



## The Croatian Council of InSEA (HRV-InSEA) Annual Report July 2004 – February 2006

The HRV-InSEA has at present 100 individual members (59 educators in primary and secondary schools, 14 in the higher education, 6 in museums and galleries, 2 in early years education, 12 in other institutions and associations, 3 artists & free lancers...).

Since 2005 the president has been Mirjana Tomasevic Dancevic, Senior Art Education Adviser, The Institute of the Education of the Republic of Croatia (in August 2006 renamed to: Education and Teacher Training Agency).

The HRV-InSEA members have been involved into the process of Croatian Educational Reform in elementary school transformation, drafting a new curricula, as well as in the permanent discussion of the long term Croatian cultural policy, the aim of which is to improve the position of art education. The most acute problem of art education in Croatia is the minimal number of art lessons (only one) per a week in primary and lower secondary schools. The situation is even worse in upper secondary schools, since art practice is provided only in Art schools (with some exceptions), while the art theory, besides in Art schools, is studied nearly only in Grammar schools/"Gymnasium"/High schools and for no longer than two school years.

For the two last years the HRV-InSEA members (10) have been also involved into the projects of the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, as the members of 1) the Committee for the Development of the National Visual Arts Education Standard (prof. Vera Turkovic, Ana Novoselac, and Vladimira Bosnjak; Coordinator was: prof. E. R. Tanay), 2) the Committee for the Revision of the National Visual Arts Education Standard (Ivan Bogavcic, prof. Marcel Bacic, Miroslav Huzjak, Dubravka Kuscevic, prof. Vera Kos Paliska, Ida Mati, prof. Stjepko Rupcic, Ana Sobot, Mirjana Tomasevic; Coordinator: Miroslav Huzjak), establishing the Croatian National Education Standards for primary and lower secondary school.

Dijana Nazor and Mirjana Tomasevic Dancevic have participated in the International InSEA Congress in Viseu, Portugal, in 2006. Dijana Nazor presented her project *Chests Through Centuries* and presented the 3D chests created by children in art workshops.

Vera Turkovic and Mirjana Tomasevic Dancevic have participated in the InSEA 6th European Congress: InSEA on SEA, in Stockholm–Helsinki–Tallinn, in 2003. At the latter congress the HRV-InSEA was also presented with the exhibition of children's artwork *The sea in the artwork of children aged 4–6/7 years* and the supporting catalogue. The same exhibition was presented to the Croatian public in the Technical Museum, Maritime Department, in October 2003. In *Culturelink* (worldwide Network of Networks for Research and Cooperation in Cultural Development) No 38,

November 2002, Institute for International Relations, Zagreb, Croatia, supported by UNESCO and the Council of Europe, Dr. Vera Turkovic made the *Dossier on The Thirty-First World Congress of the International Society for Education Through Art (InSEA): International Conversation Through Art*. Besides the review of the Congress, several papers from the Congress were presented, including the paper given by Dr. Elliot W. Eisner. The first European competition invitation made by the Department of Art Education at the University of Art in Linz, Austria – *Art Education & New Media 2003* – was also presented.

The members of the HRV InSEA have published specialist and popular articles on art education as well as open letters/letters to the editors in newspapers and magazines.

Zagreb, 5 March 2006

Mirjana Tomašević Dancevic  
*President of HRV-InSEA*  
Senior Art Education Adviser  
Institute of the Education of the Republic of Croatia  
E-mail: [mirjana.tomasevic-dancevic@zss.hr](mailto:mirjana.tomasevic-dancevic@zss.hr)  
E-mail: [mirjana.tomasevic@zg.htnet.hr](mailto:mirjana.tomasevic@zg.htnet.hr) (home)

## July 2002 – June 2004

HRVATSKO VIJEĆE MEDUNARODNOG DRUŠTVA  
ZA OBRAZOVANJE PUTEM UMJETNOSTI  
HRV-InSEA, 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia



## General Information about the Croatian Council of InSEA (HRV-InSEA)

The Croatian Council of InSEA (HRV-InSEA) is an ungovernmental society that gathers and connects art educators at all levels of art education from early education teachers to university professors, artists, sociologists, psychologists, art historians, and members of other professions interested in education through art in Croatia and worldwide. Its main residence is in Zagreb. **(At the moment the address is: HRV-InSEA, c/o Mirjana Tomasevic Dancevic, Jarnoviceva 3, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia).**

The first President of the HRV-InSEA (as a new formed society in Croatia after its secession from Yugoslavia) was Prof. **Dr. Radovan Ivancevic**. From 2002 to May 2004 the President was Prof. **Dr. Vera Turkovic**. At the moment the acting president of the Society is **Mirjana Tomasevic Dancevic** (Teacher of Art, History of Art, and English; Senior Lecturer, Artist).

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The HRV-InSEA has at present 35 individual members. At the moment the acting president of the Society is Mirjana Tomasevic Dancevic. The reason of the taking turns on duty of the President elected in 2002 is Dr. Vera Turkovic's active engagement on several higher education projects.

This is the third year that the HRV-InSEA has been involved into the process of Croatian Educational Reform in elementary school transformation, drafting a new curricula, as well as in the permanent discussion of the long term Croatian cultural policy, the aim of which is to improve the position of art education. The most acute problem of art education in Croatia is the minimal number of art lessons (only one) per a week in primary and lower secondary schools. The situation is even worse in upper secondary schools, since art practice is provided only in Art schools (with some exceptions), while the art theory, besides in Art schools, is studied nearly only in Grammar schools/"Gymnasium"/High schools and for no longer than two school years.

The members of the HRV-InSEA have worked on the projects *The importance and the role of art textbooks/handbooks in compulsory education (Grade 1–8)*, and *The analysis of the school textbooks in relation to the quality of the visual arts content*. The Committee on the evaluation of the school textbooks has been established for the latter purpose. The first phase of the research focused on the recently published first Pupils' Art Handbooks/Textbooks in Croatia – for primary and lower secondary school children. The Art Teacher's Books were included as well. All the authors are the members of the InSEA and/or the HRV-InSEA: Ana Sobat and Mirjana Tomasevic Dancevic (textbooks for 5–8 grade pupils, published in 2000–2003), Miroslav Huzjak (textbooks for 1–4 grade pupils, 2002), and Emil Robert Tanay (handbooks for 1–8 grade pupils, 2003).

Dr. Vera Turkovic and Mirjana Tomasevic Dancevic participated in the *InSEA 31st World Congress* in New York, in 2002 and the *InSEA 6th European Congress* in Stockholm–Helsinki–Tallinn, in 2003. At the latter congress the HRV-InSEA was also presented with the exhibition of children's artwork *The sea in the artwork of children aged 4–6/7 years* and the supporting catalogue. The same exhibition was presented to the Croatian public in the Technical Museum, Maritime Department, in October 2003. In *Culturelink* (worldwide Network of Networks for Research and Cooperation in Cultural Development) No 38, November 2002, Institute for International Relations, Zagreb, Croatia, supported by UNESCO and the Council of Europe, Dr. Vera Turkovic made the *Dossier on The Thirty-First World Congress of the International Society for Education Through Art (InSEA): International Conversation Through Art*. Besides the review of the Congress, several papers from the Congress were presented, including the paper given by Dr. Elliot W. Eisner. The first European competition invitation made by the Department of Art Education at the University of Art in Linz, Austria – *Art Education & New Media 2003* – was also presented.

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The sad news to all the members was that Dr. Radovan Ivancevic, the long-time president of the Croatian Council of InSEA and a brilliant leading figure of Croatian art history, died early in the year of 2004.

Zagreb, June 2004

Mirjana Tomasevic Dancevic  
*Acting President of HRV InSEA*  
Art, History of Art, English, B. A.  
Senior Lecturer  
Teacher Education Academy, University of Zagreb,  
Croatia  
*Potocnica* Early Childhood Education Centre, Zagreb  
E-mail: [mirjana.tomasevic@zg.htnet.hr](mailto:mirjana.tomasevic@zg.htnet.hr)  
Home address: Jarnoviceva 3, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia