

Opening up Member States: “Opening up Balkans” as regional pilot for Openness  
Open Education as an opportunity to reshape Western Balkans education  
18-20 September 2017, Ljubljana, Slovenia



# Croatia & OER Development

Sandra Kucina Softic, M. Sc. in Digital Education  
Assistant Director for Education and User Support  
EDEN Vice President for Open Professional Collaboration  
[sskucina@srce.hr](mailto:sskucina@srce.hr)



2nd World Open Educational Resources (OER) Congress  
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# Open Education in Croatia

- **Croatian Education, Science and Technology Strategy (2014)**
  - Croatia should be open, mobile and innovative with science and education as developmental priorities
  - to ensure high-quality education available to everyone under the same conditions and possibilities
  - the importance of using information and communication technologies in educational process, fostering the implementation of e-learning, other modern methods of teaching based on ICT and development of open educational resources
- **Croatian Declaration on Open Access (2012)**

# Present situation - schools

- Project e-schools (primary and secondary education)
  - establishing a system for developing digital mature schools
  - digital maturity framework
  - editorial (repository of OER)
  - learning analytics framework

# Present situation-HE

- Some initiatives from individuals and institution
- Lack of systematic approach
- National e-learning platform Merlin for HEI
- The Catalogue of the Higher Education Institutions' E-courses in Croatia

# University Computing Centre SRCE

- Main computing centre and the architect of e-infrastructure, covering both the University of Zagreb and the whole research and higher education system.
- Competence centre for information and communication technologies, as well as the centre for education and support in the area of ICT application
- SRCE signed two important declarations:
  - the Croatian Declaration on Open Access (2012)
  - Hague Declaration on Knowledge Discovery in the Digital Age (2015)
- Following the principles of open access and open educational resources, SRCE has adopted its own policy and guideline document “Open Access Policy” in 2014

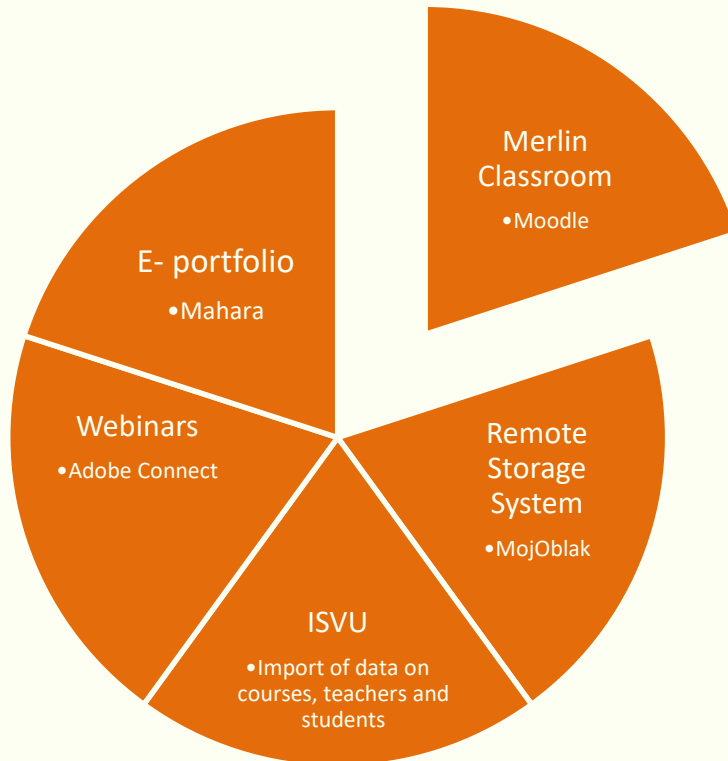
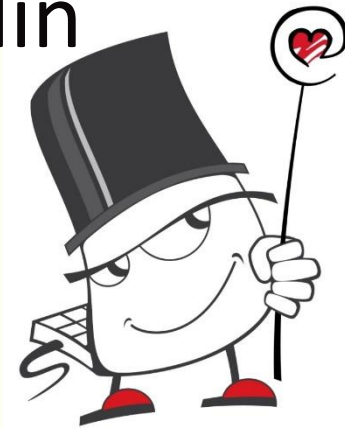


# E-learning Centre at SRCE

- Established at University Computing Centre University of Zagreb in 2007
- Central point for support to institutions, teachers and students in implementation of e-learning in higher education in Croatia
- Basic objectives
  - support to teachers and students, teams and groups for e-learning at schools
  - providing reliable and generally accessible e-learning platform, e-learning technologies
  - to establish and support the network of people supporting, using or promoting e-learning
  - to promote and foster implementation of e-learning at the Higher education institutions in Croatia

# Virtual Learning Environment - Merlin

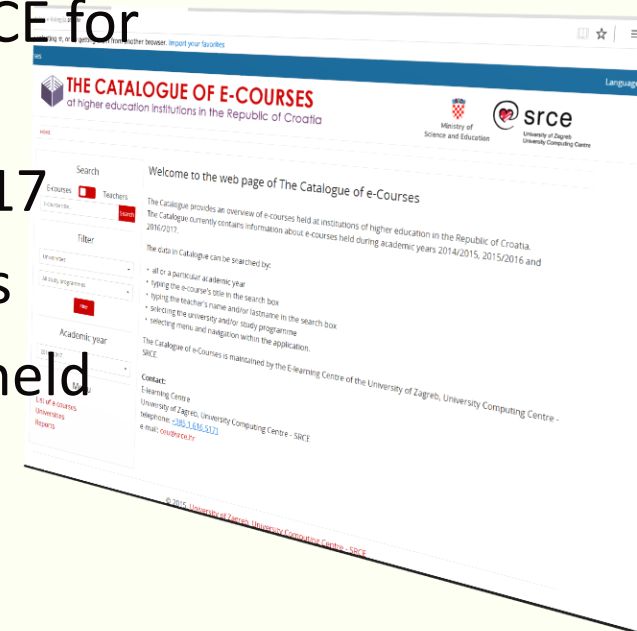
national e-learning platform (<http://merlin.srce.hr>) where higher education institutions in Croatia can open their virtual environment and get the support in development and advancement of their e-courses.



6.790+ e-courses in ac. year 2016/2017  
12.400 archived e-courses  
101.434 users  
39.942 students in ac. year 2016/2017  
3.862 teachers in ac. year 2016/2017  
18.357 average unique user per week  
44.622 average visits per week  
253 average users at the same time on site  
45 institution administrators on Merlin  
104 institutions use Merlin

# The Catalogue of e-Courses at Higher Education institutions in RH

- an overview of e-courses held at HE institutions in the Republic of Croatia
- maintained by the E-learning Centre at SRCE for the Ministry of Science and Education
- 10.599 e-courses for the ac. year 2016/2017
- 13.092 e-courses for the previous ac. years
- hosted at 22 different e-learning systems held at over 108 higher education institutions



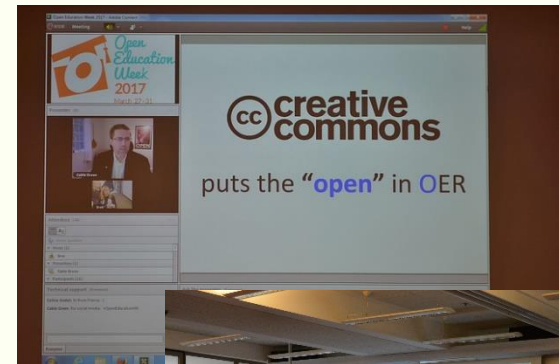


# SRCE actively participate in International Open Education Weeks

video on the topic of OER with an aim to promote and raise awareness about Open Education Resources in Croatia



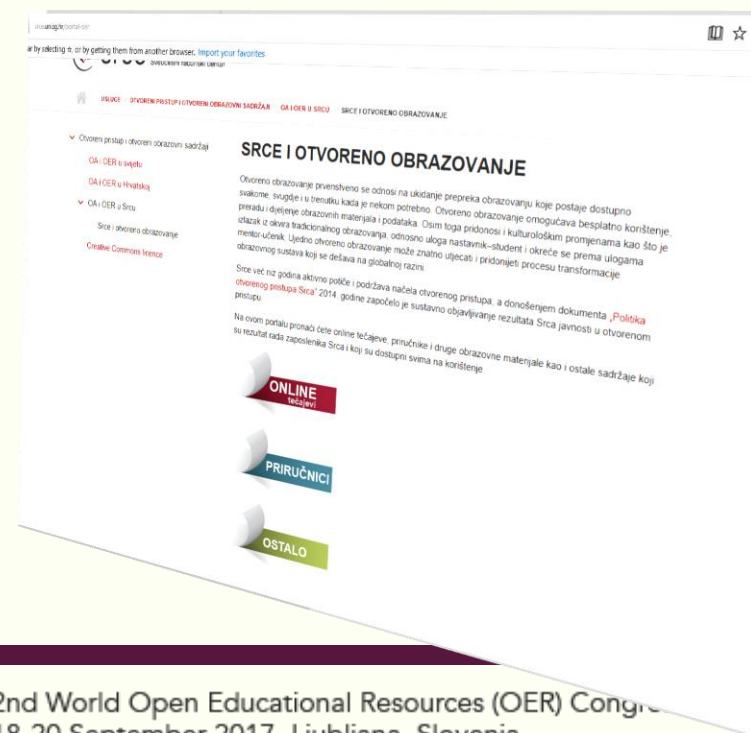
Video is available in Croatian at  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uce5PuJC4ic>



Organisation of discussions, lectures and webinars

# Portal „SRCE& Open Education”

- educational resources developed within the framework of SRCE’s educational activities, under CC licences, open and free to anyone
- topics: basic and advanced use of computers and Internet, web-technologies and web-site design, Linux, e-learning technologies – Moodle, Mahara, System for webinars
- Online courses
- Course Learning materials
- Manuals
- Recordings of lectures and seminars
- Open Badges for taken courses

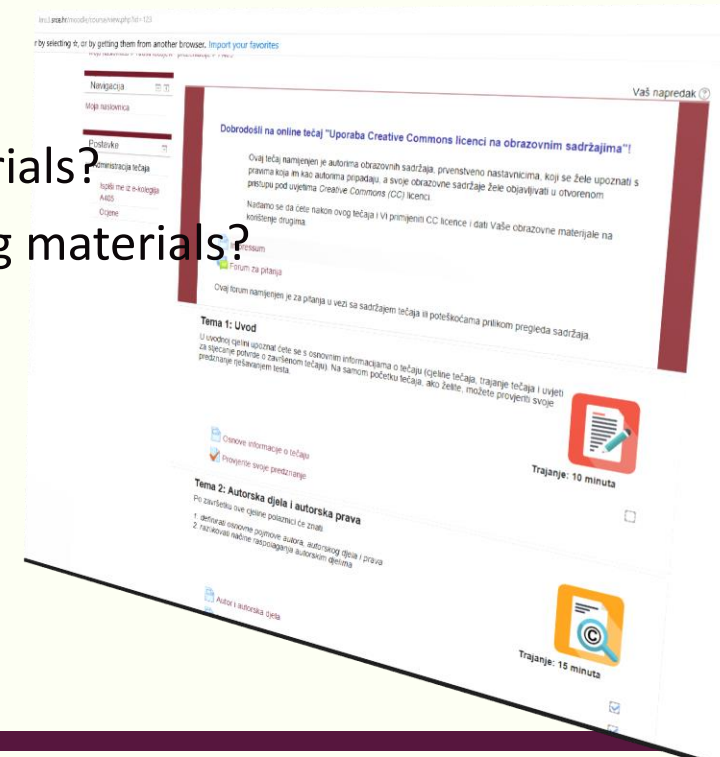


# Online course on use of CC licences on learning materials

For teachers and others who want to use learning materials or publish their own

Topics:

- What are CC licences?
- How to read CC licences on learning materials?
- How to create CC licences for own learning materials?
- What is authored work and copyright?



# Future of Open Education in Croatia

There is still a lot to be done in Croatia in order to raise awareness on the importance of free and open access to education and knowledge.

What is needed and can be done today in Croatia science and education system level, but at the institution level as well?

- To discuss about open access and open educational resources, and stating in the policy documents that they are positive and desired practice, which will be systematically promoted and originated
- To ensure that all publicly funded educational resources are openly available
- To plan and provide resources for the further development of the high-quality open educational resources
- To continue development and increase the availability of the modern e-infrastructure on all levels so open educational resources and other resources can be easily developed, produced and accessed
- To develop digital educational resources, tools and methods for the use of ICT in education and to train teachers, especially in digital skills.