

Papers in Honour of Rastko Vasić 80th Birthday

Зборник радова у част 80 г. живота Растка Васића

АРХЕОЛОШКИ ИНСТИТУТ

**ЗБОРНИК РАДОВА У
ЧАСТ 80 Г. ЖИВОТА
РАСТКА ВАСИЋА**

Уредници
Војислав Филиповић
Александар Булатовић
Александар Капуран

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**PAPERS IN HONOUR
OF RASTKO VASIĆ
80th BIRTHDAY**

Editors

**Vojislav Filipović
Aleksandar Bulatović
Aleksandar Kapuran**

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Miomir Korać

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Vojislav Filipović

Aleksandar Bulatović

Aleksandar Kapuran

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Foreword

Since 1990, after practically 30 years and the publication of the volume of the *Starinar* journal dedicated to the academician and professor Milutin Garašanin, the Institute of Archaeology in Belgrade publishes a volume dedicated to a doyen of both Serbian and European archaeology, Rasko Vasić. In contrast to university centers, where this kind of publications are usual, due to the position of individuals as professors and teachers (*Festschrift*, *Homage...*), the scientific researchers are usually neglected in that respect, which can be seen in the fact that this volume represents the first of a kind published by the Institute of Archaeology. Bearing in mind the significance and the influence of Vasić's work on ex-Yugoslav and prehistoric archaeology of Europe, as well as the fact that he spent his entire career at the Institute of Archaeology, we consider this volume as a humble act of our gratitude for everything our dear colleague Vasić did for archaeology and the Institute, on occasion of his 80th birthday.

Indeed, Rastko Vasić stands as a great of both Serbian and Yugoslav archaeology, distinctly appreciated and esteemed, which stands in opposition to his humble and unobtrusive nature. Vasić's scientific and artistic educations often intertwined in his papers dealing both with the protohistoric art and the particular problems of the Bronze and Iron Age in southeastern Europe. Years of work and scientific questions led him to various phenomena of our prehistoric archaeology, many of which he had himself defined, but from time to time he used to go back and discover the until then unobserved Iron Age art of the Central Balkans. Only a glimpse of his bibliography at the beginning of this volume reveals the archaeological phenomena he had defined and interpreted, and through his serious and responsible scientific work and afterwards authority introduced to archaeology. His first monographs (*Културне групе старијег гвозденог доба у Југославији* and *The Chronology of the Early Iron Age in Socialist Republic of Serbia*) were created on basis of his doctoral dissertation and more than a couple of decades since the publication represent often cited literature.

Увод

Након безмало 30 лета и *Старинара* посвећеног академику и професору Милутину Гарашанину из 1990. године, Археолошки институт у Београду објављује једну засебну публикацију посвећену дојену српске, али и европске археологије Растку Васићу. За разлику од универзитетских центара, где је овај тип публикација (*Festschrift*, *Homage...*) уобичајен због позиције појединца као професора и учитеља, научни су радници обично занемарени у томе погледу, што се види и по томе да је ово прва таква засебна публикација наше куће. Но, имајући у виду значај Васићевих дела за бившу југословенску и праисторијску археологију Европе и утицај на њу, као и то што је цео свој радни век провео у Археолошком институту, сматрали смо да је овај зборник поводом 80 година живота један скромни чин наше захвалности за све што је драги колега Васић учинио за археологију и Институт.

Растко Васић доиста представља велика на српске и југословенске археологије, изразито уваженог и цењеног, што је у неку руку у супротности са његовом скромном и ненаметљивом природом. Васићево научно, али и уметничко образовање често се сустицало у његовим првим радовима, када се бавио како уметничким протоисторијским темама, тако и конкретним проблемима гвозденог и бронзаног доба југоисточне Европе. Године рада и стручна питања одвела су га ка многим феноменима наше праисторијске археологије, од којих је неке и сам дефинисао, али се с времена на време враћао, а уједно и откривао до тада незапажену уметност гвозденог доба централног Балкана. Само и летимичан поглед на његову библиографију на почетку овог зборника говори о археолошким појавама које је Васић одредио и интерпретирао, а својим озбиљним и одговорним научним радом и доцнијим ауторитетом увео у домаћу археологију. Његове прве монографије (*Културне групе старијег гвозденог доба у Југославији* и *The Chronology of the Early Iron Age in Socialist Republic of Serbia*), настале на основама док-

A complete affirmation in Yugoslav archaeology for colleague Vasić was the invitation to write no less than 13 chapters for the 5th volume of the distinguished publication *Praistorija jugoslavenskih zemalja*, as one of the youngest authors, dealing with less familiar subjects or subjects with scarce background data, undetermined origin or undefined to a great extent. It can be said that even nowadays, after more than 30 years, Vasić's certain syntheses from the aforementioned publication, remain the postulates for the Iron Age of the Central Balkans. Another significant work of Rastko Vasić, although often not emphasized enough, is the fact that under the invitation of the academician Dragoslav Sreјović, he participated in writing of 150 separate units in the unique domestic archaeological encyclopedia - *Arheološki leksikon – preistorija Evrope, Afrike i Bliskog Istoka, grčka, etrurska i rimska civilizacija*, a paper that Yugoslav and Serbian archaeology lacked for a number of decades. His international reputation was confirmed by five monographs published within the prestigious *Prähistorische Bronzefunde* edition. In parallel with that, through his advice and influence, as well as through his scientific renown, he aided younger colleagues to prepare the volumes for the same edition.

In that context, it is important to mention that defending boards for magister or doctoral thesis on the subject on Bronze and Iron Age could not be imagined without the presence of the colleague Vasić. On such occasions, not a single critique or a bad word could be heard from Vasić, but positive opinion and useful suggestions above all, so that the candidate could properly prepare the thesis for future publication. Rastko Vasić has been a member of the editorial board for the *Starinar* journal for more than 40 years, as well as for many other corpora and journals in the territory of southeastern Europe. As a member of editorial staff or as a reviewer of papers and monographs, he would always point out the qualities of the submitted material, and if the other members of editorial staff or reviewers decided to reject the material, his benevolent suggestions would help in publishing each useful paper after all, even in some other journal. Also, as a long-time director of scientific projects at the Institute of Archaeology, he would always do his best to help

торске дисертације, и даље су, неколико деценија након објављивања, цитирано штиво.

Потпуну афирмацију у југословенској археологији колега Васић доживео је када је позван да, као један од тада најмлађих аутора, напише чак 13 поглавља за том V чувене *Праисторије југославенских земаља*, и то на неке теме о којима се мало знало или у вези с којима су подаци били шури, нејасног порекла и добрим делом недефинисани. Може се рећи да и данас, након 30 и више година, поједине Васићеве синтезе из ове серије и даље остају једини постулати гвозденог доба централног Балкана. Још један значајан допринос овога типа, чини се, није довољно помињан у досадашњем његовом раду, а то је чињеница да је на позив академика Драгослава Срејовића учествовао у изради преко 150 засебних јединица у јединственој домаћој археолошкој енциклопедији – *Археолошки лексикон – преисторија Европе, Африке и Блиског истока, грчка, етрурска и римска цивилизација*, делу које је дуги низ деценија недостајало југословенској и српској археологији. Међународни углед потврдио је са пет монографија у престижној едицији *Prähistorische Bronzefunde*, док је паралелно саветима и својим утицајем, као и научним реномеом, помагао млађим колегама да припреме своје свеске за исту едицију.

У томе контексту, важно је поменути да се без колеге Васића није могла замислити комисија за одбрану магистарских или докторских дисертација на тему бронзаног или старијег гвозденог доба. Том приликом од њега се није могла чути покуда или лоша реч, већ надамне позитивно мишљење и корисне сугестије како би кандидат своје дело адекватно припремио за будуће објављивање. Преко 40 година члан је редакције *Старинара*, као и многих зборника и часописа на простору југоисточне Европе. Као чест члан редакција или рецензент радова и монографија, увек је истицао квалитете прилога, а уколико би се остатак редакције или други рецензенти одлучили да одбију аутора, он би сесвојим благонаклоним сугестијама трудио да сваки користан рад ипак буде објављен, па макар у неком другом часопису. Такође, као дугогодишњи руководиоца научних пројеката у Археолошком институту,

young colleagues on each matter, never striking as a boss or a superior.

Plenty of details on the private and professional life of Rastko Vasić, both as an archaeologist and painter and literate, can be found in the continuation of this volume, which was one of the ideas of the editors. Therefore, about 60 pages are dedicated to his life and work, biography and a detailed bibliography, while the interview is illustrated with Vasić's numerous paintings, selected by the celebrant himself. Afterward, there is a collection of papers dedicated to the colleague Vasić, written in English, German, Russian and the ex-Yugoslav languages, assorted chronologically. Unfortunately, certain authors which were invited in agreement with the celebrant did not respond, primarily due to the poor health, so the editors once again point out that they regret the situation, although on the other hand, we are grateful and proud of the content of the volume, on 33 authors of the papers, and the editorial board comprised of prominent names of the word archaeology from nine different countries.

Through this volume, the editorial board and the Institute of Archaeology would like to heartily congratulate the jubilee to our colleague Vasić and to wish him many more years in archaeology.

Vojislav Filipović
Aleksandar Bulatović
Aleksandar Kapuran

тудио се да помогне млађим колегама по свим питањима, не постављајући се притом као шеф.

Многи детаљи о приватном и професионалном животу Растка Васића и као археолога, и као сликара и књижевника, могу се наћи у наставку овог зборника, што је била и једна од идеја приређивача. Стога је првих шездесетак страна посвећено његовом животу и раду, биографији и детаљној библиографији, док је интервју илустрован бројним Васићевим сликама, по избору самог слављеника. Након тога уприличени сурадови посвећени колеги Васићу, на енглеском, немачком, руском и језицима бивше Југославије, поређани по хронолошком реду. Нажалост, поједини аутори позвани у консултацијама са слављеником нису се одазвали позиву, поглавито због нарушеног здравственог стања, па уредници и овом приликом напомињу да жале због оваквог развоја ситуације. С друге стране, поносни смо на садржај зборника – како на 33 аутора прилога, тако и на редакцију, у којој су врхунска имена светске археологије из девет земаља.

Колеги Васићу уредници и Археолошки институт овим зборником од срца честитају јубилеј и желе још много година рада у археологији.

Војислав Филиповић
Александар Булатовић
Александар Капуран



In the National Museum in Belgrade, 2018 (by Aca Đorđević)
У Народном музеју, 2018. године (фото Аца Ђорђевић)

A New Find of Bronze Hinged Fibula from the Vicinity of Svrljig

Ognjen Đ. Mladenović

Abstract: A new find of a hinged fibula originating from the area of Bogdanica in Varoš village near Svrljig will be presented in this paper. As one of the characteristic objects of the Iron Age material culture in the central Balkans, and especially during the period between 6th and 4th century BC, hinged fibulae incorporate numerous types and variants. The focus of this paper will be on providing the typological and chronological attribution to the fibula from the vicinity of Svrljig.

Key words: hinged fibula, Iron Age, typology, chronology, Central Balkans, 6th-4th century BC.

The hinged fibulae (*Scharnierfibeln*) represent one of the characteristic objects of the Iron Age material culture in the Central Balkans,¹ as well as in the neighbouring territories.² It is considered that such form of fibula was formed during the second half of the 6th century BC in the territory of Macedonia under the influence of the Asia Minor fibulae, and from there spread towards the Central Balkans starting from the late 5th century BC.³ The main characteristics of this form of fibulae are the manner in which head of the fibula is connected with a pin (by a hinge), the more or less stylized palmette on the head, and the stylized representation of an animal head on the foot of the fibula.⁴ Hinged fibulae have been discussed in professional literature for more than a century, although often in papers whose focus was not directed specifically towards these types of objects. Two comprehensive studies of hinged fibulae originating from the territories of former Yugoslavia and the Central Balkans were presented by R. Vasić,⁵ while K. Kilian dealt with the finds originating from Thessaly.⁶ A certain number of papers are dedicated to the typology of hinged fibulae, as M. Hoernes and V. Čurčić, back in the 20th century, pointed out the existence of a large number of similar examples that simultaneously displayed certain differences.⁷ A paper by B. Kitanoski, in which he developed the typology of hinged fibulae based on the examples from the National Museum in Prilep, should be noted.⁸ On that occasion he classified the examples into five different groups and accompanying subgroups.⁹ The mentioned paper on hinged fibulae from the territory of the former Yugoslavia by R. Vasić in a certain way provides somewhat supplemented and altered typology from what had been previously proposed by B. Kitanoski.¹⁰ The issue of

¹ I am honoured to have the opportunity to contribute to this homage dedicated to Dr. Rastko Vasić, one of the greats of both local and European archaeology. It was Dr. Rastko Vasić who dedicated significant portion of his research to the issue of hinged fibulae, and therefore his papers inevitably represent the starting point for the future research on the subject.

² I would take the opportunity to thank colleagues S. Milivojević, V. Filipović and V. Petrović for providing me with the find and relevant documentation. My appreciation for illustration of the find goes to colleague J. Bogić.

³ Vasić 1985, 148-151.

⁴ Vasić 1985, 123-124.

⁵ Vasić 1985, 121 and further; Vasić 1999.

⁶ Kilian 1975, 155-157.

⁷ Hoernes 1901, 527 and further; Čurčić 1908, 1 and further.

⁸ Китаноски 1966.

⁹ Back in 1965, B. Lahtov defined seven types of hinged fibulae based on a significantly smaller number of examples (Lahtov 1965, 50-52).

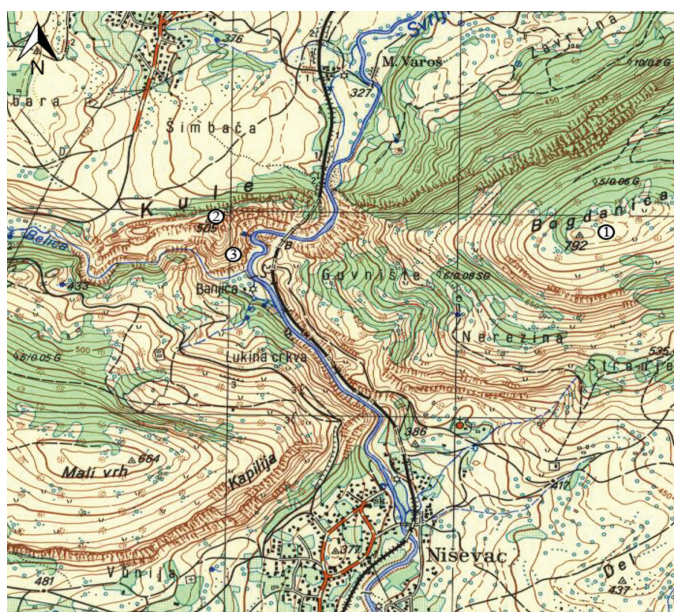
¹⁰ Vasić 1985.

typological attribution of certain examples remains undisclosed, which was emphasized by R. Vasić as well, when he discussed various existing criteria for the typological attribution of known examples.¹¹ Therefore, new types, subtypes, and variants are being proposed even more recently, as is the case with the silver find from the vicinity of Nikinci in Srem.¹²

The area of Bogdanica is located on the right bank of the Svrljiški Timok River, and in fact covers the western slopes of the eponymous mountain (972 m alt.) (Map 1/1). The Svrljig grad site is located on the left bank of the Svrljiški Timok River, opposite of Bogdanica (Map 1/2). The site is positioned on a high and hardly accessible rock which rises above the confluence of the Belica and Svrljiški Timok rivers. Numerous movable finds recorded in the foothill of the site, which probably migrated there due to the erosion from higher points, indicate a continuous inhabitation of the location for a long period of time. The earliest finds are correlated with the Eneolithic period, while the last of Turkish troops abandoned the Svrljig grad in the 19th century.¹³

The hinged fibula from Bogdanica is made of bronze, measuring the length of 2,2 cm (Pl. I/1) (Fig. 1). The bow of the fibula is almost circular and decorated with five properly arranged star-like knobs, in a way that the ending knobs are positioned right next to the head and foot of the fibula. Each of the star-like knobs is composed of four identical doubled bulges. The foot of the fibula is decorated with two calotte-shaped buttons, which represent the eyes of the stylized head of an animal. In between, a thin plate-like decoration, bent towards the root of the foot is positioned. The tip of the foot is bent towards the back side of fibula, forming in that way space for the pin. The head of the fibula is roughly round-shaped, and decorated with two arranged lines, which form a motif that resembles the stylized palmette. The manner in which the lines are executed resembles a row of notches. A similar line partially encircles the head of the fibula. The pin of the fibula is not preserved, although its traces are recognized in the centre of the head, and it seems as if it was made of iron.

Relying primarily on the typology proposed by R. Vasić, our example should be classified into the group V, and more precisely subgroup Vb, which is the most numerous and widespread



Map 1 – Position of the Bogdanica area (1) and the Svrljig grad (2) and Banjica (3) sites.



Fig. 1 – Hinged fibula from the vicinity of Svrljig (area of Bogdanica).

¹¹ Vasić 1985, 123-126.

¹² cf. Bacić 2005, 67 and further; Dautova Ruševljan, Jevtić 2006, 291 and further; Коледин 2011, 103 and further.

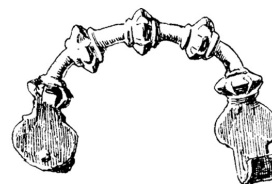
¹³ Petrović, Filipović, Milivojević 2012, 131.



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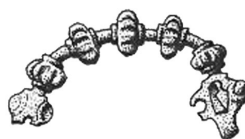
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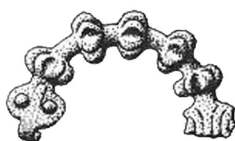
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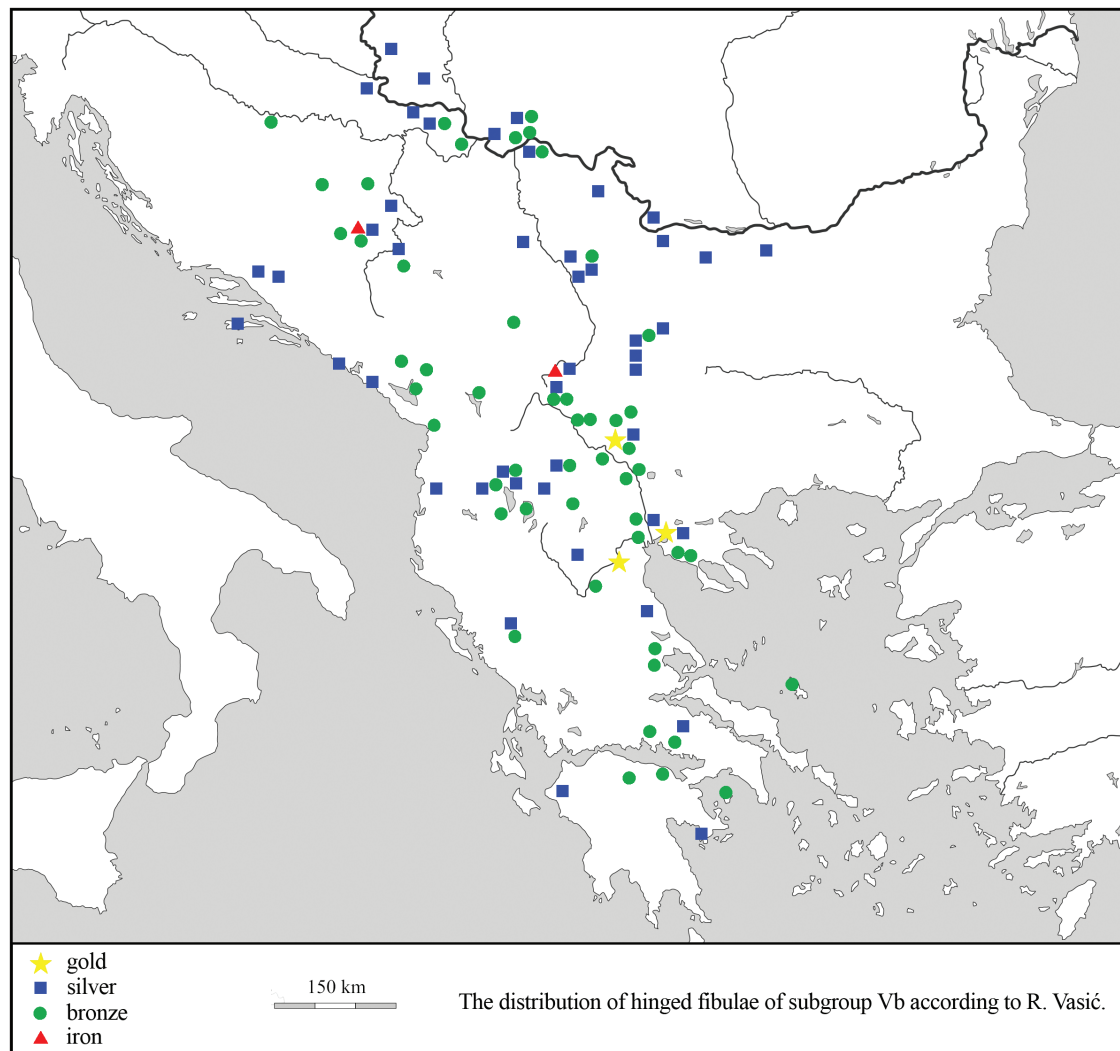
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Pl. I

type of hinged fibula.¹⁴ This type is defined based on the number of star-like knobs on the bow of the fibula, and therefore includes examples with four, five, six, or more knobs.¹⁵ A large number of examples incorporated into this subgroup which display minor or major differences, as well as different metals of which such examples are made of, represent a certain problem in terms of



Map 2 – The distribution of the hinged fibulae classified into the subgroup Vb (complemented).

typological classification. Therefore, the question remains whether further division into different variants is possible within the mentioned group and subgroup.¹⁶ The examples classified into this subgroup are made of gold, silver, bronze or iron,¹⁷ and recorded in the territory of Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania and Turkey (Map 2).¹⁸

In order to find proper analogies for our example, we observed those examples which are made of bronze, and possess five star-like knobs on the bow of the fibula. Examples with star-like

¹⁴ This group is quite similar to the group V proposed by B. Kitanoski (Китаноски 1966).

¹⁵ This group of fibulae is characteristic for the heartland of Balkans (Vasić 1985, 149, нар. 68)

¹⁶ R. Vasić states that even one or two fibulae from this subgroup could represent distinct variants (Vasić 1985, 135).

¹⁷ I. Pušić notes that the example from Glogovik near Herceg Novi is made of copper (Pušić 1962, 78), and R. Vasić treats it as a bronze example (Vasić 1985, 147).

¹⁸ Vasić 1985, 135-148, with complete literature; Vasić 1999, 109-112, Taf. 69.

knobs flanked with smaller rings, and with the shape and number of bulges of the star-like knobs being somewhat different are taken under consideration as well.¹⁹ On the other hand, examples made of gold, silver and iron were not taken under consideration, due to the previously mentioned possibilities of further typological and chronological division of the subgroup, which could also be based on the type of metal from which the fibulae were made of.

In the territory of Serbia, examples similar to the piece from the area of Boganica originate from Banatska Palanka (Pl. I/2),²⁰ Novi Banovci (Pl.I/3),²¹ the vicinity of Požarevac (Pl.I/4),²² Čečan (Pl.I/5, 6),²³ and Mound XIII from Oborište near Zabrnjica (Pl.I/7).²⁴ Examples from Banatska Palanka, Zabrnjica, and the vicinity of Požarevac display the most similarities to our example in terms of the manner in which the calotte-shaped buttons composing the stylized representation of an animal head on the foot of the fibula are arranged, although the example from the vicinity of Požarevac differs from ours in the shape of the foot. Another similarity that can be noted on the examples from Zabrnjica and Požarevac is the lack of small rings that flank the star-like knobs. The manner in which the stylized palmette is fashioned on the example from Banatska Palanka is also quite similar to our example, although certain differences can be noted in the shape of the head. The recently published Iron Age grave (Grave 4) from the VolarskoPolje site near Novi Sad yielded two examples of hinged fibulae which are almost identical to our fibula, especially considering the manner and shape in which stylized palmette is fashioned (Fig. 2).²⁵ Examples from Dubovac (Vučitrn) and from the site of Čair near Kostolac should also be mentioned,²⁶ as those examples display some basic similarities with our examples in terms of the calotte-shaped buttons on the foot, and the manner in which the stylized palmette on the head is fashioned. Similar can be noted for the example from the Kale site in Krševica near Bujanovac.²⁷ Another recently published hinged fibula from the aforementioned site is similar to the example from Bogdanica, both in terms of size and number of star-like knobs (Fig. 3).²⁸

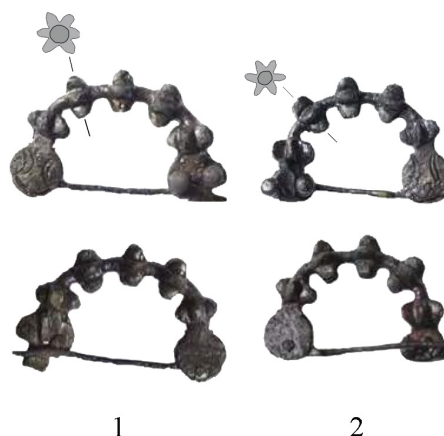


Fig. 2 – Hinged fibulae from Grave 4 at the Volarsko polje site (after: Andjelic 2017).



Fig. 3 – Recently published hinged fibula from the Kale site in Krševica near Bujanovac (after: Vranić 2018).

¹⁹ Some of the examples possess star-like knobs in the form of the so-called “millwheels”.

²⁰ Vasić 199, 110, Taf. 58/967.

²¹ Brunšmid 1902, 6, Sl. 40/1.

²² Vasić 1999, 111, Taf. 54/1008.

²³ Vasić 1985, 121-122, Sl. 1/a, b, Sl. 2, Sl. 3.

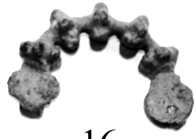
²⁴ Vasić 1999, 112, Taf. 56/1058.

²⁵ Анђелић 2017, 34-36, Т. 12/3-4

²⁶ Vasić 1999, 111, Taf. 54/991, 999.

²⁷ Митровић 2010, 27, кат. бр. 41.

²⁸ Vranić 2018, 31-32. Unfortunately, current state of preservation of this piece does not allow further comparisons considering the decoration.



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Pl. II

The mentioned examples from the Dubovac, Čair and Kale sites are fragmented, and the total number of star-like knobs on the bow of the fibula remains unknown. Quite similar to our fibula is one of the fibulae from Momišići near Podgorica in Montenegro (devastated mound?) (Pl. I/8).²⁹ The number and shape of the star-like knobs, lack of rings that are sometimes flanking the knobs, and shape and decoration on the head and foot of the fibula from Momišići display great similarities to our example. From the area of the Glasinac Plateau in Bosnia and Herzegovina, similar examples originate from Mound III at the Rudine-Rusanovići site (Pl. I/9-12).³⁰ Based on all of the aforementioned elements, the examples from Rusanovići typologically correspond to our example, while two of the examples are almost identical, and possess the exact form of the lines that comprise the stylized palmette on the head of the fibula (Pl. I/9, 10).³¹ A somewhat larger number of similar examples originate from the territory of present day Macedonia. First of all, we have examples from the Velmej (Pl. I/13),³² Demir Kapija (Pl. I/14)³³ and Tri Čeljusti sites (Pl. I/15).³⁴ The example from Velmej display the most similarities to our example (Pl. I/13), although the stylized palmette on the head of the fibula is not clearly visible. The example from the Gradište-Knežje site near Sveti Nikole is quite similar to our example as well (Pl. II/16).³⁵ Numerous examples that are similar to the fibula from the area of Bogdanica originate from graves 20 and 34 at the Kaldrma necropolis (Pl. II/17-19),³⁶ and from the Zagrad site (Pl. II/20-26),³⁷ both near Prilep. A large number of hinged fibulae from the territory of Greece are classified to the same group as our example, of which we represent only two, from the vicinity of Almyros (Pl. II/27)³⁸ and from the site of Halae (*Ἁλαί*) (Pl. II/28).³⁹ One fibula from the Pernik site in Bulgaria (Pl. II/29),⁴⁰ as well as two fibulae from the Donje Selce (*Basse-Selce*) (Pl. II/30) and Podgradec (*Podgradecit*) (Pl. II/31) sites in Albania could also be considered similar to our example.⁴¹ In the end, three examples of hinged fibulae which originate from unknown sites in Serbia display certain similarities to our example (Pl. III/32-34).⁴² One of these examples is quite interesting for the fact that except for the similarities in the shape and decoration it possesses an almost circular form of bow of the fibula, which can be considered one of the characteristics of the fibula from the area of Bogdanica.

In the case of hinged fibula from the area of Bogdanica and similar examples, we get a glimpse of what M. Hoernes, V. Čurčić and R. Vasić warned about. In terms of typological classification of our and other similar examples, we relied not only on the typology proposed by R. Vasić (group V, subgroup Vb),⁴³ but searched for similar examples only amongst those pieces which are made of bronze within the mentioned group and subgroup.⁴⁴ Therefore, the number

²⁹ Велимировић-Жижић 1966, 196-197, Сл. 25/а.

³⁰ Benac, Čović 1957, 24-25, Т. XXXXIX/6-9.

³¹ This group of fibulae is comprised of five bronze hinged fibulae, of which one is fragmented, and yet possesses certain elements on the foot similar to the completely preserved examples. (Benac, Čović 1957, 24-25, Т. XXXXIX/10).

³² Vasić 1999, 112, Taf. 56/1052.

³³ Соколовска 1975, 188, Т. III/4.

³⁴ Маленко 1975, 142, Сл. 15.

³⁵ Митревски 2016, 43-49, Сл. 376/7.

³⁶ Китаноски 1975, 107, Т. X/292, 373; 110, Т. XII/337.

³⁷ Китаноски 1966, 3, Т. II/ 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26.

³⁸ Kilian 1975, 156, Taf. 59/1747.

³⁹ Goldman 1940, 420, Fig. 71/4.

⁴⁰ Чангова 1981, 76-77, Сл. 31/2.

⁴¹ Сека 1972, 173-174, Pl. VIII/4; Anamali 1980, Tab. VI/1.

⁴² The author of this paper came into possession of photos, but does not possess any precise data on the origin and context of the finds. The provenance of photos indicates that all of the finds originate from Serbia, and there is a possibility that two examples originate from the vicinity of Vršac (Pl. II/29, 30).

⁴³ Vasić 1985.

⁴⁴ Within the mentioned group, examples made of silver are more numerous than the examples made of bronze (Vasić 1985, 147).



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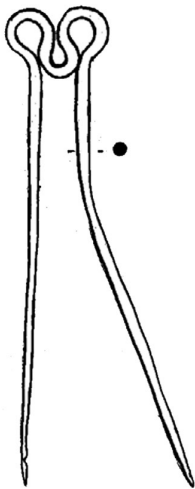
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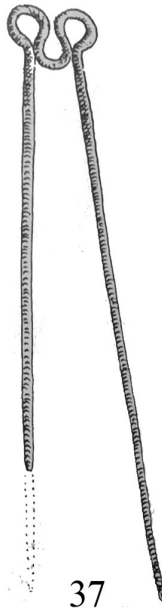
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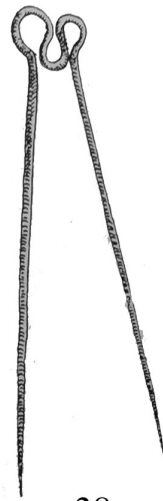
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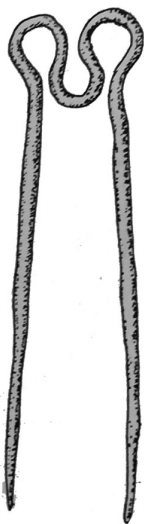
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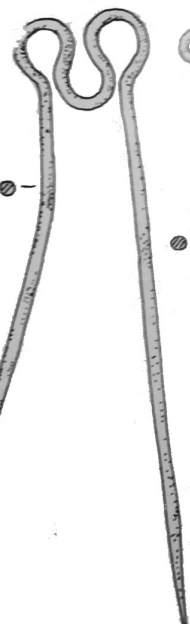
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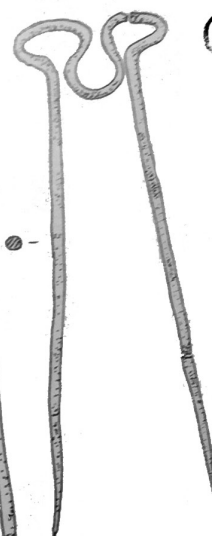
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Pl. III

of examples which would represent a typological sample is reduced, and yet it seems as if there remains plenty of room for further typological division. For example, if we considered the presence or absence of small rings that flank the star-like knobs, within the mentioned examples, those from Banatska Palanka (Pl. I/2), Novi Banovci (Pl. I/3), Čečan (Pl. I/5, 6), Tri Čeljusti (Pl. I/15) and Halae (Pl. II/28) sites could be distinguished. Similar distinguishing could be achieved by separating the types/variants based on the shape, size, and number of bulges on the star-like knobs, or the shape of the head or foot of the fibula, and even on the representation of the stylized palmette.

R. Vasić considers that the bronze fibulae of the subgroup Vb basically imitate the shape of the silver fibulae of the same subgroup, for which the production centres are connected primarily with the Thessaloniki area. If we disregard previously mentioned differences, which are noticed between the fibulae of the same type, the Trebenište, Halae, Radolište, Negotin-Bukjovci, Štrpci and Čurug types are defined solely within this subgroup of hinged fibulae. The Trebenište type, which is the earliest type of the hinged fibulae within this group, occurs from the beginning of the 6th century BC, while the latest examples of this group of fibulae are dated to the very end of the 4th century BC.⁴⁵ In order to date our example as precisely as possible, we will address a specific group of fibulae which R. Vasić defined within the subgroup Vb. The group is defined based on the number of star-like knobs on the bow of the fibula (5), smaller dimensions (3-4 cm), and lower quality of the decoration. Beside others, examples from Čečan, Momišići, Prilep, Demir Kapija and the Tri Čeljusti site, which display certain similarities with our example, are attributed to that group as well. Nevertheless, our example in a certain way differs from this group of fibulae, especially considering the dimensions and the shape of the bow. With the length of merely 2,2 cm, it represents the smallest example within the mentioned group. Taking that under consideration, one of the mentioned examples from the unknown site in Serbia (Pl. III/34) would represent the most similar example, although the dimensions can only be assumed based on the photo. It seems as if one of the examples from the Kaldrma site in Prilep (Pl. II/17) possesses similar dimensions, even though it is only partially preserved.⁴⁶ This group of fibulae is dated to the 4th century BC, or slightly earlier, as it displays certain similarities with the Trebenište type. The centre of production is connected with the territory of Pelagonia.⁴⁷

In terms of dating the fibula from the area of Bogdanica more precisely, we do not possess specific data. A find of a fragmented Ω -shaped pin made of iron, which was recovered at the nearby Banjica site in 2017 (Map 1/3),⁴⁸ could be indicative in a way, and a similar pin is recorded in the grave 4 at the Signal necropolis in Palilula village near Svrlijig (Pl. III/35).⁴⁹ The Ω -shaped pins are also recorded at the mentioned sites from which examples of hinged fibulae similar to our example originate. Several such pins are recorded in the devastated mound in Momišići (Pl. III/36-40),⁵⁰ one fragmented⁵¹ and one completely preserved example in Mound III at the Rudine-Rusanovići site (Pl. III/41),⁵² four examples in graves 5 and 6 at the Kaldrma necropolis near Prilep (Pl. III/42-45),⁵³ and one example at the Podgradec site in Albania (Pl. III/46).⁵⁴ The Ω -shaped

⁴⁵ Vasić 1985, 136-145, with complete literature.

⁴⁶ The question is whether the length of fibula can represent an element suitable for typological classification, bearing in mind that two identical examples could significantly vary in length if the curve of the bow is different. In that case, the only element that would undergo certain change is the length of the pin.

⁴⁷ Vasić 1985, 148.

⁴⁸ This find is unpublished. The Banjica site is located in the Niševac village near Svrlijig, and in fact encompasses southern suburbs of the Svrlijig grad site. Therefore, the Svrlijig grad and Banjica sites in fact comprise the same site. (Филиповић 2008, 17).

⁴⁹ Filipović, Bulatović 2010, 75-76, 80, Fig. 2/6.

⁵⁰ Велимировић-Жижић 1966, 197, 203, Сл. 35.

⁵¹ Not represented in the plates.

⁵² Benac, Čović 1957, 24, T. XXXIX/12.

⁵³ Китаноски 1977, 92-95, T. II/262, 263, T. III/248, 265.

⁵⁴ Anamali 1980, 245, Tab. VI/1.

pins (the Trebenište type or type IV according to R. Vasić) are connected with the period starting from the 6th century BC, although with the focus on the period from the 6th to the end of the 4th century BC,⁵⁵ which is in agreement with the proposed dating of the mentioned group of fibulae.⁵⁶

Besides the hinged fibulae similar to our example, examples from the group II and more precisely subgroup IIa are recorded in the devastated mound in Momišići⁵⁷ and Mound III at the Rudine-Rusanovići site,⁵⁸ as well as in the graves 20 and 34 from the Kaldrma necropolis near Prilep.⁵⁹ R. Vasić attributes such fibulae to a somewhat longer period from the 5th to the 2nd century BC.⁶⁰ Grave 34 from the Kaldrma necropolis is of a particular importance, since it contained fibulae attributed to both the subgroups, and a bronze coin of Alexander which dates it no later than the third quarter of the 4th century BC.⁶¹ Such combination of hinged fibulae (subgroups IIa and Vb) is also recorded at the Gradište-Knežje site near Sveti Nikole, in a horizon dated with the coins of Philip II up to the middle of the 4th century BC, meaning phase II, which runs from the second half of the 5th century BC.⁶² Likewise, if the bow of the mentioned hinged fibula from the Kale site was decorated with five star-like knobs,⁶³ we can notice the same combination of subgroups of hinged fibulae and the Ω -shaped pin on this site as well.⁶⁴ Based on the overall stratigraphic situation on the Kale site, P. Popović dates those fibulae to the middle or the second half of the 4th century BC.⁶⁵

Chronological attribution of the similar examples to the 5th and 4th century BC could be accepted for the example from the area of Bogdanica as well. However, based on the lack of archaeological context of the find and the overall development of the Iron Age in the vicinity of Svrljig, slightly earlier or later chronological attribution should not be dismissed. Namely, excavated Iron Age sites from the vicinity of Svrljig (Signal, Oblik, Kalnica), as well as certain chance finds, could be attributed to a very long period from the 9th/8th to the 1st century BC⁶⁶ and therefore definite conclusions on the chronological attribution of the hinged fibula from the area of Bogdanica should not be presented at the moment.

Catalogue of finds⁶⁷

1. Bronze hinged fibula from the area of Bogdanica, Serbia. Pin not preserved. Length: 2,2 cm. (Pl. I/1).
2. Bronze hinged fibula from Banatska Palanka, Serbia. Pin not preserved. Length: 4,6 cm. (Pl. I/2) (Vasić 1999, 110, Taf. 52/967).
3. Bronze hinged fibula from Novi Banovci, Serbia. Pin not preserved. Length: 4,4 cm. (Pl. I/3) (Brunšmid 1902, 6, Sl. 40/1.).
4. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from the vicinity of Požarevac, Serbia. Pin not preserved. Length: 3,5 cm. (Pl. I/4) (Vasić 1999, 111, Taf. 54/1008).
5. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from Čečan near Vučitrn, Serbia. Pin not preserved. Length: 4 cm. (Pl. I/5) (Vasić 1985, 121-122, Sl. 1/a, Sl. 2).

⁵⁵ Vasić 2003, 123-128.

⁵⁶ Vasić 1985: 148.

⁵⁷ Велимировић-Жижић 1966, 196-197, Сл. 25, 26.

⁵⁸ Венац, Ћовић 1957, 24, Т. XXXXIX/1, 2.

⁵⁹ Китаноски 1975, 107, Т. X/ 291, 252, 251, 288, 290, 289, Т. XII/ 320, 321, 336, 371, 372.

⁶⁰ Vasić 1985, 128-129.

⁶¹ Китаноски 1975, 113-114.

⁶² Митревски 2016, 24-37.

⁶³ Митровић 2010, 27, кат. бр. 41.

⁶⁴ A. Đorđević also points out such combining of subgroups of hinged fibulae when discussing finds from the vicinity of Aleksinac (Ђорђевић 2009, 133).

⁶⁵ Popović 2007, 813-820, Sl. 3/1-4, 10.

⁶⁶ Филиповић 2006, 11-12; Филиповић 2009, 176-177; Filipović and Bulatović 2010, 73 and further; Филиповић 2013, 209 and further.

⁶⁷ Examples with dimensions quoted in the catalogue are presented in scale 1:1

6. Refer to Cat.No. 5. Length: 3,2 cm. (Pl. I/6) (Vasić 1985, 121-122, Sl. 1/b, Sl. 3.).
7. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from the Mound III in Oborište near Zabrnjica, Serbia. Pin not preserved. Length: 3,8 cm. (Pl. I/7) (Vasić 1999, 112, Taf. 56/1058).
8. Bronze hinged fibula from the devastated mound in Momišići near Podgorica, Montenegro. Pin partially preserved. Length: 3,5 cm. (Pl. I/8) (Велимировић-Жижић 1966, 196-197, Сл. 25/а.).
9. Bronze hinged fibula from the Mound III at the Rudine-Rusanovići site, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Pin not preserved. (Pl. I/9) (Benac, Čović 1957, 24-25, Т. XXXXIX/6).
10. Refer to Cat. No. 9. (Т. Pl/10) (Benac, Čović 1957, 24-25, Т. XXXXIX/7).
11. Refer to Cat.No. 9. (Т. Pl/11) (Benac, Čović 1957, 24-25, Т. XXXXIX/8).
12. Refer to Cat.No. 9. (Т. Pl/12) (Benac, Čović 1957, 24-25, Т. XXXXIX/9).
13. Bronze hinged fibula from Velmej, Macedonia. Pin not preserved. Length: 3,8 cm. (Pl. I/13) (Vasić 1999, 112, Taf. 56/1052)
14. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from Demir Kapija, Macedonia. Pin not preserved. Length: 3,5cm. (Pl. I/14) (Соколовска 1975, 188, Т. III/4).
15. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from the Tri Čeljusti site, Macedonia. Pin not preserved. (Pl. I/15) (Маленко 1975, 142, Сл.15).
16. Bronze hinged fibula from the Gradište-Knežje site. Macedonia. Pin not preserved. (Pl. I/16) (Митревски 2016, 43-49, Сл. 376/7).
17. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from grave 20 at the Kaldrma site near Prilep, Macedonia. Pin not preserved. (Pl. II/17) (Китаноски 1975, 107, Т. X/292).
18. Refer to Cat. No.17. (Pl. II/18) (Китаноски 1975, 107, Т. X/373).
19. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from grave 34 at the Kaldrma site near Prilep, Macedonia. Pin not preserved. (Pl. II/19) (Китаноски 1975, 107, Т. XII/337).
20. Bronze hinged fibula from the Zagrad site near Prilep, Macedonia. Pin not preserved. Length: 3,2 cm. (Pl. II/20) (Китаноски 1966, 3, Т. II/ 18).
21. Refer to Cat. No. 20. Length: 3,1 cm. (Pl. II/21) (Китаноски 1966, 3, Т. II/19).
22. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from the Zagrad site near Prilep, Macedonia. Pin not preserved. Length: 3,1 cm. (Pl. II/22) (Китаноски 1966, 3, Т. II/21).
23. Refer to Cat. No. 22. Length: 2,9 cm. (Pl. II/23) (Китаноски 1966, 3, Т. II/22).
24. Refer to Cat. No. 22. Length: 2,8 cm. (Pl. II/24) (Китаноски 1966, 3, Т. II/23).
25. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from the Zagrad site near Prilep, Macedonia. Pin not preserved. Length: 3,7 cm. (Pl. II/25) (Китаноски 1966, 3, Т. II/25).
26. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from the Zagrad site near Prilep, Macedonia. Pin partially preserved. Length: 3,5 cm. (Pl. II/26) (Китаноски 1966, 3, Т. II/26).
27. Bronze hinged fibula from the vicinity of Almyros, Greece. Pin not preserved. Length: 2,9 cm. (Pl. II/27) (Kilian 1975, 156, Taf. 59/1747).
28. Bronze hinged fibula from the Halae site, Greece. Pin not preserved. (Pl. II/28) (Goldman 1940, 420, Fig. 71/4).
29. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from the Pernik site, Bulgaria. Pin not preserved. Length: 4,5 cm. (Pl. II/29) (Чангова 1981, 76-77, Сл. 31/2).
30. Partially preserved bronze hinged fibula from the Donje Selce (*Basse-Selce*) site, Albania. Pin not preserved. (Pl. II/30) (Сека 1972, 173-174, Pl. VIII/4).
31. Bronze hinged fibula from the Podgradec (Podrgradecit) site, Albania. Pin not preserved. (Pl. II/31) (Anamali 1980, Tab. VI/1).
32. Bronze hinged fibula from unknown site, Serbia (?). Pin not preserved.(Pl. III/32).
33. Refer to Cat. No. 32. (Pl. III/33).
34. Bronze hinged fibula from unknown site, Serbia (?). Pin not preserved. (Pl. III/34).
35. Bronze hinged fibula from the Volarsko polje site, Serbia. Length: 3,1 cm (Fig. 2/1) (Анђелић 2017, Т. 12/3).
36. Refer to Cat No. 32. Length: 2,7 cm (Fig. 2/2) (Анђелић 2017, Т. 12/4).

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List of authors / Списак аутора

Stefan Alexandrov
National Institute of Archaeology and Museum
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
2 Saborna Str.
1000 Sofia, Bulgaria
stefanalexandrov@abv.bg

Dragana Antonović
Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade
Knez Mihailova 35/IV
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
d.antonovic.960@gmail.com

Tiberius Bader
Max Eyth Str. 12
71282 Hemmingen, Deutschland
tib.bader@web.de

Martina Blečić Kavur
Univerza na Primorskem, Fakulteta za
humanistične študije, Titov trg 5
6000 Koper, Slovenia
martina.blecic.kavur@upr.si

Jan Bouzek
Charles University
Smetanovo nábřeží 6
11001 Prague, Czech Republic
Jan.Bouzek@ff.cuni.cz

Dragan Božić
Znanstvenoraziskovalni center SAZU
Inštitut za arheologijo
Novi trg 2
SI-1000 Ljubljana, Slovenija
dragan.bozic@zrc-sazu.si

Игорь Викторович Брюяко
Одесский археологический музей
Национальной академии наук Украины
Ланжероновская ул.4
65026 Одесса, Украина
ibruyako@yandex.ru

Aleksandar Bulatović
Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade
Knez Mihailova 35/IV
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
abulatovic3@gmail.com

Marko Dizdar
Institute of Archaeology
Ljudevita Gaja 32
10000 Zagreb, Croatia
marko.dizdar@iarh.hr

Katarina Dmitrović
Narodni muzej Čačak
Cara Dušana 1
32000 Čačak, Serbia
katarina.dmitrovic@gmail.com

Aca Đorđević
National Museum in Belgrade
Trg Republike 1a
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
a.djordjevic@narodnimuzej.rs

Vojislav Filipović
Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade
Knez Mihailova 35/IV
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
vfilipov1@gmail.com

Blagoje Govedarica
Institut für Prähistorische Archäologie
der FU Berlin, c/o Eurasien Abteilung des DAI
Im Dol 2-6, Haus II
14195 Berlin, Germany
blagoje.govedarica@dainst.de

Mitja Guštin
profemeritus
Pusterla 7
6330 Piran, Slovenia
mitja.gustin@upr.si

✠ **Bernhard Hänsel**
Institut für Prähistorische Archäologie,
Freie Universität
Fabeckstraße 23-25
14195 Berlin, Deutschland

Aleksandar Kapuran
Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade
Knez Mihailova 35/IV
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
a.kapuran@gmail.com

Boris Kavur
Univerza na Primorskem, Fakulteta za
humanistične študije, Titov trg 5
6000 Koper, Slovenia
boris.kavur@upr.si

Jovan Koledin
Muzej Vojvodine
Dunavska 35
21000 Novi Sad, Srbija
jovan.koledin@muzejvojvodine.org.rs

List of authors / Списак аутора

Мирослав Д. Лазич
Универзитет у Београду, Филозофски факултет,
Одељење за археологију, Археолошка збирка
Чика Љубина 18-20
11000 Београд, Србија
mdlazic@gmail.com

Ljuben Leshtakov
National Institute of Archaeology with Museum,
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Sofia, 2 Saborna str.
1000 Sofia, Bulgaria
l_leshtakow@abv.bg

Marija Ljuština
Univerzitet u Beogradu, Filozofski fakultet
Odeljenje za arheologiju
Čika-Ljubina 18-20
11000 Beograd
mljustin@f.bg.ac.rs

Daria Ložnjak Dizdar
Institut za arheologiju
Ljudevita Gaja 32
10000 Zagreb, Hrvatska
dldizdar@iarh.hr

Predrag Medović
Narodnog fronta 71
21000 Novi Sad, Serbia

Dragi Mitrevski
Ss. Cyril and Methodius University
blvd. Goce Delcev 9
1000 Skopje, Macedonia
dragimit@yahoo.com

Ognjen Đ. Mladenović
Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade
Knez Mihailova 35/IV
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
mladenovic40@gmail.com

Kristina Mihovilić
Arheološki muzej Istre
Carrarina ulica 3
52100 Pula, Hrvatska
kristina.mihovilic@ami-pula.hr

Barry Molloy
School of Archaeology
University College Dublin
Newman Building
Dublin 4, Ireland
barrymolloy@gmail.com

Јовица Станковски
Т. Думба 88/4-21
1100 Куманово, Македонија
stankovskijovica@yahoo.com

Milorad Stojić
Milutina Milankovića 28
11000 Beograd, Srbija
milestojic@gmail.com

Marija Svilar
Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade
Knez Mihailova 35/IV
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
marijasvilar@yahoo.com

Josip Šarić
Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade
Knez Mihailova 35/IV
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
josips@eunet.rs

Biba Teržan
Filozofska fakulteta, Univerza v Ljubljani
Aškerčeva cesta 2
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
biba.terzan@ff.uni-lj.si

Денис Топал
Универзитет «Высшая антропологическая школа»
Зимбрулуй 10а
2024 Кишинев, Молдова
denis.topal@gmail.com

Selena Vitezović
Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade
Knez Mihailova 35/IV
11000 Belgrade, Serbia
selenavitezovic@gmail.com