La nascita e l’attività della Società politica si volgevano principalmente verso l’ampliamento del movimento nazionale e l’opposizione all’influsso dei liberali italiani. La parte centrale dell’Istria era molto importante per la Società politica, perciò la sede della società fu istituita a Pisino. Dopo il rafforzamento della posizione in questa zona dell’Istria, poteva venir preso in considerazione il rafforzamento dell’influsso nella zona occidentale della penisola, nei capitanati di Parenzo e Pola. Ma, a causa della forte posizione dei liberali italiani nell’Istria occidentale – favorito dal sistema elettivo curiale – la Società politica non poteva realizzare dei buoni risultati elettorali, anche perché i liberali italiani avevano i propri sostenitori nella zona centrale e quella orientale dell’Istria e realizzavano la propria influenza nell’amministrazione comunale in base ai risultati delle elezioni. Ciò è facilmente denotabile se si paragona la composizione etnica della popolazione ai risultati di certe elezioni comunali.

Nell’articolo è presentato anche il rapporto dei Popolari istriani verso i Socialdemocratici e i Cristiano-sociali italiani. È presentato inoltre l’impegno dei Popolari istriani nella soluzione della questione della lingua liturgica, considerato parte della totalità della questione nazionale che comprendeva più ampi rapporti sociali e i rapporti socio-economici. Nella ricerca sono stati consultati i documenti dell’autorità imperiale e reale di Pisino custoditi dall’Archivio di Stato di Pisino e i documenti manoscritti di Vjekoslav Spinčić dell’Archivio di Stato della Croazia a Zagabria.

Con la fondazione e l’attività dell’organizzazione politica, la fondazione e l’attività dell’organizzazione economica, l’attività delle istituzioni culturali e grazie alla nuova legge elettorale per il parlamento viennese (quando in base al diritto elettorale il Partito popolare croato-sloveno ebbe successo alle elezioni del 1907) venne superato lo stallo nello sviluppo del movimento nazionale dei Croati e Sloveni in Istria.

National movement of Istrian Croatians and Slovenians at the turn of the 20th century, and the founding of Political Society for Croatians and Slovenians in Istria in 1902

Summary
The results of the elections for Istrian Provincial Parliament at the turn of the 20th century, as well as the results of the elections for the Imperial Council, were an indication of Croatian and Slovenian national movement’s stagnation in Istria. Weakened positions of national movement were not only obvious in political, but in economy relations as well. In order to overcome the state of the affairs, the leaders of the Istrian nationalists decided in 1902 to form their own political organisation Political Society for Croatians and Slovenians in Istria, which, of course, was not an indication of that they were withdrawing from joint work and activity with Political Society Edinost from Trieste when it came to mutual concerns.

The formation and the activities of Political Society were at first centred on spreading the national movement and opposing the influence of Italian liberals. The central part of Istria was extremely important to Political Society, this is why
the seat was in Pazin. After their position was consolidated in that part of Istria, it became possible to consider consolidating the influence in the Western parts of the peninsula: to Poreč and Pula district captaincies. However, due to strong positions of Italian liberals in Western Istria – which were enabled by the curial electoral system – Political Society was not able to achieve good electoral results, even more so because Italian liberals had their own supporters in central and Eastern parts of Istria and had strong influence on municipal administration based on the results of the elections. This is most noticeable when population’s ethnicities were compared to the results of some municipal elections.

The text also demonstrates the attitude of Istrian Croatian and Slovenian nationalists towards Social-Democrats and Italian Social Christians. It also showed work Istrian nationalists have put into solving the question of the language used in liturgy which at the time was considered to be of national importance and included broader social relations, such as socio-economic relations. Documents from Imperial and Royal Authority of Pazin stored in the State Archives in Pazin were used for the research, as well as documents belonging to Handwritten legacy of Vjekoslav Spinčić from Croatian State Archives in Zagreb.

With founding and subsequent work of the political organisation, with founding and subsequent work of economic organization, with the activities of cultural institutions, and with the help of the new election law for Viennese Parliament (when based on the general election law, Croatian-Slovenian National Party achieved a great success in 1907 elections), the halt in the development of nationalist movement of Istrian Croatians and Slovenians had been overcome.