



Photo: Gregor Pohleven, Demokracija

Peter Starič was born on September 2, 1924 in Ljubljana, Slovenia, where he completed all his studies. He graduated in electronics engineering in 1961 and obtained his PhD in 1991. After his retirement in 1994, he and his co-author Erik Margan completed the professional book *Wideband Amplifiers*, which was published by Springer/Kluwer Press in 2005 and reprinted in 2007. In 2007, Starič published the Slovenian popular-science book "Atomska bomba" (Atomic bomb). Dr. Starič is the author of numerous popular-science articles, book reviews, and articles befitting his eclectic interests.

Starič describes his life from 1941 until 1991. First his country Slovenia - then the northwestern part of Yugoslavia - was occupied by the Italians, Germans and Hungarians. They divided the country among themselves and the southern part of Slovenia was occupied by the Italians along with the capital Ljubljana (where the author lived). The author vividly describes the circumstances in the Italian concentration camp where he was incarcerated, as well as life under German occupation after the Kingdom of Italy capitulated in 1943. At the end of war in 1945, the fascist and Nazi terror was replaced by communist totalitarianism in the style of the Soviet Union. Already during World War II the communists began killing not only the occupiers, but also their Slovenian political opponents. In the first months after the war the most extensive mass killings took place in the whole Yugoslavia, mostly in Slovenia. The graves of the victims were top secret until 1991, when Slovenia became independent, abandoning communist totalitarianism. From then on about 600 mass graves with at least 100,000 victims have been discovered, all killed in the cruelest way. However, in the 22 years since Slovene independence, not a single culprit has been sentenced or punished thus far for the mass killing or acts of repression.

Peter Starič
My Life under **TOTALITARIANISM**
1941-1991

