbian Armed Forces, Intelligence and Reconnaissance Department (J-2),
kacaiaca@ptt.rs

² General Staff of the Serbian Armed Forces, Guards
ana65@ptt.rs

ABSTRACT

The motivation to work is extremely important for the successful functioning of contemporary organizations of all types, including the military. The functioning of the Serbian Armed Forces as the main element of the defense system of the Republic of Serbia can be improved by raising the level of motivation of its members, and thus there is a clear interest of the society and the state in the research of motivation. Unlike the declarative interest in the issue of motivation, this issue is in practice quite neglected. The level of motivation to work is not measured and changes are not monitored except for some factors in the questionnaires for assessing morale and psychological status, which only indirectly assess the level of motivation.

The paper discusses the possibility of improving motivation for work by identifying important factors of motivation for the work of professional members of the Serbian Armed Forces, as well as their hierarchical structure and motivational potential. The hierarchical structure of the factors of motivation is variable and depends on the current socio-economic conditions, as well as on certain characteristics of the employees, and it is necessary to investigate the hierarchy of factors of motivation to work on a specific sample and monitor it continuously.

The aim of the paper is to point out the importance of researching the motivation of professional members of the Serbian Armed Forces and to construct an instrument for researching motivation adapted for use in the military environment. In addition to collecting motivation data, the implementation of research provides us with the necessary experiences and insights that can be used in constructing some subsequent instruments.

Key words: motivation, motivation to work, elements of motivation, hierarchy, Serbian Armed Forces

THE IMPORTANCE OF APPLIED RESEARCH FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION SECURITY OF THE ARMED FORCES

Bojan Kuzmanović¹

Miroslav Terzić²

¹General Staff of the Serbian Armed Forces, Intelligence and Reconnaissance Department (J-2), GS SAF
bojank.kuzma@gmail.com

² University of Defense, School of National Defense
terzicmiroslav@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

Examining the outcomes of conflict in his work “The Tragedy of Great Power Politics”, John Mearsheimer concludes following ten years of research that power should not be equated with the outcome, i.e. that by virtue of size, equipment or manpower, one should not expect success in conflicts as well, as it is the intangible reasons, one of which is intelligence, that most contribute to the final victory.

In order to determine the importance of applied research on the development of information security of the armed forces, the paper examines the results of previous research, and then the needs and opportunities for performing such research, with particular reference to the specifics of intelligence providing counterinsurgency operations as a subject of the research. Since, depending on the type, military operations require the application of different methods of intelligence gathering, and the products (intelligence assessments and information) depend on the correct choice of methods, the needs and opportunities for conducting applied research have been identified, the results of which contribute to the proper selection and application of methods for gathering data.

Emphasis is placed on the importance of intelligence gathering in the counterinsurgency operations of the military. The aim of the authors is to identify methods suitable for investigating such and similar problems, and the paper proposes a model for the development of intelligence security practices and research of information security in other military operations.

Key words: information security, applied research, methods of intelligence gathering, armed forces, insurgency, counterinsurgency operations.

PROBLEMS OF PROJECTING APPLIED RESEARCH

Momčilo Sakan

Nezavisni univerzitet u Banja Luci

momcilosakan@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The paper presents a few of the numerous experiences in the practice of designing applied research. The focus is on design experiences for the needs of MA (Master's) and Doctoral theses. Accordingly, the structure of the paper has been adapted to consist of: introduction, main part and conclusion. The introduction outlines the complexity of the problem and the need for its ongoing updating and refinement. In addition, the differing views of methodologists in this field have been outlined: from those of a purely terminological nature, through a different understanding of the formalized part of the design structure, to the essential part related to highly meaningful intellectual activity in the process. The definition of design as a highly complex, organized, purposeful, planned and rigorously controlled activity carried out by a research team (researcher) in the process of designing a research project, i.e. a research plan, is also given. In the main part, the usual design structure is first presented, followed by an analysis of the experience of designing each part with a focus on the scientific concept as a theoretical and logical part of the research project. More precisely, this is the part where the scientific knowledge from which the starting point, scientific and other categories, concepts, attitudes, judgments, conclusions, hypotheses and methods of researching the problem and the subject under study is communicated. This is at the same time the part where three essential questions are answered: (1) what is being investigated, (2) why it is being investigated, and (3) how it is being investigated. The focus of this section is on explaining the experience of designing viz. elaborating each element of the scientific concept structure: (1) research problems, (2) research objects, (2) research goals, (4) hypotheses, (5) research methods, and (6) scientific and social justification for the research. Finally, experience in designing research plans and instruments was highlighted. The conclusion is a synthesis of the main part with a focus on those elements that could significantly contribute to better design. Some recommendations for design practices in the near future are also provided.

Key words: applied research, research design, scientific concept, research problem, research subject, research objectives, hypotheses, research method, research justification and research plans.

MODELING OF SELECTION OF COMBAT HELICOPTERS BY APPLICATION OF MULTICRITERIA DECISION-MAKING METHOD

Miodrag Gordić

Ivan Petrović

Union Nikola Tesla University, Faculty of Business Studies and Security

gordicmiodrag@gmail.com

University of Defense, Military Academy

ivanpetrovic1977@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The paper describes the application of multi-criteria decision-making methods when selecting a combat helicopter. Given the significance of helicopters in the modern combat environment, special attention is paid nowadays to equipping with this type of fighter aircraft. In the first part of the paper, criteria were determined using literature analysis. The second part of the paper describes the multi-criteria decision-making applied in this paper. In the third part, the criteria were prioritized using the DEMATEL method, followed by ranking of alternatives using the TOPSIS method. Given the fact that a small number of experts participated in the ranking of criteria, the application of the DEMATEL method was performed in the fuzzy environment (triangular fuzzy numbers were applied). Furthermore, this part also explains the results of the paper.

Key words: combat helicopter, multi-criterion decision-making, fuzzy-DEMATEL, TOPSIS.

RESEARCHING THE INFLUENCE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS ON THE IMAGE AND IDENTITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SERBIAN ARMED FORCES

Maja Šimrak-Grbić
University of Defense, Military Academy
maja.simrak@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Due to the powerful orientation of the Republic of Serbia towards international integration and cooperation in all spheres of society, including the field of defense, communication in foreign language has become imperative for the implementation of numerous tasks and missions of the Serbian Armed Forces. The paper explores the possibilities of applied research in determining the importance of communication in a foreign language for building and improving the image and identity of the members of the Serbian Armed Forces. The paper will focus on methods for data collection and their relation to the application of the general-scientific statistical method in the study of this current social problem.

Key words: foreign language, image, identity, Serbian Armed Forces.

APPLICATION OF BEHAVIORAL APPROACH IN RESEARCH OF ORGANIZATIONAL PROBLEMS

Anđela Ilić

Faculty of Project Management

ilicandjela10@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Although the roots of the Behavioral Approach date back to the 20th century, it has especially developed since the Second World War in the United States as an important theoretical and methodological direction. In its conception, the method was applied in psychology only later to find application in the broader social context. Today, as an important sociological and political science approach, it has found significant application in the study of social phenomena, and among them the research of the organization, its structure, functions, organizational changes and other problems of organizational character. Organizations exist for specific reasons, namely, for the accomplishment of a well-defined purpose, and organization management (management) comprises four basic functions, viz.: planning, organizing, leading and controlling. The basic premise of the behavioral approach is based on the assertion that behavior is the product of a stimulus-response relationship, that a stimulus is an external energy independent of human consciousness, and that by controlling the stimulus in the accomplishment of all the stated functions of the organization, it can control the behavior of the subjects of the organization. The aforementioned approach provides the basis for the study of classical and instrumental conditioning, as well as model-based learning, which are known mechanisms for directing and managing organizational behavior. The paper presents the potentials of behavioral approach in researching complex social problems of an organization.

Key words: behaviorism, behavioral approach, organization, organizational problems.

INDUCTIVE APPROACH IN RESEARCH OF SECURITY PHENOMENA AND PROCESSES

Tamara Mančić

Belgrade University, Faculty of Security Studies
tamara.mancic997@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The primary need of the man and society as a whole is to establish security. Security is therefore an essential function of politics and the political system. As a complex state function, security is, by its nature, a developmental and research function that involves the application of numerous methods of practice but also of research. At its core, the security function is constantly striving to investigate potential threats to the security of the state and society and to seek the best responses. This search requires, first of all, expert knowledge, which derives its contents from already scientifically grounded and practically validated scientific knowledge obtained through properly conducted scientific research. Security practice is a great place to test non-verified scientific knowledge, and also a source of new, hitherto unknown, scientific knowledge. In the field of security research, a special place is assigned to the basic methods of scientific knowledge and research to which induction belongs. The standpoints of induction based on the cognitive experience of social and scientific research practices provides for reliable scientific knowledge of security phenomena and processes, observed in a specific concrete time and space. The role and importance of the inductive approach in security research is reviewed.

Key words: induction, inductive approach, research, safety, security function.

SPECIFICITIES IN APPLICATION OF HYPOTHETICAL-DEDUCTIVE METHOD IN POLITICOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Mirjana Đorđević

Belgrade University, Faculty of Political Sciences

mirjana.djordjevic997@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

From Greek political thought to contemporary theories of politics, the science of politics seeks to establish the regularities that rule in the world of politics. It does this not only by examining the relations between political entities, relations in the political space, but also the relations between politics, the political system and other social phenomena, other social subsystems. The fact is that there are very different attitudes in science regarding the relationship between politics and other social phenomena. They range from explaining that politics is a common epiphenomenon of other phenomena to interpretations that make it a key social phenomenon and the root cause of the most diverse developments and changes in the global society. If we assume that contemporary politics, as a sphere of human activity, aims at directing and organizing human society towards the pursuit of the general interests and well-being of the social community, then politics can be considered a primary function that is at the same time a source and factor, and a guide and evaluator of all other state and social functions. As such, it is an inexhaustible focus of political science and political science research. The hypothetical-deductive method as an experiential method with its cognizable and especially scientifically-based foundations represents the overall social and scientific experience and is an indispensable method in policy research. The paper deals with the specifics of the application of the hypothetical-deductive method in political science research, as a purely intellectual-rational method.

Key words: politics, political science research, method, hypothetical-deductive method.

MALE AND FEMALE STUDENTS OF THE BELGRADE UNIVERSITY AND GENDER (IN)EQUALITY

Teodora Baškalo
Alma Mustajbašić
Tijana Momirović
Klara Horvat
Milena Babić
Nikola Jović

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Political Sciences

ABSTRACT

In an area where the patriarchal still pervades many facets of society, we have tried to discover whether theoretically and semi-proclaimed gender equality has been integrated into the thinking and attitudes of young students at the Belgrade University. Has it successfully been integrated into the practical consciousness of future academics and leaders of society, through media coverage, influence of social networks and activism? The idea of students to commence this research was fueled by the continued growth of women victims of domestic, sexual and other types of violence; it was fueled by the issue of fundamental freedoms and the guarantee of human rights in situations where it is impossible to measure the unequal redistribution of freedoms and the denial of the guaranteed human rights. The inequalities and divisions that intersect through early socialization, upbringing and processes of personality formation in educational institutions are still insurmountable in the Republic of Serbia today, contributing to the further expansion of discrimination and gender inequality. But how sensitive and willing are young members of society to practically implement equality? The survey found higher figures on indices showing values for gender inequality in male respondents, i.e. a higher degree of gender discrimination is shown by male than by female students. Male students are more prone to discrimination of the opposite sex, masculinization of jobs, and they have a higher degree of social conservatism than is the case among female students. The research also notes the influence of family models and behavior patterns on the attitudes of male and female students. Among those who grew up in families where there was an explicit division into “male and female chores”, there was a higher degree of gender (in)equality index, masculinization of jobs and social conservatism. One third of respondents experienced gender discrimination, verbal partner violence, and harassment through social networks, with a higher percentage of female students whose answers to these questions were affirmative. Ideological directions and values are another component that students have been researching, as well as the degree of social distance to others and their overall impact on understanding gender issues. This research is based on empirical data collected from 1.101 male and female students from the Belgrade University, whose opinions and attitudes bypass one another but are also intertwined, reflecting the social distance from true equality that we aspire to collectively. Willingness to change your views, rethink your own ideals; willingness to accept the qualitative development of social values in parallel with the quantitative increase in obstacles and difficulties we face on a daily basis; a willingness to relinquish privilege by dismantling the human rights basis of others; a willingness to change oneself should be the first thought of a student at Belgrade University in order to make the radical and necessary changes to society and achieve gender equality. This research has opened and accumulated a number of rhetorical questions that have a gender quality in the Republic of Serbia.

Key words: equality, gender equality, University.

VALUE PREDICTORS OF BELIEVING IN CONSPIRACY THEORIES IN SERBIA

**Sava Mitrović
Teodora Deljanin
Anastasija Radić
Slavoljub Trišić
Nikola Jović**

University of Belgrade, Faculty of Political Sciences

ABSTRACT

The results of the research we are going to present are part of a project aimed at examining citizens' views on conspiracy theories (CT), primarily to determine the value predictors that lead to believing in pseudo-science and pseudo-truth. One of the primary goals of this research is to examine the relationship between authoritarianism, ethno-nationalism, conservatism, and the political alliance and believing in CT. The results of the study confirmed the researchers' assumptions that belief in conspiracy theories is widespread among the Serbian citizens. Specifically, the insights from the research show a great tendency of the respondents to believe in conspiracy theories, especially given the questions the respondents answered. For example, more than half of the citizens surveyed believe in the thesis that Serbs are the oldest people in the Balkans, while every other is convinced that there is a worldwide plot against the Serbs and Serbia. The survey also shows that every other respondent's belief is that migrants are not primarily fleeing war and poverty, but rather that they are part of a broader agenda of Islamizing Europe. Of particular interest are those conspiracy theories that relate contextually to political developments in Serbia over the recent decades. In this case, just over half of the respondents doubted the official versions of the deaths of Zoran Đinđić and Slobodan Milošević. Furthermore, about 50% of the respondents believe that the covert goal of Yugoslavia was to destroy Serbia. In addition to statistics that tell us about the representation of certain beliefs in conspiracy theories, the aim of the research was to point out the direct relationship between citizens' value systems and their tendencies to believe in conspiracy theories, and what the role of the media is. Survey results show that respondents who are more conservative, ethnocentric, authoritarian, and estranged from politics are more likely to believe in conspiracy theories. On the other hand, when it comes to the media, the first thing we can see is that information plays an important role. Specifically, research insights show that those respondents who say they do not understand political processes well believe in conspiracy theories. Additionally, they are mainly informed through the traditional media, such as television, radio and printed newspapers. Interestingly, citizens who read tabloids and watch pro-government televisions are more likely to believe in conspiracy theories. Promoting conspiracy theories is a fertile ground for numerous politicians, groups and individuals. By misusing the media, they manipulate citizens' information in order to pursue some of the public's harmful interests, whether it is to produce fear, to passivize citizens, or to construct the idea of the vulnerability and inevitability of certain processes. A society that relies on pseudo-knowledge and pseudo-truth has little to hope for when ultimately faced with coming to terms with the truth.

Key words: predictors, beliefs, conspiracy theory (CT).

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESEARCH STUDY IN THE SCIENCE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: HISTORICAL-SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH

Srdjan Slović

Institut za srpsku kulturu, Priština – Leoisavić

institut.skp@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The research study in the science of international relations becomes more complicated and diversified due to a set of factors. At first place, it is impossibility of strict terminological delimitation among essential categories present in the theory of international relations such as: force, power, national interest, balance of power, and collective security. Force and power are frequently used as synonyms, but they are not in reality. The reason lies in the sprawl, ambiguity, and contradiction of these categories.

Furthermore, research study is hindered by the presence of many schools and streams in the theory of international relations. In realistic theory different streams exist: classical realism, realism based on historical sociology, structural realism (neorealism), and contingent realism. This spectre of streams entails inconsistency. Contingent realism differs from the structural one since it believes in the possibility of co-operation in the anarchical system of international relations. The historico-sociological method of Raymond Aron will be put in the research focus.

In such conditions of complication and changeability of research subject in the first place will be put the concept of international law and security, since they reflect all features and contradictions of international relations. Instead of previously prevailing concept of security competition we will have the security co-operation. New approaches will require new methods: instead of former classical ones historical-sociological and social-constructivists will be in greater use.

Key words: international relations, force, power, national interest, soft power, realism, neorealism, security.