

The making of global sociology

Sociology involves the **systematic study** of the character and patterns of **human interaction**. Human behavior is often **structured** by historical events, beliefs and social influences acting on an individual, a family or a wider social group. (22)

... describing and theorising cultural and **social** worlds,
framing **social** policy, developing critiques of conventional
wisdoms and social practices that stifle human potential
(23)

N1: Prevedite te del stavka!

a) Sociology as a science

»Positivists« ... seek to minimize **normative** (that is value-laden) comments.

b) Sociology as imaginative understanding

A missing dimension: 'the self' or 'the subjective' in society ... the meaning of a particular **act**

M. Weber: Verstehen ... to understand the **subjective meaning** of an act and its context.

Symbolic interactionism: people actively create, shape and select their response to what is around them (25)

c) Sociology and the search for knowledge

... some sociologists have suggested that honesty and integrity in research do not necessarily imply **value neutrality**

... an ideological and not a sociological exercise (26)

N2: Pojasnite razliko med ideološkim in sociološkim opazovanjem družbe!

d) Sociology as a critique and its public responsibility

Burawoy: Professional, critical, policy, public sociology.

Some milestones in the history of sociology

Sociology has its roots in the period after the French Revolution...

M. Weber: he sought to develop a **holistic sociology** that added to the issue of class identities, questions of status... (31)

The changing context of sociology

... the natures of local communities and **national societies** are being challenged by profound changes at the global level (32).

One step back: The reversion to national sociology

... from about 1914 to the end of the Second World War, comparative and holistic sociology went into decline in Europe and North America (33) ... exclusive, powerful, **modern nation states** (33).

The Great Depression (33).

N3: Napišite slovensko oznako za to obdobje!

Two steps forward: the beginning of global sociology

The end of the Second World War (34): Japan, USA and the Soviet Union, decolonization, new actors on the word stage.

The 'iron curtain' separated East from the West... (35).

N4: Kaj označuje ta izraz in kdo naj bi bil njegov avtor?

Convergence, modernization, capitalist mode of production, dependency and underdevelopment, the 'Third World', the risk society.

I. Wallerstein (39): the modern world system, economic determinism.

N5: Pojasnite vsebino pojma ekonomski determinizem!

Global changes demand that we extend our state-centric theories... (41).

Thinking globally

... societies as separate **entities** (44).

... we are not suggesting that globalization is beyond the control of **human agencies** (44).

a) What is globalization?

... is best understood as a set of mutually reinforcing **transformations** that occur more or less simultaneously (44)

- Changing concepts of space and time: the compression of the world, time-space compression.

-Increasing cultural interactions and flows: abstract systems of understanding, 'global village', multicultural world.

N6: Pojasnite vsebino pojma abstract systems of understanding!

-The commonality of problems: world risk society, sense of empathy with other human beings, **global human condition** (50).

-Interconnectedness and interdependencies: network society, non-state actors, global and local.

-Transnational **actors** and organizations: TNCs, IGOs, INGOs, GSMs, diasporas and stateless people, migrants, international tourists, professionals, media personalities, world economic elites (**corporation personnel...**), au pairs...

N7: Kaj je skupna značilnost profesionalcev?

- Synchronization of all dimensions.

b) Globality:

-thinking about ourselves collectively: humankind as one entity (58)

-growth of multicultural and transnational awareness (the long era of one-sided cultural and political flow is over...)

- reflexive social actors and modernity: individual freedom and reflexivity, globalization and reflexivity

N8: Kaj je poglobitna značilnost reflektivnih družbenih akterjev?

- the broadening of identities: selection (glocalization), adaptation, resistance