

# The introduction of date definitions for Serbian language in latin script `serbian-date-lat` package

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## Abstract

The `babel` documentations in **section 53**, and in the `serbian.dtx` defines date for serbian language in latin scripts, but in the way which not recognize modern gramaticall rules of serbian language. Major mistake in the name of month which now call `\juni` and `\juli` which is propriate translation is `\jun` and `\jul` and after a year is dot. In this document I try to introduction propriate way of date definitions for Serbian language in latin script.

## 1 Confusion about numbers

In serbian language exist several way to type a date. The most common way is:

1. Danas je 13. jun 2011. godine. (Today is 13. july 2011. year.)
2. Danas je 01.06.2011. godine. (Today is 01.06.2011. year.)
3. Danas je 13.VI.2011. godine. (Today is 13.VI.2011. year.)

The first way is a best way. He represents all grammatical rule, which exist in serbian language. Date is contains a numbers of a day, name of the

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month writing in lowercase, and year. After a day is dot. Day and month is separate by *space*, and month and year is separate by *space*. After a year is dot.

The second way is a law way, which is exist in lower processing, and for a court. Date is contains a numbers of a day, month and year separating whith a dots, whith no *extra space*, because is, in this world, always exist attempt to overwriting or retyping a date, and that is a confusion for a legal paper.

**Note:** In a legal papers we maybe wrote a date in samething like that:

1. 6. 2011. (whith a *space*) and that is a correct date. If a wrote in this way, error is posible, if we retyping by 11. 6. 2011. or 21. 6. 2011. Because of that, in legal papers, always is typing a full number with numbers *zero*, and no *extra space*. **Example:** 01.06.2011. If we have typing a date in this way, we have no confusing.

The last way exist is same papers in local purpose or, if you back in past, etc. In a modern worlds this style is no more purpose. Date is contains a numbers of a day, month and year separating whith a dots, whith no *extra space*. Day and year is a roman letters, month is arabic letters.

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**Example:** Od mnogih pohvala, evo ukratko samo nekoliko, koje ubedljivo govore o velikom uspehu Perunovog pevanja i guslanja. “Svome milom Petru Perunoviću, prvom srpskom guslaru koga sam ikad čuo i koji me je svojom divnom pesmom zadivio. Njujork, 11. oktobar 1916. dr. Mihailo Pupin.” — “Svojom pesmom svuda ćete steći prijatelje, naročito među Srbima i Hrvatima . . . Večno pesmom i guslama širite slogu i jedinsvo. Time ćete najviše koristiti svome narodu. Njujork, 21. jun 1919. Nikola Tesla.”<sup>1</sup>

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## 2 The way out

Major changes in translation date for serbian language is in `\juni`, `\juli` and after a years is a dot. The correct name of the month is `\jun`, `\jul` and today is 6. jun 2011. but not tomorow. To produce a date in serbian language in latin script just put in preambula samething like that:

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<sup>1</sup>Book: Golgota i Vaskrs Srbije 1916—1918., article: Značaj guslara Petra Perunovića—Peruna, author: Slavko Pejić, page 385, paragraph no.5, publisher: Beogradsko Izdavačko—Grafički Zavod (BIGZ), Beograd 1971.

```
\usepackage[T1]{fontenc}
\usepackage[latin1,cp1250]{inputenc}
```

That is correct setup for most users in Serbia, because is almost *all* on Microsoft operating system. After that you put, in preambula, few more line like this:

```
\usepackage[serbian]{babel}
\def\dateserbian{%
  \def\today{\number\day .~\ifcase\month\or
    januar\or februar\or mart\or april\or maj\or
    jun\or jul\or avgust\or septembar\or oktobar\or
    novembar\or decembar\fi \space \number\year.\space}}
```

So, when you type `\today` this a produce a date in serbian language, in latin script, in a best way which know a serbian grammatical rule (**Section 1.**, first most common way).

### 3 The package

Also, I am produce a package with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X style extensions. So, if you prefer packages you are must just *after* a line `\selectlanguage{serbian}` put the line `\usepackage{serbian-date-lat}` and push you PC machine to working.

### 4 Working

This way  $\mathcal{E}$  package, which I represents in section 2 and section 3, working in *4all* L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X documentclass  $\mathcal{E}$  `memoir` documentclass.

### 5 Conclusion

I suppose, in the future, the correct setup of date definintions for serbian language in latin scripts, which I represent in this paper, is in the integrate in a babel package, and replace date definitions which we know now.

## 6 Acknowledgements

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