

Catholicism in Croatia

Croatian transcript:

Hrvatska je dosta religiozna zemlja. Prema zadnjem popisu stanovništva, ovdje dakle je 89 posto katolika. Dosta se, znači¹, štuju te katoličke vrijednosti, i potiču. U biti, više se potiče ta tradicija; sad, ovisi koliko ljudi stvarno žive pod tim kršćanskim načelima. O tome bi se vjerovatno dalo raspravljat... Štuju se, znači, blagdani, i to su ujedno i državni praznici tipa Božić, Uskrs, Velika Gospa... A, u Hrvatskoj, znači, dosta crkva ima utjecaj, kako i u politici, tako i u svakodnevnom životu... Evo u zadnje vrijeme, koliko ja uspijem, ovako, ne znam, vidjeti, koliko se ja uspijem možda uključiti, postoji puno tih nekakvih manjih, aaa, katoličko-duhovnih zajednica, koje znači potiču tu reevangelizaciju ljudi, jer, eto ne znam... Ljudi su, znači, dosta vezani uz tu tradiciju, znači, imaju sakramente, kršteni su, idu u crkvu, čisto iz nekakve tradicije, a ne iz nekakvih dubokih uvjerenja.

English translation:

Croatia is quite religious as a country. According to the last census, around 89 percent of the population is Catholic. So, those Catholic values are respected a lot, and encouraged as well. Generally, the tradition itself is more encouraged; now, I'm not sure how many people really live according to those Christian values. That is something which is probably debatable... So, the holidays are observed; these [Church holidays] are also state holidays, such as Christmas, Easter, and Assumption of Mary... So, in Croatia, the Church has quite a lot of influence on politics and in everyday life... Here lately, as far as I can, I mean, notice; as far as I can see, there are many small, err, Catholic-spiritual communities which are pushing for the re-evangelization of people, because, err, I don't know... People are, I mean, quite rooted in this tradition, meaning that they observe sacraments, they were baptized², they go to church, etc., all because of some sort of tradition, and not from some deep conviction.

¹ *Znači*: (lit. trans. "meaning") A filler more common in South Serbia and northern Montenegro than in Croatia. In this transcript, it was translated as "I mean" to clearly mark it as a filler in English as well. Please note that this word has other meanings, and that it sometimes might be difficult to discern whether it is a filler or a regular part of speech.

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