

TOPONYMS -

- names for towns, streets, bridges (names of places).
- studied not only by linguistics but also by history and geography since they provide information about a region - associated with either the terrain, the population or history
- origin can sometimes be lost (example - Hrvatska)
- deep historical roots and contribute to the formation of local identity - create a concept of collective memory

CULTURE -

- Croatia has been influenced by three cultural-civilizational circles: Central European (Hungarian and German), Mediterranean (Italian and Latin), and Southern European (Serbian and Turkish)

HISTORICAL CONTEXT - drastic political changes

- Until 1918, Croatia was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.
- After 1918, it became a part of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia (with Istria and Zadar handed over to Italy).
- After 1945, the entire territory of Croatia was incorporated into socialist Yugoslavia.
- 1991 - 1995, Croatia gained independence following the Homeland War.

FIRST TOPONYMS -

- Greek and Latin - present to this day only in Dalmatian and Istria – slavization wasn't rapid like in continental Croatia

19. CENTURY - no official toponyms (german, hungarian and slavic used) – as examples: three military maps (1764-1784, 1806-1869, 1869-1887), cadastre plan, census 1857

- 1784.- most toponyms in german (hungarian influence in eastern Croatia)
- 1869. - german/hungarian toponyms for bigger cities, italian toponyms in Dalmatia and Istria- some slavic toponyms in brackets - slavic toponyms for smaller towns
- 1887. - german/hungarian toponyms for bigger cities - most slavic toponyms in brackets - slavic toponyms for smaller towns - exemption is Baranja (only hungarian toponyms because slavic ones don't exist yet)
- Cadastre plan - toponyms exclusive in slavic, except in Dalmatia and Istria (italian toponyms)
- Census 1857- german/hungarian toponyms for bigger cities, italian for Dalmatia and Istria

20. CENTURY -

- 1918. – Yugoslavia using only slavic toponyms (1921. slavization of toponyms in Baranja)
- Italian toponyms in Istra and Zadar because they are a part of Italy
- 1941 - 1945 - Second world war – Baranja and Međumurje in Hungary (hungarian toponyms), Italy expands in Dalmatia (italian toponyms)
- after 1945. - socialist Yugoslavia, all toponyms are slavic (Istria incorporated in Croatia)
- 1991 - 1995 - fall of Yugoslavia - independent Croatia - slight changes in toponyms – removing: descriptive, communist or serbian elements –
 - in cases of Vrginmost and Beli Manastir -> toponym with strong local roots so aren't changed

21. CENTURY -

- bilingual toponyms - all toponyms in Istria (italian), some toponyms in Baranja (hungarian), Donji Lapac (serbian/cyrillic) - by law 33% of population in a town is required for bilingual toponyms (isn't followed)