Encyclopedistics Today –
The Miroslav Krleža Institute of Lexicography and the Digital Age

Enciklopedika danas – Leksikografski zavod Miroslav Krleža i digitalno doba
The term encyclopaedia is generally thought of as indicating a device which systematically organizes knowledge of a known, or knowable world (Featherstone and Venn, 2006)
Encyclopédie
D. Diderot and J. d'Alembert
(1751–1772)

The Encyclopédie cross-reference knowledge map
Gilles Blanchard, Mark Olsen (2002)
A massive center for documentation and communication, the *Mundaneum* aimed at hosting all human knowledge and facilitating worldwide sharing through the connection of universities, governmental institutions, and individuals.
The project would have given shape to democratic accessibility to collective memory and knowledge while materializing an exteriorized, collective mental process.
Herbert G. Wells: The World Brain: World Encyclopedia (1936)
Vannevar Bush: Memex (1945)

Collective memory machine that would make knowledge more accessible (As We May Think. The Atlantic Monthly, no. 7, Boston 1945., 101-108)
# Timeline of the digital encyclopedia history

- **Memex** (Vannevar Bush 1945)

- **The automated multilevel encyclopedia** (Bohnert; Kochen 1963)
  - **Hypertext** (Ted Nelson, 1965)
  - **Encyclopædia Britannica editorial database** (1977)
  - **Academic American Encyclopediia** - Videotex (1980)

The Electronic encyclopedia CD (Grolier, 1986) •

Comton's Multimedia Encyclopedia CD (1989) •

World Wide Web Virtual Library (1991) •

Interpedia (Rick Gates, 1993) •

Microsoft Encarta multimedia encyclopedia (1993) •

Encyclopædia Britannica online (1994) •

Britannica CD (1995) •

Wikipedia (2001) •

|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
Encyclopaedias in the Digital Realm

- By providing access to reliable scientifically verified information, professionally edited open access online encyclopaedias play an important role in the struggle against misinformation, and form an important part of research and didactic infrastructure.

- Digital technologies changed the epistemic configuration of encyclopaedias, transformed ways of preparing, organising and presenting encyclopaedic knowledge.

- Encyclopaedic portals could represent a new concept of encyclopaedias in the digital realm by serving as platforms for data networking and sharing, a sort of 'junction points' that connect diverse digital content on a specific topic.
The Miroslav Krleža Institute of Lexicography

• A public institution of special interest for the Republic of Croatia (founded in 1950).

• The only Croatian institution that is systematically engaged in lexicography and encyclopaedistics – the professional and the scientific discipline within the field of information and communication sciences.
Catalogue of the Retrospective Bibliography of Articles (1950)
LZMK editorial databases
(1990’s – present)
The first digital editions

- World-Traveller pocket 15 language translator (mid 1990’s)
First online editions

**enciklopedija.lzmk.hr**
Portal of Knowledge (2009)

**www.lzmk.hr**
VIDI Web Top 100 Contest winner (2011)
Constantly updated online editions: Croatian encyclopedia online

Croatian encyclopedia online (2013–)

- Institute’s fundamental edition
- General encyclopedia with a focus on Croatia
- Based on a print edition published in 11 volumes from 1999 to 2009 authored by over 1000 external experts
- More than 70 000 freely available articles
- More than 850 000 monthly visitors (2020)
Croatian Biographical Lexicon

• Institute’s fundamental edition and permanent programme of the national culture
• 8 volumes (A-Lo) since 1983
• Printed volumes are digitised and made available online
• Digital version is updated with more than 200 biographies (Lo-Ž)
• In total 12 000 articles
Croatian encyclopedia of technology (2014-)

The Croatian technology heritage portal
tehnika.lzmk.hr
- Author
- Published
- Updated

Browse by:
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Additional information:
- Additional reading
- Recommended literature
- What to visit?
- Did you know?
- Web links
- From the Institute’s archive

Infobox:
- Brief content overview with basic information about the article
- Rich metadata source for internal and external networking
Collaborative efforts of the Miroslav Krleža Institute of Lexicography

- *Encyclopaedias Around Table 2005*
- *Europedia 2008*
- *Znameniti.hr (since 2017)*
- *EminentPeople (2017-2018)*
- *Time Machine (since 2018)*
- *Stronger together: Building visible and sustainable online encyclopaedias for free access to reliable knowledge in an era of post-truth and propaganda 2019*
LZMK Biographical metadata repository (Osobnik on-line) (2006)

- 51,506 entries
- 119 indexed sources
Thank you for your attention!