



SOCIOLOGY TRANSFORMED

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Sociology in Serbia

A Fragile Discipline

Ivana Spasić · Jelena Pešić
Marija Babović

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Sociology Transformed

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The field of sociology has changed rapidly over the last few decades. Sociology Transformed seeks to map these changes on a country by country basis and to contribute to the discussion of the future of the subject. The series is concerned not only with the traditional centres of the discipline, but with its many variant forms across the globe.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CEE:	Central-Eastern Europe
CFDT:	Centar za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju (Center for Philosophy and Social Theory)
DSS:	Demokratska stranka Srbije (Democratic Party of Serbia)
FPN:	Fakultet političkih nauka (Faculty of Political Sciences)
IDN:	Institut društvenih nauka (Institute of Social Sciences)
IFDT:	Institut za filozofiju i društvenu teoriju (Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory)
ISI:	Institut za sociološka istraživanja (Institute of Sociological Research at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade)
JUNIR:	<i>Jugoslovensko udruženje za naučno istraživanje religije</i> (Yugoslav Association for the Scientific Research of Religion)
JUS:	Jugoslovensko udruženje za sociologiju (Yugoslav Sociological Association)
SANU:	Srpska akademija nauka i umetnosti (Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts)
SDS:	Sociološko društvo Srbije (Sociological Society of Serbia)
SFRY:	Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
SKJ:	Savez komunista Jugoslavije (League of Communists of Yugoslavia)
SNDS:	Sociološko naučno društvo Srbije (Sociological Scientific Society of Serbia)
SNS:	Srpska napredna stranka (Serbian Progressive Party)
SPS:	Socijalistička partija Srbije (Socialist Party of Serbia)
SSD:	Srpsko sociološko društvo (Serbian Sociological Society)
SUSCG:	Sociološko udruženje Srbije i Crne Gore (Sociological Association of Serbia and Montenegro)
UJDI:	Udruženje za jugoslovensku demokratsku inicijativu (Association for Yugoslav Democratic Initiative)



Introduction

Abstract This chapter introduces the history of sociology in Serbia since its beginnings in the interwar period until today and provides historical background data on Serbia.

Keywords Serbia • Sociology • National history • Scientific field • Autonomy

In 2012, sociology in Serbia celebrated its centennial. A festive congress of the Serbian Sociological Association was convened in September, exhibitions were set up at universities of Belgrade and Novi Sad, a four-volume special issue of the national sociological journal was published, and in October a symposium dedicated to the life and work of a forgotten founding figure followed, resulting in a hefty book. The year closed with a cycle of public lectures on Serbian sociological pioneers at the Kolarac Open University, a popular venue in Belgrade.

As sociologists well know, disciplinary histories are always constructed, and telling “the” story of a past necessarily entails asserting something about the present and the future. Since one hundred years of continuous existence looks like a remarkable achievement for a small and globally marginal sociological community, it makes sense to ask: what marked the beginning of this count, one hundred years before?