

## IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR APPLICATION TO UNIVERSITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

### Challenge

Higher education in Croatia has been in the middle of a transformation process. Adjustment of the education system to European and global standards, with the aim of redesigning Croatian society into the society of knowledge, requires high degree of cooperation between all participants offering or looking for higher education. One of the tasks in this transformation process is the introduction of a unique national information system for application to universities.

### Solution

Taking into account examples and experiences from other European countries and using ARIS tools as a standard, a detailed conceptual design of the future National Information System for Application to Universities in the Republic of Croatia has been created.

### Benefits

- Detailed process model of application and entry to high schools in the Republic of Croatia, unique and same for all students who finished the 4-year secondary education and successfully passed the state exam
- Process model made available online to all participants in the system



The Ministry of Science, Education and Sport is in charge of administrative and other activities relating to education at all levels in the country and abroad, educational standards, development of the educational system, student standard, securing financial and material conditions of work in education and other education related activities.

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**“The project of information system for application to universities has been in progress for six years and it will be the backbone of the whole educational system... We are talking about the most significant project in the history of Croatian education!”**

Dragan Primorac | Minister | Ministry of Science, Education and Sports | Republic of Croatia

## Challenge

In the course of the past several years, the higher education system went through numerous changes and transformations with different results and degree of success. The Bologna process introduced important changes in the system: three cycles of studying (undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate), binary system (faculty and high school degree) and quality assurance system in universities.

State exam (matriculation), introduced in the eve of this project initiative, represents the checking point and valuation of knowledge and ability of the students acquired in education process regulated according to educational plans and programs.

These standardized exams will take place simultaneously throughout the country, under the same conditions and criteria for all participants. The idea of an electronic application for high school programs came out of the concept that the state exam, apart from being the finishing point of the secondary school education, should be used as one of the mandatory conditions for applying to a certain university program, bringing along a certain point score for each student.

The task of IDS Scheer consultants was to create conceptual design of the university application system, taking into account requirements from all included participants, but also taking care of the flexibility and effectiveness of business processes.

## Solution

In order to create a satisfactory proposition for the new concept of application system to high schools in Croatia, modeling and analysis of business processes of all institutions involved in this process were carried out. Continuous exchange and availability of information in all project stages was required as key elements for achieving the project goals.

The project was realized through the following stages:

- Preparation phase
- Repository structuring
- Identification of all institutions involved
- Modeling of business processes
- As-is analysis
- Creation of to-be concept of the national information system and detailed specification of online entry procedure

The last phase was the most extensive one. Using the data and knowledge gathered in the previous stages, a structured repository of to-be processes was established, which provided the conceptual design for the future information system and a detailed specification of the online procedure for application.

## Benefits

The project provided numerous benefits to the education system in the Republic of Croatia:

- A detailed process model of application and entry to high schools in Croatia has been defined, unique for all students graduating the 4-year secondary education and passing the state exam
- Process model available online to all participants in the system, making the basis for further analysis, performance measurement and future improvements

In addition, there are several benefits directly for the students:

- There will be a clear insight in the subjects required at the state exam as to apply for the appropriate university
- Apart from mandatory subjects, students will have a range of up to 11 electoral subjects with the possibility to apply subsequently for 10 additional high school programs

- Students applying for different universities at the same time, in only one process

After having collected the state exam results and verifying all other results (e.g. success at national school competitions), a public process of generating the entry lists for the universities starts and the students can choose between programs they applied for and gathered enough points to enter.

### KEY COMPONENTS:

- ARIS Business Server
- ARIS Business Architect
- ARIS Business Publisher
- IDS Scheer Consulting

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