

THE HEAVY BURDEN OF HISTORY: THE POLITICAL USES OF THE PAST IN THE YUGOSLAV SUCCESSOR STATES

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Abstract: *The attempts to explain the causes and character of nationalist policies in the post-Yugoslav states. In the region that historically belonged to Yugoslavia and that today entails six Yugoslav successor states, with a seventh one (Kosovo) probably emerging from the remainders of the Yugoslav federation, historical memories and politically interpreted images of the past used to play an extremely important role, and they still do today.*

Keywords: Yugoslavia, state building, nation building, nationalism, democracy

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