

**„RADOSLAV RATKOVIĆ – LIFE AND WORK”;  
(ED. DRAGAN SIMEUNOVIĆ, MARIJA ĐORIĆ); UDRUŽENJE  
NAUKA I DRUŠTVO SRBIJE, SAVEZ ANTIFAŠISTA SRBIJE,  
HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG FOUNDATION, BELGRADE, 2014.**

*Dejan Jovanović, Faculty of political sciences, Belgrade*

This anthology is a memorial of the work of professor doctor Radoslav Ratkovic (1921-2013), who was a lawyer, member of the prestigious editorial staff of “Mladi borac” and “NIN” magazines, a diplomat, university professor and founder of the first Faculty of Political sciences in a socialist country. Ratkovic was also the first Dean of the first Faculty of Political sciences, not only in Yugoslavia, but in any socialist country. Moreover, he was also the founder and director of the Institute for Political studies in Belgrade. Radoslav Ratkovic had a brilliant scientific and professional career. He was a holder of many very important state functions such as the President of the Constitutional court of Serbia. He wrote a significant number of important books, studies and papers. He was one of the founders of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia’s program. As Dragan Simeunović attests, Ratkovic was a rare good-hearted man, always prone to helping others. Despite that, in the final years of his life, during the period between 2012 and 2013, when he wished to be, in accordance with the law, the academic moral codex and good praxis, suggested to be the professor Emeritus of the university he founded, former administration of the Faculty of Political sciences denied him this right. One of the editors of this anthology, Dragan Simeunović, states that this book is not an attempt of mitigating this injustice, but an attempt to, with the help of contemporaries and the admirers of the character and work of Radoslav Ratkovic, establish the practice of respect of the predecessor who influenced this society to move forward.

Publishing of this memorial book was helped by Association “Science and Society”, Association of Anti-fascists of Serbia, Ministry of education, science and technological development of the Republic of Serbia, as well as the Heinrich Böll Stiftung Foundation.

What was to be emphasized is the fact that this anthology is the first monograph of this kind published about a professor of political sciences in our country.

This book consists of three chapters. The first chapter contains biographical information about Radoslav Ratkovic, bibliography of his work, as well as an excerpt of the speech he held at the meeting dedicated to his ninetieth birthday at the

Faculty of political sciences. The second chapter is a collection of works on the life and work of Radoslav Ratkovic. The third chapter consists of papers written in honour of professor Ratkovic.

In the first chapter is cited that Radoslav Ratkovic was born on July 15, 1921 in Užice. After graduating from the Third male gymnasium, he leaves for Belgrade in 1939. He participated in the national liberation struggle, and then becomes a member of the Communist party of Yugoslavia in 1945. He graduated from the Faculty of Law in Belgrade in 1949, and begun his working career as a journalist, first in the “Mladi borac” magazine, then in “Komunist” and “Borba” magazines in 1951. He continued his career at the Institute for international politics and commerce, which was followed by diplomatic service in 1953. His career as a university professor begun already in 1951, and became a full-time professor in 1968. Even though he was one of the pioneers of sociology, he will remain remembered as founder of the political sciences in our country and as the founder of the first Faculty of political sciences.

Scientific and social work of Radoslav Ratkovic is extensive. He published 15 books and numerous articles. Among his works, particularly noteworthy are “Political theory of Austrian Marxism”, “Ideology and politics”, “Basics of science of politics”, “Constitution and politics” and “Politics, theory, ideology, reality”.

Second chapter begins with the work of Živojin Rakočević called “Geopolitical essay on Radoslav Era Ratkovic”. Rakočević tells the tale of his acquaintance and friendship with Radoslav Ratkovic which begun in 1957. An important person is Milentije Popović who introduced Rakočević and Ratkovic. This is followed by a text written by Latinka Perović, who wrote of Radoslav Ratkovic in the range of paradigm of Serbian intelligence. Based on personal recollections, she explains the genesis of political conditions which explain the key role of Ratkovic for the scientific and political processes in Yugoslavia. Dragan Simeunović explains in his essay “Radoslav Ratkovic and the merits of science in politics” the important role of Radoslav Ratkovic in establishment of political science in Yugoslavia. Mijat Damjanović writes in his essay “Man of his words” of Ratkovic as a friend, but also of his role in the context of development of Yugoslavian science.

Dragan Veselinov’s “Views of professor Ratkovic – Austrian Marxists and national issue – Yugoslavian issue”, is in fact a review of the national and Yugoslavian issue from the point of Austrian Marxism, while Austrian Marxism is interpreted within the political thoughts of Radoslav Ratkovic. Essay “Real and Political”,

written by Radomir Milašinović, is based on original notes from the first classes held by Radoslav Ratkovic to the first generation of students of Faculty of political science in the year of 1967/8. It is followed by an essay written by Marija Đorić called “Apprehension of ideology in the work of Radoslav Ratkovic” in which the author analyses the basic theoretic principles set by Radoslav Ratkovic while studying ideology. Zoran Nikolić in his work “Ideology, politics, reality – the views of Radoslav Ratkovic” devotes attention to the analysis of ideology, politics and reality, which were, as key phenomena of political theory, objects of Ratkovic’s analysis. The importance of this analysis is related to the Marxist interpretation of ideology. Ivana Damnjanović in her work “Radoslav Ratkovic about the place of politics in the system of sciences” compares the content of political sphere, in the way Ratkovic explains it, with the subjects of other sciences. Based on such comparison, the author points out in which way Ratkovic deduced the connections between science of politics and other social sciences. Miljan Radković and Nebojša Dragosavac wrote “Radoslav Era Ratkovic – fighting fascism with science and experience” where they shed light to a very significant role of Radoslav Ratkovic as the president and member of the Association of Anti-fascists of Serbia. Marija Đorić analysed in her second essay called “Radoslav Ratkovic on right-wing extremism” analysed seven problem circles of fascism set by Radoslav Ratkovic within the “Fascism in Contemporary times” project. Vera Arežina wrote an essay named “Defining political process in the work of Professor Radoslav Ratkovic” explains defining political process in the scientific research of Radoslav Ratkovic, and concludes that the scientific method he uses without exception always objective and accordance with all the methodology standards. Dejan Jovanović prepared a review of Ratkovic’s political thoughts on Austrian Marxism in his “Essay on Austrian Marxism in the work of Radoslav Ratkovic”.

The third chapter of this anthology is the most extensive one, containing works written in the honour of Professor Radoslav Ratkovic. This chapter starts with works on the topic of constitutional law, “Annex to the issue of democratic value of constitutional judiciary” written by Pavle Nikolić and “Constitutional construction and functioning of the Republic of Srpska” written by Rajko Kuzmanović. In the work of Ewa Bujwid Kurek from Poland, the main goal of her research is display and determination of the real level of implementation of the Copenhagen criteria of the Republic of Serbia. Taking into consideration that the texts from this chapter were all written in the range of science of politics, they might be divided into thematic wholes, and in that case we could add to the previous text the work

of Alisabri Šabani and Nedžad Korajlić called “Failed community: On the transitional defeat of Bosnia and Herzegovina”. Also, the text written by Mina Zirojević and Sanja Jelisavac Trošić named “Current and future challenges in the Balkans”, text written by Janko Nicović called “Union of Serbia and Montenegro within Yugoslavia”. In a separate whole we could enlist the essay of Predrag Simić “World Politics, globalization and crisis”, as well as the essay of Dragana Mitrović “Rising of China – Sources and borders of power”. The next whole within the third chapter should be, in our opinion, the one relating to political violence, security, criminality and terrorism, and here we could enlist the works of Nebojša Teofilović called “Feedback of corruption, politics and organized crime”, work of Darya Bazarkina from Russia called “Communication management and the problem of international security in the counterterrorist activities of the European Union”, as well as joint work of Jana Kotrbova from Czech Republic and Bojan Dobovšek named “Terrorism and cyberspace: Combating terrorism through the internet”, essay written by Marko Parezanović called “Contemporary roots of subversive actions”. In this whole we can also enlist the work of Želimir Kešetović named “General problems of the relation between police and public” and joint work of Jelena Budak, Ivan-Damir Anić and Edo Rajh named “Public attitudes towards surveillance and privacy in Serbia”. Military issues are researched in work of Borislav Grozdić called “Loyalty and military loyalty”, as well as the text of Macedonian authors, Marjana Grujevski, Igor Gjoreski, Biljana Avramoska-Gjoreska and Toni Petreski, named “The influence of migration on materialization of political and military power of the states”, and the joint work of Spasoje Mučibabić and Ksenija Kelemen from Greece named “Vlastimir M. Ivanovic – The first Serbian operational researcher”. Despite these wholes we would like to single out another, general politic whole, where we would enlist the work of Mijat Damjanović called “Civil society and democracy”, “Concept of political style” written by Predrag Pavličević, “Normative concepts for protection of human rights” written by Tatjana Teofilović, as well as work of Ivana Projić named “On communism, idea and ideology”. The topic of social politics is explored in the essay written by Ana Čekerevac named “Contemporary approach to social politics”, and the topic of communication and high technology is explored in an essay written by Russian professor Evgeny Pashentsev named “Communication management: The strategy of success in contemporary business”.

The essays that independently represent specific scientific areas, and which also commemorate Radoslav Ratkovic should be listed individually. Aleksandra

---

Kolaković speaks of defining the establishment and meaning of the term “intellectual” in France in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in her work named “Term “intellectual” from the Dreifuss Affair to the problem of defining”. Focus of this research is on the analysis of impact of French intellectuals in the period preceding the World War I. Milica Smajević deals in her essay with the review of the radical change which occurred within the ranges of modern philosophy when speaking of the understanding of the idea of morality. Consequences of accepting the new understanding of morality are above all shown in the creation of a new society that is moral, but also egalitarian in comparison to the one preceding it. This anthology is closed by the essay written by Nada Blagojević named “Hermeneutic research of events in the language”. The author analyses in this work the Gadamer’s concept of hermeneutics, with a special review of numerous debates that took place in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.