

**Dr. Jasmina Ahmetagić (Beograd)**

**PARANOID DISCOURSE BY BORISLAV PEKIĆ: FROM THE PARANOIA OF EVERYDAY LIFE TO SIMEON HADŽIJA'S PARANOID PSYCHOSES**

Pekić's Simeons are representative for the so-called paranoid discourse, which is related to their will to power and often the underlying cause of conflicts in the family, but it also steers the relationships between the members of the Njegovans, who do not share the name "Simeon". The wide spectrum of paranoid discourse could to be found in Borislav Pekić's novel-cycle *Golden Fleece*: from the famous Simeon Grk's *diwans*, whose extraordinary language manipulation enables his success, through Simeon Gazda's *paranoia of everyday life* which is to be found in his doubt (rationalistic product *par excellence*), but also his *jealousy discourse*, will be in the focus of this talk, to Simeon Hadžija's paranoid psychoses. Pekić depicts the formation and assimilation processes of the Serbian bourgeoisie, but paranoia in his *Golden Fleece* is also a part of cultural process, which influences the production of identity. The paranoid discourse refers to disorder in the world, but at the same time, the notion of discourse, understood here as an *interpretative system* and a system of *meaning-making*, corresponds to the construction of identity and set of values.

Jasmina Ahmetagić (1970) acquired her PhD in literary studies at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade. Currently she is a Senior Research Associate at the Institute for Serbian Culture Priština – Leposavić. Her research is primarily focused on the classics of Serbian and world literature as well as on interdisciplinary studies of literature. She authored 13 scientific monographs, among which are *Unutrašnja strana postmodernizma: pogled na teoriju / o Paviću* (The Inner Side of Postmodernism: A Look at the Theory / On Pavić, 2007), *Priče o Narcisu zlostavljaču: zlostavljanje i književnost* (The Tales of Narcissus the Abuser: Abuse and Literature, 2011), *Knjiga o Dostojevskom: bolest prekomernog saznanja* (A Book on Dostoyevsky: The Ailment of Excessive Knowledge, 2014), *Knjiga o Kamiju: Poetika mere* (A Book on Camus: The Poetics of Moderation, 2017), and most recently *Znati unapred: paranoja u srpskoj književnosti* (To Know in Advance: The Paranoia in Serbian Literature, 2020). She received the *Isidorijana Award* for Best Book in Serbian Literary Studies for 2006/2007 and *Nikola Milošević Award*, given for the best study in the field of philosophy, aesthetics and theory of art and literature.