

THE SELF ISOLATED INSTITUTE

(CIVIL SOCIETY ASSESSMENT

ON THE ALBANOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

OF PRISTINA)

inTegra

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

The project “Review of civil society and public dialogue on silent institutions of Kosovo financed by public funds” aims to revise, and reflect on, the performance of specific public institutions of Kosovo through research and development of effective activities, oriented towards results aimed at the promotion of public dialogue for more transparency, accountability and better governance of relevant institutions funded by public funds. Initially, the institution in the focus of this project is The Institute of Albanology. Through an examination and a systematic and independent analysis of its internal structure, its functioning, its publications, as well as of the results or achievements of the Institute of Albanology, this project aims to provide findings on the activities of this institution and concrete recommendations for improvements in its performance. This grant is funded by the Kosovo Foundation for Open Society (KFOS).

ABOUT INTEGRA

Integra is an organization formed by a group of people committed to contributing to the recovery and development of Kosovo and the region. The work of Integra is guided by principles of good governance and the full enjoyment of human rights, regardless of ethnicity, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or political affiliation, which are essential for building a democratic and tolerant society, fully integrated into the European community.

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ABBREVIATIONS

EU - European Union

BA - Bachelor

FEK - Encyclopedic Dictionary of Kosovo

IA – Institute of Albanology

IOM - International Organization for Migration

ISSN - International Standard Serial Number

ITShK - Albanian Institute for Spiritual and Cultural Heritage

KD - Governing Council

KFOS - Kosovo Foundation for Open Society

SC - Scientific Council

KSAK - Autonomous Socialist Province of Kosovo

MA - Master

MEST - Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

ORCA - Organization for Quality Enhancement in Education

PhD - Doctor of Philosophy

QSA - Center for Albanological Studies

SFRY - Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

UP - University of Pristina

ERA - European Research Area

WOS - Web of Science

INTRODUCTION

This publication primarily aims to place in objective the mandate and the duties of the Albanology Institute (IA), and its scientific work, including here books, journals, tables and conferences. The report also aims to cast light on the manner of the selection of IA staff and collaborators, by examining the professional, political, ethnic and gender criteria, then their academic integrity, the financing of this institute and its transparency. In addition, the report also investigates the level of cooperation of the IA with other scientific and research institutions, and finally investigates the reporting of this institution to the government, namely the Kosovo Parliament.

In order to achieve the aforementioned purposes, we primarily analyzed the legal framework for IA since its founding in 1953 until to present day, when the last law pertaining to this Institution was passed, to later explore the statutes, regulations, and documents of other relevant legal issues associated with IA. After these, we also examined the IA publications - books, journals and publications of its tables and conferences. Further, we analyzed the biographies of all IA staff in order to see the ethnicity, gender and political affiliations of everyone, then their BA, MA and PhD studies, and above all their publications in genuine international academic journals. Regarding the financing and transparency of IA we explored Kosovo budgets since 2012, the auditor's report and the IA premises leases. Regarding the cooperation of IA with other institutions, we investigated to see whether there are any concrete result of the agreements, memoranda, and protocols of cooperation. Finally, on IA reporting to the Government/Parliament, we requested information from the Commission for Education, Science, and Technology of the Parliament.

For all these issues, we examined many articles, interviews, letters and various reactions published in various media (newspapers, radio, television, and portals), whether by IA or by critics and opponents of this institution. Moreover, we also interviewed IA executives. On the afore-mentioned issues we also talked to university professors, members of civil society, journalists and so on. In the end, we organized a focus group by the members of civil society, who gave us lots of useful advice, suggestions, observations, comments, proposals, and recommendations.

We use this opportunity to thank everyone who helped with this publication. In the first place, all IA staff who helped us in various ways to compile this report, with particular emphasis on: Director Hysen Matoshi, the Scientific Secretary Lulzim Lajçi, and Secretary Sylë Kasumaj for interviews, as well as for IA documents and publications; then members of the focus group for their contributions : Vjollcë Krasniqi, Rebeka Qena, Nora Ahmetaj, Florie Xhemajli, Xhevahir Kolgjini, Shkumbin Brestovci, Imer Mushkolaj, Arbër Vokri, Besnik Boletini and Rron Gjinojci. We also thank the Organization for Quality Growth in Education (ORCA) for help with research publications in academic journals by IA staff.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF IA

IA was established on 1 June 1953 in Pristina by Kosovo and Metohija Autonomous District¹ with a special half-page decision stating that the IA " ... has a duty to study Albanian language, history, and literature²; cooperate with other institutes and institutions dealing with the study of Albanian culture; issue annual reports on the results achieved and, if necessary, other publications in the field of its work³. At this time, IA had a total of four staff: Ilhami Nimani, Selman Riza, Mehdi Bardhi and Ali Rexha; as well as some outside collaborators: Anton Çetta, Esad Mekuli, Hasan Mekuli, Hivzi Sylejmani, and Kadri Halimi⁴.

After two years, in 1955, IA was closed by the Yugoslav authorities. Ilhami Nimani was sent to work in Belgrade, while Selman Riza was deported to Albania and some of his manuscripts were confiscated by the UDB⁵. A few months after the Brione Plenum, held on February 28, 1967⁶, IA was re-established by Fehmi Agani, Rexhep Qosja and Zekeria Cana. For 10 years IA worked in the building of ex-military barracks, and in 1977 settled in the modern building, specially built for this institution⁷, where it still stands today⁸.

IA's scientific and research work focuses on Albanian language, literature, folklore, ethnology, and history⁹. IA's most popular publications are the journal 'Albanological Research', which has been published since 1968¹⁰, with special series: philology, history and folklore, and ethnology, as well as magazine 'Albanian Language, published since 1982¹¹, which addresses issues from the practice and the culture of language¹². The IA Library holds over 20,000 books and 17,000 different journals¹³.

In the last period of the late 1960s until the late 1980s, IA held not only scientific, but also political tasks, since many staff scientists of this institution were publicly committed through their articles, interviews, reactions, and polemics against the discriminatory Serbian politics against the Albanians. In the late 1980's Serbia launched constitutional changes in order to abolish the autonomy of Kosovo, thus violating the fundamental rights of the Kosovo Albanians. Later, in the early 1990s, Serbia ceased the funding for IA¹⁴, but its work continued with modest financial support for IA staff from the institutions of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo in exile, and with the assistance of the Mother Teresa Humanitarian Association¹⁴.

On March 8, 1994, armed civilians forcibly removed IA staff from their facility, citing a decision taken on December 1993 by the Chief of the District of Kosovo, Miloš Simović¹⁶. According to Sadri Fetiu, director of IA from 1991 to 2007, a few days before the entry into force of the decision, the IA staff removed the IA documents and books to the houses of Sebush Dërmaku, Jahir Ahmeti, Nazmi Zeka, and Zenel Kastrati¹⁷. IA was forced to operate in a LDK owned house in the Kodra e Diellit neighborhood in Pristina. Fetiu says that this decision was made by the Kosovo Albanian leader Ibrahim Rugova, who before entering politics in 1990, was himself a member of the scientific staff of IA¹⁸.

IA continued to work in private houses until April 1998, when the implementation of the Agreement on Education between the President of Serbia, Slobodan Milošević and the leader of Kosovo Albanians, Ibrahim Rugova took place, and which foresaw that the Serbian authorities would allow the return of Albanian students and professors to educational institutions¹⁹. During the time of the NATO bombing, the IA premises were used as a shelter for Serbian armed forces. After NATO troops entered Kosovo in June 1999, IA resumed work in its building²⁰.

1. PURPOSE OF IA

IA MANDATE AND TASKS

The Law on Scientific Research Activities, adopted in 2013, defines IA as a scientific institution that conducts research activities²¹. According to this law, IA needs to take care of the establishment of research capacity, to organize and advance the activity of publications and scientific research information, collaborate with research institutions in the country and in the World, as well as promote the integration of Kosovo science in European Research Area (ERA)²².

The IA Statute, approved by the Governing Council of the Institute on April 27, 2015, stipulates that the activity of IA's is concentrated in research work in the field of Albanology and Albanian culture, Albanian language and literature, Albanian folklore and ethnic culture, Albanian musicology, ethnology, and history²³.

The IA charter states that the IA duties are to publicize the results of scientific research and spiritual and material culture of the Albanians, as well as to create conditions for the formation and establishment of necessary scientific personnel inside and outside Kosovo, in order to carry out research and affirm Albanological studies internationally. Therefore, according to the Statute, the IA shall:

- conduct various research projects, and publish monographs, journals, other studies and papers in English or other languages of IA fields;
- collect and process language, literature, folklore, ethno-musicology, archaeology, history, ethnology, valuable to Albanological studies;
- publish its scientific work through periodicals and special works;
- publish studies of Albanian and foreign authors who are interested in Albanology;
- record, collect and study findings and cultural monuments, then archive materials and documents, which is considered valuable for work in scientific research and culture of Albanians in general, to seek and to save them if it deems necessary, especially when they are unprotected or when they are found within of other institutions;
- cooperate with institutions and individuals conducting similar work inside and outside of the country;
- organize panel discussions, roundtables, sessions, symposiums, scientific conferences, and congresses, aimed at presenting and resolving issues in Albanology;
- organize the work in its specialized library, collecting other materials that it

- offers for use by interested individuals and institutions;
- organize work in a scientific archive, collecting and preserving materials from the field;
- develop various forms of popularization of their scientific work, organizing and stimulating interest in the fields of study and the results achieved;

IA conducts various research and scientific projects and publishes its scientific work through periodicals and special works - monographs, journals, scientific studies, and other works - but without reviews of the 'peer review' type and only in the Albanian language. IA also publishes studies of Albanian authors who are interested in Albanology but so far has not published any studies of any international authors on Albanology.

IA cooperates with institutions and individuals who do similar work at home and abroad, but despite all the memoranda and protocols of cooperation, there are no joint publications, and the only result of memoranda and protocols of cooperation is the participation of members of respective institutes in publications or conferences/ symposia/ round tables / scientific gatherings of each other.

IA organizes debates, roundtables, sessions, symposiums, scientific conferences, and congresses, aimed at presenting, elaborating and resolving issues in the field of Albanology, but in these conferences, symposiums, roundtables and scientific meetings organized by IA, the vast majority of participants are Albanians. All publications from these conferences, symposia, scientific roundtable meetings are only in the Albanian language and lack 'peer reviews'.

All the IA projects are national projects, meaning that the IA has no international projects.

As regards the task that IA holds in developing various forms of popularization of its scientific work, what can be said is that IA has no Office for Public Relations or a spokesperson and, above all, its website is unstructured, not updated and is only in the Albanian language, without any materials in the English language.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

IA is divided into the scientific and administrative sectors²⁴. The scientific sector is divided into 5 branches²⁵: History, Folk, Linguistics, Literature, and Ethnology²⁶. Meanwhile, the administrative sector consists of the secretary, finance officer, information technology (IT) officer, librarian, archivist, cleaners, security, and phone operator²⁷.

THE STEERING COUNCIL - KD

The Steering Council (KD) is a collegial organ of government that is composed of five members, three of whom are appointed by the IA Scientific Council (the director, by law, as well as the secretary under the statute, have guaranteed positions in the KD. Two other members with scientific titles are appointed by the MEST²⁸. Although legally there are 5 members of the SC, there are actually seven: Hysen Matoshi, director, Lulzim Lajçi, scientific secretary, Leontina Musa, director of folklore, Memli Krasniqi, director of history, Qemal Murati, director of linguistics, and from MEST: Ismail Sylja, Political Advisor to the President of Kosovo²⁹ and Sali Bashota, who resigned recently since he was elected a member of the RTK Board^{30,31}

The SC issues bylaws that regulate the work of the IA organizes and creates conditions for the development of the scientific research activity of the IA, and, based on the proposals of the IA branches, approves the scientific work plan and the plan of IA publishing activity³². The SC also approves the financial plan, the work report, and the financial report³³. SC elects and dismisses the Director, the Scientific Secretary and the IA Secretary³⁴. SC is headed by its director³⁵.

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL - KS

The IA Scientific Council (KS) is a decision-making body in the scientific and professional field³⁶ and consists of all the IA researchers holding at least the title of "scientific associate"³⁷. Powers of the KS are to decide on the scientific and professional issues, to propose research work and publishing activity of IA's plan, as well as to a review report of the IA research work³⁸. Also, the KS appoints the commissions and conducts the procedure of selection for scientific and research titles, as well as maintains the training of scientific and professional staff. Apart from these, the KS elects SC members from among the branch chiefs, as well as on the proposals of the branches, selects editors and the editorial staff members of journals and special editions of IA, and also proposes candidates for the director and the scientific secretary of IA³⁹. The KS meetings are convened and chaired by the IA Director⁴⁰.

THE DIRECTOR

The Director is responsible for the legality of IA decisions. The competition for the IA director is public. It is proposed by a commission appointed by the KS and appointed or dismissed by the SC⁴¹. According to the law, the director, in addition to directing the IA, also chairs the IA⁴², the KS⁴³ and, moreover, there are no restrictions in the law on the length of his tenure.

3. SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS

A. BOOKS

In the period from 1967 to 2015, the IA published 334 separate editions with a total of 170 authors in the fields of history, folklore, and ethnology, linguistics, and literature, of which 122 publications by male authors, 20 from female authors and 36 by groups of authors. All publications are by Albanian authors, all in Albanian language, on the themes of history, folklore, ethnology, linguistics, and Albanian literature. IA has only one edition of four volumes by a foreign author in the Serbian language and only two foreign authors translated from English to Albanian in 2011 and 2012.

History Department has a total of 58 publications by 35 authors (29 from men, 40 by women and 2 by a group of authors). All publications are by Albanian authors, in Albanian language and themed for Albanians. Within this section, there are no publications with foreign authors and no publications in foreign languages.

Folklore and Ethnology Department has a total of 115 publications by 54 authors (36 by men, 8 by women and 18 by groups of authors). All publications are by Albanian authors, in Albanian language and themed for Albanians. Within this section, there are no publications with foreign authors and no publications in foreign languages.

Linguistics Department has a total of 75 publications by 48 authors (32 publications from men, 3 from women and 13 by groups of authors). All publications are by Albanian authors, themed for Albanians. Within this section, there are no publications with foreign authors and no publications in foreign languages.

Literature Department has a total of 86 publications by 33 authors (25 by men, 5 by women and 3 by groups of authors). All publications are by Albanians and themed for Albanians. Within this section, there are no publications with foreign authors and no publications in foreign languages^{44, 45}

B. JOURNALS

“Albanological Research” is a journal that was published annually since 1968 in three series: the Philological Sciences Series, the Historical Sciences Series, and the Folk and Ethnology Series. This journal, until 2012 published studies and articles by a total of 490 authors, of which 400 Albanians and 90 foreigners, mainly from the countries surrounding Kosovo, who published during the 1970s, but also Albanologists and

foreign researchers who published mainly in the last two decades. The gender structure of the authors is 419 male and 71 female authors. More importantly, all articles in this journal are in Albanian, with no English summary. The journal has a total of 48 issues. The latest issue was published in 2018⁴⁶.

“Albanian Language” is a journal that publishes papers in the field of linguistics. Its first issue was published in 1983. By the year 1989, it published three issues of the journal for each year. Due to the state under occupation, only 1 issue was published in 1990, then an issue in 1997 and two issues in 1998. After the war in Kosovo (1998-1999), the magazine began to be published yearly, from 2004 to 2015, with 3 editions of the journal per year. A total of 74 issues were published so far. All issues are in Albanian, with no abstracts in English or any other language. There are a total of 978 publications, 24 of them by foreign authors, others by Albanians; 841 publications are by male authors, and 137 are by female ones⁴⁷.

“Albanology” is a journal that publishes the works of authors participating in the “ Albanology Week”, which was organized annually since 2011. So far, 16 issues were published. The last issue was published in 2016. Of the 687 publications in this journal, 488 are by men, 199 by women; 678 publications are by Albanian authors, and only 9 are by foreign authors. Also, all contributions are in Albanian language and do not have a brief summary in English⁴⁸.

IA has a total of three journals in which mainly IA staff publishes works. Do these journals meet the technical and quality standards of a serious journal, are they accessible to the whole community at all times, do they have ISSNs, are they indexed in serious databases and, above all, do they have a ‘peer review’? Access to journals is usually provided through their indexing in serious databases. An indispensable technical criterion for indexing in these serious databases is that journals have ISSNs, an internationally recognized code that identifies serial publications, which is not a professional criterion but merely a technical one⁴⁹. To be indexed in serious databases, such as SCOPUS, WOS, and others, it is necessary for journals to practice the ‘peer review’ process.

The purpose of the ‘peer review’ is for published articles to meet the quality standards and scientific validity, so it is important to clarify the steps of this process:

1. The journal editor assesses whether the criteria are met by the author of the article.
2. If the article has met these criteria, then the editor invites two or three experts in the field to review the article.
3. Afterwards, these experts compile a report with comments on the article,

- which the editor returns to the author for rewriting.
4. After the article is rewritten according to the suggested revision, the author resubmits the article to the editor for re-evaluation.
 5. The editor gets the opinion of the expert and decides whether the article has met all the standards (both technical and scientific) for publication.
 6. The articles of journals that undergo the 'peer review' process contain the name of the editor who has followed the whole process⁵⁰.

Of the five IA journals, none has an ISSN (an accepted code of internationally recognized for serial publications), which is a technical requirement for journals. Also, none of these five journals have publications on the Internet or are accessible to the public, which is also a technical criterion for journals.

Managers of all journals say they have a 'peer review' but they do not meet the criteria required for a 'peer review' journal:

- a) None of these journals are found in serious databases that contain index 'peer review' journals, such as SCOPUS, WOS, or any other of the more narrow scope.
- b) None of the articles of these journals contain the name of the editor that has followed the process of item evaluation;
- c) None of these journals has data on the date of delivery of the paper in the journal and the date of the receipt of the article by the editor of the journal.

All books, journals and other IA publications, according to the IA management, were distributed to all libraries and other relevant institutions in Kosovo. Likewise, IA publications are on sale throughout various libraries, although, according to the IA management, they are mostly provided gratis.

C. CONFERENCES / SYMPOSIUMS / TABLES / SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

IA does not have accurate information on conferences, symposia, round tables, organized by departments of the IA - History, Folklore and Ethnology, Linguistics and Literature⁵¹. In the conferences, symposiums, workshops and scientific meetings of the IA – the vast majority of the participants are Albanians, with few scattered foreigners. The Institute of Albanology considers the multi-day conference "Albanology Week" as its main annual event. The speeches of the participants, according to an editorial decision made by a staff of IA researchers, are published in the journal "Albanology." The main international organization, led by the staff of the Folklore Department, was the annual conference of the International Committee of Ballads, held in 2015⁵².

D. PUBLISHING THE COMPLETE SET OF REXHEP QOSJA'S WORKS

In 2009, Albanology Institute turned in a request to the MEST for financial support to publish the complete academic writings of academic Rexhep Qosja. The request was approved by MEST in 2010 and in the same year, under the auspices of the Editorial Council consisting of Hysen Toshi, Jorgo Bulo, Shefkije Islamaj, Agim Vinca and Arben Hoxha, the release of this work in 29 volumes with about 13,000 pages in total was prepared. The value of the project was 198 thousand Euro, of which 77.431 Euro were used for the preparation and printing of the set, whereas 120,569 Euro were allocated as royalties to the author, although most of these works are reprints⁵³. To our question of why publishing this set was so important, we received no response.

E. PUBLISHING THE COMPLETE SET OF ANTON CHETTA'S WORKS

In 2015, the Folklore Department of the Albanological Institute, in collaboration with the family of Anton Çetta, made the decision to publish his full works, under the auspices of an editorial board composed of Leontina Gega-Musa, Fazli Syla, Anton Berisha, Myzafere Mustafa, Zymer Neziri and Arbnora Dushi, as well as a Publishing Council consisting of Hysen Matoshi, Leontina Gega-Musa, Lulzim Lajçi, as well as Anton Çetta's two daughters, Donika and Agata. The set of works of Anton Çetta, consisting of 13 volumes, was prepared by IA press and was submitted for publication at MEST in 2018, but is not published until now because for reasons that are not known. The envisaged cost of the project is 48 thousand Euro (with the complete set foreseen to be given to the family) and will appear as a set for the first time, although most of the works are reprints⁵⁴. To our question of why publishing this set of works was important, we received no response.

4. SCIENTIFIC WORKERS

From a total of 36 IA scientific staff, 31 have BA degrees obtained in the University of Pristina, 3 at the University of Zagreb, 1 from the Tirana University and 1 from the University of Skopje. 28 have MA degrees 28 completed in Pristina, 6 in Tirana, 1 in Zagreb, and 1 in Lyon. Of the 25 PhD staff, 12 have completed their PHD in Pristina, 8 in Tirana, 1 in Tetovo, 1 in Skopje, 1 in Zagreb and 1 in Vienna. It is important to note that the 36 staff of the IA-31 have completed their studies in the Albanian universities, and only five completed at least one level at universities in foreign languages⁵⁵.

According to the Law for Scientific Research, in order to qualify for a researchers' title, no publications are required at all, and for independent researches, the requirement is to have works published in scientific journals, without specifying how many such works and in what scientific journals⁵⁶. On the other hand, for the title of a research associate the requirement is to have at least one research paper published in a relevant international journal within the field; for a Senior Research Fellow, the requirement is to have at least three scientific papers published in relevant international journals within the field, and for scientific adviser the requirement is to have at least five scientific papers published in relevant international journals within the field⁵⁷.

The height of salary for the staff of IA's researchers is based on the amount of salaries of university professors and associates⁵⁸. Based on our calculations by the new Law on Salaries (the monetary value and the relevant coefficients), the salary for a basic researcher is 740 Euro, for an independent researcher 836 Euro, for a research associate 1218 Euro, for a senior associate researcher 1362 Euro and for a scientific advisor 1505 Euro⁵⁹.

Of the 36 scientific staff of the IA, the majority (31) have their CV's published on the IA website, but they are not updated with their publications in national and international academic journals. Since IA offered us the updated CV's of 36 staff of their scientific staff⁶⁰, we searched the 'Scopus' and 'Web of Science' platforms to see if they had publications in international academic journals. When we conducted a search by work titles, the ISSN numbers and publisher's names in both platforms, it turned out that out of 36 scientific staff of IA, none of them published papers in international academic journals listed on these platforms.

Of the 36 IA staff, only two have been involved in the electoral process: Sejdi Gashi in 2007 for the Reformist Party ORA⁶¹, as well as Bashkim Lajçi in 2017 for Vetëvendosje

movement⁶². Also in the IA Steering Council, Ismail Syla, one of the two members appointed by the MEST, is a political advisor to the President of Kosovo, Hashim Thaçi⁶³. As regards gender criteria, IA has 36 full-time staff, 25 of whom are male and 11 female, and of the admin staff, 4 are male and 4 female. Regarding the ethnic criterion, out of the 36 staff, all are Albanian.

5. COOPERATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

COOPERATION WITH THE ACADEMY OF ALBANOLOGICAL STUDIES IN TIRANA

During this decade, in the framework of specific work programs, IA has had cooperation with ASA (Academy of Albanological Studies), formerly known as the Albanological Studies Center. Seven scientific conferences and tribunes were co-organized, with two joint publications published: "Collective Memory: Evidence and Events (1944-1966)" and "Albanians in the History of the Western Balkans (1689-1839)".

On June 7, 2018, IA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the ASA and agreed to:

- form a Coordination Council, that would meet at least twice a year;
- develop a research strategy and a joint scientific research plan;
- exchange publications and materials;
- cooperate on staff training;
- jointly participate in the editorial boards in the scientific journals 'Albanological Research' and 'History Studies; and
- provide publishing opportunities to researchers from both institutes⁶⁴.

According to the IA Director, Hysen Matoshi, establishment of the prescribed bodies, according to the memorandum, and the drafting of the strategy and the organization of joint activities were realized because of (lack of) budget planning, and since all these steps are also conditioned by the allocation of funds from both cooperating entities, since there can be no cooperation with financing by only one party. Furthermore, Matoshi adds that to date there have been cases of publication of research works of staff of both institutions in relevant scientific journals, as well as exchange of scientific works on a regular basis, mutual participation in scientific journals editorial boards - a member from ASA is in the editorial board of 'Albanological Research' and one member of the IA is in the editorial board of 'Historical Studies'. Regarding the qualification of staff, since it is accredited for doctoral studies, ASA received six PhD works from the ranks of the IA staff⁶⁵.

COOPERATION WITH THE ALBANIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE INSTITUTE IN SKOPJE

On February 24, 2009, IA also signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Institute for Albanian Spiritual and Cultural Heritage (ITSHK) in Skopje, which provided for:

- participation of researchers in important scientific activities that are of interest to the other party (research projects, scientific conferences,

- sessions, symposiums, etc.);
- joint scientific research in the field;
- organization of scientific lectures from different fields of Albanology;
- mutual publication of studies of the other party in the relevant scientific bodies;
- exchange of experiences of researchers (lecturers) between the two institutions; and
- exchange of publications and scientific information of interest to each party (journals and other scientific publications with three copies and photocopied materials on microfilm or by their scientific archives, or rare publications)⁶⁶.

Regarding the cooperation with ITShK during this decade, both institutes in 2010 organized a week-long research, by joint teams (folklorists, ethnologists and philologists) on the ground in the area around Kumanovo, several joint conferences, and published in relevant journals (“Albanological Research” and “Albanological Studies”) and exchange of literature. However, there were no mutual publications of studies between IA and the ITShK and no exchange of experiences of researchers (lecturers) between the two institutions.

COOPERATION WITH OTHER SCIENTIFIC, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

IA has no specific cooperation with the Faculty of Philology of UP nor with that of UT, apart from the fact that IA researchers regularly participate in the International Seminar for Albanian Language, Literature and Culture, co-organized by the Faculty of Philology of UP That and the Faculty of Linguistics and History of the University of Tirana, and there are cases of peer participation of the Faculty of Philology of UP in the IA activities, in particular to publish in the journal “Albanological Research”.

Of the other academic units at UP, IA has collaborated with the Faculty of Philosophy, with which it co-organized three scientific conferences: the first in 2012 for “Mahmutbegollis in the course of history”, the second in 2013 in honor of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Organization “Revolutionary Movement for the Unification of Albanians”, and the last dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the liberation of Kosovo in 2019.

IA does not have any cooperation with ASHAK in joint projects, activities, and publications (but there is regular exchange of publications). IA researchers participate in the research activities organized by ASHAK, but the ASHAK researchers, despite invitations, do not participate in the IA activities.

However, the Albanological Institute cooperates with the Institute of History. Since the Institute of History deals only with the field of history studies (ranging from antiquity

until today), and the Albanology Institute for treats the whole field of Albanology, and has within its framework a department of a limited number of history scholars, there is cooperation between these two institutes. However, according to the Scientific Secretary of the Institute of History, Gjon Berisha, this cooperation is not the best possible. According to him, this cooperation is focused on:

- joint organization of scientific activities (scientific workshops, symposia, conferences, etc.);
- joint publications (mainly works of co-organized conferences);
- participation in the joint or individual projects (for example in the project "History of Kosovo");
- engagement in the capacity of editors and reviewers in mutual publications.

Berisha explained that staff of both institutions, independently dispatch and publish works in each other's journals, "Albanological Research" and "Kosovo"⁶⁷. He adds that in recent years there is a decline of interest by researchers to publish in journals in the country, due to the regulations of the university institutions for advancement of the staff, that request that works be published in journals referred as having an 'impact factor' and an ISSN.

In May 2019, IA has signed a written agreement with the IOM (International Organization for Migration) for an indefinite time for the publication of the first online Albanian-Serbian dictionary, as well as for cooperation with parties relevant to this dictionary in order to raise awareness of the benefits of bilingualism, in collaboration with community organizations and state bodies, but also for organizing meetings, seminars, workshops and various debates.

COOPERATION WITH OTHER REGIONAL INSTITUTES

On March 15, 2018, the IA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Macedonian Scientific Institute in Sofia, which is very similar to the memorandum signed with ASA. According to this memorandum, these two institutes agreed to:

- form a Coordination Council, which will draft the study strategy and the joint research plan;
- publish historical sources and special works from history, linguistics, culture, ethnology, and folklore;
- organize scientific activities (conferences, symposiums, exhibitions, documentaries),
- exchange publications and materials;
- cooperate in the qualification of staff; and
- have mutual participation in the editorial boards of scientific journals⁶⁸.

Regarding the above cooperation, no Coordination Council was established between the two institutions, nor was there a study strategy or a joint research-scientific plan developed. They exchanged scientific journals "Albanological Research" and "Macedonian Review", but also special editions, then exchanged members to the editorial boards in relevant scientific bodies - a member of the Macedonian Institute in Sofia is a member of the editorial board "Albanological Research" and an IA staff member is a member of the journal "Macedonian Review". There was some cooperation regarding the training of staff, and both institutions are in talks for the translation of two works from Albanian to Bulgarian and one from Albanian to Bulgarian.

6. FINANCING AND TRANSPARENCY

THE BUDGET OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO

In the period from 1967-1989, IA was financed by the SAP Kosovo Budget, in 1990-1999 it was financed by aid, in 2000-2004 through the UP Rectorate, and since 2004 by the MEST. Currently, IA can be legally financed by the central budget, by funds obtained from the implementation of scientific and artistic projects, as well as by donations. The IA budget is filled by the central budget and the rest by lease funds. Although IA publications are on sale at various libraries, according to its financial officer, they are not sold but are given gratis⁶⁹. Since 2012, when it became a separate budget item, and by 2019, according to data from the budget tables of the Republic of Kosovo, IA has received over 5 million Euro⁷⁰. In the last ten years, the budget of the IA has been over half a million Euro per year and over 2/3 of the annual budget in recent years is spent on wages and salaries.

Year 2012	€ 587,834
Year 2013	€ 574,824
Year 2014	€ 610,901
Year 2015	€ 740,888
Year 2016	€ 713,046
Year 2017	€ 746,518
Year 2018	€ 793,307
Year 2019	€ 919,518
TOTAL:	€ 5,686,838

LEASES

The IA leases three premises of the facility since 2006, by the decision of the SC, to three businesses: 'ELC', 'Comtrade' and 'Artini'⁷¹. The National Audit Office's (NAO) report on MEST in 2012 found that "contracts [with tenants] are not transparent since tendering procedures are not used when outsourcing"⁷². The practice followed is the extension of contracts with the same companies, at the same prices per square meter⁷³. The last time the contracts were resigned was in 2017 and their duration is for five years⁷⁴.

One of the businesses is SE "ELC", owned by the wife of the IA Secretary, Sylë Kasumaj⁷⁵. Another business is "NTP Artini OP.", owned by Zijavere and Jahir Ahmeti, the latter once being a member of the scientific staff of the IA⁷⁶. According to the Law on Prevention

of Conflict of Interest in Public Functions and Institutions, every manager and every institution" shall take all necessary measures to prevent and resolve cases of conflicts of interest⁷⁷." Division for the Prevention of Conflict of Interest (DPKI) the Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) has refused to indicate whether there are cases submitted to the Secretary and former IA staff. The ACA has said that it "reviews and treats all conflict of interest information, respecting confidentiality throughout the course of the proceedings until the final outcome, as provided in paragraph 6 of Article 22 of the Law on the Prevention of Conflict of Interest⁷⁸".

Meanwhile, the National Office of Auditing (NAO) responded that there are no laws or regulations governing the leasing of space of central institutions. However, the NAO has recommended that "in line with good practices and in order to obtain the highest possible price, the institution must make an advertisement or auction, where people interested in using the facility will have the opportunity to compete among themselves⁷⁹".

Regarding leased premises, IA Director Hysen Matoshi says the bookstore has been leased to its current operator since 1998, before the conflict, while other premises have never been part of the IA, but have been underpasses supported by pillars, and that after the conflict, at the time that IA was under UP management (meaning under international management), through a public call, the premises were offered to be used as facilities by whoever was interested in performing a certain activity, and that it does not impact IA activities. Meanwhile, regarding the fact that one of the businesses is owned by the wife of IA Secretary and the other by an ex-member of IA staff, Matoshi says that these people have never been part of the decision-making bodies of the IA, where it was decided on lease applications, or of the UP as a managing institution of public facilities of education and science, and that no competing company was placed in an unequal position. In addition, according to Director Matoshi, even the competent institutions did not find any conflict of interest issues in this matter.

DONATIONS AND OTHER RESOURCES

IA has received a donation from the Norwegian Embassy in Pristina to finance the journal 'Albanological Studies' in English, but since the IA did not have a bank account as an institution, the Norwegian Embassy requested that the funds be directed to the bank account of one of the members of the editorial board, authorized to spend the funds according to the planning. There were no other donations from 2008 onwards,

but there was financing from various Kosovo institutions for various projects, outside of the IA budget, such as for publishing of books (eg: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, Municipality of Pristina, Obilic Municipality), as well as various grants acquired by the IA staff from MEST for different activities⁸⁰.

Annual reports (narrative and financial) are not public. IA does not publish financial reports on its official website on the Internet, nor in the MEST website.

7. REPORTING AND MONITORING

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY / GOVERNMENT OF KOSOVO

Law on Scientific Research Activity obliges the Government to allocate 0.7% of the annual budget for science (for the implementation of scientific projects, assisting scientific staff in their work, the implementation of the National Science Program, and so on⁸¹.) The 2019 budget is about 2.3 billion euros⁸², while for the sake of this law around, € 1 million has been allocated. This figure is over 10 million Euro lower than the one prescribed by law since 0.7 % of the total budget of 2.3 billion Euros is 16, 1 million Euro.

In addition to funding, high-level councils are no longer legally mandated. Members of Research-Scientific Councils (KKSh) are proposed by the Government and appointed by the Parliament. The National Research Council was for the last time appointed in 2007, while its legal mandate is four years. The main task of this Council is to issue the National Science Program (valid for 5 years). The only National Science Program was approved by the Parliament in 2008. The situation is the same with the Scientific Council of MEST. It was lastly appointed in February 2015, with a mandate of four years.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY / PARLIAMENT OF KOSOVO

The Parliamentary Committee on Education, Science, and Technology of the Parliament of Kosovo, since the declaration of Kosovo's independence in 2008 until today, held only one briefing with IA executives, which means that IA has never reported to this committee on its work.

8. PUBLIC RELATIONS

IA has no Public Relations Office or a spokesperson. IA staff do not have individual e-mails posted on the official website of the institution. The official website is unstructured, is not up-to-date and is written only in the Albanian language (there is nothing in English or in Serbian).

The IA Director says that although the institute has no special personnel for public relations, this task is performed mainly by the Director, Scientific Secretary and heads of branches, and by the experts on Albanology, depending on the interests of the public. According to him, the general public is informed about the activities and results of the IA staff, and the media are invited to all IA activities. For most of the publications, there are written and published evaluations in the press and in scientific journals. As regards the official website, the IA director said that last year they hired an IT staff and decided to create a new website, where the data will be updated and the site will be updated regularly. Likewise, IA designated secretary Sylë Kasumaj as the responsible person for access to public documents.

MAIN FINDINGS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS:

The tasks of the institute of Albanology are to:

- implement various scientific and research projects (monographs, journals, studies and other publications in English or other languages in the areas of Albanology);
- collect and process language, literary, folkloric, ethno-musicological, archaeological, historical, ethnological data, with interest to Albanological studies,
- publish its scientific work through periodicals and special works;
- publish studies of Albanian and foreign authors who are interested in Albanology;
- record, collect and study the findings and cultural monuments, then archival and documentary materials it deems valuable for scientific research and culture of Albanians in general, to seek and save them if considers it necessary, especially when they are unprotected or in the context of other institutions;
- cooperate with institutions and individuals doing similar work locally and abroad,
- organize panel discussions, roundtables, sessions, symposiums, scientific conferences, and congresses, aimed at discussing and resolving issues pertaining to Albanology ;
- organize work in its specialized library, collecting other materials that it offers for use by interested individuals and institutions ;
- organize work in a scientific archive to collect and preserve materials from the field; and
- develop various forms of popularization of their scientific work, organizing and stimulating interest in the fields of study and the results achieved.

IA conducts various research and scientific projects and publishes its scientific work through periodicals and special works – monographs, journals, scientific studies and other various works - but only in Albanian and without “double-blind peer review’ (ie. the reviewers to the paper do not need to know the identity of the author, and neither does the author have to know of the reviewer’s identity). IA also publishes studies of Albanian authors who are interested in Albanology but so far have not published studies by any international Albanologist.

IA cooperates with institutions and individuals who do similar work at home and abroad, but despite memoranda and protocols of cooperation, there are no joint publications, and furthermore, the only result of memorandums and protocols is the participation of members of the respective institutes in publications or conferences/symposia/ round / scientific gatherings of each other.

IA also organizes debates, tables, sessions, symposia, conferences and scientific congresses that aim to address, elaborate and solve problems from Albanology, but in these conferences, symposia, tables and scientific meetings the vast majority of

participants are Albanian. All publications from these conferences, symposia, scientific roundtable meetings are only in Albanian and without 'double-blind peer review'.

All the IA projects are national projects, which means that the IA does not have any international projects. How can it be said that the IA develops various forms of popularization of its scientific work, when there is no Office of Public Relations or spokesperson (although they have an official access to public documents) and, above all, their official website is unstructured, not up-to-date and only in Albanian, with nothing in English.

1. According to the Law on Scientific-Research Activities, the Director, in addition to chairing the Albanological Institute, also chairs the Governing Board and its Scientific Council. Furthermore, there are no statutory restrictions on the terms and the number of mandates it can hold.

Law on Scientific Research Activities should be amended, at least in the following points:

- o The Director of the Albanological Institute shall not be the Chairman of the Governing Council and the Scientific Council of the Institute ;
- o The Director of the Institute of Albanology shall not be in office for more than two terms.

Also, this law should clearly define the criteria for selecting members of the Steering Council and the Scientific Council.

2. In the period from 1967-2015, IA 334 published special editions with 170 authors in total in the fields of history, folklore and ethnology and language and literature. Out of these publications, 122 are from male authors, 20 from female ones and 36 from groups of authors. All are publications by Albanian authors, and all are in the Albanian language and published in Kosovo. IA has only one edition in the Serbian language in four volumes from the early 1970s, and only two foreign authors translated from English to Albanian in 2011 and 2012.

In all its sections, IA should publish special works in foreign languages too, especially in English, since one of the aims of the institution is the internationalization of science and the culture of Kosovo. Also, they should publish foreign authors too and there should not be a domination of the works by IA staff, which in some cases are reprints. IA should have a strategic plan and determine the criteria for selecting the themes of the works published, as well as create mechanisms for measuring the impact of its publications.

3. IA has a total of three journals in which mainly the IA staff publish their own work.

"Albanological Research" from 1967 to 2012 published studies and articles of a total of 490 authors, of which 400 are Albanian and 90 foreigners, many of them from neighboring countries, who have published during the 1970s, but also foreign Albanologists and scholars who published mainly in the last two decades. The gender structure of the authors is 419 male and 71 female authors. It is to be underlined that all the works in this magazine are in the Albanian language, without a summary in English. The journal has a total of 48 issues. The last issue was published in 2018.

"Albanian Language" published a total of 74 issues. All issues are in Albanian, with no abstracts in English or any other language. There are a total of 836 publications, of which 28 by foreign authors, and others by Albanians; 694 publications are from male authors and 142 from female authors.

"Albanology" publishes works of writers who participate in 'Albanology Week', which is organized every year since 2011. Until now it published a total of 16 issues. The latest edition was published in 2016. Of the 687 publications in this journal, 488 are from male authors, 199 were from female ones; 678 are publications by Albanian authors, only nine are by foreign authors. Also, all contributions are in Albanian language and do not have a brief summary in English.

IA has a total of three journals in which mainly IA staff publish. IA Journals should publish as many publications by Albanian authors in the English language as possible. It is also preferable to publish foreign authors.

4. Over 90% of published works in the three IA journals are by Albanian authors and only in the Albanian language. Those responsibilities of for these journals state that they perform "double-blind peer review", but they do not meet the criteria required for a journal:

a) none of these journals appears in serious databases that 'double-blind peer review' journals, such as SCOPUS or WOS, or in any other serious database of the narrower scope ;

b) none of the articles of these journals contain the name of the editor that has followed the process of item evaluation;

c) none of these journals has data on the date of delivery of the paper in the journal and date of receipt of the article by the editor of the journal, in order to know how long it has taken for the publication of this work.

These journals do not have ISSN (internationally recognized serial code), which is a technical criterion for journals. Also, none of these journals have issues published online and accessible to the public, which is also a technical criterion for journals.

IA journals should be equipped with international codes; publish all the issues of

journals online and definitely have a 'double-blind peer review', as well as contain text in English, since this, among other things, makes it easier to register in databases.

5. In all conferences, symposiums, workshops and scientific meetings organized by IA, the vast majority of the participants are Albanian. All publications from these conferences, symposia, scientific roundtable meetings are only in Albanian and have no 'double-blind peer review'.

Conferences, symposiums, workshops and scientific meetings of IA's should involve having the foreign authors and all publications from these conferences, symposia, scientific roundtable meetings should be published in English and have "double-blind peer review".

6. Since 2008, when the IA was foreseen as a special budgetary line, especially since 2012, when its annual budget is over half a million Euro (budget for this year is almost one million Euro), the IA implemented only "Rexhep Qosja's Work". The project "Anton Cetta's Work", which should have been completed two years ago, has not yet been completed.

Clarification should be given on what is the scientific value of the works of Rexhep Qosja and Anton Cetta. Clarification should also be provided as to why it is necessary to publish the complete works of these two former staff members of the IA and not the works of others. IA must have clearly defined criteria for publishing sets of works by former IA workers and scientific workers.

7. All IA projects are national projects. IA has no international projects. IA should engage in international projects.

8. Of the 36 IA staff, 31 completed their BA level studies at Pristina University, three at the University of Zagreb, one in the Tirana University and one at the University of Skopje. As for the MA level studies, 28 staff completed it in Pristina, six in Tirana, one in Zagreb, one in Lumiere Lyon. Of the 25 PhD staff, 12 completed their studies in Pristina, eight in Tirana, one in Tetovo, one in Skopje, one in Zagreb and one in Vienna. Overall, out of the 36 IA staff members, 31 of them have all levels of completed studies in Albanian universities, only five have completed at least one level in other universities in foreign languages.

Of the 36 regular IA employees, 31 of them have all levels of studies completed in Albanian languages universities, only five have completed at least one level in other universities in foreign languages. It would be good for the IA to be open to those who

have completed BA, MA and PhD studies in foreign language universities.

9. From 2012 when it became a special budgetary line, until 2019, according to data from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of the Republic of Kosovo, the IA received over five million Euro from the Government of Kosovo. About 2/3 of it is allocated for wages and salaries.

The budget should be reformulated, redirected to science, not to salaries, meaning that a 'research-based' mechanism should be used, which in effect means that salaries for IA staff should be based on their scientific work. Apart from being financed by the Kosovo budget, IA should request donations from abroad, and in order to do this, the IA needs to open a bank account as soon as possible. It is quite absurd that the IA does not have a bank account of its own, and was forced to receive the donation from the Norwegian Embassy to the bank account of one of its staff members. Likewise, IA should be transparent in reporting its expenditures.

10. On the basis of the Law on Scientific and Research Activity, for the title of a scientific collaborator, the requirement is to have at least one research paper published in any relevant international journal within the field; for a Senior Research Fellow the requirement is to have at least three scientific papers in relevant international journals within the field; and for a scientific adviser the requirement is to have at least five scientific papers published in relevant international journals within the field. The monthly salaries of IA staff are as follows: research associate 1239 Euro; senior scientific associate 1379 Euro; scientific advisor 1622 Euro.

11. Of the 36 IA staff, the vast majority (31) have their CV published on the IA website but have not updated their publications in local and international academic journals. Since the IA offered us the updated CVs of its 36 scientific staff, we searched the 'Scopus' and 'Web of Science' platforms to see if they had publications in international academic journals. By conducting a search of work titles, ISSN numbers and publisher's names in both platforms, it turns out that out of the 36 IA scientific staff, no one has published papers in international academic journals listed on these platforms.

11. The scientific staff of IA is paid as if they had works published in international academic journals listed in the 'Scopus' and 'Web of Science' platforms, even though none of them has had publications in them. When selecting scientific employees, the IA should respect the Law on Scientific Research Activity, which states that for the title of a scientific collaborator, the requirement is to have at least one research paper published in any relevant international journal within the field; for a Senior Research Fellow the requirement is to have at least three scientific papers in relevant international journals

within the field; and for a scientific adviser the requirement is to have at least five scientific papers published in relevant international journals within the field. In addition, on its official website, the IA should have a platform where it publishes all its publications, as well as encourage as much criticism, reviews, and controversy as possible.

13. Regarding the gender requirement, from 36 IA scientific staff, 25 are male and 11 female, while out of the admin staff, four are male and four female. Regarding the inclusion of ethnic communities, out of the 36 staff members, all are Albanian. Since 1990 no members of other ethnic communities in Kosovo were employed in the IA.

All IA staff are Albanian. Since 1990 no members of ethnic minority communities in Kosovo have been employed in the IA. It would be advisable to have minority ethnic communities in Kosovo represented amongst the IA staff.

14. Of the 36 staff of IA's, two were involved in the election process, one in 2007 and one in 2017. In the Governing Council of the IA, one of the two members appointed by MEST, Ismail Sylla, is a political advisor to the President of Kosovo, Hashim Thaçi.

15. IA has memorandums and protocols of cooperation with ASA, but no joint publications with this institution. The only result of memorandums and protocols is the participation of members of the relevant institutions in publications or conferences/symposia/ round / scientific gatherings of each other. Also, out of all the agreements signed with institutes and scientific associations in Albania, Macedonia and Bulgaria, the result so far is the participation of members of the signatory institutions to publications or conferences/symposia/ round / scientific gatherings of each other. IA should bring to life the agreements, protocols, and memoranda signed with the institutes of other scientific associations.

16. IA has no joint project with other scientific institutions, such as: the Institute of Archeology, Institute of History, ASAK, UP, etc. It would be appropriate that the IA projects also included these institutions, in order to, inter alia not repeat the work of other institutions.

17. Annual reports (narrative and financial) are not public. The IA does not publish financial reports on its official website or on the MEST website.

18. Three premises of its facility, by the decision of the SC, were leased to three businesses since 2006, of which it currently receives about 50,000 Euro. One of these businesses is owned by the wife of the secretary of IA, and the other is owned by a

former staff member of Albanology Institute. Moreover, the National Audit Office report (CAO) for MEST -in 2012 concluded that “[contracts with tenant companies] have not been transparent since they are not used tendering procedures prescribed by law.”

IA should be transparent in this process, ensure conditions for equal competition and make public its rental revenues. Also, since it is MEST who takes the money from these leases, must it develop procurement procedures in order to optimize the use of rented IA spaces.

19. IA reports to MEST, but it has never reported to the Parliamentary Committee on Education, Science and Technology of the Parliament. This committee has to date held only one informal meeting with the IA management, which coincidentally happened while the research for this report was taking place.

IA should report on its work at least once a year to the Parliamentary Committee for Education, Science and Technology of the Kosovo Parliament. When drafting the new law on IA, it would be appropriate to include provisions which determine that the IA should report annually to the Parliamentary Committee for Education, Science and Technology. Also, it would be appropriate to publish all documents related to the IA financing.

20. IA has no Public Relations Office or a spokesperson. The official IA website is unstructured, is not up-to-date and appears only in the Albanian language (there is nothing in English or Serbian). The IA Secretary also acts as the official for access to public documents.

The IA should establish a Public Relations Office and appoint a spokesperson. The official IA website should be structured, updated and available in English as well. It would also be desirable that the media (newspapers, radios, televisions and portals), then the non-governmental sector, but also other segments of civil society, be more active in relation to (non) activities of IA.

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¹ In the 1950s the official name for Kosovo was “ Kosovo and Metohija ” . This designation was removed in the late 1960s and returned in the early 1990s by Slobodan Milšević’s regime.

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²³ Statute of the Albanological Institute, April 27, 2015, Pristina.

²⁴ Category “ Organizational Structure ” on IA page:

<http://www.institutialbanologjik.com/index.aspx?SID=11&LID=2&AID=1&Ctype=1&ACatID=1>

²⁵ Statute of the Albanological Institute, page 5, article 7, paragraph 2, physical copy taken by IA on 22 April 2018, effective date: 27 April 2015.

²⁶ Albanological Institute employee register, sent by email April 15, 2019.

²⁷ Ibid

²⁸ Statute of the Albanological Institute, 28 March 2013, article 23, points 1-5. Rules of Procedure of the Board of Directors of the Albanological Institute, 1 July 2015, Article 2, points 1-3.

²⁹ Page of the Office of the President of the Republic of Kosovo, Category “ President’s Team “ , subcategory “ Political Advisors “ : <https://www.president-ksgov.net/en/counselors-politik>

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- ³¹ IA Organogram, sent April 15, 2019
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- ³³ Ibid., Section 23, paragraphs 7.5 and 7.6.
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- ⁵³ Interview with Lulzim Lajçi n, scientific secretary of the Institute Albanology, Pristina, May 27, 2019.
- ⁵⁴ Interview with Lulzim Lajç, scientific secretary of the Institute Albanology, Pristina, May 27, 2019.
- ⁵⁵ Albanological Institute researcher CVs sent on May 2, 2019 via email.
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