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More and more scientific journals are being published in the international academic community. Their purpose is to make it easier to disseminate research and knowledge among the national and international community. In Slovenia, several journals are published in the field of general ethnology and cultural anthropology. *Etnolog* (Ethnologist; 1926–) is the journal of the Slovenian Ethnographic Museum. *Glasnik slovenskega etnološkega društva* (The Bulletin of the Slovenian Ethnological Society; 1959/1976–) became the central journal of the guild. *Traditiones* (1972–) is published by the Institute of Slovenian Ethnology at the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts. The Slovenian Anthropological Society publishes the journal *Anthropological Notebooks* (1995–).

In 1999, *Zupaničeva knjižnica* (Zupanič Library) was established at the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology of the Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana. Its first editor was Rajko Muršič. 52 monographs and edited volumes have so far been published in the collection. The ethnologists and anthropologists at the Faculty of Arts, who have been involved with many journals as authors or members of editorial boards, eventually wished to establish their own periodical. One of the main ideas behind the founding of this new journal was to present recent theoretical frameworks, the research, and the findings of domestic and foreign researchers in the fields that concern the faculty's educational mission. The focus of the journal is on the orientations of the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, its staff and students, although other suggestions and contributions are of course welcome. Colleagues from the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology have so far joined the editorial board, and we hope to soon be able to welcome other researchers as well.

The launch of this journal has also been made possible by the progress the University of Ljubljana and the Faculty of Arts have made in publishing in the last decade, both in terms of the number of titles and in terms of the extensive support they provide to editors and authors of books and journals. The Internet has been very helpful in this regard as it greatly simplifies the creation of publications and increases their reach. It is not difficult to formally establish a journal, but it is far more difficult to maintain its quality content. We have

decided to make the scientific journal general rather than subject-specific, and to publish it exclusively online in Slovenian or English. Most of the editorial, review, and correction processes take place in digital form, through the OJS (Open Journal Systems) platform, which allows both authors and editors to follow the review process. [Guidelines for editors](#) wishing to apply for a thematic issue can be found on the journal's website (<https://journals.uni-lj.si/svetovi-worlds>), which also provides [guidelines for authors](#).

The title chosen for the journal follows contemporary ontological and phenomenological viewpoints: *Svetovi / Worlds* is committed to the humanistic unity of the world, but respects the diversity of life worlds, species, experiences, relations, traditions, dilemmas, explanations, research, solutions, senses, social group formations, processes, identities, and meanings. Apart from emphasising the basic orientation of the journal (anthropology, ethnology, folklore, and related disciplines), we do not impose disciplinary, thematic, temporal, or spatial limitations on authors. In writing and editing, we consider ethnographic experience, theoretical consistency, comparability, synthesis, and topicality to be more important.

Readers and authors are encouraged to create and contribute to thematic issues. At the same time, we also invite authors whose contributions do not fall within the thematically designed sets to submit their work, as each issue will also include a separate section for non-thematic scientific contributions. The journal will also include reviews of recent professional and scientific works, as well as reports on various events, research, exhibitions, workshops, and the like. The content of several future issues has already been outlined: the first issue is devoted to folklore, the second issue will focus on multispecies society, and the third issue will deal with religion, spirituality and rituals.

The first issue of the journal *Svetovi / Worlds* contains contributions of Slovenian folklorists who in December 2021 participated in the second biennial folkloristic conference under the title *Current Research in Slovenian Folkloristics*, organised by Mirjam Mencej at the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology. After the conference, several researchers who in one way or another deal with folklore, or who make an important contribution to its preservation, dissemination, and awareness of its importance, were invited to submit original scholarly or professional articles to be published in the new journal. The issue contains nine contributions that pose very different research questions and deal with different types and genres of folklore – from folk narratives and songs to short folklore forms and folk dances, from folk tales, legends, to proverbs and sayings. Based on a critical analysis of contemporary practices, *Marija Stanonik* thus reflects on the role and rights of the storyteller, recorder or collector, and especially the editor, publisher, and researcher of folk narratives. *Kristina Radomirović Maček*, whose article also deals with folk narratives, focuses on conspiracy theories about COVID-19, which she tracked in Slovenian online spaces during the epidemic. *Saša Babič* focuses on proverbs about alcoholic beverages and recognises in them the attitude Slovenian society has towards alcoholic beverages and alcoholism, while *Matej Meterc* deals with the almost overlooked genre of short folk forms, namely unconventional phraseological replicas, in research based on an online survey. *Marjeta Pisk* critically reflects on the role folklorists play in the processes of heritagization, using the example of Easter

dances and games in Metlika and their development. *Marija Kozar-Mukič* analyses collections of Porabian folk and church songs from the point of view of interlinguistic intertwining in the songs of the Slovenians living in Hungary. *Martina Piko-Rustia* gives a historical overview of the collection of folklore among the Slovenian-speaking inhabitants of Austrian Carinthia, focusing on its role in the search for and the preservation of ethnic identity and culture, as well as the consolidation of the Slovenian language and, more recently, also as “living heritage”. Finally, the contributions of *Susanne Weitlaner* and *Luigia Negro* centre on the work of Slovenian associations and their activities for the preservation of Slovenian folklore, language and culture in Austrian Styria and in Resia in Italy.

You are kindly invited to explore and create *Worlds* with us.