

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PROJECT
European Values Study (EVS-2017)

European Values Study – EVS project in Europe has been initiated by two professors, Jan Kerkhofs from the Catholic University of Leuven (in Belgium) and Ruud de u Moor from the University of Tilburg (Netherlands) at the end of the seventies of the previous century. Until now four waves of research have been carried out: the first wave in ten Western European countries (EU) in 1981; the second wave in 1990; the third wave in 1999/2000; the fourth wave in 2008. In each wave the number of participating European countries has increased so that in 2008 there were 47 participating countries. Now, the fifth wave, entitled EVS-2017, is commencing and its HQ will be at the University of Tilburg in the Netherlands. Croatia joined the third wave of the international project *European Values Study-EVS* through the Catholic Faculty of Theology of the University of Zagreb (CFT) in 1999. The project was entitled *European Values Study* (0203003); it was carried out from 1999 until 2002 and directed by full professor Josip Baloban. Between the third and the fourth wave, Croatia had one other project entitled *Comparative European Values Study: Croatia and Europe* (0203006) carried out from 2002 until 2006 and directed by Josip Baloban. Croatia had its third project carried out through CFT in the fourth wave – EVS-2008, entitled *European Values Study – Croatia in Europe* (203-1941533-0734), 2007-2013, directed by Josip Baloban. Since the very beginnings of research in 1999, all three projects had the interdisciplinary, scientific-research character. Apart from researchers from CFT (theologians and philosophers), other researchers (sociologists, psychologists, politologists, etc.) from other faculties within the University of Zagreb and scientific institutes in Zagreb participated. These projects always had a national and an international character and they were financed by the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia. By participating in the fifth wave, i.e. EVS-2017, in which field research is carried out in the fall of 2017, Croatia is carrying on with already initiated scientific-research continuity. There are two goals of this research. The *first* is to conduct empirical research on the national level and to empirically determine what is going on in Croatia in relation to values in the following areas: *religion and morals, society and politics, marriage and family, the role of sexes, work and leisure time, sexuality and education*.

The *second* goal is to compare Croatian data with European data, after the empirical research has been carried out and acquired data has been theoretically and analytically processed. By appropriating the aforementioned approach, methodology and work plan, the goal is to find answers to two key questions. The first question concerns the extent to which values – both classical and traditional, as well as more modern values – affect the Croatian society that is in transition and vice versa; to what extent do these inevitable social changes in Croatia influence traditional and modern values in Croatia. This question is closely related to the second one that aims at clearing up the objective position of the Croatian society on the value map of Europe, but also beyond.