

HABSBURG ANIMALS



October 2nd & 3rd 2024

Prešernova dvorana ZRC SAZU

(ground floor), Novi trg 4, Ljubljana

You can follow the conference also online:

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**RESEARCH CENTRE
OF THE SLOVENIAN ACADEMY
OF SCIENCES AND ARTS**

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This event was funded by the Slovenian Research Agency as part of the postdoctoral project For Beasts, Against Animals (Z6-4613).

Organizing committee: Daša Ličen,
Wolfgang Göderle, Tadej Pavkovič.
Design: Design studio, Igor Nađalin s.p.

The conference aims to explore the lives of animals and various aspects of the complex and multifaceted interactions between humans and animals over the course of the long nineteenth century.

In recent decades, following the "animal turn," animals have been increasingly integrated into research in various humanities disciplines, especially history. However, animals have not received much attention within the field of Habsburg studies. Central Europe, whose large animal populations underwent modernization and imperial transformation during the last century of the Habsburg Empire, also witnessed significant shifts and changes in human-animal relations as well as in human attitudes and practices towards animals.

To address this gap and initiate a dialogue on animal-related issues, we have invited papers on topics ranging from the representation of animals in popular culture and animal welfare movements to the role of animals in agricultural and economic progress. We look forward to a productive discussion that will contribute to a themed issue of *Traditiones* and, most importantly, inspire further collaborations.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



October 2nd

12.30

Welcome

Daša Ličen – ZRC SAZU

Keynote Address:

Bojan Baskar - Habsburg Istrian hybrids -- bovine and human

14.00

Coffee Break

14.30

Panel 1: Animals in Agriculture and Economy

Moderated by Meta Remec

Attila Herédi - The Empire's Meat

Corentin Gruffat - Breed Selection and the Construction of an 'Agricultural State' in the Nineteenth-Century Habsburg Empire

Tadej Pavkovič - Classifications of Livestock Animals in Carniola, Carinthia and Styria

Wolfgang Göderle - The Economic Optimization of the Habsburg Empire in the Anthropocene: Breeding Cattle in Dalmatia, a Case Study

16.30

Coffee Break

17.00

Panel 2: Animal Welfare and Human-Animal Relations

Moderated by Ruža Fotiadis

Robert Devetak - A man who had so much compassion for animals": the Role of Valentin Stanič in the founding of the Gorizia Society Against Animal Torture

Marija Mojca Peternel - Tierschutz in den Zeitungen des Neunzehnten und frühen Zwanzigsten Jahrhundert

Daša Ličen - Against 'Plebeian Ignorance' for 'Civilised Behaviour': Late Habsburg Trieste's Società Zoofila as an Instrument in the Hands of the Bourgeoisie

Jana Bělová (Lenka Stolárová, Magdaléna Šustová) - Man's Best Friend from the Point of View of Laws and Breeding Manuals at the End of the Nineteenth Century in Bohemia, Respectively in Prague

19.30

Conference Dinner in Restaurant Breg (Breg 20, Ljubljana)

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



October 3rd

9.30

Panel 3: Exotic Animals

Moderated by Tadej Pavković

Matteo Di Tullio, Martino Lorenzo Fagnan (via Zoom) - Understanding Exotic Animals in Eighteenth-Century Austrian-Habsburg Lombardy

Boris Kryštufek - Silent witnesses

Mitsutoshi Inaba (via Zoom) - Animals and the Children on the Educational Discourse in Habsburg Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Early Twentieth Century

11.00

Coffee Break

11.30

Panel 4: Animals in Art, Culture, and War

Moderated by Rachel Trode

Luba Kozak - Royal Pets in Imperial Habsburg Portraiture: Exploring the Domestic Politics and Social Dynamics of Pets

Róbert Balogh - Pigeon-Human Connection Making Spaces and Networks in and Around a New Capital City: Budapest 1873-1919

Marjetka Golež Kaučič - Animal Lives: from Narratives to Reality

13.00

Lunch Break

14.30

Panel 5: Human-Animal Interactions in Urban and Rural Spaces

Moderated by Bojan Baskar

Cathie Carmichael - 'I was glad to run out of ammunition': Hunting in Habsburg Hercegovina

Barbora Hunčovská - Habsburg Soldiers and War Horses in the First World War: Emotions, Representations, and Mutuality of Everyday Life

Ruža Fotiadis - 'The poor man's animal' - Donkeys and Mules in the Habsburg Adriatic

Róbert Balogh

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Pigeon-Human Connection Making Spaces and Networks in and Around a New Capital City: Budapest 1873–1919

Today, domestic pigeons living in cities look like an everyday experience and even a nuisance. As Donna Haraway has pointed out in her take on the Anthropocene (*Staying with the Trouble*), this circumstance veils that the species, *Columba livia*, has some exceptional characteristics that have made the pigeon-human connection strong and multifaceted for centuries. In this paper, I attempt to reconstruct the way pigeon breeding created links and overlaps between urban and rural society as well as between the capital city of Budapest created out of autonomous municipalities in 1873, and areas just outside of it until the end of World War I. Using membership lists published in journals of major pigeon breeding associations as well as news reports about various aspects of their activity as source material I show pigeon breeding influenced the making of urban space and urban society in Budapest. The second section will build on the previous one: it juxtapose the socio-topographical features of the pigeon breeders' associations with that of the Pigeon Shooters' Association operating in the capital. Regarding the latter, I will also present the interaction between the ideas that the municipal government had about green urban spaces and the kinds of spaces that pigeon shooting as a sport required and how this changed during and shortly after World War I.

Róbert Balogh defended his doctoral dissertation at the Doctoral School of History and Ethnography of the University of Debrecen in 2022. He works on a historical perspective on the ongoing climatic and ecological crisis, studying the history of professional forest management practices, responses to food shortage, the supply chain of dairy products, as well as the era of power plants. Geographically, he focuses on sources about the Middle Danube Valley and colonial South Asia. He arrived at the issue of animals through his involvement in a project on the environmental history of Budapest.

Bojan Baskar

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Habsburg Istrian hybrids -- bovine and human

Picturing Istria with the help of hybridity metaphors was at its peak at the turn of the 21st century, about a century after Istrian “hybridism” was discovered by a few commentators and scholars of Istria themselves who believed they were describing current Istrian realities. The genealogy of the notion of Istrian hybridism, though, has not been properly studied yet. Especially its terminological aspect has been seriously neglected.

Our talk is intended to help remedy this deficiency by analyzing a set of relevant terms for referring to “hybridity” in the relevant languages, in particular Italian and German (Croats and Slovenians stayed out of that discourse), and to analyze their contextual meanings.

It then turns out that the writer responsible for introducing “hybridism” into Istrian discourse, namely Italian Istrian historian Bernardo Benussi, used his *ibridismo* in a very narrow sense. For the mixtures we now like to label hybridity, he used another term, *incrocio*, *incrociamiento* (cross, crossing) used specifically by the animal breeders and zootechnicians, experts for breeding and improving the races of cattle, sheep, pigs, donkeys, poultry, etc. Benussi was demonstrably familiar with the intense and very real efforts of these improvers and their associations such as *Società agraria istriana*. These will be briefly presented with the focus on cattle breeds. Taking this Istrian and wider Italian, but also Habsburg, animal breeding background into account, opens up a much richer view of Istrian hybridity and opens up new interpretative avenues.

Bojan Baskar is Professor of Social Anthropology and the Mediterranean Studies at the Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology Department of the University of Ljubljana.

His current research interests include anthropology of food, human-animal studies, ethnoecology, theories of hybridity, history of anthropology.

Jana Bělová, Lenka Stolárová, Magdaléna Šustová

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Man's Best Friend from the Point of View of Laws and Breeding Manuals at the End of the Nineteenth Century in Bohemia, Respectively in Prague

Coexistence with dogs in a spatially limited urban environment soon required the creation of specialized legislation, which was the responsibility of local government from the beginning of the nineteenth century. It usually focused on the stay and movement of animals in public space; In the second half of the nineteenth century, a fee from dog breeding began to be collected, which represented a contribution to the city treasury. A clear distinction is made between working dogs and dogs bred for pleasure. Attention was also paid to the protection of dogs from cruelty. The sources here are the Prague municipal gazettes or the mayors' handbooks for the performance of their functions. Veterinary care for smaller animals was practically on the fringe of interest in the middle of the nineteenth century. An interesting source is the programmes of dog exhibitions and especially the period cynological manuals for owners, breeders and trainers from the end of the nineteenth century, which devote considerable space to the health of the dog and its care. However, they show the willingness of the owners to invest considerable financial resources in the animal companion.

Jana Bělová completed her PhD studies at Charles University in Prague. Her thesis was published as a book titled *Funerary Cast Iron in Central Europe* (Catholic Theological Faculty, 2012). Since 2009, she has been working as a curator at the Prague City Museum, managing the collection of prints and building elements.

Lenka Stolárová her science and research work has been focused on the issues of the beginnings of baroque painting in Bohemia during the seventeenth century. She holds a secretary for research post at the Prague City Museum.

Magdaléna Šustová completed her studies at Palacký University Olomouc with a diploma thesis *The Horse in the Life of Medieval Society on the Example of the Czech Lands*. She works as a curator of historical collections of the Prague City Museum.

Cathie Carmichael

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"Was glad to run out of ammunition": Hunting in Habsburg hercegovina

"Was glad to run out of ammunition": Hunting in Habsburg Hercegovina. This paper examines the development of hunting in Hutovo blato between c. 1880 and the First World War. In particular, I discuss Wolfgang Göderle's concept of the "Habsburg Anthropocene" in this geographical context. Hunting took off in Bosnia and Hercegovina after the Habsburg occupation and subsequent annexation. Its popularity was fuelled by specialist journals, transnational interactions, and the presence of garrisons. Many people of this era were skilled with a hunting gun and the marshlands in Hercegovina offered almost unparalleled opportunities to take a boat and shoot wild birds. Many expressed enthusiasm for the sport: it offered them freedom, power, and purpose. Not only did the hunt give people an excuse to fraternize and drink the local wine, it also gave them the chance to explore both Popovo polje and the Neretva valley. Habsburg officers, their friends, and dignitaries often paused to think about the beauty of Hutovo blato and contemplated the potential loss of natural diversity, especially after the development of the railway. They instinctively realized that shooting birds would eventually reduce their numbers, perhaps even permanently. In this paper, I explore the ambivalence and transience of hunting in Hercegovina in this era by focussing on letters, feuilletons, and memoirs.

Cathie Carmichael is Professor Emerita of European History at the University of East Anglia. She has published several books on language, nationalism, violence, and genocide as well as histories of Bosnia and Slovenia. Her monograph *The Habsburg Garrison Complex in Trebinje: A Lost World* was published by Central European University Press in 2024.

Robert Devetak

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"A man who had so much compassion for animals": The Role of Valentin Stanič in the Founding of the Gorizia Society Against Animal Torture

Valentin Stanič (1774–1847) was one of the most significant personalities of the County of Gorizia in the first half of the nineteenth century. He left important marks in the fields of Slovenian national awakening, mountaineering, education, economy, charity and the social improvement in general. He was a pioneer in many fields, notably in animal welfare. His efforts in this area were most visible in the founding of the Society Against Animal Torture, which began its activities in Gorizia in 1846. It is believed to be the first organisation of its kind in the Austrian Empire. Among its main aims were the protection of animals, the education of the public and cooperation with the authorities in sanctioning cases of animal torture. Stanič took over as vice-president of the Society, but was a central figure in its activities. The paper will present Stanič's work in the field of animal welfare before 1846, his contacts with activists from other parts of Europe, who were already organising themselves in the first half of the 1840s in the framework of special societies, and his role in the founding and activities of the Gorizia Society Against Animal Torture.

Robert Devetak is a historian employed at the Institute for Ethnic Studies in Ljubljana, where his primary research focuses on the western Slovenian national border area from the nineteenth century to the present day. He is also a lecturer at the Faculty of Humanities, University of Nova Gorica. His main research topics are related to social and economic history, the First World War, women's history and nationalism at the turn of the twentieth century, with a focus on Slovenian-Italian relations.

Ruža Fotiadis

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"The poor man's animal" – Donkeys and Mules in the Habsburg Adriatic

The importance of donkeys and mules in the mountain regions of Southeast Europe is undisputed. Until well into the second half of the twentieth century, they were indispensable to the survival in the barren karst landscapes: Donkeys and mules carried loads, ploughed the land, and drove carts. They were used to protect grazing animals and to supply meat, milk, and leather and still fulfil many of these functions in disadvantaged regions across the globe. Yet, they are overshadowed by their "equine cousin" the horse and remain as the "poor man's animal" on the margins of historiographical interest, just like their owners. This paper focuses on the nexus between humans, donkeys and mules, and soil in order to analyse various kinds of interspecies interactions during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century in the Habsburg Adriatic. Being the most important source of muscle power for farming and transportation, I will look at different utilization patterns and approaches to donkey and mule breeding. These attempts went hand in hand with endeavours to "improve" the soil and the people in the Dinaric karst, who were considered just as "primitive", "unproductive" and "deprived" as their animals.

Ruža Fotiadis is a postdoctoral researcher and lecturer at the Chair for Southeast European History, Humboldt University of Berlin. She is a historian of nineteenth- and twentieth- century Southeast Europe and has published extensively on the history of Yugoslavia and Greece, as well as food history. Her current research project focuses on donkeys and mules as indispensable draft animals in the Balkans. At the intersection of Science and Technology Studies, Human-Animal Studies, the History of Transport and the History of Technology, Ruža argues that a greater inclusion of animal labour in everyday work provides new perspectives on technological change in the industrial age. Her major publications include the monograph *Freundschaftsbände, Griechisch-serbische Geschichts- und Gegenwarts deutungen vor dem Hintergrund der Jugoslawienkriege 1991-1999* (Wallstein Verlag, 2021), and the edited volume, together with Vladimir Ivanović and Radina Vučetić, *Brotherhood and Unity at the Kitchen Table. Food in Socialist Yugoslavia* (Srednja Europa 2019).

Marjetka Golež Kaučič

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Animal Lives: From Narratives to Reality

The paper, based on the knowledge of critical animal studies (Colling, 2018; Cudworth, 2014; Nibert, 2014) and cognitive ethology (Bekoff, 2007, 2024; Griffin, 2001), while analyzing the documentary film *Gunda* (Kossakovsky, 2020) and presenting the stories of rescued pigs and sows from Slovenian animal shelters, discusses the rejection of socially constructed discourses of the life of animal subjectivities, which we associate primarily with food. She compares these narratives to the industrial discourse of the pig industrial farms and their manipulated lives. The author asks whether the story and film narrative can eliminate the "spatial-discursive disconnection" (Gillespie, 2011) with the sow and the pig and promote an alternative view of them? The paper opens up the possibility of looking at the sow and the pig's own life with all the range of emotions, feelings, family and spiritual life and the self determination which would enable a mental and real turn of the human relation to animal subjectivities.

Marjetka Golež Kaučič is a Principal Research Associate at the Institute of Ethnomusicology, Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU), Ljubljana, Slovenia, and served as the head of the Institute from 1994 to 2015. Her research focuses on broader folklore studies, with a special interest in animals in Slovenian, European, and world folklore, as well as in literature and culture. She is also a Full Professor at the Postgraduate School ZRC SAZU. Golež Kaučič has published several scholarly monographs, including *Folk and Literary: Two Faces of Creativity* (Založba ZRC, 2003), *The Young Men are Gathering – War and Soldiers in Slovenian Folklore Song* (Založba ZRC, 2013), *Slovenian Folk Ballad* (Založba ZRC, 2018), and *The Man is the Worst Beast* (Založba ZRC, 2023).

Wolfgang Göderle

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The Economic Optimization of the Habsburg Empire in the Anthropocene: Breeding Cattle in Dalmatia, a Case Study

Dalmatia was the poorest and most economically backward province of the Habsburg Empire during the long nineteenth century. From the 1870s at the latest, the economic development of this province became a pressing issue in parts of the imperial administration, which set up commissions and committees to tackle the problem. A look at the catalogue of measures drawn up by an interministerial commission to improve the economic situation in Dalmatia shows the remarkably strong role that animals played in these considerations. These ranged from combating a snake infestation to expanding and intensifying cattle breeding in an area that was actually unsuitable for this. Alongside (expensive) measures to improve transport infrastructure, animal-related measures were the most important category of proposals for economic improvement and modernisation. This provides an indication of the role that animals played in the deliberations of the imperial administration, and that they were increasingly understood as a manipulable and mouldable part of the imperial environment. The presentation will focus on a specific case in which cattle breeding in Dalmatia should have been made possible through advanced scientific and technical processes.

Wolfgang Göderle is a postdoctoral researcher at the History Department at the University of Innsbruck and an Associated Researcher with the Max Planck Institute of Geoanthropology, Department Structural Changes of the Technosphere. His first book, *Zensus und Ethnizität: Zur Herstellung von Wissen über soziale Wirklichkeiten im Habsburgerreich zwischen 1848 und 1910* (Wallstein Verlag, 2016), was awarded the Michael-Mitterauer Prize for Social History. His recent work focusses on the environmental history of the Habsburg Empire in the long nineteenth century. He explores the potential of Deep Learning algorithms to extract relevant information from sources such as cadastral maps or serial publications with his research group and is currently finalizing his second book.

Corentin Gruffat

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Breed Selection and the Construction of an "Agricultural State" in the Nineteenth-Century Habsburg Empire

Throughout the nineteenth century, diverse groups of agricultural improvers (agronomists, landowners, imperial civil servants) promoted multi-faceted programmes to transform animal husbandry. My contribution will focus on one particular aspect of these improvement programmes: the promotion of specific cattle breeds by the Habsburg government and the provincial agricultural societies in the second half of the century. Both institutions have left archives and publications that document not only the process of defining cattle "breeds" (in German: "Rassen"), but also how agricultural improvers tried to promote specific animals among the farmers within the Habsburg Monarchy. This promotion took different forms, such as the distribution of bulls to peasant communities or the foundation of state-owned "nurseries". Focusing on these breeding practices, it is possible to question the aims and rationales of the programmes. I argue that, in a society in which most people were living from agricultural activities, such projects of husbandry improvement were fundamentally political. They sought to make cattle, and more generally agriculture, more productive throughout the whole territory of Austria-Hungary. But beyond the improvement of cattle, projects of agricultural growth were geared towards the materialisation of the Habsburg empire as an "agricultural state". Through the case of cattle breeding, we can thus explore new ways of thinking from below about the functioning and the transformations of the Habsburg empire.

Corentin Gruffat is a PhD researcher at the European University Institute in Florence. His ongoing research focuses on the improvement of animal husbandry in the Habsburg Monarchy in the nineteenth century. His research interests include more broadly the political, economic and environmental history of this area.

Attila Herédi

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The Empire's Meat

Hungary's main economic significance was its extended agriculture – the country was announced as the Habsburg Empire's bread-basket for a reason. For centuries, Hungary provided cheap, good quality crop for the whole Empire – and besides the fruits of the earth, stock-raising and live animal trading was also of quite big importance. Giant herds of cattles and pigs were bred for their meat, and have been driven to the main meat markets of Pest and Vienna. Many made a living from breeding animals, preparing and trading their body parts – not only the meat, but the fur, the suet and so on. Animal marketplaces of Pest conducted greatly to the development and growth of the Hungarian capital. In my presentation, I will discuss livestock in Hungary, explore other animal meat resources such as poultry, game and fish, in context of this age – and a little outlook to the meat consuptions of our days. I will to present the main territories of Pest, where cattle and pig were collected, traded and prepared – looking at these sites to see how the places of Hungarian capital's prominent meat producing industry were transformed to be much quieter.

Attila Herédi is an archivist at the Budapest City Archives and is currently also pursuing his PhD at the Eötvös Lorand University. His field of research is Hungarian society and mentality in the nineteenth century, especially in Budapest, as well as the history of public administration, as for example, the police.

Barbora Hunčovská

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Habsburg Soldiers and War Horses in the First World War: Emotions, Representations, and Mutuality of Everyday Life

The Austro-Hungarian army, as much as any other army of the First World War, relied heavily on horses and mules. They pulled guns, carried supplies, were ridden by soldiers, and were also ridden into battle. Many men bonded with the working animals, some even spoke of close friendships with them. Not only was the role of horses in the Habsburg war effort neglected in the existing scholarship, but, moreover, the aspects of soldier-horse relationship have never been explored before, or the Habsburg army scrutinised through the viewpoints of animal history. This contribution analyses the scope of emotions that the soldiers felt towards their horses. From sympathy and grief through indifference and fear to resentment or even violence, these emotions and forms of relating to horses can be reconstructed from the egodocuments of the soldiers. The narrow daily contact of men and horses on the battlefields, together with the sharing of many hardships of war, often provoked experiences of mutuality and blurred the human-animal boundary. The questions of how the men viewed the fates and engagement of horses in warfare, as well as what roles and representations the horses were ascribed in the narratives of the war, will also be considered.

Barbora Hunčovská is a PhD candidate specializing in nineteenth-century history with a focus on animal history, the historical anthropology of the First World War, and the sociolinguistic landscape of Austria-Hungary. Her research delves into the roles, representations, and experiences of animals in modern warfare. Her interests also include the historical representations of cats. Her doctoral thesis explores the linguistic strategies and language-related experiences of Austro-Hungarian soldiers during the First World War.

Mitsutoshi Inaba

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Animals and the Children on the Educational Discourse in Habsburg Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Early Twentieth Century

According to the Organization of National Schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1909), issued by the Provincial Government, the taxidermy mounts in primary schools were recommended to observe the animals. However, it is also explained that "the collection of animals should not be done by pupils because it may lead them to cruelly kill animals." How was the relationship between children and animals conceived in education? The 1905 maturity exam at the teachers' school in Sarajevo included a question on "apples, their friends and enemies." In 1910, the school children were mobilized to remove the apple aphids' nests in northern Bosnia, and this mobilization was educationally justified as a way to "recognize the importance of protecting the pomiculture against fruit pests." On the other hand, according to zoological textbooks in the teachers' schools, the aim of natural science in primary schools was to encourage the pupils to understand the "community of life" in an ecological way. The Fourth Reader for Primary Schools (1910) indeed encouraged the pupils to observe their familiar nature. However, it also recommended them to eliminate wolves as "evil and harmful beasts." Therefore, the economical-ecological lessons recommended children to exclude rather than live symbiotically with animals.

Mitsutoshi Inaba works as a free writer. At the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo, he defended his dissertation, titled *The Idea of Childhood in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1878 to 1918: The Influence of Darwinism* in 2016. To date, he has published over a dozen articles and several book reviews in Japan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and England. His research subject is exploring how human-being was conceptualized in the South Slavic regions under the Habsburg Empire since the mid-nineteenth century.

Luba Kozak

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Royal Pets in Imperial Habsburg Portraiture: Exploring the Domestic Politics and Social Dynamics of Pets

At the intersection of art history, ethics, animal studies, and philosophy, this paper explores the representation of pet animals (exotic and local) in imperial Habsburg family portraiture, highlighting a shift in human-animal relations influenced by pet culture in the late eighteenth century. Analysing Martin van Meytens's *Portrait of Maria Theresa of Habsburg, Francis I, Holy Roman Emperor, and their thirteen children* (1756) and Wenceslaus Werlin's *Portrait of Leopold II, Holy Roman Emperor and his family* (1773) as case studies, this paper adopts ecocriticism and speculative theory as methods for reading animals in portraiture that can reveal animal counter archives. This approach reframes animals as social subjects rather than conventional symbols of dominance or exoticism, offering nuanced perspectives on pet-owner relationships and fresh insights into the lives of some domesticated animals. Little attention has been paid to the pet animals in Meytens and Werlin's portraits, yet their inclusion is unique compared to later royal family portraits that omit pets. While later portraits like Joseph Dorffmeister's *Portrait of Luisa Maria Amelia Teresa of Naples and Sicily* (1797) depict human-animal companionship and emotional bonds, Meytens and Werlin's paintings offer an early glimpse into the domestic politics and social impact of pets in aristocratic families.

Luba Kozak is a third-year PhD candidate in the Faculty of Media, Arts, and Performance at the University of Regina in Canada, co-supervised by Taiwo Afolabi and Karla McManus. Her doctoral project explores the representation of exotic pet animals in eighteenth-century British portraiture as a way to trace the history of human-animal relations through pet culture. Luba is an art historian, art-based researcher, internationally published scholar, and animal rights activist. She is also a UNESCO Janusz Korczak Chair Research Fellow (2023) with interdisciplinary research interests in Early Modern European art, literature, and philosophy; ethics and animal studies/vegan theory.

Boris Kryštufek

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Silent Witnesses

The fifth and last volume of *Domestic and Alien Animals in Images* (Domače in tuje živali v podobah) by Fran Erjavec, published in 1873 in 21,000 copies, articulately testifies to how much the Slovenian public was interested in animals, particularly unfamiliar, unprecedented species from faraway countries with magical names. As early as 1779, the court opened the Schönbrunn Menagerie as the oldest public zoo, with the Port of Trieste serving as an entry station for the majority of exotic animals. What such an arrival looked like can be learned from the graphic *Landing of African Animals from the Ship Urano in Trieste* by Heinrich Leutmann (1874). The arrival concluded the first part of the animals' traumatic experience, from being caught in the wild, their transit to the nearest port, and several months of transport by ship to Trieste. The surviving animals were then sent to Vienna, while several of them were sold along the way to the owners of small traveling menageries. What a great event the arrival of the menagerie was, or just the arrival of exceptional exotic animals, is demonstrated in the announcement about Lavrin's shipments to the Provincial Museum in Ljubljana from Alexandria in 1846. Even more, the provincial weekly reported on the donated crocodile before the mummy. In the miserable conditions and terribly cramped cages, the animals died quickly. Most of their bodies were thrown away, while some ended up in the taxidermy workshops of natural history museums and in the hands of people dealing in "naturalia." The preserved taxidermy mounts bear silent witness to a forgotten period in our attitude towards animals. We shall revive some of their fates.

Boris Kryštufek is a senior curator at the Slovenian Museum of Natural History, senior scientist at the Science and Research Center Koper, and full professor of Zoology and visiting professor at Charles University. Editor-in-chief of *Scopolia*, Associate Editor of the international journal *Mammalia* (De Gruyter), member of editorial boards of various zoological journals, co-editor of the *Handbook of European Mammals* (Springer), and member of the Supervisory Board of the European Mammal Atlas project. He is mainly interested in systematics, distribution, variability and evolutionary history of mammals, conservation biology, and human-animal relationships.

Daša Ličen

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Against "Plebeian Ignorance" for "Civilised Behaviour": Late Habsburg Trieste's Società Zoofila as an Instrument in the Hands of the Bourgeoisie

Especially from the mid-nineteenth century onward, the burgeoning empathy towards animals began to take organizational form in voluntary associations. One of the first such associations emerged in the bustling port city of Trieste. This presentation explores this previously unknown association and the social composition of its membership. The society primarily consisted of the upper social strata, exemplified in Trieste by bourgeois men and increasingly also women who frequently denounced the practices of the working class and rural population. They repeatedly accused the lower classes of "immorality" and even "inhumanity", claims that shed light on the idea then spreading among the bourgeoisie that kindness to animals was a mark of civilization and an enlightened social elite. The focus is thus on society's members and their somewhat expected understandings of the animal and human world, which left its mark also on the twentieth and twenty-first century discourse on animal welfare. Simultaneously, Trieste's Società had its own specific characteristics, shaped by the city's emerging nationalisms and liberal worldview.

Daša Ličen is a researcher at the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts and an Assistant Professor at the University of Maribor. She works in the fields of cultural anthropology, ethnology, and history, specializing on late Habsburg Trieste. Daša is currently working on her postdoctoral project entitled *For Beasts, Against Animals: Towards the Long History of Animal Rights Movement*, in which she examines the rise of the animal rights movement as a means of class differentiation.

Tadej Pavković

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Classifications of Livestock Animals in Carniola, Carinthia and Styria

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Slovenian and Austrian researchers of agriculture classified livestock animals in the area of the south-eastern Alps into subgroups on the basis of their postulated origin. According to some agricultural publications, the members of the contemporary cattle populations in the Habsburg Hereditary Lands of Carniola, Carinthia and Styria were said to be descended from animals that were brought to the south-eastern Alps by the early Slavic and Germanic peoples during the so-called Migration Period in Late Antiquity. With the retrospective construction of genealogies of contemporary groups of livestock animals in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, modern breeds of said animals were established and later characterised as a group of *indigenous national breeds*. The paper will analyse a selection of publications on agriculture in general and animal husbandry in particular from the end of the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth century to illustrate the process of scientific knowledge production of various sciences during the period and the relationship of knowledge production to the broader societal conditions in Carniola, Carinthia and Styria.

Tadej Pavković is a PhD student in history at the University of Ljubljana. His research interests include animal history, history of agriculture and agricultural knowledge, and environmental history in the Early Modern Period, particularly at the intersection of the Southeastern Alps, the Adriatic Sea and the Pannonian Basin. In his doctoral thesis he is researching the history of animal husbandry in Inner Austria in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Prior to his doctoral studies, he was the Editor-in-Chief of *Slovenski čebelar*, a Slovenian professional journal in the field of beekeeping.

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"Du sollst keine Eidechsen, Molche, Frösche und andere Tiere quälen oder töten": Tierschutz in den Zeitungen des Neunzehnten und frühen Zwanzigsten Jahrhunderts

Die Aktionen der ersten Tierschutzvereine und die allgemeinen Bemühungen um den Schutz der Umwelt und damit auch der Tiere spiegeln sich in einer Flut von Zeitungsveröffentlichungen wider, sowohl in Form von verschiedenen Nachrichten als auch in diversen Aufrufen. Um die Jahrhundertwende zum Neunzehnten Jahrhundert war das Spektrum der Zeitungen, die ihren Lesern Nachrichten über Tiere brachten, vielfältig. Neben den erwarteten Fachzeitschriften findet man die Tiere auch in Tages-, Satire-, Humor- und Frauenzeitschriften. Das Ziel des Beitrags ist es in erster Linie, die journalistische Haltung zu diesem Thema im Neunzehnten und frühen Zwanzigsten Jahrhundert aufzuzeigen. Wir beschränken uns auf die Veröffentlichungen bis zum Ersten Weltkrieg, der die Aufmerksamkeit der periodischen Presse erwartungsgemäß auf das menschliche Geschehen lenkte. Der vorliegende Text, der auf dem ANNO (AustriaN Newspapers Online) aufbewahrten Korpus basiert, enthält neben einem kurzen inhaltlichen Überblick der veröffentlichten Zeitungstexte noch eine kleine Analyse der Zeitungen und Zeitschriften, in denen das Thema Tierschutz vorkam.

Marija Mojca Peternel is a lecturer in the German language at the Faculty of Arts at the University of Ljubljana. She teaches German in the Department of History, where she successfully defended her master's thesis and, in 2005, her doctoral dissertation titled *German Newspapers in Slovenian Lands during the Revolutionary Year of 1848*. Since 2012, she has been an assistant professor in the field of Slovenian and general nineteenth-century history. Her research focuses particularly on nineteenth-century newspapers.

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Understanding Exotic Animals in Eighteenth-Century Austrian-Habsburg Lombardy

During the Early Modern Period, European scholars became increasingly interested in animal species from other continents. This interest was the result of the geographical and scientific revolutions, but it was also driven by research into the practical utility that new animal species may have for humans. Explorations were the main means to study exotic animals in their habitat and to understand the gains that could be derived from them. Nonetheless, it was not always easy to pass on to Europeans the information gathered on other continents. This transmission took place through written reports, drawings, samples and, more rarely, live specimens. In the case of eighteenth-century Austrian Lombardy – as were known the duchies of Milan and Mantua, in northern Italy, when they became part of the Habsburg Monarchy – many reforms promoted the study of the animal kingdom along with general support for science in both teaching and experimentation. Exotic animals were object of great interest, but the main problem of Lombardy – as was of the Habsburg Monarchy in general – was the substantial lack of colonies, especially in the Americas. Was this an insurmountable obstacle for scholars? What were the channels for acquiring information about exotic animals? Was there a network to which only the cultural elite belonged, or was there also an economic interest by the authorities? Were there voices "outside the box" urging that exotic animals were humans' companions and not mere objects of exploitation? Our paper analyses a few examples to give some preliminary answers to the above-mentioned questions. We work at the intersection of the history of science, socioeconomic, environmental, and cultural history, relaying upon written and visual sources, but also considering aspects of material culture, such as original animal specimens and scientific instruments kept in historical collections. We focus on eighteenth-century Austrian Lombardy as a particularly interesting case study, where a flowering network of new scientific institutions faced the absence of a colonial empire, still managing to make an important contribution to the study of the animal kingdom.

Matteo Di Tullio is an Associate Professor in Early Modern History at the Department of Humanities of the University of Pavia. His main research interests include the social and economic history of preindustrial period and particularly the socio-environmental relationship in the Early Modern northern Italy. He is the author of many articles and books, including *The Lion's Share: Inequality and the Rise of the Fiscal State in Preindustrial Europe* (Cambridge University Press, 2019, with Guido Alfani).

Martino Lorenzo Fagnani is a postdoctoral researcher in Early Modern History at the Department of Humanities of the University of Pavia. His main research interests are the history of science and the history of travel. He is the author of *The Development of Agricultural Science in Northern Italy in the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Century* (Palgrave, 2023) and co-author with Luciano Maffi of *Tourism in Natural and Agricultural Ecosystems in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries* (Routledge, 2024).

Matteo Di Tullio and Martino Lorenzo Fagnani are authors of the forthcoming book *Una storia ambientale dell'età moderna: Società, saperi, economie* (Carocci, 2024), discussing the relationship between human societies and the environment on a global scale during the Early Modern Period as a pathway into the Anthropocene.

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