

INSTITUTUM STUDIORUM HUMANITATIS
LJUBLJANA GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THE HUMANITIES



Letter of reference for the applicant HRACHIA KAZHOYAN

I have known colleague HRACHIA KAZHOYAN for the last two years while I have been his professor at the *Institutum studiorum humanitatis*, where he is presently enrolled as a postgraduate student. He is a devoted student and is fulfilling his obligations regularly.

The candidate is a brilliant young intellectual with a wide background of knowledge. He especially excels in the "lateral thinking", in asking unorthodox and revealing questions and has a fascinating theoretical intuition. He is also exceptionally articulate and has a pleasant, witty and precise manner of debating. For these reasons he is a most welcome participant to the seminars and other discussions, a great help to his professors and an appreciated debating partner to his colleagues.

Within his work for the course "Epistemology of the humanities" which I am co-ordinating, he has prepared a text that is to become the Introduction to his master thesis "Communication of the visual experience in the modern mass media". In this paper, he has competently articulated his points on the background of a vast body of literature; he had himself worked for the television and has been able to use his practical experience on the level of theoretical reflection.

The candidate's master thesis treats theoretically urgent issues on the basis of the recent literature. One of the noteworthy qualities of the candidate is his ability to articulate the recent developments in theory to the great traditions in the humanities and social sciences. His capacity of a holistic approach is valuable beyond the horizon of a master thesis.

He has very successfully participated to the workshop "The New Media and Politics", organised on May 28 by the Viennese *Institut fuer die Wissenschaften vom Menschen* within the co-operation of our two Institutes. He presented the paper "Internet and its users" which triggered a lively and productive debate.

The candidate is an expert in the computer technology and often assists at mending it at our Institute. He does it with competence and an educational talent that profits the Institute's staff, and also its professors.

The candidate is a pleasantly sociable person and has blended into the Institute's environment with facility and grace that are fascinating. He has mastered Slovene, the local language, in an impressively short time and now speaks it fluently. He regularly participates to complicated discussions in Slovene, and, needless to say, uses it in everyday life almost impeccably.

The candidate has completed his obligations at the Institute and has now to finish his thesis. According to the regulations of the Institute, this is his obligation for the academic year 1997-98. We have also agreed that he participates to the seminars and lectures: this will be an important contribution to the quality of our educational work, for we know that the candidate's contributions will be valuable and will animate other students.

I have tried to convey my high appreciation of the candidate's achievements and my admiration for his personality within the parsimonious framework of a letter of reference. I most warmly recommend the candidate's application to your kind consideration.

Ljubljana, July 4, 1997

Rastko Močnik, 

professor of sociology of culture

co-ordinator of the "Epistemology of the humanities"