

FULL NAME	DUŠKA KNEŽEVIĆ HOČEVAR	FIELDS OF INTEREST, RESEARCH AREAS, FIELDWORK
YEAR OF BIRTH	1965	Anthropology of ethnicity and nationalism
POSITION, TITLE	Assistant Professor, Ph.D.	Anthropology of international borders
DISCIPLINE	Historical Anthropology	Demographical anthropology
INSTITUTION OF EMPLOYMENT	Institute of Medical Sciences at the Slovenian Academy of Sciences & Arts	Fieldwork: border region between Slovenia and Croatia: settlements in the Upper Kolpa valley in years: 1993, 1996, 1999;. Border region between Slovenia and Croatia: settlements in the Lower Kolpa valley (Orthodox community in Slovenia), and settlements in West Žumberačka krajina (Greek-Catholic community in Croatia) since 2002.



RECENT RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Fieldwork (1993, 1996):** As junior researcher, employed at the Faculty of Social Sciences, I conducted two field studies in the Slovenian-Croat border region, in the Upper Kolpa valley, the chosen research locale on the southern section of the then newly established international border. In the 1993 research, I sought to test whether, and if so, how the newly imposed international border between Slovenia and Croatia affected the feelings of belonging of the people of the Upper Kolpa valley. The results showed that formal (business, economic) contacts between the locals living along the border river Kolpa dropped, but not equally dramatically so the informal contacts (among kin and friends). These data instigated the ensuing research in 1996, in which (self)ascriptions of selected members of cross-river extended family were examined by way of collecting and analysing their life histories. The working hypothesis pertained to the situational patterns of activation of differentiations in the members of the selected family, in order to be able to properly evaluate the impact of the imposition of the international border in 1991. The results of both studies showed that in order to understand and map the pragmatism underlying the expressions of belonging, an investigation into everyday interaction among the locals was called for, especially with reference to native interpretations of the institutions of power. **Theoretical framework:** Border-boundary issue has been implicated in several anthropological classics: delineations of »cultures«, »societies« and »tribes« were on the anthropological agenda since the very beginnings of the discipline. Nowadays, the specialised field of anthropology of ethnicity and nationalism includes the borders and boundaries issue which is seen as a specific dynamic of culturally generated differences in interpersonal as well as inter-group behaviour: they include themes such as race, gender, class, minority, and nation-related ethnicity. An important, and growing bulk of social anthropological literature on ethnicity and nationalism is presently occupied with the specific, new European and Asian situations after the »fall of the Berlin Wall«.
- **Fieldwork (1999):** In 1999, I repeated interviews with some informants from the 1993 and 1996 research, in order to re-test their understandings of border situation in many respects: their social memory before and after the establishment of the international border in 1991; their estimation of the future prospects in the valley including the forthcoming Schengen regime, etc. Some observations I also included in the monograph (see below).
- **Fieldwork (2002 -):** Since 2002, I have been working in a "new" research locale: in the settlements of the Lower Kolpa valley on the Slovenian side of the border (mostly with informants from the local Christian Orthodox community), and in the settlements in the western Žumberačka krajina on the Croat side of the border (mostly with informants from the local Greek-Catholic community).
- **Research project:** Between 1999 and 2003, I worked as a full-time researcher in the National Programme Group *Fertility Behaviour of Slovenian Citizens*. The topics under study were: media discourse on fertility in post-socialist Slovenia; fertility and "home produced national population" as the privileged topic of Slovenian nationalist discourse after the proclamation of state independence in 1991; the concern of nation-builders on the numerical smallness of Slovenian nation since the times of the alleged inception of the Slovenian nation in the mid-19th century; comparison of kinship systems in the descendants of the *Uskoki* (the medieval migrants to present-day Slovenian-Croat border area from the inner Balkans) in the last two hundred years: population dynamic, marriage strategies, various types of households (e.g. *zadruga*), ways of life, collective identifications, social memory on Austrian Military Border Regime (1550-1871), understandings of the approaching Schengen international border regime. **Theoretical framework:** Based on the results of my 1993 and 1996 fieldwork, I sought to consolidate in my research the recent efforts in two specializations of social and cultural anthropology – the anthropology of international borders, and demographic anthropology. The two I saw as complementing each other in their critique of the classical demographic notion of "national population" and its "inherent" demographic processes such as fertility behaviour, mortality, migration, etc. The traditional field of demography was – and still is - mostly oriented towards ahistorical and oversimplified comprehension of national populations, whose boundaries are as a rule taken for granted, and largely equated with the nation-state boundaries. The challenge was to bring together the concerns of border studies, and the problem of ever contested national identities, with the demographic investigations of fertility behaviour in a way that would meaningfully challenge the traditional views and interpretations of all these three specialised interests.

A selected list of recent research projects includes:

- **1993 – 1996. History of Slovenian anthropology** within the research project *Anthropological analyses II*. Principal investigator: Prof. Stane Južnič. Financier: Ministry of science and technology of the R Slovenia.
- **1997 – 1999. Anthropology of ethnicity and nationalism** within the basic research project *Anthropological disciplinary systematisation: structure, review of contents, and achievements*. Principal investigator: Prof. Stane Južnič. Financier: Ministry of science and technology of the R Slovenia.
- **1999 - . National Programme Fertility Behaviour of Slovenian Citizens**. Position: Full-time researcher on staff. Financier: Ministry of education, science and sports of the R Slovenia.
- **2001: Borders old and new: towards a theoretical and applicative framework**. At: Centro studi sulle aree di confine/Centre for border area studies, Tarvisio, Italy. Financier: European science foundation, exploratory workshops grant.
- **2001 - 2004: The processes of ethnic differentiation in Slovenia: confronting the perceptions (Procesi etničnega razlikovanja v Sloveniji: soočenje percepcij)**. Position: associate researcher. At: Institute of ethnic studies, Ljubljana. Financier: Ministry of education, science and sports of Slovenia.

COURSES TAUGHT		RECENT TEACHING EXPERIENCE, PRACTICE, METHODS
1.	1995 – 1998, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana: Teaching Assistant for Social and political anthropology at the subject Civilisations .	At the Faculty of Social sciences , I worked mostly with undergraduate students of Journalism, organising the course in two ways: firstly, in the tutorial hours, we analysed the basic texts which the students were asked to read. Secondly, in order to surpass the “classical” methods of instruction and examination, the students were encouraged to write and orally present essays in small groups that concentrated on a specific topic, which they selected out of the list of obligatory themes. The group work was organised in a “workshop” format, with an appointed coordinator from among the group members. This coordinator was responsible for the work in the group and obliged to read all the presentations; each student had to include three pieces of obligatory literature in the essay. My job was to evaluate the organisation of each workshop (time, logistics), the performance of the coordinators, the oral presentations and active participation in the discussions. Finally, I assessed the final reports of the coordinators, and all the written essays. Compared to classical methods of teaching (giving lecture and final oral or written examination), I found this method much more efficient and rewarding in terms of mutual learning both for the students and myself.
2.	1998/1999, Graduate School of Humanities (Institutum Studiorum Humanitatis (ISH), Ljubljana: Teaching Assistant for Social and political anthropology at the module Anthropological concepts and the history of anthropology .	At the Pedagogical Faculty , I taught a class of undergraduate students by means of active discussions on the obligatory texts. At first, they found such teaching practice unusual, difficult, and more demanding in comparison to the more passive “making notes” on lectures. I encouraged them to take active participation in the seminars, expressing and discussing their interests, their own practices in teaching and educating pupils in the elementary school, etc. Ultimately, they recognised the advantages of such interactive method of teaching.
3.	2000/2001, Pedagogical Faculty (Department in Koper), University of Ljubljana: Teaching Assistant for Social and political anthropology at the subject Sociology of education .	At the ISH , I work with post-graduate students who completed their diplomas at different faculties in different disciplines. During the seminar work in 1998/99, they themselves expressed the need for more work on “common theoretical grounds” due to their different undergraduate backgrounds. They filled the “theoretical gap” with additional literature (basic, classic texts), either discussing it in the seminars or including it in their written essays. The main method of the seminar was again discussing and analysing the basic texts, and presenting their written essays in the group.
4.	2002 - Graduate School of Humanities (Institutum Studiorum Humanitatis (ISH), Ljubljana: Historical anthropology course of study - programme Social anthropology: Assistant Professor, and Coordinator of the Module Anthropology of Ethnicity, Nationalism and Boundaries .	
5.	Demographical Anthropology (Scientific Research Institute)	
6.	Anthropology of Boundaries (Faculty of Arts)	

MAJOR PUBLICATIONS IN LAST FIVE YEARS

1.	2003. “Idejno ozadje esencialističnih predstav o rodnosti v treh primerih presoj nacionalne populacije” (The Ideational Background of Essentialist Notions on Fertility: Three Cases). <i>Družboslovne razprave</i> , 19/43, pp. 29-46, in Slovenian.
2.	2003. “Local and National Narratives of a Border Regime Between Slovenia and Croatia”. <i>European Studies: A Journal of European Culture, History and Politics</i> – special issue - series: Anderson; James, O’Dowd Liam in Thomas M. Wilson (eds.), <i>Culture Cooperation and Conflict at International Borders in Europe</i> , 19, Amsterdam/New York, NY, pp.171-194.
3.	2003. “Medijska govorica o nacionalni reprodukciji v postsocialistični Sloveniji” (The media discourse on national reproduction in post-socialist Slovenia). <i>Teorija in praksa</i> , 40/2, pp. 335-356, in Slovenian.
4.	2000. “Nekateri razmisleki ob preučevanju domačinskih razumevanj nacije v dolini zgornje Kolpe po vzpostavitvi slovensko-hrvaške državne meje” (Some thoughts regarding research on local understandings of the nation in the valley of the Upper Kolpa/Kupa after the establishment of the Slovenian-Croatian state border). <i>Migracijske teme: časopis za istraživanja migracija i narodnosti</i> , 16/1-2, pp. 29-45 in Croatian.
5.	2000. “Preučevanje mednarodnih meja v geografiji in antropologiji: paradigmatški in konceptualni odnosi” (Studying International Borders in Geography and Anthropology: Paradigmatic and Conceptual Relations). <i>Geografski zbornik/Acta Geographica</i> , 2000/40, pp. 81-98.
6.	1999. <i>Družbena razmejevanja v dolini zgornje Kolpe. Domačinska zamišljanja nacije in lokalitete</i> (Boundaries in the Upper Kolpa Valley. Native Imaginings of Nation and Locality). Ljubljana: Založba ZRC.

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS, FORUMS ETC.

1.	Centro studi sulle aree di confine – Centre for Border Area Studies, BAS-SAC in Tarvisio, Italy (member of Administrative board);
2.	European Association of Social Anthropologists (member)
3.	European Anthropological Association (member)
4.	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (member)