

Famous Croats



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Although a relatively small and unknown country, Croatia can still be proud of the number of people who have contributed to science, culture, politics and sports.



Politics



Ante Starčević (1823-1896)

- *A Croatian politician and writer. Today he is often called the father of the nation.*
- *He fought for the freedom and sovereignty of Croatia.*



Stjepan Radić (1871-1928)

- *A Croatian politician whose violent death turned the name of Stjepan Radić in Croatia's political icon in the struggle for the rights of peasants and workers and the freedom of all Croatian people.*



Alojzije Stepinac (1898-1960)

- *A Bishop of Zagreb, cardinal and theologian.*
- *Publicly denounced nazism during the Second World War.*
- *Died in prison.*
- *Declared a martyr in 1998.*



Josip Broz Tito (1892-1980)

- *President of former Yugoslavia.*
- *The organizer of the uprising against the fascist occupiers during the Second World War.*



Franjo Tuđman (1922-1999)

- *A Croatian historian and politician.*
- *The first president of the HDZ and the first Croatian president.*



Science



Faust Vrančić (1551-1617)



- *An inventor, philosopher and lexicographer, founder of many inventions (the most important - the parachute).*

Ruđer Bošković (1711–1787)

- *A Croatian physicist, mathematician, astronomer, surveyor, engineer, poet, philosopher and a diplomat.*



Ivan Lupis-Vukić (1813-1875)

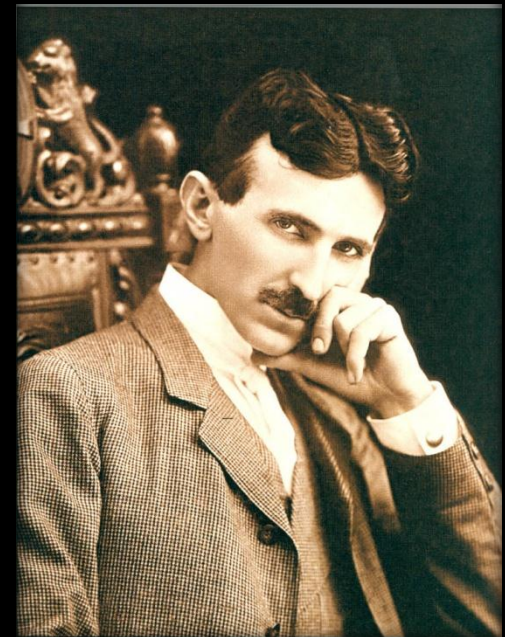
- An officer from Rijeka, the inventor of the torpedo.*



Nikola Tesla (1856-1943)

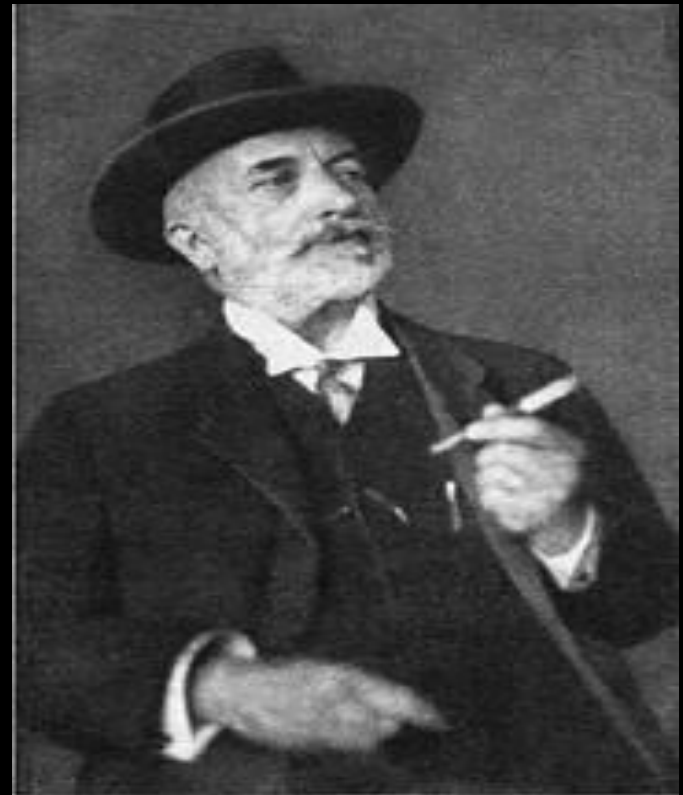
- *A Croatian inventor, electrical engineer and physicist.*
- *Discovered wireless electric power transmission and radio control aircraft.*

He refused to receive the Nobel Prize in physics because he claimed that his line handling Thomas Edison was not a real scientist.



Andrija Mohorovičić (1857–1936)

- *A Physicist - on the basis of surface waves, the first in the world to determine velocity discontinuity which separates the crust from the mantle of the Earth and is named in his honour Mohorovičić discontinuity.*



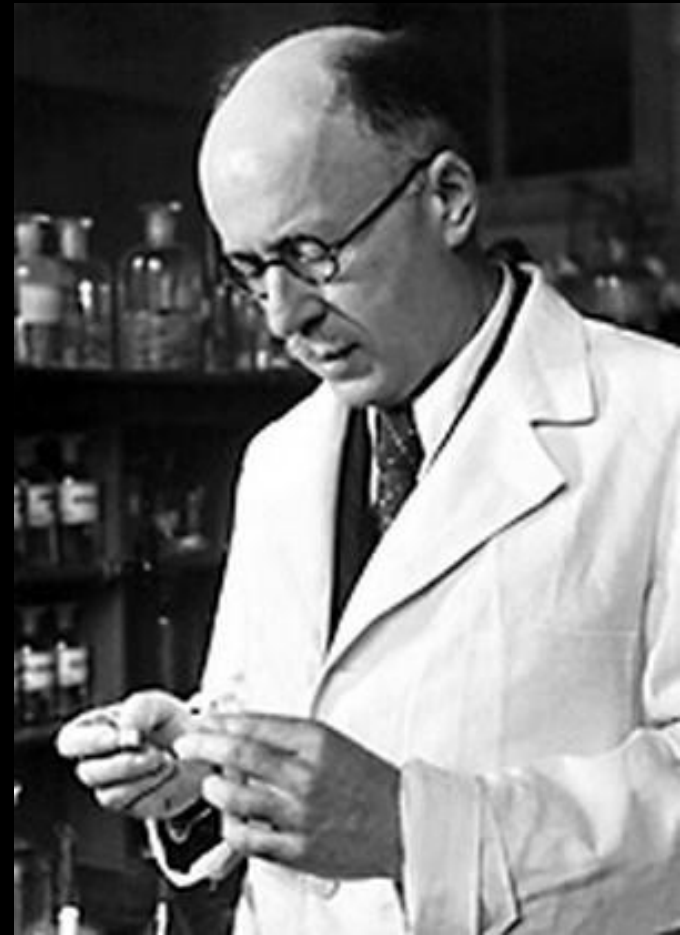
Slavoljub Eduard Penkala (1871-1922)

- *A Croatian inventor*
- *In 1906 he patented the first mechanical pencil - the forerunner of today's pen.*
- *He also patented a two-seated aircraft.*



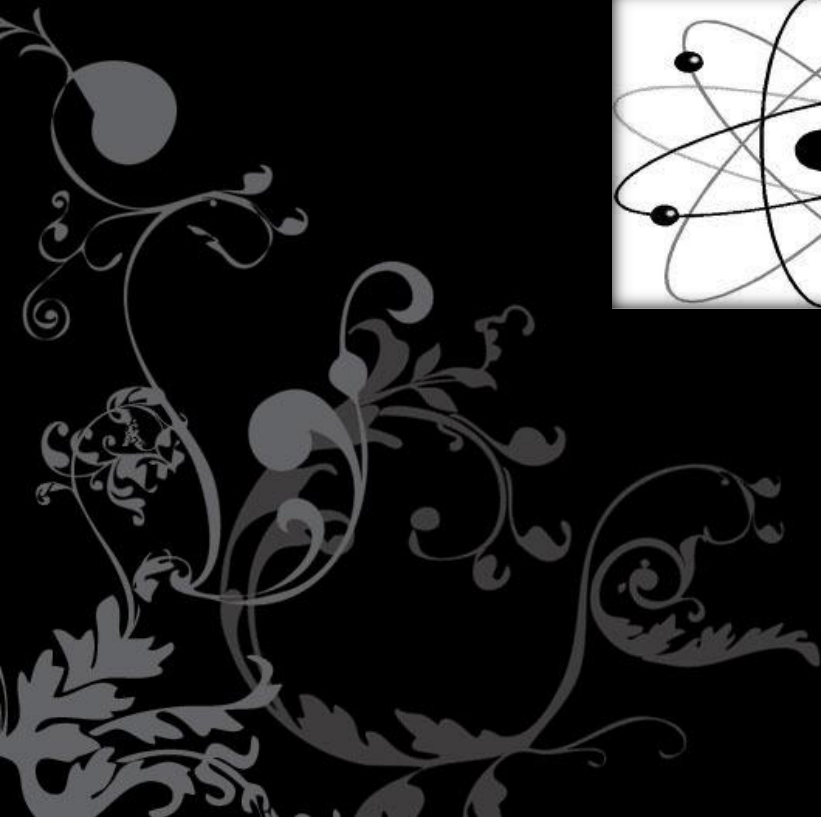
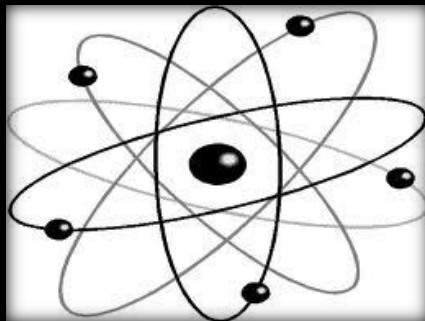
Lavoslav Ružička (1887-1976)

- *A chemist, recieved the Nobel Prize in 1936. He worked in parfume industry.*



Vladimir Prelog (1906-1998)

- *An organic chemist, received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work on the stereochemistry of organic molecules and their reactions.*



Miroslav Radman (1944-)

- *A Croatian biologist and a member of French Academy of Sciences.*
- *Discovered a process that helps bacterium 'Deinococcus radiodurans' to reinvent itself.*

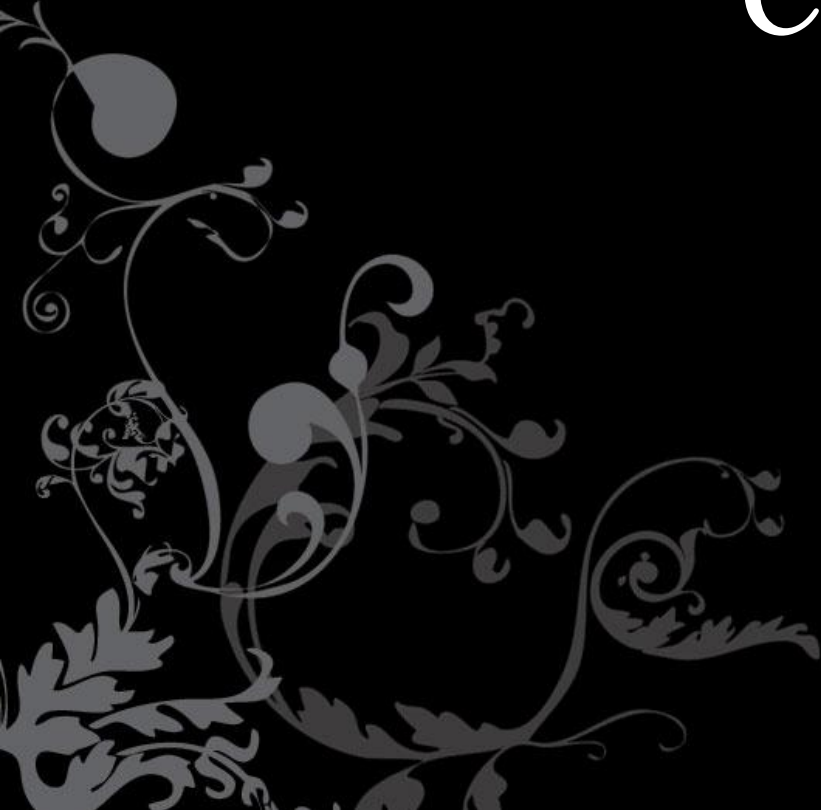


Ivan Đikić (1966-)

- *The head of the Laboratory of Molecular Tumor Biology.*
- *Discovered a mechanism by which cells of human body defend against cancer development.*

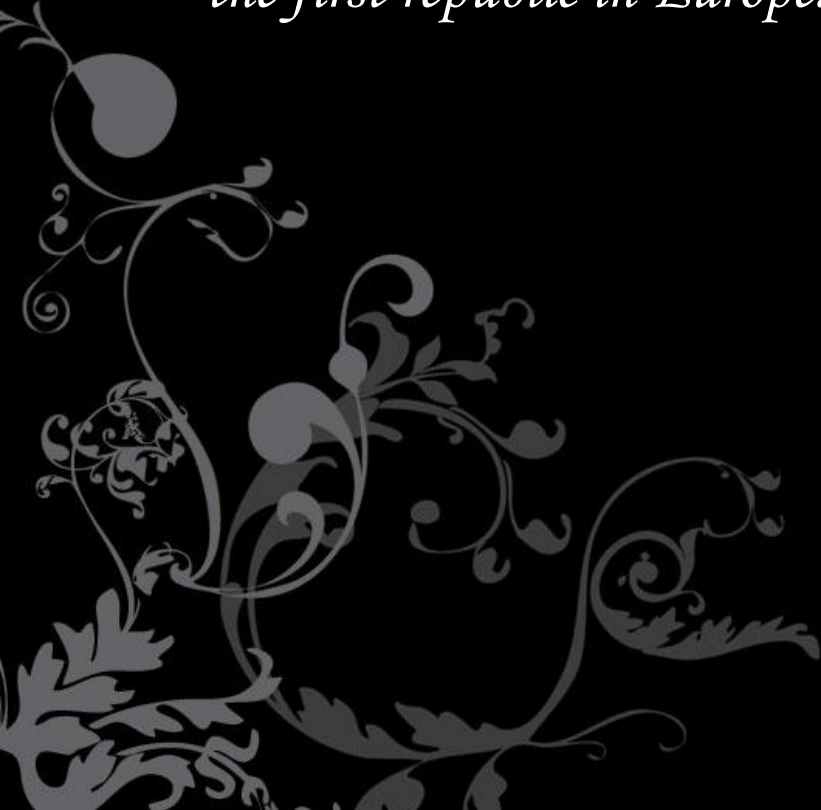


Culture



Marin (4th century)

- *A sculptor from the island of Rab, the founder of San Marino, the first republic in Europe.*



Marco Polo (1254-1324)

- *A navigator, found the way to China, he was born on the island of Korčula.*



Marko Marulić (1450-1524)

- *Croatian writer, often called the father of Croatian literature.*



Marin Držić (1508-1567)

- *A Croatian comedy writer, chronicler of the Republic of Dubrovnik,*



Ivan Gundulić (1589-1638)

- *A writer, famous for the epic "Osman", which celebrates the Republic of Dubrovnik.*



Vatroslav Lisinski (1819-1854)

- *A Croatian composer, created the first Croatian opera “Love and Malice”.*



Ivana Brlić-Mažuranić (1874-1938)

- *A member of intelectual Mažuranić family.*
- *She wrote many stories for children popular to this day.*



Ivan Meštrović (1883-1962)

- The best known and the most famous Croatian sculptor and one of the world's greatest contemporary artists.*



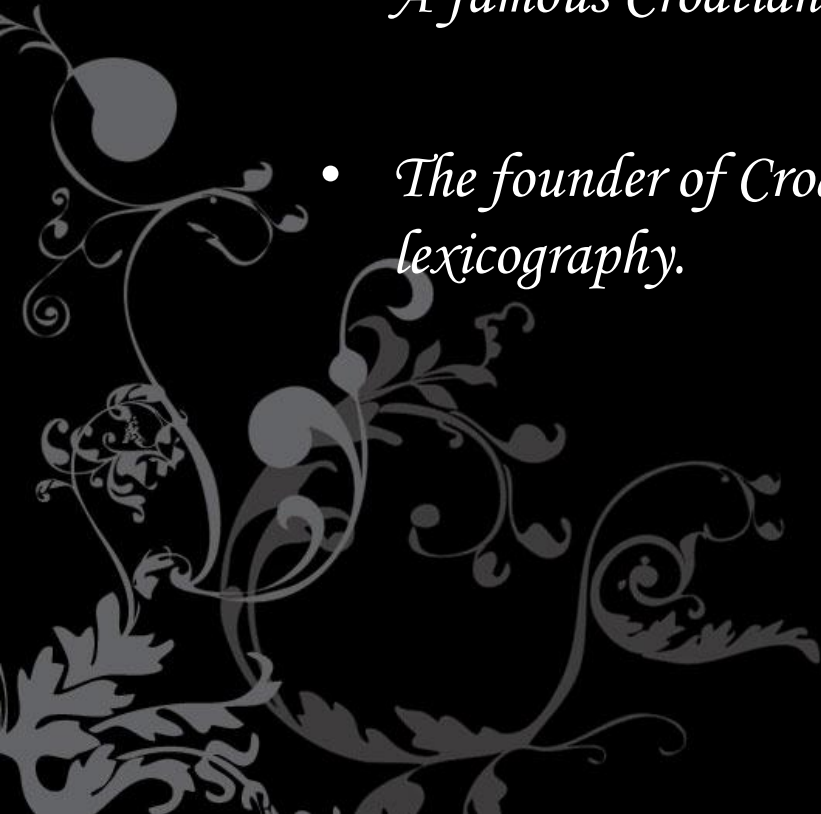
Ivo Andrić (1892-1975)

- *A novelist, short story writer, essayist, poet, and a winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature (1961).*



Miroslav Krleža (1893-1981)

- *A famous Croatian writer.*
- *The founder of Croatian lexicography.*



Dragutin Tadijanović (1905-2007)

- *One of the most famous Croatian writer.*
- *He wrote many beautiful poems which are still very popular.*



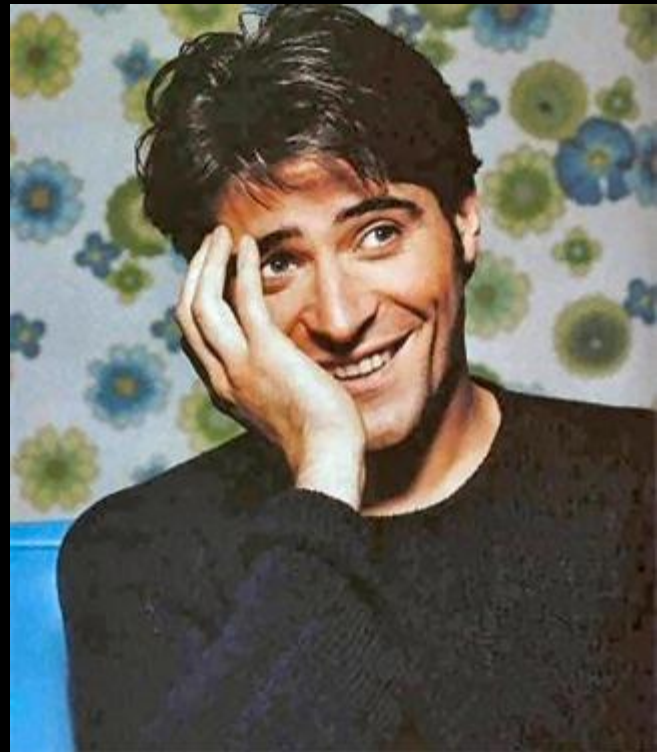
Rade Šarbedžija (1946-)

- *Graduated in 1969 from the Academy of Theatre, Film and Television in Zagreb.*
- *Now he's a world-famous actor .*



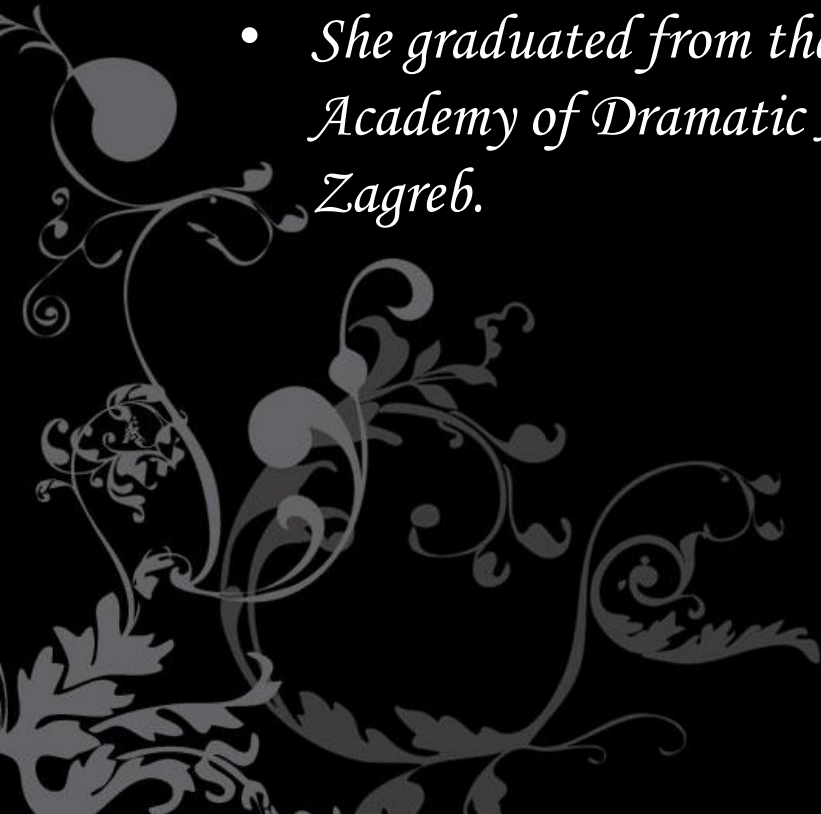
Goran Višnjić (1972-)

- *A Croatian actor.*
- *He played in popular American TV series 'ER' and gained fame.*



Zrinka Cvitešić (1979-)

- *A theatre, television and film actress.*
- *She graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Arts in Zagreb.*



Sports



Dražen Petrović (1964-1993)

- *One of the greatest Croatian and European basketball players and one of the biggest Croatian athletes of all time.*



Davor Šuker (1968-)



- *Voted the player of Croatia in the period between 1954 and 2004. In his career he scored over 300 goals.*
- *With 6 goals in 7 matches led his country to the third place in the World Championship in 1998.*

Goran Ivanišević (1971-)

- *Croatian tennis player, Wimbledon winner in 2001 and the winner of the Davis Cup with his tennis team in 2005.*



Mirko Filipović (1974-)



- *A Croatian boxer, kickboxer, K - 1 fighter and mixed martial arts fighter.*

Janica Kostelić (1982-)

- *The best Croatian female athlete of all time.*
- *With four Olympic gold medals and two silver, Janica Kostelic is the most successful alpine skier in the history of the Winter Olympic Games.*



Blanka Vlašić (1983-)

- *A Croatian athlete, Croatian record holder and current world champion in high jump.*

