



Međunarodni centar književnosti za decu ZMAJEVE DEČJE IGRE  
Zmaj Jovina 26/II, 21000 NOVI SAD • Tel. 021 66 11 266; 66 13 648

We inform you that the Conference on children's Literature of the 68th Zmajevе dečje igre will be held on May 22 and 23, 2025 in Novi Sad. As in previous years, counseling will be held hybridly: live and online.

### **SPACE IN CHILDREN`S AND YA LITERATURE / ECOCRITICAL READINGS**

Conference will be devoted to the research of space in children`s and YA literature, in visual media and arts. This implies not only focusing on modeling the image of space in the construction of a fictional world (open / closed, narrowed, etc.), but also related problem areas: the symbolism of native / regional / Balkan / Mediterranean / European / non-European literary geography; spatial amplitudes – road symbolism; migration and migrant literature. Finally, due to climate change and the need to preserve the living world / the possibility of ecological disasters, we believe that ecocritical readings of children`s and YA literature and related arts are needed – and all these topics can be studied in an ecocritical discourse.

We hope you find these topics inspiring, and we offer several possible theses related to the topic:

- Topography (and toponymy) in children`s and YA literature
- Plains poetics in children`s and YA literature
- Hydrography (and hydronymy) (seas, rivers, lakes) in children`s and YA literature, in film and theater
- Mountain landscape in children`s and YA literature, in visual media and arts
- The world from above / the world from below
- Narrowed / expanded geographical area; impasse / vastness
- City space / natural world / Arcadian space
- The Balkan area in children`s and YA literature, in film and theater
- Native geography and specific regions (Šumadija, Mačva, Jadra valley, Slavonia...)
- The Mediterranean in children`s and YA literature, in visual media and arts
- European space in children`s and YA literature, in visual media and arts
- Other continents in the creativity of writers from the region (especially in the era of socialism - the so-called socialist exoticism)
- Poetics of the road in children`s and YA literature, in visual media and arts
- Migration and exile in children`s and YA literature, in visual media and arts
- Literary ecology / ecological anthropology
- Climate change in children`s and YA literature, film and theater
- Devastation of the living world / ecological disaster in children`s and YA literature, in visual media and arts
- Literary geography in illustration / picture book
- Ecological poetics of illustration / picture book

The deadline for sending the application is November 20, 2024. Please send the works by February 1, 2025. Papers should be no longer than 30,000 single-spaced characters, including abstract, summary and bibliography. The application and fully completed works in accordance with the Instructions that we send you in the attachment should be sent to the address: savetovanje2020@gmail.com.

All papers will be reviewed. Reviewing will be anonymous. Conference will work according to thematic forums. Invitations to meeting participants will be sent based on compliance with the Instructions and reviewers' evaluation. Participants bear their own travel and accommodation expenses. The organizer will publish the works of the participants invited to the Conference in the scientific journal *Childhood / Detinjstvo* before the beginning of the Conference (printed / electronic version). Zmajevе dečje igre will announce the project, provide technical conditions for holding the conference, refreshments, promotional materials and create complete photo documentation.

Coordinator and moderator

Prof. Zorana Opačić