

FSK in the Programme of Slovenia's Guest of Honour at the Frankfurt Book Fair with Prominent Authors:

Drago Jančar, Georgi Gospodinov, Oksana Zabuzhko and Aleksandar Gatalica will discuss Slavic literary contacts during the periods of conflicts.



Translations in Times of War: Slavic Literary Contacts In Times of Armed Conflict and Political Confrontations

Although the Slavic languages are close to each other and are mostly related and even contact cultures that have developed in close interaction with each other, their literary relations are not always harmonious and continuous, but often move from periods of intense contact to periods of lack of interest, even rejection. The break-up of Yugoslavia, the transition and the current war in Ukraine have had a profound impact on cultural links. How do authors who have been touched in different ways by the wars between Slavic countries view cooperation and exchange in the field of literature and culture in general? How many direct contacts are there and how are they influenced by success in the wider international arena.

*The discussion will be moderated by **Mladen Vesković**, Editor-in-Chief of the Hundred Slavic Novels collection*

Georgi Gospodinov (1968) is the author of 2023 International Booker Prize winning novel *Time Shelter*, and two other award-winning novels, *Natural Novel* and *The Physics of Sorrow*. His books, including poetry, short stories, and essays, are translated into more than 30 languages.

Drago Jančar (1948), writer, playwright and essayist, is one of the most renowned and translated contemporary Slovenian authors. He has received many of the most

prominent Slovenian and international awards for his work - in 2020 he received the Austrian State Prize for European Literature.

Mladen Vesković (1971) graduated in Serbian literature with comparative literature. He is literary critic, essayist and editor, author of five books of criticism and essays. President of the organizing committee of the Novi Sad International Book Fair, editor-in-chief of the 100 Slavic Novels collection of the Forum of Slavic Cultures and member of the program council of the Traduki network.

Aleksandar Gatalica (1964) graduated from the Department of General Literature with Classic Sciences. Accomplished significant results in several areas of activity. Finished 8 novels and 6 collections of short stories, which have been translated into major European languages and received important national awards. He is translator from the Old Greek and active as a music critic and writer.

Oksana Zabuzhko (1960) is Ukraine's major novelist, essayist, poet, and intellectual. Her books have been translated into more than 20 languages, and won her numerous national and international awards (including Shevchenko National Prize of Ukraine, Angelus Central European Literary Prize, the French Order of the Legion of Honour, etc.).

Photos: Phelia Baruch; Boris Pretnar, Agnete Brun