

izvirni znanstveni članek
prejeto: 2003-11-28

UDK 316.653:911.53(497.4-14)

NEKATERI VIDIKI REGIONALNE IDENTITETE SLOVENSKE ISTRE V LUČI JAVNEGA MNENJA

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IZVLEČEK

Članek je nastal kot rezultat kvantitativne študije "Identiteta Slovenske Istre". Dopolnjen je z intervjuji, ki so bili izvedeni med prebivalstvom Slovenske Istre v letu 2003. Posveča se nekaterim vidikom regionalne identitete. Regionalna identiteta Slovenske Istre je raznovrstna, kar se kaže tako v samoopredelitvi kot tudi v poimenovanju. Večina anketirancev se opredeljuje za Primorce, nato za prebivalce Obale, na tretjem mestu so Istrani. Glede poimenovanja pa se je večina vprašanih odločila za Obalo, nato slovensko Obalo in šele nato Slovensko Istro. Razmerje med regijsko in nacionalno identiteto gre v prid nacionalni.

Ključne besede: regijska identiteta, nacionalna identiteta, Slovenska Istra, Primorska, Obala, poimenovanje, samoopredelitev

ALCUNI ASPETTI DELL'IDENTITÀ REGIONALE DELL'ISTRIA SLOVENA ALLA LUCE DELLA PUBBLICA OPINIONE

SINTESI

L'articolo è il risultato di uno studio quantitativo sull'"Identità dell'Istria slovena". È corredato di interviste, fatte tra la popolazione dell'Istria slovena nell'anno 2003. L'articolo si occupa di alcuni aspetti dell'eterogenea identità regionale che si mostra sia nell'autodefinizione che nella nomenclatura. La maggior parte degli intervistati si definisce "Primorci", alcuni si definiscono abitanti del Litorale, al terzo posto ci sono istriani. Per quanto riguarda la nomenclatura, la maggior parte degli intervistati ha deciso per il Litorale, alcuni per il Litorale sloveno e solo al terzo posto per l'Istria slovena. Il rapporto tra l'identità regionale e nazionale va a vantaggio della nazionale.

Parole chiave: identità regionale, identità nazionale, Istria slovena, Primorska, Litorale, nomenclatura, autodefinizione

SOME ASPECTS OF REGIONAL IDENTITY OF SLOVENE ISTRIA IN THE LIGHT OF PUBLIC OPINION

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SUMMARY

This article evolved as a result of quantitative study: "Identity of Slovene Istria". It is supplemented by some interviews, which were carried out among the citizens of Slovene Istria in 2003. It pays attention to some aspects of regional identity.

The purpose of discussion presented in the article is to find out how the citizens of Slovene Istria define themselves in the regional sense and how they denominate the region, knowing that this region is unique in Slovenia, because of its numerous names.

Further, we wanted to figure out their affiliation to regional identity compared to affiliation to other territorial communities: mainly we were interested in the relationship between regional and national identity.

Browsing through some most important findings reveal, that the territory in question still has no common name. The majority of subjects named this territory the Coast, some of them exposed its Slovene nature and named it: Slovene Istria, Slovene Coast or Slovene coastal region. Substantially smaller number of subjects used the name Primorska (i.e. the coastal region) and only few the Koper coastal region – the name that was years long supported by the geographic discipline. Obviously, there is a pronounced confusion regarding this territory denomination, a confusion stemming mainly from the after-war events in Istria, but it also shows a certain level of multifarious identities. However, it is interesting that although the name Slovene Istria based on the name of historic Istria region is relatively new, it is already well recognised.

The regional identity of Slovene Istria is multifarious, since the majority of subjects defined themselves as "Primorec" (i.e. the citizen of coastal region), followed by the citizen of the Coast and the Istrian. The described self-definitions are not in accordance with selected labeling of the region for those who defined themselves as "Primorec". Part of those who defined themselves as Primorec, chose the name Coast for the region. The other two categories, namely the category of the Istrian and the citizen of the Coast are in accordance with self-definition of the region – Slovene Istria or Istria and the Coast or the Slovenian Coast respectfully.

Although the regional identity in the last decade has strengthen, the proportion between the national and the regional identity is still in favour of the first one, which is contrary to expectations stemming from so far existing findings. Our subjects express the highest affiliation to their town of living, followed by affiliation to Slovenia, the coastal region as a whole, their place of birth and then to Slovene Istria (ranked on the fifth place), however, they expressed greater affiliation to Istria, than to Europe and the world.

Key words: regional identity, national identity, Slovene Istria, Primorska, the Coast, labeling, self-definition