

## "Gheorghe Asachi" Technical University of Iasi, Romania



## CONSTRUCTION OF NAUTICAL TOURISM PORTS AS AN INCENTIVE TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

Mirjana Kovačić<sup>1</sup>, Srećko Favro<sup>2\*</sup>, Vlado Mezak<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Faculty of Maritime Studies, University of Rijeka, 51000 Rijeka, Studentska ulica 2, Croatia <sup>2</sup>Adriatic Expert, Jobova 28, 21000 Split, Jobova 28, Croatia <sup>3</sup>Port of Rijeka Authority, 51000 Rijeka, Riva 1, Croatia

## **Abstract**

Nautical tourism is a phenomenon that in the last three decades has recorded one of the highest development rates known in the European and Croatian economies. Economic forecasters for tourism development agree that nautical tourism is in its early stages of development and that increasing results are to be expected. From a scientific perspective, however, nautical tourism development is still not sufficiently represented in the science of tourism. In Croatia, nautical tourism is seen as a new opportunity for the economy and for development, and it has motivated numerous scientific and research programs. The authors examine opportunities for developing nautical tourism in Croatia by building new marinas, considering the present lack of carrying capacity which is especially evident where mega-yachts are concerned. Urban nautical tourism ports make up the main part of the nautical offering to boaters in the Mediterranean. This development is in accordance with, and determined by, the development concept of the cities and their environs.

The aim of this paper is to determine the interdependence of spatial planning methodology as a continuous activity that enables the identification of developmental processes as well as taking into consideration interests in function of a timely offer of spatial and development possibilities to investors. The aim is also to achieve spatial conditions for the implementation of the model of urban development based on the practical research within the locality of the City of Rijeka (Northern Adriatic).

This will determine the interdependence of nautical tourism and development based on a model according to the city's needs.

Key words: city marinas, nautical tourism, Northern Adriatic, sustainable development

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<sup>\*</sup> Author to whom all correspondence should be addressed: e-mail: srecko.favro@ådriatic-expert.hr