Fifteen-Year Membership of the Croatian Communications and Information Society (CCIS) in the ComSoc's Sister Society

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Croatian Communications and Information Society (CCIS) has started its membership of the ComSoc's Sister Society family in 2002. The Agreement between CCIS and ComSoc was signed at Globecom 2002 in Taipeh. It was renewed three years later in Seoul, at Globecom 2005, and the renewal has been repeated each four years regularly. In 2015 the Agreement between the CCIS and the ComSoc was signed by N. Rozic (CCIS) and S. Benedetto for ComSoc. Today, we are proud to say that CCIS has spent really fruitful fifteen-year period in ComSoc's Sister Society family. A great reason to be happy and honored to continue advancing the collaboration with ComSoc and with other Sister Society members. The information about the ComSoc's Sister family and CCIS can be found at: https://www.comsoc.org/about/SisterSocieties.

Looking in the past, CCIS in cooperation with Croatian Chapter has established a very successful cooperation in organizing main conferences in Croatia in the area of ICT including International Conference on Software, Telecommunications and Computer networks (SoftCOM, International Conference on Telecommunications (ConTEL), and recently the International Conference on Smart and Sustainable Technologies (SpliTech). The CCIS leaders have regularly participated at SS Summits that are traditionally organized in conjunction with ICC and Globecom conferences presenting the activities of the CCIS. We are happy to remind on five-member CCIS group attendance at the Globecom 2008 conference in New Orleans where the secretary Carole Swain organized important contacts and meetings between the CCIS and ComSoc representatives.

The keynote speech at SoftCOM 2017 was held by dr. sc. Sandor Albrecht, director IP and Transport Ericsson Research, presenting the theme "Smart contract, an important building block of adaptable and dynamic networks"

CCIS's main Conference SoftCOM has been technically co-sponsored by ComSoc since 1998. In addition, starting from 2002, the SoftCOM conference has been regularly advertised in the ComSoc's the most popular publication Communications Magazine. SoftCOM Conferences have regularly featured keynote and invited talks, often given by recognized ComSoc's speakers. We are honored to have had an opportunity to host some well known ComSoc leaders as keynote speakers including Sergio Benedetto (SoftCOM 2003) Nim Cheung (SoftCOM 2006), Roberto Saracco (SoftCOM 2007) and others. Besides the ComSoc's leaders, the keynote speaker at SoftCOM 2008 was Elya Joffe, the president of the IEEE EMC Society. Inspiring keynote talks and personal attitude of the mentioned outstanding persons as well as their openness and readiness to communicate with each conference participant have had significant impact on the interest for ComSoc as well as CCIS memberships. The joint CCIS – ComSoc info desk has been regularly organized at SoftCOM conferences. The participants had been offered the samples of ComSoc's main publications, Conference Calendars, Call for Papers, and Forms for Memberships and subscriptions provided by ComSoc.

The opening ceremony and the plenary session was held in attractive ambience of the Radisson Blu Resort hotel, Split, September 22. SoftCOM 2017 was chaired by prof. dr. sc. Dinko Begušić (University of Split, FESB). Prof. Pascal Lorenz welcomed the attendees on behalf of the IEEE ComSoc and TCCS.

In cooperation with the University of Split , Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Naval Architecture (FESB), CCIS publishes the Journal on Communications Software and Systems (JCOMSS) since 2005. JCOMSS is published quarterly and focuses on high-quality, internationally peer reviewed papers that advance the state-of-art and applications in communications software engineering and communications systems including new and emerging technologies, methods, algorithms, implementation aspects as well as reports on

experiments with performance analysis and prototypes. The journal has been endorsed by the ComSoc's Technical Committee of Communications Software (TCCS) from its beginning. In 2007 a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between ComSoc and CCIS which extended the previous Publications Side Agreement to include ComSoc's technical co-sponsorship to JCOMSS and it was renewed in 2012.From the very first beginning of the JCOMSS publishing the policy has inclined to the ComSoc's Transactions standards. The JCOMSS editorial team includes a number of recognized ComSoc members, and reviewers were mostly engaged among members of the IEEE family. Among the authors of the published papers there were several very recognizable names such as Claude Berrou, S. Benedetto, Y. Nemoto, A. Jamalipour, N. Kato, G. Caire, S. Lin, G. Montorsi, F. Chiaraluce, R. Garello, and F. Lattarulo.

Last years JCOMSS has evolved in an open access journal and is currently indexed in Scopus, EBSCO, Doaj, Google Scholar and recently is under evaluation at the Clarivate Analytics (former Thompson Reuters Analytics) for inclusion in the SCIE/ESCI databases.

CCIS members are active in a number of projects with ICT industry in Croatia and abroad including Ericsson Nikola Tesla, Zagreb, the Croatian Regulatory Authority for Network Industry (HAKOM), as well as a number of research groups including the groups from the universities of Milano Torino, Salento and Peruggia, Osaka, Vienna and others. Specifically, collaboration with Ericsson Nikola Tesla is focused to the software engineering in practice, the innovative companies aspects, Telco services and IoT, and Ericsson Nikola Tesla Summer Camps. In collaboration with HAKOM round tables have been organized on topic "*Development of the Infrastructure for the Broadband Access in the Areas with Insufficient Commercial Interest by using Structure and Investment Funds (ESI)*". With universities from Vienna, Zagreb, Budampest and Split a few PhD forums on the topic of innovations in research as well as workshops on doctoral education in ICT have been organized last years.

CCIS regularly solicits members, particularly PhD students to join not only CCIS but also ComSoc so they can easily and preferentially access to the most important publications, conference proceedings and other scientific and technical materials.

The ComSoc's Sister Society Publications website is https://www.comsoc.org/about/SisterSocieties/sister-society-publications, and the JCOMSS home page is available at https://jcomss.fesb.unist.hr/, and the CCIS home page is http://www.ccis.hr/.