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THE EUROPEANISATION OF SOCIOLOGY? A BIBLIOMETRIC COMPARISON OF *DRUŽBOSLOVNE RAZPRAVE* AND *ÖSTERREICHISCHE ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR SOZIOLOGIE*

ABSTRACT

This paper investigates the impact of Europeanisation dynamics on the formation and development of sociology in Slovenia and Austria. Compared are problem choice in research areas, topics, and the language of citations of sociological knowledge published in two sociology journals, Družboslovne razprave *and* Österreichische Zeitschrift für Soziologie *over a 30-year period (1986–2015). Methodologically, the bibliometric analysis of journals was undertaken as a study entailing two distinct phases and methods of comparison. The empirical findings indicate that society's structural change, political transformation and European integration have been subject to much more research among Slovenian sociologists than among their Austrian colleagues.*

KEYWORDS: comparative sociology, bibliometrics, Slovenia, Austria, Europeanisation

Evropeizacija sociologije? Bibliometrična primerjava revij Družboslovne razprave in *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Soziologie*

IZVLEČEK

Pričujoči prispevek raziskuje vpliv evropeizacijske dinamike na oblikovanje in razvoj sociologije v Sloveniji in Avstriji. Primerja izbiro problemov na različnih področjih raziskovanja, teme in jezik citiranja sociološke vednosti, ki so bili objavljeni v dveh sociooloških revijah, Družboslovne razprave *in* Österreichische Zeitschrift für Soziologie *v zadnjih tridesetih letih (1986–2015). Metodološko gledano, je bibliometrična analiza revij izpeljana kot študija dveh različnih obdobij in metod primerjave. Empirični podatki nakazujejo, da so bile strukturne družbene spremembe, politične transformacije in evropske integracije veliko*

pogosteje raziskovane teme pri slovenskih sociologinjah in sociologih, kot je bil to primer med avstrijskimi kolegi in kolegicami.

KLJUČNE BESEDE: primerjalna sociologija, bibliometrika, Slovenija, Avstrija, evropeizacija

1 Introduction

When Slavoj Žižek reflected on the notion of the neighbour, he recognized that the term is often used 'to serve as a test of the meaning of affiliation, membership, or community insofar as the commandment seems to require a relationship or affective bond of some sort between the other and the self' (Žižek 2005: 6). Žižek went on to ask whether that commandment 'calls us to expand the range of our identifications or does it urge us to come closer, become answerable to, an alterity that remains radically inassimilable?' (Žižek 2005: 7). Taking a neighbour's view thus seems to imply acting vis-à-vis an other's society from a position of middle-range distance or scope, balancing between two poles: neither, on the one hand being intimately familiar as an insider with the respective community, nor on the other hand qualifying as 'the perfect stranger', invisible, unknown, subject to the anonymity of modern societies. The notion of neighbourhood is frequently at stake when talking about European integration. Developing a neighbour's view here may qualify as a pragmatic device for comparing two neighbouring countries and their sociological communities in terms of the social knowledge they produce.

The historical formation of the social sciences and humanities has been bound to the rise of the nation state. Thus, there are reasons to assume that scholarly communities of sociologists in the neighbouring countries Slovenia and Austria rely on historically grown intellectual preferences concerning problem choice in scientific knowledge production. 'National traditions of sociology' (Genov 1989) refer to particular research themes or 'foci of interest' (Merton 1938) relevant to a respective nation state, its society and public discourse. Within the international division of labour in sociology, these research sites indicate the particular intellectual resources of a country, in terms of problem choice, theoretical 'schools' and methodological traditions that may become of interest to international communities as well.[1] The general assumption here is that path-dependent national traditions of sociology are subject to Europeanization and more general internationalization pressures towards professionalization of the discipline; in reverse they may also be capable of feeding these dynamics towards an increasing Europeanization of research in sociology.

1. To mention an example: The Austrian Marienthal study on psychosocial effects of long-term unemployment (Jahoda et al. 1933), written by Marie Jahoda, Paul F. Lazarsfeld and Hans Zeisel in the early 1930s, has been bound to locally specific historical contexts and needs, but also mirrored a political interest in a research field of international scope. All three authors emigrated in the 1930s, and the Nazi-regime prevented the reception of the study for a long time. However, the relevance of the local study's findings for politically relevant research was an important condition for its more widespread reception in sociology after the Second World War (Nowotny 1983).

This paper pursues the question whether there exists any potential impact of European integration on the professionalization of sociology as a scientific discipline and in particular on the content of knowledge produced. Which commonalities and differences in problem choice are observed when comparing the corpus of sociological knowledge generated in the two neighbouring countries? How have they evolved over the last three decades, as potential intellectual continuities, or rather indicating change in research interest instead? Can the latter causally be attributed to time-specific effects of more general dynamics of European integration and Europeanization in societies at large?

These questions are analysed by investigating two leading sociological journals in Slovenia and Austria, the *Družboslovne razprave* (DR) and the Österreichische *Zeitschrift für Soziologie* (ÖZS). The research interest is in bibliometrically comparing the corpus of sociological knowledge incorporated in these journals over three decades (1986–2015). It can be assumed that intellectual continuities and changes in problem choice mirror more general internationalization pressures to which scholars accordingly adapted in their publication practices. The main research interest here, however, is how and to what extent research issues of potential 'European concern', as a result of Europeanization processes in knowledge production, are reflected in these two journals. Choosing *Družboslovne razprave* (DR) and Österreichische *Zeitschrift für Soziologie* (ÖZS) for investigating sociological knowledge content more in detail, is justified since both are official organs of the respective national sociological associations and thus among the most important for researchers' communities in the two neighbour states.

2 The Many Uses of Europeanization in Science

In European integration theory, a distinction is usually made between 'neo-functionalist' or 'vertical' approaches towards understanding integration on the one hand, and 'transactionalist' or 'horizontal' approaches on the other hand. The former are associated with the oeuvre of Ernst B. Haas (1958), who considers regional and European integration evolving as a process of supranational institution-building. In this sense, the notion of Europeanization indicates the adding of a supranational level to institutional fields that were previously mainly subject to legal and political regulations within the borders of the nation states. The analytical core of the notion of Europeanization thus entails the complex relationship of the supranational and the national level of social institutions and the social consequences of the former towards the latter (Bach 1996). Conversely, 'transactionalists' such as Karl W. Deutsch et al. (1957) have interpreted transnational practices of interaction across European border regions as the social foundation of integration processes. Approaches towards Europeanization developing as a bottom-up process through social practices of interaction in everyday life (Delanty and Rumford 2005) often regard the region as the central unit of restructuring European territories. In addition, public perceptions of EU accessions and social scientific discourses on Europeanization often very much depend on the respective country context and its particular history of European integration. Raković recently argued that Europeanization processes can also be considered as a 'rite of passage' of an imagined Europe, and as 'a ritualized myth building process employed for

the sake of European unity, and for the purpose of overcoming the flaws and foibles of the European existence, and aiming at survivance' (Raković 2013: 114).

How can the notion of Europeanization be fruitfully applied to the field of science and research, in particular to sociology? An interest in how European policies led to structural transformations of sociology as a scientific discipline[2] needs to consider the characteristics of a scientific discipline and its process of institutionalization and professionalization. In his reflection of the historical formation and development of intellectual traditions in sociology, Shils (1970) mentioned three central indicators for the existence and status of a discipline's institutionalization. First, a discipline requires students to whom the new knowledge is taught, usually in the academic context of a university. Second, a public interest in sponsoring research done in that field of (social) science is required, articulated either by a governmental ministry or other funding institution. Third, scholars of that discipline communicate their work and scientific findings in joint publication organs such as journals recognized as specific ones for the respective discipline.

Shils' general indicators for the existence of scientific disciplines can usefully be applied to the case of sociology prior to analysing whether any Europeanization effects occurred in its process of formation and development. While the first indicator that a discipline must be taught to students is affected by institutionalizing the Bologna Reform Process in higher education, the second applies to sociologists' participation in European research funding structures such as the Research Framework Programmes.[3] In this paper, the analysis of Europeanization effects on sociology focuses on considering Shils' third indicator, underscoring the importance of scientific communication among scholars, when comparatively investigating two leading sociology journals located in European neighbourhoods.

3 Previous Research on Sociology Journals

In the *Sociology of Science*, Robert K. Merton considered science as a social institution in which a community's collective endeavour provides reward and reputation for scientific achievements on a meritocratic basis (Merton 1973). Based on the invention of the Social Science Citation Index in the late 1960s, the publication behaviour of 'invisible colleges' of scientists, communicating and networking through their work, became empirically measurable (Price 1963). Merton's former students at Columbia University were among the first to apply citation analyses in order to evaluate the 'perceived quality' of scientific knowledge (Cole and Cole 1973). However, with good reasons there is raised the objection that in sociological studies of science the use of databases such as Thomson Reuters' Web of Knowledge remains severely limited because of its many biases in terms of region and

2. Recall that sociologists from both countries were also active in founding the European Sociological Association, as a supranational professional association of sociologists, at the beginning of the 1990s. There can be observed a rather long history of transnational cooperation among sociologists and social sciences in Slovenia and Austria, independent from the accessions of these countries as new member states to the European Union in 1995 and in 2004 respectively.
3. For a comparative analysis of these two institutional indicators of Europeanization, see Hoenig (2009).

language, still insufficiently covering knowledge produced in the social sciences, arts and humanities (Hicks 2006). Historical sociology reconstructs the enfolding of distinct journals within their respective contexts, such as Abbott's path-breaking analysis of the Chicago School, underscoring that the development of scientific journals can be understood as part of an academic discipline's professionalization process (Abbott 1999).

Concerning bibliometric analyses on sociological journals in Slovenia and Austria, a long-term analysis of Slovene journal *Teorija in Praksa* has been undertaken by Kramberger and Jug (2004). Their time-sensitive analysis covered about 80 per cent of all journal articles published over four decades. In particular, they focused on the changing contribution of different disciplines or social scientific (sub-)fields to the in-house journal of the Faculty of Social Sciences (FDV) over time, finding a strong increase in contributions from political science. Mali (1996), Mali et al. (2010), Ferligoj et al. (2015) and Groboljšek et al. (2014) compared Slovenia's social sciences and humanities with the natural and life sciences, in particular concerning co-authorship networks. Despite the increasing relevance of co-authorship across all disciplines, they observed divergent patterns of collaboration networks by field, such that, in contrast to natural scientists, social scientists who co-operate with colleagues from abroad are less likely to co-author papers with colleagues at home. For the social sciences in Central and East European countries, Mali (2011) more generally identifies great expectations towards an anticipated breakthrough in international productivity whereas the latter can only be understood by reference to the existence or lack of institutional support and national contexts of evaluation systems of public science.

The Österreichische *Zeitschrift für Soziologie* has been analysed by Crothers (2000), who compared its content with sociological knowledge produced on a global scale. Particular strengths of Austrian sociology were a quantitatively strong interest in the history of sociology, indicating that Austrian sociologists often work in the shadows of an illustrious past of the discipline in their country. Fleck (2001) has scrutinized the professional status of authors that have published articles in the ÖZS between 1976 and 2001. He found that among ÖZS authors the proportion of researchers outside universities steadily declined (from 24% to 3%), along with declining proportions of women (from 26% to 22%) and young researchers (from 45% to 10%). In reverse, the proportion of authors with higher status has strongly increased, including sociologists with tenure (from 12% to 61%) and guest authors affiliated to universities abroad (from 7% to 48%). Reichmann (2011) extended that analysis 10 years later with a focus on modified patterns of co-authorship indicating a changing scientific publication culture of science in general.

4 Research Design: A Bibliometric Comparison in Two Phases of Study

The bibliometric comparison of *Družboslovne razprave* and the Österreichische *Zeitschrift fuer Soziologie* [Austrian Journal of Sociology] has been undertaken as a comparative investigation in two phases of study. In Phase One, the investigation considered the relative status of the two journals for researchers affiliated to sociology departments in the common border region Slovenia and Southern Austria. In addition, sociologists' citation

practices and language-orientation in terms of cited literature were analysed, as well as journal content in terms of problem choice, country-profiles and time-dependent effects, the latter potentially related to Europeanization. This has been undertaken in the second half of the 2000s in the context of a more encompassing examination of Europeanization processes in Slovenia and Austria.

Apart from bibliometrics, historical comparative analyses of two public science systems, documentary analyses of changing study curricula in light of the Bologna Reform Process, and analyses of research projects funded by the European Research Framework Programmes have been applied. In addition, more than 20 in-depth interviews were conducted with sociologists affiliated to five university departments of sociology and three external research institutes in the common border region of Slovenia and Southern Austria.[4] The first phase of the bibliometric study was based on hard copy search of sociological publications only, including a) all publications of researchers affiliated to these five university departments who at least have received a PhD, and b) a comparison of the two journals' content from 1986 up until 2007. In interviews with sociologists, the latter have also been asked to interpret country-specific findings of bibliometric analyses from their professional perspective.

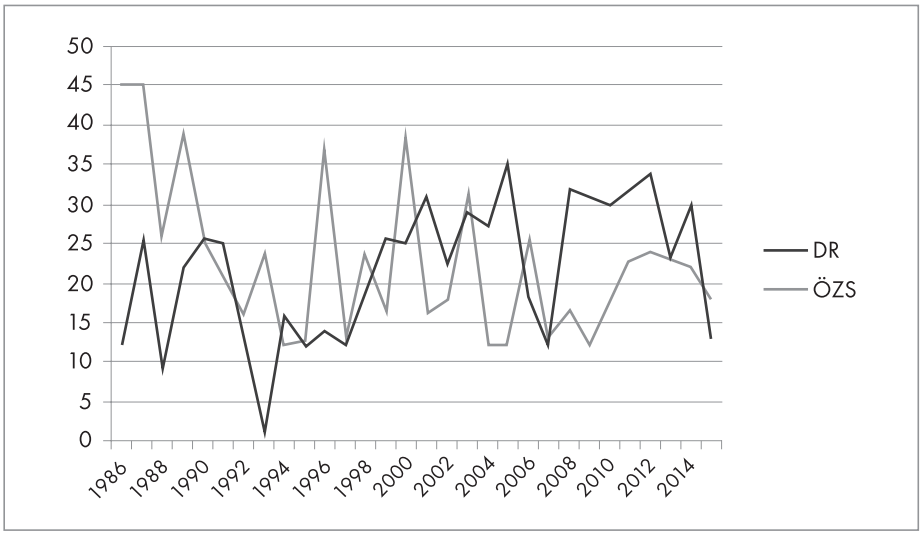
For the three departments in Slovenia (FDV Ljubljana, FF Ljubljana, Maribor), we relied on publication lists available at the national virtual bibliographical system COBISS (status: 31/12/2007). For the two Austrian university departments (Graz, Klagenfurt) publication lists were available on the respective departmental webpage, some of them as full, some of them as incomplete lists.[5] During the first phase of study, the two journals were only insufficiently covered by Sociological Abstracts.[6] Since a solely electronic research would be incomplete and result in inadequate findings, the literature search and resulting bibliometric analyses were performed mainly by hand, taking the hard copy versions of the complete set of primary sources into account. Therefore, in a second step comparing article content of the two journals, a manual investigation of all issues of the respective journals was undertaken in the Jože Goričar library in Ljubljana and the library of the

4. The institutional sample comprised five university departments of sociology: Fakulteta za družbene vede (FDV) Ljubljana, Filozofska fakulteta (FF) Ljubljana, Maribor, Graz, Klagenfurt, and three external research institutes: the Mirovni Institut, the Interuniversitäres Forschungszentrum Graz (IFZ), and the Fakultät für interdisziplinäre Forschung und Fortbildung Klagenfurt (IFF). IFZ and IFF meanwhile became formally integrated in the respective universities. Findings of the comparative historical analysis and of the interviews are reported in Hoenig (2012).
5. Unfortunately, sociology in Austria does not provide an electronic database comparable to COBISS. Reporting requirements at national level were introduced in the late 2000s in the context of universities' intellectual capital reports (Wissensbilanzen) vis- -vis the ministry, while the standardization of documentary systems across universities is still rather low.
6. In 2008, the international electronic database of formerly Cambridge Sociological Abstracts (now Sociological Abstracts Proquest) was rather poor, covering comparable data for both sociology journals from 1995 up until 2001 only. Even now, Sociological Abstracts covers DR data from the year 1995 onwards only. In other words, the problem with a solely electronic research by the Sociological Abstracts database lies in its inadequacy for identifying articles published prior to 1995 (DR) and after 2001 (DR and ÖZS).

University of Graz. To identify any long-term change in research content it was necessary to identify a sufficiently broad time-window.[7] Thus, the sample included original scientific articles published between 1986 and 2007, but excluded research notes and book reviews. It included 434 articles of DR and 508 articles of ÖZS, in sum 942 journal articles for Phase One (1986–2007).

In Phase Two, these initial results were then complemented and compared with a comparative analysis of the two journals, as indexed in the Sociological Abstracts database. Coverage of Sociological Abstracts has substantively increased in the last decade, now entailing articles for both journals from 1995 up until 2015. Thus, I was able to run a follow-up study of our previous investigation, complementing long-term findings from Phase One, at the same time comparing previous data to the more recent ones, both methodologically and in terms of empirical results. In Phase Two of the study, I relied on the Sowiport Gesis electronic portal (URL sowiport.gesis.org) that is fed by several databases, among them Sociological Abstracts. Since the database does not make a distinction between scientific articles and research notes, the number of articles has been corrected manually, excluding ÖZS research notes. This decision reduced the number of articles to a quantitatively comparable sample of 659 DR articles and 664 ÖZS articles for the time-span 1995–2015 (total n = 1,323 articles). Synthesizing samples from these two phases of study, I present and discuss comparative bibliometric data on sociological knowledge published in these two journals over three decades (1986–2015).

Graph 1. Distribution of DR and ÖZS articles over time, 1986–2015, in n of articles by year (n = 1,323).



7. This is also in line with Abbott's suggestion that an intellectual paradigm in sociology on average lasts for about 25 to 30 years, corresponding to the median duration of a sociology professor's affiliation to the university (Abbott 2001).

The distribution of articles over both phases is shown in Graph 1; on average 22 articles per year were published in DR and in ÖZS respectively. The distribution over time was relatively homogeneous, except for the fact that in 1993 no DR volumes were published, and in the 1980s the number of articles was greater in ÖZS than in the following years in which research notes were introduced in a new section. Peaks in the ÖZS distribution indicate special issues that were frequently published as supplements to particular research themes from the mid-1990s up until the mid-2000s.

The cognitive content of articles published in DR and ÖZS has been analysed with a focus on country-specific differences and potential changes in time from 1986 up to 2015. Journal content has been analysed by extracting a set of keywords or codes from articles' titles and abstracts that were available in the respective vernacular and in English respectively. The set of keywords mainly derived from the classification system of the International Sociological Association's (ISA) sociology sections (URL isa.org), using keywords mentioned in section titles as search terms. In Phase One of the study, we were also interested in empirical methods and theoretical paradigms, sociological key theorists mentioned and in the language-orientation of cited references. In Phase Two of the study, we have also taken research themes indicated by Sociological Abstracts into account, insofar as they corresponded with these previously defined ISA keywords.

5 A Transnational Case Study: Comparing the Two Sociology Journals

Družboslovne raprave was founded in 1984 at the time of the awakening civil society in Slovenia, and was edited both by the Slovene Sociological Association SSD and the Institute of Sociology.[8] Inter-disciplinary social scientific researchers dedicated the journal to the Institute, which had been founded in 1959, later on the Institute of Sociology and Philosophy located in Ljubljana. The Institute has been located outside universities and therefore differed from academic sociology taught at the FDV faculty, in its exclusive focus on research. After the independence of Slovenia in 1991 the Institute was closed; half of the staff went to the FDV, half either took retirement, or remained without a job. '*Družboslovne razprave* was a heritage which they brought with them ... as given from open minded sociologists not to forget that it was from the Institute' (from an interview). After 1991, several social scientific disciplines in Slovenia founded more specialized English-speaking journals, which was also supported by a general trend of enforced qualification requirements to primarily focus on English-language journals. Since 1991, DR has been edited by the Slovenian Sociological Association and by the Faculty of the Social Sciences (FDV). Printing regularly three times a year, volumes are also available online and contain scientific articles, translations, book reviews and event reports.

The journal Österreichische *Zeitschrift für Soziologie* was founded in 1976. Quite similar to DR, it initially considered itself in contrast to academic sociology, so that the journal

8. This part is based on the DR website and on in-depth interviews with several sociologists affiliated to sociology departments in Slovenia. The interviews were conducted in spring 2008.

for a long time was dominated by authors located at small research institutes outside the academe. The goal of the editors of these times was 'to express the variety of theoretical and methodological positions ... finding their basis in social problems occurring in this country' (Balog and Cyba 2001: 10ff., translation added). From the 1980s onwards, a shift in focus from mainly empirical studies, done to a large extent in social policy research, towards more theory-oriented contributions in cultural studies has been observed (ibid.). According to the editors, sociology as an instrument of a rational societal reform should also have an impact on the development of the discipline as empirical, critical science (Balog and Cyba 2001: 18). Since both intentions, however, did not always merge, the section of research notes for widening the journal's empirical scope has been introduced. On the occasion of the journal's 25th anniversary, former editors critically reflected that not all initial missions towards strengthening a critical forum for young scholars and the more general public have been met (Balog and Cyba 2001). Edited by the board of the Austrian Sociological Association, ÖZS volumes are published four times a year and are also available online. Subject to publication are scientific articles, research notes as descriptions of current projects, introduced in the 1990s, comments on events, and book reviews. Its target groups are sociologists and scholars from neighbour disciplines.

6 Relative Importance, Journal Clusters, and Language-Orientation in Citation Practices, 1986–2008

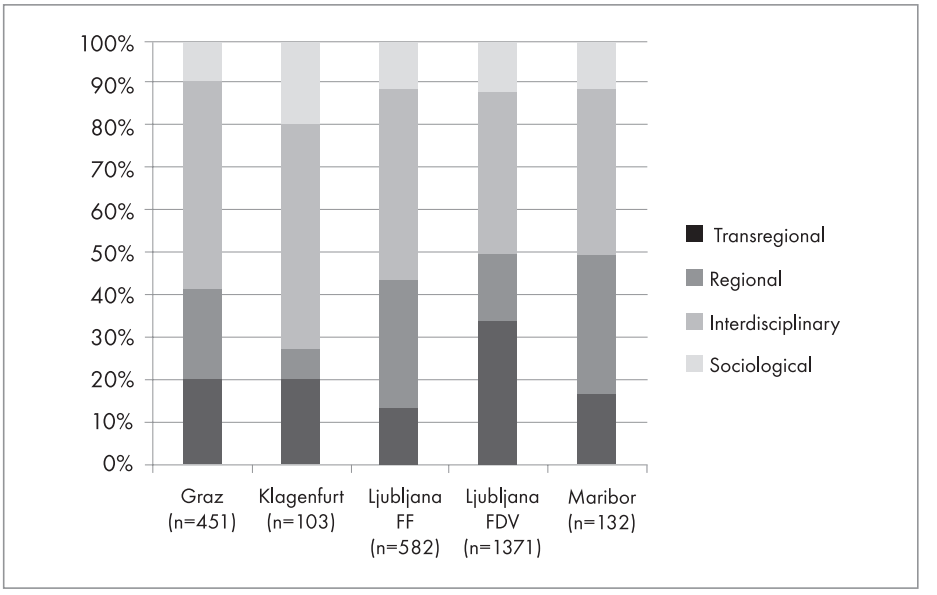
In which journals do sociologists in Slovenia and Austria actually publish, and what is it about the relative importance of DR and ÖZS among all journals that attract sociologists as authors? Based on the universal set of journal articles[9] produced by university-based sociologists in the border region, in Phase One of the study journals were identified and clustered. This led to estimating the relative domestic importance of the two sociology journals as a subset of the entire field of knowledge production in the region. Of all articles published by staff affiliated to Ljubljana FDV department, 12.6% found their way into DR (total n = 1,371), but only 4.5% of articles from Maribor department (total n = 132) and 2.1% of Ljubljana FF department (total n = 582) were published in the same journal. Compared to ÖZS, 7.1% of publications written by staff from Graz department (total n = 451) and 5.8% of Klagenfurt staff (total n = 103) were published in the same journal. Huge differences in staff numbers, availability of publication data and the higher importance of monographs and book sections for sociologists of these times, contribute to explaining remarkable differences in the absolute number of publications of Slovene versus Austrian sociology departments; relative frequencies thus are expected to give more adequate results.

These journals were clustered in four groups indicating the respective intended audience of readers, entailing either sociological or inter-disciplinarily oriented journals, and journals of either regional or trans-regional scope. Clusters of journals were obtained

9. The universal set included scientific and professional articles published in DR, and scientific articles, excluding research notes, published in ÖZS.

by defining 'sociological' journals as those in which the discipline is either mentioned in the journal's title (e.g. *Soziologie*, *Sociologija*, *American Sociological Review*) or on the background knowledge that these journals play a particular role in the institutionalization of sociology in the respective countries (such as *Družboslovne Razprave* and *Teorija in Praksa*). Conversely, 'inter-disciplinary' journals lacked these distinct features; their titles often refer to social sciences in general or to neighbouring disciplines (e.g. *Ethik und Sozialwissenschaft*, *Časopis za kritiko znanosti*). 'Regional' journals were identified by their place of publication in the respective country, border region, and by the vernacular language used (Slovene respectively German). 'Trans-regional' journals were identified by the publisher being located outside the two countries, being published in other languages than the vernacular, and showing an explicitly trans-regional orientation indicated by title keywords such as 'European' and 'international'. Based on a simple frequency count of journal articles, respective results are given in Graph 2.

Graph 2. Clusters of journals by university department, in relative frequencies of journal articles (n = 2,639).

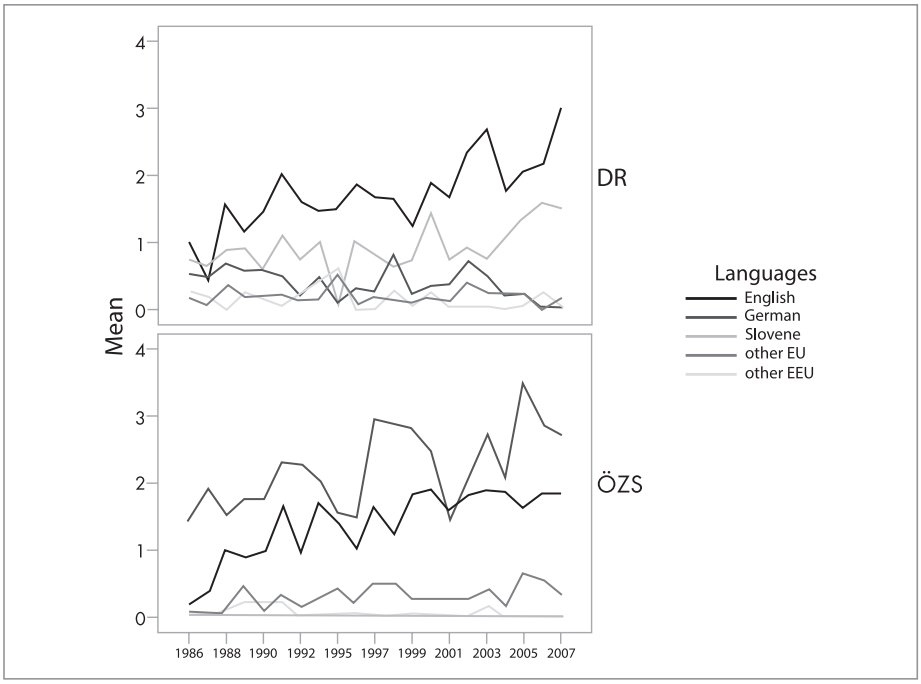


Data in Graph 2 show that staff of FDV was more strongly inclined towards explicit sociological journals (34%), whereas staff of FF (31%) and Maribor University (35%) published more in journals of multi- and inter-disciplinary scope. Graz and Klagenfurt did not very much depart in their share of publications in sociology journals (each 19%), but the former department's staff also published much in multi-disciplinary journals (23%). Concerning geographical scope, publishing in regional journals of the vernacular was predominant among all departments (with values between 38% and 51%), whereas trans-regional journals' share was between 9% and 20%. Klagenfurt department's respective high share may also be a result of the early inclusion of foreign sociologists from Germany in its research staff.

The most important sociology journals in a Slovene context were *Teorija in praksa*, *Družboslovne razprave*, and *Nova revija*, apart from the Serbian journal Časopis *Sociologija*, located in Beograd, and the French journal *Annales*, while most relevant sociology journals in an Austrian context were Österreichische *Zeitschrift für Soziologie* and the *Kriminalsoziologische Bibliographie* and the German journals *Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie*, *Journal für Sozialforschung*, and *Soziologische Revue*. (Trans-)regional journals of some importance to both Slovene and Austrian researchers were the journals *Innovation* and the Österreichische *Zeitschrift für Politikwissenschaft*, *European Societies* and *International Sociology*.

In addition, I was interested in the citing practices of researchers and their respective language affiliations as readers of sociology, mirrored in citing research literature published in the national or in other languages. In identifying citations' languages, I did not refer to languages of translations but to the anticipated original language-community of the researcher. In both journals, articles' mean number of citations was apparently increasing over time, and the share of English literature cited was increasing as well. Concerning language-orientation, however, DR authors primarily refer to literature published in English, to a much greater extent than to any other language. Up until 2004, apart from Slovene language, DR authors also cited literature published in German, in other European languages such as French and Italian, or in additional East European languages such as post-Yugoslav languages, Russian or Hungarian.

Graph 3. Articles' citations in two journals, by language, year, and mean number of citations per article (1: 1–10 citations; 2: 11–20 citations; 3: 21–30 citations).



This finding indicates a high international orientation of the Slovene sociological community towards the Anglo-American sociology discourse, which might also result from the constant need of a small language community to internationalize itself. Conversely, ÖZS authors were primarily citing scholarly work published in German, although references towards literature published in English increased. Parallel to the latter, and apart from the respective national language, other European languages seem to have declined in importance among authors of both journals.

7 Country-Profiles and Time-Dependent Effects in the Corpus of Sociological Knowledge, 1986–2015

What about identifying specific 'national traditions' in the corpus of sociological knowledge published in DR and ÖZS respectively? Findings that indicate certain strengths, preferences or intellectual traditions in the respective sociological communities are given in Table 1. The fact that respective data partly depend on problem choice of journals' special issues, does not contradict the result that there exist research themes of particular interest to a national sociological community. In addition, it has to be taken into account that similar sociological topics may be differently addressed and enfold different meanings in the respective country context. For instance, articles published in DR frequently indicate different categories of change, whereas we seldom find any use of the notion of transformation; in the case of articles published in ÖZS, it seems to be the reverse. Nevertheless, it is assumed that issues of problem choice can be compared across country-contexts without too much loss of information.

Table 1. Country-profiles and time-dependent effects in the corpus of sociological knowledge, by journal and decade, in absolute numbers and per cent. DR: Družboslovne razprave, ÖZS: Österreichische Zeitschrift für Soziologie.

		DR					ÖZS				
Country profile / trajectory	Keywords	1986–1995	1996–2005	2006–2015	Total n	Total %	1986–1995	1996–2005	2006–2015	Total n	Total %
1. STRONG PROFILE in DR	Civil society	26	4	4	34	1.63	3	2	0	5	0.2
	Comparative	0	6	9	15	0.72	1	0	0	1	0.04
	Europe(an), including EE	30	37	29	96	4.59	14	26	25	65	2.62
	Identities	6	5	10	21	1.01	8	0	0	8	0.32
	Methodology	57	22	14	93	4.45	45	18	7	70	2.82
	National(ism), ethnicity	5	15	6	26	1.25	3	15	10	28	1.13
	Political (sociology)	74	87	64	225	10.78	28	2	59	89	3.59
	Poverty, welfare, social policy	40	33	20	93	4.45	17	6	21	44	1.77
	Stratification, elite	8	30	7	45	2.16	13	5	5	23	0.93
	Transformation, change	54	68	25	147	7.04	58	36	65	159	6.41
	Quality of life	21	18	1	40	1.92	1	0	0	1	0.04
	Youth	0	5	4	9	0.43	1	1	0	2	0.08
2. STRONG PROFILE in OZS	Deviance, control	0	11	7	18	0.86	2	31	27	60	2.42
	History (of sociology)	0	59	42	101	4.84	4	136	137	277	11.17
	Migration	0	5	0	5	0.24	14	5	31	50	2.02
	(Sociological) Theory	69	68	43	180	8.62	90	51	87	228	9.07
	Women, gender	7	30	17	54	2.59	51	44	46	141	5.69
3. STRONG INCREASE (both)	Communication, knowledge, culture	9	50	74	133	6.37	46	137	122	305	12.26
	Economics, economy	0	25	31	56	2.68	6	65	112	183	7.38

		DR					ÖZS				
Country profile / trajectory	Keywords	1986–1995	1996–2005	2006–2015	Total n	Total %	1986–1995	1996–2005	2006–2015	Total n	Total %
4. WEAK INCREASE (both)	Agriculture, food	0	1	4	5	0.24	3	5	7	15	0.6
	Education	2	7	8	17	0.81	7	12	13	32	1.29
	Environment	0	0	12	12	0.57	7	7	18	32	1.29
	Language	0	10	11	21	1.01	2	5	9	16	0.65
	Health	4	12	9	25	1.2	5	3	11	19	0.77
	(In-)Equality	10	15	13	38	1.82	8	10	30	48	1.94
	Organiza/ tion(s)	0	38	21	59	2.83	4	19	12	35	1.41
	(Social) Psychology	3	14	8	25	1.2	4	4	15	23	0.93
5. DECREASE (both)	Capitalism	36	11	9	56	2.68	40	26	27	93	3.75
6. INCREASE – DECREASE	Age(ing), demography	5	20	13	38	1.82	5	2	5	12	0.48
	Arts	2	10	10	22	1.05	6	9	6	21	0.85
	Family	7	19	27	53	2.54	10	8	13	31	1.25
	Religion	1	10	14	25	1.2	13	4	8	25	1.01
	Science, technology	10	54	30	94	4.5	53	25	19	97	3.91
	Work, labour	14	30	27	71	3.4	36	11	38	85	3.43
7. DECREASE – INCREASE	Democracy	37	21	2	60	2.87	11	42	37	90	3.63
	Population	3	5	0	8	0.38	0	8	10	18	0.73
	Region, urban	14	9	4	27	1.29	3	6	15	24	0.97
8. SMALL N, CONTINU-OUS	Law	0	5	1	6	0.29	1	4	4	9	0.36
	Leisure	3	3	2	8	0.38	0	0	1	1	0.04
	Sociotechnics	2	0	0	2	0.09	3	0	0	3	0.12
	Sport	0	4	3	7	0.33	7	0	3	10	0.4
	Terminology, conceptual	0	4	3	7	0.33	0	2	0	2	0.08
	Housing	2	8	1	11	0.53	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total codes, in n		561	888	639	2088	100.00	633	792	1055	2480	100.00

Slovenian sociology incorporated in DR gave very high proportions of knowledge produced in political sociology, when compared to the Austrian journal ÖZS (10.8% vs. 3.6%). This might partly reflect DR's more inter-disciplinary orientation, including contributions from political science; partly it may result from field-specific intellectual specialization and the high societal relevance of corresponding problem choice. Of continuing importance in DR across all three decades are European integration (4.6% vs. 2.6%) and

issues indicating social, economic and political change and structural transformations in general.

The first decade in which the state of Slovenia gained independence has been characterized by a pronounced sociological interest in political change and the 'civil society' concept, but also in research on regional and urban development. In addition, research themes on poverty, the welfare state, and social policy issues were flourishing, apart from research on quality of life; they continued to be relevant in the second decade (1996–2005). The latter has also shown a deep interest of Slovene sociology in issues of social differentiation, stratification research and the explanation of elite-reproduction and circulation. Moreover, research on methodology and in particular comparative sociology was more pronounced in DR than in the ÖZS; the latter gains more relevance in an explicit European framework of sociological research (Haller 1990).

In which sense do these foci of research reflect transition processes of Slovene society, and in which sense do they indicate increasing Europeanization of research? It can be assumed that research in the civil society concept, in social stratification and in the transition of elites may more strongly be connected to transformations of Slovene society than to the processes of Europeanization that followed from Slovenia's independence. However, the latter has also supported a visible research interest of Slovene sociologists in topics of (East) European integration from the mid-1990s onwards, but also research on citizenship, nationalisms, and interethnic relations in particular from the 2000s onwards. The latter are seen as partly resulting from the break-up of former Yugoslavia and the catastrophic Balkan wars of the 1990s.

Table 1 does not give any evidence that the interest in (East) European integration has found a comparable resonance among Austrian sociologists. Neither has the scientific community in Austria reflected on major processes of political transformation, social stratification, and social change. Although Austria does not share the experience of Slovenia's rather recent stately independence and connected transition processes, the comparable lack of research on European integration in ÖZS is particularly surprising. Both Austria's EU accession in 1995 and the Eastern enlargement almost one decade later could have initiated much more sociological research on these issues. The relative ignorance of Austrian sociologists to phenomena of civil society and social stratification in interviews has been explained by some of them by an increasing neglected interest in theorizing class inequalities in favour of differences by gender, ethnicity, and sexual orientation. Anglophone cultural studies' discourse, but also recent research on economic sociology, apparently attracted increasing interest in both sociological communities.

So what about research topics and problem choice prominent in Austrian sociology? In ÖZS there can be observed a considerable interest in the history of sociology and also in sociological theory. Visible research in the sociology of education may indicate a rather indirect effect of Europeanization, in particular by the evolving Bologna Reform Process. In addition, high proportions of research on both gender and migration that did not find much interest among academic sociologists until recently, can be partly interpreted as a potential outcome of research funded by the EU's Framework Programmes, and thus as an indirect consequence of the Europeanization of public science systems.

8 Conclusions: Towards a Europeanization of Sociological Knowledge?

Both DR and ÖZS are national journals of the sociological communities, and they share specific characteristics, such as being broader in the range of subjects and being published in the national language. With increasing internationalization pressure on sociological communities they are thus discriminated against more specialized journals published in English language. Current changes in the social organization of the (social) sciences and in institutional requirements for qualification suggest that the publication behaviour of social scientists is also subject to cohort effects. A comparison of journal content across three decades revealed differences in intellectual traditions of sociology, depending on the respective societal conditions of the discipline as well. Cognitive continuities and change in problem choice at least partly reflect the causal effects of the Europeanization of the discipline and of science at large. It remains to be seen how and to what extent increasing processes of disintegration in the European Union will shape changing conditions of the social sciences in both member states and whether these foreshadowed transformations will attract the research interest of sociologists publishing in ÖZS and DR too.

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