GUEST EDITOR'S NOTE

Emotional intelligence (EI) came to be studied scientifically in the past 20 years and the first psychological publication about the subject was published in 1989 by its creators Peter Salovey and Jack Mayer. It was not immediately embraced by scientific audience and remained totally anonymous in public till 1995, when Daniel Goleman's book "Emotional Intelligence" produced *"The Big Bang"*. After that, planetary popularity of EI has in some ways hindered the field, particularly in terms of conceptual clarity: a huge number of models and definitions of EI mean that vastly different constructs exist under the same label, leading to different and sometimes conflicting claims about what EI is and what it predicts. Fortunately, this uncritical period in development of EI has passed, and the numerous publications in the field of EI have appeared in prestigious scientific journals all around the world during the last several years. In that line of progress in EI, the 1st International Congress on Emotional Intelligence (ICEI) was organized by its founder Pablo Fernandez Berrocal in Malaga in 2007. A beautiful city of Opatija and Croatia hosted last September the 3rd ICEI, and it was the first EI Congress outside of Spain, as recognition of our efforts and long tradition in research and practice of EI in Croatia.

In this Special issue some of the most interesting contributions presented by keynote speakers at the 3rd ICEI are published, together with the work of cross cultural researchers in the field of EI. The main aims of the papers could be divided into three categories related to EI: 1) theoretical and neuropsychological bases of different emotions, 2) (cross cultural) validation of some ability and trait measures of EI, and 3) relationship of EI to some similar constructs (social intelligence, empathy, personality traits and self-acceptance), and relevant criteria (life satisfaction and narcissism).

I would like to express my deep gratitude to all of the authors for their effort and willingness to contribute as well as anonymous reviewers for their useful comments in improvement of quality of the papers. Also, I would like to thank Editor-in-Chief for the opportunity to present the field of EI in this Special Issue, and to the entire Editorial Board for their help in technical preparation of the papers for printing.

<div align="right">Vladimir Takšić</div>