

Editor's note

Social roles are like bridges on which the trajectories of individual biographies and the trajectories of social forces interact. Because of this, according to Ralf Dahrendorf, social role is the core concept of sociology. Social roles are defined by adequate norms and arranged in social institutions. We take up some of these roles entirely spontaneously, but for others, specific decisions are needed - whether these be our own or those of others. Decisions not only whether to accept the certain role, but also about the way in which those roles should be played, how they should be executed.

Social roles are like armours to individuality. They limit the space in which an individual can act, but also protect them and others from the risks of voluntarism. In times of profound societal changes, along with the disappearance of many old institutions and roles and birth of new ones, the dimensions of the armours framing the already established roles are changing. This gives the individual who is entering a certain role, space to demonstrate its own distinctiveness in playing that role. This also applies to the role of Editor-in-Chief of the Sociological Review and in the way in which I, as its executor, entered and play in that armour.

The Association of sociologists of the Republic of Macedonia (ZSM) elected me in this role in February 2019 and I officially overtook it in July 2019. This volume of the Sociological Review comes out almost a year and a half after my election, and a year after my official entering into the role. This is a resultant from the interactions of those two trajectories: my own trajectory (both personal and professional) and that of the institutions which define the role of Editor-in-Chief the Sociological Review: ZMS and the Institute of Sociology, and along with them, the Faculty of Philosophy.

The release of this volume of the Sociological Review is taking place after a break of several years, which resulted from a multitude of factors taking place within the Institute, and which themselves reflect the societal context in which, we as sociologists perform our professional roles as university professors. Many social forces are pushing towards redefining, if not undermining of professional standards and aspirations of us all. This in itself impacts the future of the very institutions, which has an impact on our professional roles. In such conditions, the maintenance of the institutions, including the Sociological Review, as one of the pillars of professional identity and integrity of sociologists, requires additional efforts from all of us.

As such, I am grateful to the colleagues represented in this edition of the Sociological Review. Although they are not many by number, they are an interesting

mix of experienced and established authors and younger and more research motivated sociologists...

I did not complete the previous paragraph meant to introduce the present contributors, simply because of the six-day interruption in all normal roles and activities, as a result of the crisis and the announced state of emergency in the country which was declared as a consequence of the outbreak of the Coronavirus (Covid 19) pandemic. I am continuing the editor's note with only one aim: to keep alive what we consider as normal even in such 'abnormal' circumstances. To maintain the Sociological Review as a step towards maintaining society, regardless of all the risks and challenges to its constitution. I send this volume for further editing with hope that we will prepare the next volume in better and less uncertain circumstances.

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