

1.01 Izvirni znanstveni članek

UDK 061.2:796:272-051(497.4)"1880/1900"

Prejeto: 14. 4. 2017

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## Nastanek slovenske katoliške telesnovzgojne organizacije Orel

### IZVLEČEK

*Avtor analizira spremembe v pogledih slovenskega katoliškega tabora na področje telesne vzgoje na prelomu iz 19. v 20. stoletje oziroma v obdobju t. i. delitve duhov in ostrega kulturnega boja. To je imelo za posledico nastanek katoliške telesnovzgojne organizacije Orel, ki se je v enem desetletju v mnogih segmentih, na čelu s številčnostjo, močno približala Sokolu. V prispevku je prikazan proces od pojave prvih konkretnih idej o lastni katoliški organizaciji do njene uresničitve in rasti pred prvo svetovno vojno.*

### KLJUČNE BESEDE

*Orel, Sokol, telovadba, telesna vzgoja, šport, kulturni boj*

### ABSTRACT

#### CREATION OF THE SLOVENIAN CATHOLIC GYMNASTICS ORGANISATION OREL

*The author analyses changes in the views of the Slovenian Catholic camp with regard to physical education at the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries or, rather, in the period of the so-called "separation of spirits" and fierce cultural struggle. One of the consequences was the establishment of the Catholic gymnastics organisation Orel, which in the span of a decade came very close to its counterpart Sokol in many aspects, including its numerical strength. The contribution describes the process from the first concrete notions about establishing their own Catholic organisation to its materialisation and growth before the First World War.*

### KEY WORDS

*Orel, Sokol, gymnastics, physical education, sports, cultural struggle*

## VIRI IN LITERATURA

## ČASOPISI IN GLASILA

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## SUMMARY

## Creation of the Slovenian Catholic gymnastics organisation Orel

The Catholic gymnastics organisation Orel (Eagle) was founded in the early twentieth century, on the example of the Sokol (Falcon) organisation, the main driving force behind the Slovenian national awakening endeavours in the field of physical education since 1863. The founding of Orel was a direct response to the formation of political parties in the liberal and Catholic camps, as well as to the fierce cultural struggle, which had begun between the said camps at the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Although the first anti-Sokol ideas were already voiced in the early 1890s by Catholic Bishop Anton Mahnič, who was one of the main protagonists of the »cultural struggle« in the Slovenian territory, it is impossible to claim, at least for the period until the end of the century, that the Catholic camp developed any particularly negative attitude towards Sokol or made any serious attempt to found its own gymnastics organisation. The latter idea came to fruition with the decision passed by the municipal council of the Slovenian Christian-Social Union (SKSZ) in November 1905, when the Catholic leaders ultimately recognised the revived and rapidly growing Sokol as the instrument of their liberal opponent and fully realised the necessity to establish a similar form of organised activity among the Catholic youth.

Even though Catholic gymnastics was introduced in Jesenice before the above decision was passed, the first place among the gymnastics sections of SKSZ was officially ascribed to the Ljubljana sec-

tion in 1906. The following year saw the formation of the Union of Gymnastics Sections, which operated autonomously under SKSZ and from then on occupied an important place in the Catholic secular activities. In 1908, the Orel organisation obtained its own gazette *Mladost* (Youth) and changed its name into Orel Union. With the support of the Catholic apparatus as well as professional and organisational skills borrowed from Sokol, the Orel organisation experienced a rapid, albeit initially quiet growth. Its main objectives were to provide youth with training and education to transform them into sound future workers of the Catholic organisation and simultane-

ously dam the onslaught of liberalism into the countryside by creating a worthy rival to Sokol. Over the course of its development, the organisation faced many growing pains ranging from the lack of basic factors, such as appropriate premises and gymnastic masters, to understanding the notion of physical education and dilemmas (e.g. gym for women) that involved moral scruples. Nevertheless, shortly before the First World War (1913), the Catholic gymnastics organisation successfully coordinated an all-Orel trip, which demonstrated the major progress it had made within less than a decade of its existence.