

## **Exploring the terrain of friendship in rural and remote island communities**

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### ***Abstract***

The paper explores idea of the liminality as a terrain of friendship in the rural and remote island communities of the Zadar archipelago. During the process a number of important considerations associated with ethnographic studies emerged, prompting the following questions: How do we trace terrain? How can we capture it in the most authentic way? How do we translate it while preserving its essence? We turn to Perroux's idea of economic space to help us to trace the terrain as a complex relationship of a friendship within the island community. We capture the terrain through unspoiled visual and oral stories and translate them with the help of storytelling and deconstruction. A terrain of friendship emerges as a communal friendship and the study accentuates its valuable role in preserving the quality of life for rural and island communities. In this way, the study extends the application of the ethnography and liminality to the 'edge'; to a terrain of communal friendship in rural and remote island communities; introduces community as an active unit of the economic analysis into the sustainable development within rural and island communities; and emphasises the useful role of storytelling in exploring the richness of these situations that are often difficult to observe with conventional methods.

Key words: liminality, terrain, rural, island, ethnography, community, friendship, storytelling