Zvjezdan Penezić was born in Bajmok (Subotica). He graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy in Zadar with a degree in psychology. At the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb, he obtained a master's degree and a doctorate in psychology.

In November 2022, he was appointed as a full professor of social sciences in the field of Psychology.

The focus of his scientific work is on the study of various aspects of personality, especially on the study of personality traits for understanding the subjective well-being of different groups of people.

He teaches at the University of Zadar at the undergraduate and graduate levels of psychology. As a lecturer and supervisor, he has been involved in the Doctoral Programme in Psychology at the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb and the Doctoral Programme in International Relations, and has participated in the international collaborative study on the Sociology of regional and local development.

He has been a supervisor of over 100 bachelor's and master's theses, of four defended dissertations, and co-supervisor of two defended dissertations. As a lecturer and supervisor, he is active in doctoral education in psychology at the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb and in joint doctoral education in international relations at the University of Zadar and Libertas University.

He has participated as a researcher in six scientific research projects approved and funded by the Ministry of Science and Education. Currently, he is a collaborator/researcher on two projects funded by the Croatian Science Foundation. He is also the leader of a part of the Horizon 2020 Research for Society project implemented at the University of Zadar.

For several years he was a member of the panel for evaluation of submitted scientific projects of the Croatian Science Foundation. He is a member of the Project Evaluation Panel and a project reviewer for the Slovak Research and Development Agency.

Professor Penezić is the author and co-author of more than 80 scientific and professional articles published in relevant psychological journals and publications in Croatia and abroad, and has successfully presented numerous research results at scientific and professional meetings in Croatia and abroad.

He is co-author of a university textbook (Management of an Educational Institution: Principal's Competence Profile, 2016), co-author of a scientific monograph (Personality: Developmental Psychological Perspective, 2018) and co-editor of two scientific monographs published in Croatia (Psychological Aspects of

the Modern Family, Marriage and Partnership, 2014) and abroad (Parenthood and Parenting in Croatia: A Developmental and Socio-cultural Perspective, 2015).

He is the editor-in-chief of the journal Suvremena psihologija, as well as a reviewer for several university textbooks and a number of national and international scientific journals.

He is a member of the Croatian Chamber of Psychologists, the Croatian Psychological Society, the European Association for Personality Psychology (EAPP) and the Association for Research in Personality.

He has held several mandates as Head of the Department of Psychology at the University of Zadar and as Deputy Head of the same Department, as well as Head of the Chair of Personality Psychology. He was vice rector of the University of Zadar.

For his scientific and professional work he received several national awards (Bujas Gold Plaque for a particularly valuable thesis (1997), the Award of the Rector of the University of Zadar for outstanding results in scientific productivity and improvement of the quality of teaching (2018), social recognition: "Marulić: Fiat Psychologia" for a special contribution to the development and work of the Croatian Psychological Society (2018), and the Ramiro Bujas Psychological Award for a particularly valuable psychological scientific work (2019)).

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