

2 Balkan Studies CONGRESS

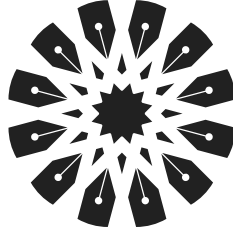
Kongresi për Studime Ballkanike
Balkan Çalışmaları Kongresi

Book of Abstracts





2ND Balkan Studies Congress



2ND Balkan Studies Congress

Book of Abstracts

History, Religious Studies, Literature, Media and Communication, Political
Sciences, Sociology, Law and Economics

16-18 September 2022

Tirana, Albania





About the Association of Education and Thought “Fettah Efendi”

The Association of Education and Thought “Fettah Efendi” was officially established on September 24, 2016 in Skopje. The main purpose of its establishment is to organize activities in the fields of education, thought, and research, as well as to carry out studies on the personality, life, and works of Fettah Efendi, an important poet and thinker from Skopje.

The Fettah Efendi Association along with Skopje Academy view the solution to the deep crises the Balkans has experienced for two centuries as training distinguished people who have internalized what is good, true, and beautiful. With the programs it has developed by prioritizing the actions of people shaped by knowledge, morality, values, and competence along this axis, the association aims to develop a perspective on the world, the Balkans, cities, societies, and people. It aims to reach these goals by listening, reading, and writing from an interdisciplinary perspective while putting social sciences at the center. Skopje Academy and Youth Academy, which targets high school, undergraduate, and graduate students, carry out activities within the framework of seminars, book readings, workshops, academic guidance, and student symposiums, as well as Summer/Winter Schools. This year marks the 11th semester so far, and a framework has been produced in which 1,000 undergraduate and graduate students observed 100 seminars on over 600 different topics with over 70 academicians and over 60 book reviews. By developing Balkan Youth Schools projects with the Presidency of Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) for 4 years, a perspective for undergraduate students has been formed regarding the development, transformation, and ups and downs of human history over a wide geography, from Andalusia and the Balkans to Europe and Anatolia.



Meanwhile, our association carries out important studies in the field of research with the Balkan Studies Congress, Journal of Balkan Studies, and Balkan Historiography. With its IDEFE Publications, the association aims to fill a big gap in academic publishing in the Balkans. At the same time, we aim to share a great treasure with all readers by publishing the poetry of Abdülfettah Rauf for the first time 60 years after his death.

Dr. Sevba Abdula

President of Fettah Efendi Association



Foreword

The Balkan Studies Congress is an international congress organized for the purposes of encouraging interdisciplinary studies in the field of social sciences and for contributing to qualified and original academic output. The Balkan Studies Congress aims to increase the quality of postgraduate studies by allowing for versatile communication and experience to be transferred to young academicians and to increase academic interaction and activity within the region and with Turkey. The congress aims to contribute to developing a common language and method by encouraging interdisciplinary approaches in order to overcome the difficulties with qualified academic output experienced in the states and societies that have many troubled areas ahead of them while still trying to recover from the effects of the wars in the Western Balkans after 1990.

The Congress will visit one university and city each year and will also collaborate with non-governmental organizations that perform studies in this field. The Congress offers researchers who are conducting or have completed postgraduate studies in the last three years related to the Balkans at various universities in the Balkans, especially those in the Western Balkans and Turkey, the privilege of exchanging and enriching ideas by presenting their studies to experienced academicians or academician candidates.

The 2nd Balkan Studies Congress will take place on September 16-18 and is to be held in cooperation with the Fettah Efendi Association, the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities, the University of New York Tirana, Istanbul Medeniyet University, the International Balkan University, and ILEM Association. The congress will have 33 researchers from eight different countries presenting 33 papers over nine sessions from seven different disciplines.

We would like to thank all researchers, professors, and institutions who have helped organize this congress.

2ND BALKAN STUDIES CONGRESS SCHEDULE

- 16 September 2022

OPENING CEREMONY

19:00

New York University, Tirana, Albania

- 17 September 2022

• **Session I - History 1**

10:00 - 11:30

Moderator:

Assist. Prof. Serdar Serdaroğlu

Hall A

• **Session II - History 2**

10:00 - 11:30

Moderator: Dr. Sevba Abdula

Hall B

• **Session III - History 3**

11:30 - 13:00

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Faruk Bal

Hall A

• **Session IV - Religious Studies**

11:30 - 13:00

Moderator: Assist. Prof. Abdülkadir Macit

Hall B

• **Session V - Literature**

14:00 - 15:30

Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Lindita Xhanari Latifi

Hall A

• **Session VI - Media and Communication Studies**

14:00 - 15:30

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Uğur Keskin

Hall B

• **Session VII - Political Sciences and International Relations**

16:00 - 17:30

Moderator: Dr. Deniz Memedi

Hall A

• **Session VIII - Sociology**

16:00 - 17:30

Moderator: Assist. Prof. Ahmet Köroğlu

Hall B

• **Session IX - Law and Economics**

18:00 - 19:30

Moderator: Assist. Prof. Bujamin Bela

Hall A

Session I - History 1

Moderator: Assist. Prof. Serdar Serdaroğlu

10:00 – 11:30

Hall A

Evaluating Articles in Serbian Newspapers Related to the Herzegovina Uprising (Застава, Србски народ, Српске новине) in the Framework of the Great Eastern Crisis (1875-1878)

Tanja Čerevicki

The British Newspaper Reports on the Bosnian Uprising of 1831-1832

Omer Merzić

Modernization Processes in Monastir in the Late Ottoman Period (1878-1912)

Besnik Emini



2ND Balkan Studies Congress



Evaluating Articles in Serbian Newspapers Related to the Herzegovina Uprising (Застава, Србски народ, Српске новине) in the Framework of the Great Eastern Crisis (1875-1878)

Tanja Čerevicki

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Abstract: The Eastern Question is an international diplomatic problem that arose in the 19th century. The Great Eastern Crisis was one of the most dynamic periods regarding the development of the Eastern Question. The rebellion that broke out in Herzegovina in 1875 developed quickly and started a new crisis. With the intervention of the Great Powers within the framework of the European balance of power, the crisis became an international problem. The 1876 Bulgarian Revolt, the 1876 Ottoman-Serbian-Montenegrin War, the 1876 Istanbul Conference, and Pan-Slavism made their weight felt in the process that followed, which also left the Ottoman Empire in a difficult situation and resulted in the Ottoman-Russian War of 1877-1878. The Eastern Question was an unavoidable topic for the Serbian intellectual elite, whose most prominent members proposed solutions that were most suitable for the Serbian people at the time. When the revolt broke out, the important Serbian newspapers reported on the recent events in Herzegovina and sympathized with the rebellion's demand for war against the Ottoman Empire. Elite Serbian politicians and the public saw war as the only solution to the Great Eastern Crisis for the Balkan people. This study analyzes the articles from three Serbian newspapers (Застава, Србски народ and Српске новине) about the Herzegovina Uprising. The leading Serbian political thinkers of the 19th century were responsible for creating public opinion among the Serbian people, both for Serbs living in the Principality of Serbia as well as Serbs living in Austria-Hungary. These newspapers were important because they were widely read among the Serbs living on both sides of the Drina,



Danube, and Sava rivers and provide valuable information about the main standpoints of Serbian national inspiration.

Keywords: Great Eastern Crisis, Uprising in Herzegovina, Serbian newspapers, Застава, Србски народ, Српске новине



The British Newspaper Reports on the Bosnian Uprising of 1831-1832

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Abstract: During the 19th century when the Ottoman Empire was starting to face its end, the Empire started to implement reforms. The need for these reforms was mostly advocated by the different colonial powers, especially the British Empire. The general state of decay in the Ottoman Empire, as well as the new charge for reforms, led to the creation of an unstable environment in the Empire. This instability led to numerous uprisings across the Empire during the 19th century, one of these being the Bosnian uprising of 1831 also known as the Great Bosnian Uprising. While the events of the uprising have for the most part been explored in historiography, the influence and perception of these events in the other empires have seldom been explored. The aim of this paper is to explore the British reports in contemporary newspapers on the Bosnian Uprising of 1831-1832. The importance of this topic lies in the fact that the newspapers helped form public perception and thus public opinion on certain questions in the empires of the time. The foreign powers, especially the British Empire, were becoming more and more involved with Ottoman internal affairs. While the beginning of these intrusions started in the beginning of the 19th century, it slowly progressed until its escalation with the Congress of Vienna and culmination that occurred during the early 20th century, when it came to the point that these Empires would decide the fate of the Ottoman Empire.

Keywords: Ottoman Empire, Bosnia, British Empire, uprising



The Modernization Processes in Monastir in the Late Ottoman Period (1878-1912)

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Abstract: Monastir (today Bitola) was the capital city of Vilayet of Monastir in the European part of the Ottoman Empire. It was quite a diverse city in terms of religion and ethnicity. It was among the largest cities in the region with around 50,000 inhabitants and attracted people from other places to work and live there. During the late Ottoman period, the city became modernized in many aspects such as architecture, education, clothing, and transportation. In addition to state schools, many foreign schools were opened, which were attended by students from different communities. Education levels and literacy increased, which impacted the creation of a circle of intellectuals in Monastir. The army headquarters of the third military regiments were located in the city, as well as an established military academy. In 1894, Monastir was directly connected by railway with Thessaloniki, and through this was also connected to Istanbul and other European lines. Several houses with modern architecture were built in the city, many of which still stand today. In addition to the state printing house, private printing houses were opened that impacted the increase in the number of publications such as books and newspapers. Photograph studios also offered services to the peoples of Monastir, and one can learn more about the residents' clothing styles through these images. In 1911, Sultan Mehmed V Reşâd visited the city, and this visit was filmed. The city also had telegraph services. Being a strong trade center, Monastir had consulates from great European Powers and Balkan states, and more is known about the history of this city through these consuls' reports. The city at this time was adopting a Western way of life, and this was quite visible in public life.

Keywords: Monastir, modernization, schools, consulates, Sultan Mehmed V in Monastir, Third army headquarters, Westernization

Session II - History 2

Moderator: Dr. Sevba Abdula

10:00 – 11:30

Hall B

*Iron Production in the Ottoman Empire before the Industrial Revolution:
Samakov Iron Workshops in the 16th Century*

Emrah Hazar

*The Albania Revolts During the Reigns of Murad II and Fatih Sultan
Mehmet*

Faruk Yılmaz

*Ottoman Patronage of the Orthodox Church in the Balkans and the
Emergence of Imperial Thought (1421-1481)*

- Turan Değirmenci



2ND Balkan Studies Congress

Iron Production in the Ottoman Empire before the Industrial Revolution: Samakov Iron Workshops in the 16th Century

Emrah Hazar

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Abstract: The Ottoman geography possessed iron, silver, gold, copper, tin, and lead mines in the 16th century, with iron being one of the more important. However, research made on mines in the Ottoman Empire are not about the iron mines. For this reason, this research will discuss the production, extraction, and use of iron products before the Industrial Revolution. One of the important centers where the Ottoman Empire was supplied with iron was Samakov, which was affiliated with the Sofia Sanjak. Samakov was conquered in 1371 by Lala Şahin Pasha, the governor of Rumelia during the reign of Murad I. The iron extracted from Samakov was produced in two forms: raw and finished products. The iron extracted from the region was used in military areas such as shipyards and artillery as well as in the architectural areas such as mosques, bridges, and castles. The iron obtained from the iron deposits was melted in furnaces known as vigne in the Ottoman official records. This iron was also processed in iron forging workshops known as samakov. Iron in its raw and finished products were sent by land or sea to Istanbul, the center of the state. This delivered iron was then distributed to military facilities and other places where it was needed. When transporting iron by land, carts were used that were pulled by beasts of burden such as oxen or camels. Samakov maintained its status as one of the centers where the state met its iron needs until the last period of the Ottoman Empire. This research references the archive books and documents related to the subject in the Ottoman Archive section of the Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye Directorate of State Archives.

Keywords: iron, Samakov, shipyard, vigne, workshop

The Albanian Revolts During the Reigns of Murad II and Fatih Sultan Mehmet


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Abstract: The Ottoman Empire since its establishment had organized expeditions in all directions in order to expand its lands, arranging many expeditions to the Balkans as well as in Anatolia, with Albania being one of these Balkan countries. In addition to the expeditions Sultan Murad II made to Albania between 1447-1450, revolts occurred between Albania and the Ottoman Empire during the reign of Fatih Sultan Mehmet, the Conqueror of Istanbul. The Albanian expeditions had started due to Hamza Bey's persuasion of the Sultan during the reign of Murad III and continued for three years. The first Albanian campaign against Skanderbeg was unsuccessful when learning of the John Hunyadi movement. In 1449, Sultan Murad II organized a second Albanian expedition and peace was achieved by mutual agreement. Although Sultan Murad II organized an expedition to Albania, it ultimately ended in failure. Sultan II. Fatih Sultan Mehmet had also carried out expeditions in Albania, having organized the first one in 1465, which was also unsuccessful. Upon this, the Sultan launched a second Albanian campaign in 1467. Skanderbeg died in 1468, and Fatih Sultan Mehmet wanted to rule Albania. Then they moved to Albania. Iskender Bey's capital city, Kroya, was conquered in 1478, after which Shkodra was taken in 1479 as a result of long struggles. When the armies of Fatih Sultan Mehmet entered Albania, they are known to have repaired the roads and bridges. From the time Albania was conquered, it has always remained a region under reconstruction. Albania was also a region the Ottomans wanted to take under their rule for a long time, with most of it being captured during the reign of Fatih Sultan Mehmet. Development and revival activities in the city continued.

Keywords: Albania, Sultan Murad II, Fatih Sultan Mehmed, Iskender, Kroya, Shkodra



Ottoman Patronage of the Orthodox Church in the Balkans and the Emergence of Imperial Thought (1421-1481)

Turan Değirmenci

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Abstract: In the 14th and 15th centuries when the Ottomans followed a policy of conquest in the Balkans, the Orthodox sect was the biggest trump card they possessed against Hungary and Venice, the two dominant powers on land and sea. During this period, the Balkans was divided into many small states and feudal lordships. Taking advantage of this political fragmentation, the states of Hungary and Venice pursued expansionist policies in the Balkans and tried to spread Catholicism with the support and encouragement of the Pope alongside their own political and military authorities. Meanwhile, the Ottomans facilitated their superiority in Balkan lands due to their understanding of peaceful conquest and maintaining existing conditions in the lands they conquered by granting privileges and church independence to the Orthodox clergy and allocating cadres within the state. This study will examine how the Ottomans developed and progressed in the Balkans due to their attitude toward the Catholic Church as a dominant religious power in terms of political influence in Europe and the Balkans, and how this situation benefited Orthodox Christians in these conquests. The study will attempt to explain the progress of the Ottomans, who included different nations on their way to becoming an empire, and the considerable Balkan lands that Sultan Murat II inherited from his predecessor, Fatih Sultan Mehmet, through the conquest of Istanbul, along with Fatih Sultan Mehmet's ideas for the empire and the policies he followed to implement them.

Keywords: Ottomans, Balkans, orthodox, empire, patronage



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Session III - History 3

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Faruk Bal

11:30 – 13:00

Hall A

*Statistical Data on the Protestant Community in the Ottoman Empire
(1850-1899): The Case of Albania*

Bertina Salliu

Forced Migration from Crete to İzmir: Diminished Lives

Neslihan Yılmaz Tekin

Hafız Sabri Koçi and the Islamic Revival in Post-Communist Albania

Arsida Velija

*The Consolidation of Albania's International Position upon Admittance
to the League of Nations - (1921-1925)*

Blerina Kasrati



Statistical Data on the Protestant Community in the Ottoman Empire (1850-1899): The Case of Albania

Bertina Salliu

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Abstract: The 19th century marked the beginning of American and British Protestant missions penetrating into Albanian lands and the wider Ottoman Empire. Since then, an influx of missionaries sent to these areas by the British Bible Society and the American Board of Commissioners has occurred. The headquarters of the British Bible Society's mission to the Ottoman Empire was in Istanbul. As a result, a new community of Protestants began to crystallize. The first conversion of the population to the Protestant faith is observed to have occurred in the second half of the 19th century. This article aims to highlight the statistical data obtained from Ottoman documents proving the existence of this religious community. For a long time in Albanian historiography, four nations have been claimed to be present among Albanians in the 19th century, with studies in this field having developed in recent years. This study aims to bring data from Ottoman annuals reports and population registers in order to discuss the existence of the Protestant community in a multinational empire. Protestant missionaries had an important role and spiritually influenced the indigenous population by promoting faith and reawakening national consciousness. The transformation of populations was rapid in the Eastern regions of the Ottoman Empire. With regard to peripheral areas such as Albanian lands, some scarce data have been found on the main provinces found in these lands. The drafting of this study relied on Ottoman documents and sources translated by Turkish authors, as well as Albanian, English, and Turkish monographs and articles from various authors.

Keywords: Albanians, Protestant missionaries, population, Ottoman documents, statistics, religious communities

Forced Migration from Crete to İzmir: Diminished Lives

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Abstract: The Ottoman Empire lost almost all its lands in Rumelia after the 1912 Balkan Wars. Muslims who did not immigrate and wanted to stay in their places became a minority and faced heavy oppression. With the Convention and Protocol Concerning the Exchange of Greek and Turkish Peoples signed on January 30, 1923, the decision was made to perform an exchange of the Turkish-Greek population. However, implementation of the contract was not easy. The problems regarding its implementation complicated the situation. This study emphasizes the problems experienced by the immigrants who came from Crete to İzmir with the population exchange between 1923-1930, both during and after the migration, as well as their socio-cultural interactions with the local people and the values they preserved. The study discusses the transformations that took place when they first came, as well as what occurred afterward. The research involves historical documents, resources related to the subject, visual archives, and witnesses. These exchanges have been unable to fill the void of belonging these migrants left behind years ago. Their resentment can still be felt in their grandchildren's words. The refugees who were taken from Crete found solace with the house bricks and door handles that they brought with them. They gave away the goods they could sell for no money. They had to leave their past in their ancestral homeland, their cemeteries (though some families brought the bones of their relatives), family homes, lands, and friends. The most valuable thing they took with them was their identity card, which they would preserve for generations. Some families lost each other while attempting different migration routes, many living for a long time without hearing any news. Some migrants spent their lives dreaming of the possibility of their return. They forgot their skills because they could not get a position in the fields where they would have applied their professional skills. Despite this, they made great contributions to developing İzmir and reached important positions.

Keywords: Crete, population exchange, exchange, immigration, İzmir



Hafız Sabri Koçi and the Islamic Revival in Post-Communist Albania

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Abstract: In the second half of the 20th century, Albania was exposed to a form of communist rule that lasted nearly 45 years. With the Albanian Labor Party coming into power under the leadership of Enver Hoxha in 1944, the government gradually developed a hostile stance against religion and all forms of religious practice. This included the official designation of atheism as the state ideology in 1967, followed by a deep and widespread deprivation of basic human rights, such as freedom of belief and its expression. Religious structures in the country were destroyed, while many religious leaders were imprisoned, exiled, or killed under unknown circumstances. Hafız Sabri, a renowned imam, leading civic justice figure, and religious activist in Albania was also subject to these dangers. His significant work in the civic and religious scene led to him being imprisoned for over 20 years on account of charges of treason by the communist regime. Released during the waning years of communist rule, Sabri returned to his work and played a crucial role in reconstructing religious structures in Albania after its enacted a democratic multi-party system between 1990-1991. Using state and personal archives, memoirs, and interviews with Sabri's contemporaries, this paper maps the trajectories of Albania's difficult transition from communism to democracy, with a focus on the important role Sabri Koçi played in developing Islamic religious structures in Albania in the post-communist period. This paper further discusses the intense struggles during and following the communist period, as well as Sabri's significant role in reshaping Albanian society and history.

Keywords: Albania, communism, official policies, Hafız Sabri Koçi, social structure, democratic transition, freedom of religion

The Consolidation of Albania's International Position upon Admittance to the League of Nations(1921-1925)

Blerina Kasrati

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Abstract: Albanians admission to the League of Nations on 17 December in 1920, marked the beginning of the consolidation of Albania's international position. The powers that had supported Albania's membership did not establish diplomatic relations with Albania, which meant that Albania had neither de jure nor de facto recognition as a state. At the center of Albania's foreign policy was the regulation of the borders with Yugoslavia and Greece. As a result of those events, the 2nd Ambassadors Conference was held where decisions were made which stated that the redefining of Greek borders should be done according to the Florence Protocol of 1913, Luma and Hasi should be annexed by Yugoslavia, and Italy's special economic position in Albania should be recognized. These decisions are also known as the Declaration of November 9, 1921 and called for the recognition of Albania's independence. The study addresses the framework of establishing diplomatic relations and elevating the legations many European countries had made, with a focus on the relations between the USA and Turkey. The solution to the border issues with Greece and Yugoslavia was one of the most difficult points to solve. An international commission was established to resolve the issue of borders, and Albania's foreign policy included protecting the rights of the national minorities that had remained within Greek and Yugoslav borders. Tirana had friction with Belgrade and Athens because they did not respect the rights of the Albanian minority, had violated all the provisions of the peace treaties that guaranteed them rights equal to those of citizens of the existing state. After the June Revolution in 1924, Fan Noli's governance became faced with international isolation. Despite some European countries signaling otherwise, none gave legal recognition.

Keywords: League of Nations, Albania, diplomatic relations, borders, consolidation

Session IV - Religious Studies

Moderator: Assist. Prof. Abdülkadir Macit

11:30 – 13:00

Hall B

The Fiqh Scholar Sejfullah Ef. Proho in the First Half of the 20th Century

Mervenur Sohtaoglu

Expressing God in İbn Arabî

Hacı Mustafa Mutlu

The Ambivalent Orientalist Attitude about the Origin of Sufism: The Case of Reynold A. Nicholson (d. 1945)

Feyza Ketenci

The Visual and Material Culture of a Tekke in Kosovo: The Yakova Sheikh Ban Sa'di Lodge

Neslihan Süleyman



The Fiqh Scholar Sejfullah Efendi Proho in the First Half of the 20th Century

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Abstract: Sejfullah Efendi Proho (1859-1932) was a member of the prominent Proho family in the town of Konjic (Belgradecik) in today's Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Sejfullah Proho was a famous expert on sharia sciences in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with a high level of education as a result of studying in Konjic, Sarajevo, and Istanbul. Proho took lessons from distinguished teachers and worked for many years as a Professor of Islamic Law at the Sharia Law School in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Sejfullah Proho was a prolific writer of Bosnian heritage, was considered the best expert on Islamic law (Fiqh) of his time, and left many works in Arabic, Turkish, and Bosnian. Sejfullah Proho attached great importance to developing the Bosnian language and is among the scholars who argue that scientific works should be written in Bosnian. As a matter of fact, he was one of the first representatives of the generation who wrote in Bosnian. Although he has written works in many fields such as civil law, family law, basic legal issues, and Qur'anic sciences, he was a scholar mostly competent in the field of inheritance law. Proho was one of the late Ottoman scholars and is considered one of the last representatives of the traditionalist interpretation of religion through the effects of the political events of that period being inseparable from the important scholars of the period. The scientific process of an expert and talented scholar like Sejfullah Proho, who lived between Bosnia and Istanbul, is very important for both Istanbul and Bosnia.

Keywords: Sejfullah Efendi, Islamic Law, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Istanbul, inheritance Law


Expressing God in İbn Arabî

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Abstract: Humans are beings who can and want to talk about God. Existence and cognition gain meaning through language and the meanings that arise from language. Imagining God beyond these meanings is impossible. Philosophers and theologians have emphasized that God should be perceived only as a supreme being using a language based on abnegation. However, pure tanzih [acquittal] is an agnostic/unknowable attitude hidden within itself. Meanwhile, some movements (e.g., the Mujassimah, the Mushabbihah) perceive God through similarity using a language based on similitude. However, a similitude-based approach contains an anthropomorphic attitude in its essence. Using one aspect of this dual-based approach (i.e., perceiving God only as similar to existence or only as exclusive of existence) leads one to a dead end. For this reason, the possibility of expressing God deepens in the context of the intersection of opposites. For example, philosophers and theologians overlook the affective and cognitive dimensions of human beings by confining discussions of God to a single dimension (e.g., tanzih-tashbih [transcendent-anthropomorphic], zahir-bateen [external/manifest-inner.hidden]). Mere sanctification based on cognitive grounds and similitude based on affective grounds limit God. Treating these two contexts as universal, İbn 'Arabî breathed new life into the linguistic expression of God. With the paradoxical language he used, Shaykh Akbar emphasized both the need to fulfill human beings' need to establish a sacrifice and the fact that God is a higher being than what is perceived with the affective dimension. The elements that bring these two together are God's absoluteness and human nature. By addressing these two aspects with a representational language, language is given a wider field of action. As a result, İbn 'Arabî offered new horizons by showing that the possibilities and limitations of language and moving about in the wide field of language can be overcome with representational language.

Keywords: God, tanzih, tashbih, representation



The Ambivalent Orientalist Attitude about the Origin of Sufism: The Case of Reynold A. Nicholson (d. 1945)

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Abstract: Orientalism emerged in the 19th century as an academic discipline in Europe and is the general name of the Western movement that aims to research Islam and its sciences. One of Orientalists' general approaches is to argue that Islam, and in particular its sciences, have external origins. In this respect, Orientalists have never accepted the internal sources and originality of Islam. As is known regarding Islam's spread from the Hijaz to the Eastern Mediterranean, Islam as an illiterate society encountered literate societies. According to Orientalists' general approach, the literate societies changed Islam entirely. While Orientalists put forth this claim with regard to fiqh, kalam, philosophy, and many other sciences, they maintained their studies with regard to the field of Sufism in particular. Because of the strong connection between the doctrine and field of Sufism, it is a discipline close to folk religiosity. As a result, the Orientalist approach from the beginning resulted in them explaining Sufism in reference to an external source. However, some contradictions emerged in the Orientalist claims over time. Based on these contradictions, Orientalists have moved toward a new understanding of Sufism. One of the most important names this study will refer to in this regard is Reynold Alleyne Nicholson (d. 1945). Nicholson drew attention as the researcher most focused on the development of Sufism among modern Orientalist researchers. Although a certain change was witnessed in his views, following these views will illuminate the history of the contact and interaction Islam and, in connection with this, Sufism, had with the mystical and gnostic religious-philosophical movements/communities encountered in the Eastern Mediterranean during Islam's formation. This study will first discuss the general views and approaches of Orientalist researchers regarding the origin of Sufism. Then, following



Nicholson's claims about the origin of Sufism, the study will present a general assessment of the Orientalist approaches. In this way, it will reveal the Orientalist contradictions regarding the issue of the origin of Sufism through the example of Nicholson.

Keywords: Sufism, Origin of Sufism, Orientalism, Orientalist approaches, Reynold A. Nicholson

The Visual and Material Culture of a Tekke in Kosovo: The Yakova Sheikh Ban Sa'di Lodge

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Abstract: After the Ottoman Empire's period of transition in Rumelia, many of the Sufi orders that had survived through this period have kept operating to the present in the Balkans. One of these Sufi orders is the Sa'diyye. This particular order started to spread in the Balkans between the 18th-19th centuries, and the order is attributed to Sa'deddin Muhammed al-Jibavi (d.1180), the founder of the Tariqa. Compared to other Rum cities, the city of Gjakova situated in Kosovo emerges as one of the regions where the Sa'diyye still actively operates. Furthermore, Gjakova has around 10 Sa'di Sufi Lodges. One of these Sufi lodges is the Sheikh Ban's Sa'di Lodge and is the main subject of this study. The case study of this paper attempts to evaluate the visualist and material aspects that have extended into the Gjakovar culture in terms of the art history of the Sheikh Ban's Sa'di Lodge. The study seeks to depict the masterful Arabic calligraphies, dervish clothing and items, and musical instruments found in the lodge and to examine them in this context. Some artist names and dates were found in the octagonal dome of the lodge, which is decorated with conic paintings of cities. In addition, the study examines the mihrab in the semahane [building where dervishes perform their sema/dance] and searched the traces of different sects at various places in the lodge. The study also examined instruments still used in the lodge, as well as dervish objects such as the jilbent, table, skewer, and mace. In addition, the study attempted to understand the visual preferences of the Sa'di order by researching the iconic paintings and Arabic calligraphy frames placed in different locations in the lodge.

Keywords: art history, Balkans, Kosovo, Gjakova, Sa'dism, Sheikh Ban Sa'di Lodge, Sufi lodge culture, Sufi lodge structures, descriptive arts, visual culture, material culture

Session V - Literature

Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Lindita Xhanari Latifi

14:00 – 15:00

Hall A

A Few Words on the Interaction of Skopje Turkish Dialects with Measured Turkish

Dr. Elifnur Yıldız Yalçındağ

On the Bosnian Language Spoken in Turkey's Eastern Thrace

Habip Yalçındağ

The Foundations of, Studies on, and Sources of Hungarology in Turkey

Seyithan Altaş

A Few Words on the Interaction of Skopje Turkish Dialects with Measured Turkish

Dr. Elifnur Yıldız Yalçındağ

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Abstract: Dialect studies examine the differences in the geography where a written language is used. At the same time, dialects carry the archaic features of languages up to the present. In line with this, the sound and morphological elements languages carry should be recorded before the dialects are lost. Dialects in standard Turkish are distinct from one another in terms of sound, morphology, and vocabulary. With the advancement of technology, people can communicate with different societies and receive news from the world through social media. At the same time, languages interact more easily with one another. Due to these reasons, dialects will lose their features after a certain period of time and gain practically the same phonetic and morphological features as the standard language. This article was produced from my doctoral dissertation titled “Turkish Dialects in the Center and Surroundings of Skopje (Review-Texts-Dictionary)” that I defended on January 27, 2022. Skopje Turkish Dialects are included in the Western Rumeli dialects, one of the Rumelian dialects, which are a branch of Turkey’s Turkish. Skopje Turkish dialects show their characteristic features intensely these days. In addition, the effect of standard Turkish is also revealed in the texts I deciphered in my dissertation, such as the effect of Turkish TV series broadcast on Turkish channels on Macedonian televisions, Turkish-speaking people in Skopje who’ve lived in Turkey for a long time, as well as the frequent visits of some people living in Skopje to their relatives in Turkey. As a result of these reasons, Skopje Turkish dialects also interact with standard Turkish. This article deals with the issues in standard Turkish that affect Skopje Turkish dialects in terms of morphology. Standard Turkish will gain greater prevalence in Skopje Turkish dialects over time, and as a result, the characteristic features of these dialects will gradually decrease.

Keywords: dialects, standard Turkish, Skopje Turkish dialects, morphology



On the Bosnian Language Spoken in Turkey's Eastern Thrace

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Abstract: Bosnians form a branch of the Slavic race living in Eastern Europe. Bosnians are those who live in Bosnia and are also called Bosanac or Bosnian, and those who've spread to other Balkan countries and are called Bosnjak or Bosniak. Bosnians and Bosniaks have existed and survived in the Balkans for thousands of years, first accepting Bogomil Christianity and then Islam once the Ottoman Empire came to the Balkan peninsula. During the Ottoman Empire's presence in the Balkans, Bosniaks established close relations with Turks. After the Ottoman Empire was forced to leave these lands following the Balkan wars, Bosniaks, similar to Turks, started to migrate both to Anatolian lands and to Turkey's Eastern Thrace territory. Approximately two million Bosniaks are estimated to live in Turkey currently, mostly in Eastern Thrace. Continuing their customs and traditions in some regions, Bosniaks are able to speak their own language even after generations, as they have not encountered any pressure regarding their spoken language, which is a sign of the tolerance of Turks. However, the Bosnian language spoken in Turkey's Eastern Thrace region today has become a different synthesis under the influence of many Turkish words and other elements from Turkish. This reveals the richness of the interactions between cultures and languages. New words are derived by adding suffixes used in Bosnian to Turkish verbs, thus providing the Bosnian communication style in this way. Even someone who does not speak Bosnian can understand what the conversation is about when they listen carefully. This reveals a new Bosnian dialect to have emerged in Turkey's Eastern Thrace region as a mixture of Bosnian and Turkish. This article deals with these words and their derivatives and examines the verbs that have been transferred from Turkish to Bosnian and that are used with Bosnian suffixes.

Keywords: Bosniaks, Bosniaks in Turkey, Turkic-Bosnian language, derivative verbs, derivative words, language interaction

The Foundation of, Studies on, and Sources of Hungarology in Turkey

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Abstract: Hungarology is a field that studies research on the Hungarian language, history, and culture. The earliest studies in this field began with activities researching the roots of the ancient Hungarian language and its history. These studies started in Hungary and later turned into a field of Turcology studies. The most important source of these studies can be said to be the times when Turkish-Hungarian relations started. Hungarology studies in Turkey cannot be evaluated independently from these early studies. Although the scientific infrastructure of Hungarology studies in Turkey goes back to ancient times, it started in earnest with the establishment of the Faculty of Language, History and Geography as a formal area of research alongside the opening of a Hungarology Institute in this Faculty. Atatürk showed how much importance he attached to this issue by bringing the Hungarian scientist Laszlo Rasonyi to the head of the Hungarology Chair he had founded. Studies in this field are accepted as a part of Atatürk's civilization and cultural policies. The studies Atatürk initiated within the scope of the Turkish History Thesis and Sun Language Theory were carried out in connection with studies in the field of Hungarology as well as with the philological fields established within this faculty. Atatürk brought Laszlo Rasonyi to the chair and affiliated Hungarology studies with a scientific discipline. Hungarology studies, having initially been a sub-research field of Turcology, was transformed into a classical philology after the 1980s. The sources of and research on Hungarology in Turkey could not be carried out in parallel with the Hungarology studies in the world. The aim of this study is to evaluate Hungarology studies and analyze the sources the scientists use who work in this field in Turkey.

Keywords: Hungarology, Hungarian, DTCF, Turk-Hungarian Relations, Laszlo Rasonyi, T. Halasi-Kun

Session VI - Media and Communication Studies

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Uğur Keskin

14:00 – 15:30

Hall B

Turkey's Public Diplomacy Toward the Western Balkans: Anadolu Agency's Diplomatic Narrative Regarding Balkan Languages

Dr. Festim Rizanaj

Reevaluating Uses and Gratifications Theory in the Context of Social Media: From Traditional Audiences to Active Users

Flora Hajdarmataj

In the Bosnian Aladdin Sabit Divans of War Thought Its Appearance in the Context of Concretization and Beautification

Burak Koç



Turkey's Public Diplomacy Toward the Western Balkans: Anadolu Agency's Diplomatic Narrative Regarding Balkan Languages

Dr. Festim Rizanaj

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Abstract: Given that public diplomacy is an element that incorporates communication and politics, it appears alongside globalization as a product of changes in communication and international relations. Public diplomacy has a strategic value in international relations, which are an important method of communication that aim to win the minds and hearts of target societies without any coercion. The media informs the public about the problems of the country and the world and influences which of these issues should have priority in the public, and as such is one of the main factors to have played a role in the emergence of public diplomacy. In addition, the media (international broadcasters) is one of the most effective tools that public diplomacy actors can use to reach the people of a target country to create a positive image of that country in their eyes. International broadcasters now take on the roles of disseminating a country's image, regional influence, and political stance and of advocating that country's policies targeted toward a particular country or area. This paper aims to present Turkey's diplomatic narrative toward the Western Balkans in terms of international broadcasters. In this context, it examines the public opinion formed through the content the Anadolu Agency presents in the languages of the Western Balkans.

Keywords: public diplomacy, international broadcasting, Western Balkans, Turkey, Anadolu Agency



Reevaluating Uses and Gratifications Theory in the Context of Social Media: From Traditional Audiences to Active Users

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Abstract: Due to the development of social media tools, the uses and gratifications theory has gained a different importance and has begun being reshaped. When looking at studies in the field, uses and gratifications theory has been developed for many years to understand the needs and gratifications related to the use of traditional mass media. Based on recent studies, uses and gratifications theory seems quite suitable for new media studies, especially in terms of comparisons and definitions, and studies in this direction have increased. These studies aim to explain how individuals use social media and to determine what satisfactions active users get from social media platforms and what is required in this direction. While traditional studies had emphasized the masses and passive nature of audiences and readers, new media studies show new media users to form a more conscious and active audience. While spending time on social media, users can simultaneously watch videos, share, write comments, click on a like button, and actively use all other features of social media tools. Based on the uses and gratifications theory, this study will evaluate academic studies regarding social media and focus on the concept of active user. In this context, the study aims to reconsider the relevant literature review on uses and gratifications theory in the context of recent applications in social media. Therefore, the main goal of the study is to reanalyze uses and gratifications theory, which had emerged at a time when traditional media was the determining factor, with regard to new media, in which social media has become determinant.

Keywords: social media, uses and gratifications theory, active user, gratification

In the Bosnian Aladdin Sabit Divans of War Thought Its Appearance in the Context of Concretization and Beautification

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Abstract: Among the literati and scientists are those who still find the view that classical Turkish poetry prefers a separate literary expression, where literature removed from society, reality, and sociality is at a certain level indifferent to societal issues. Being alive will lead a poet to the reality of society and humanity. To notice the poet's addressee, the relevant art must have knowledge about signifiers, and metaphorical structures will increase the meaning of a text. When evaluating literary texts, depictions of war are encountered in their literal and figurative meanings in classical Turkish poetry. Attention is drawn here to the Symbolist approach. The focus of Turkish classical poetry appears to be able to be determined as the metaphor of war. Based on this, metaphors in classical literature such as images of the lover's gaze as an arrow or their hair as a rope are not meaningless. The flamboyant elements that are stated emerge in the literature in their own language. Poets imply that armies do not wage war for fighting but to clean the blood of the enemy with cupping or to shave their hair for free. For the poet, war is the natural healing that saves the corrupted world, and based on this thought, war occurs to eliminate and correct evil. This study will examine the wars of Çehrin and Prut in the divans of the 17th-century Bosnian poet Alaaddin Sâbit in terms of embellishing and embodying the poet's view as well as how poets conveyed war-related elements in their poetry through the use of sample couplets.

Keywords: Bosnian Alaaddin Sâbit, embellishment, concretization, war

Session VII - Political Sciences and International Relations

Moderator: Dr. Deniz Memedi

16:00 – 17:30

Hall A

Europeanization in the Western Balkans Based on Identity, Security, and Foreign Policy Reflexes

Seda Nur Tezcan

The Transformation of Foreign Policy in the Balkans in the Context of Neoclassical Realism: The Case of Bulgaria in the Post-Communist Era

Mustafa Işık

Security Dimensions in Western Balkans and the Albania-Serbia Nexus

Assoc. Prof. Ilir Kalemaj



Europeanization in the Western Balkans Based on Identity, Security, and Foreign Policy Reflexes

Seda Nur Tezcan

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Abstract: This study aims to analyze the attitudes of Western Balkans regarding Europeanization under the headings of identity, security, and foreign policy. While benefiting from studies in the field, the research is based on interviews with 11 participants from variable occupational groups such as academicians, civil society representatives, and researchers from six countries and from various ethnic and religious backgrounds. The conducted interviews are understood to reveal a difference to exist between Europeanization and integration into the EU, although each country has its own responses regarding EU membership. The issue of identity is observed to have come to the fore with regard to security and foreign policy. Nevertheless, countries' interests and regional relations, the presence of foreign powers, and conformity with EU policies become more self-evident with regard to security and foreign policy. Despite all the uncertainties, Western Balkans agree on full membership, especially with regard to the prospect of economic development and political stability. Despite Europeanization being accepted in terms of fulfilling the criteria, when addressing identity and the values shaped around identity, a distance occurs between EU criteria and Europeanization. While full compliance with the EU criteria cannot be mentioned regarding security and foreign policy, EU compliance is achievable in various areas of regional relations. However, deciding whether Europeanization occurs is not possible solely within the framework of membership criteria. The fact that the institutions of the member states have already become Europeanized and have had a European identity for a sufficient period of time cannot prevent them from displaying different responses in certain areas. Therefore, exactly how many of the problems of the Western Balkans will be answered by entering the EU is not yet known.

Keywords: European Union, Western Balkans, Europeanization, identity, security, foreign policy

The Transformation of Foreign Policy in the Balkans in the Context of Neoclassical Realism: The Case of Bulgaria in the Post-Communist Era

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Abstract: Using neoclassical realism as its theoretical framework, this study aims to explain the changes in Bulgarian foreign policy during the post-communist processes. While the communist regimes in Eastern Europe and the Balkans were collapsing in an environment where the balance of power would change with the triggering of systemic effects, this power vacuum led the former Eastern Bloc countries to seek new foreign policies. In this context, the main research questions involve how the pro-Euro-Atlantic foreign policy of Bulgaria can be explained as a former Eastern Bloc country after the Cold War, and how the intra-state factors and leaders affected the transformation process of foreign policy. The post-communist period saw great changes occur in Bulgaria's domestic and foreign policies. While new leader profiles emerged in domestic politics, pro-EU and NATO political formations were included in the political arena. In this process of change, the Turkish and Muslim minorities assumed important roles in the political system and supported pro-EU and NATO policies. Although the Bulgarian Communist Party tried to carry out the representative policies of the past in this process, it was unable to resist the changes in domestic and foreign policies. Political parties founded by minorities and new political formations advocating European integration were two of the main dynamics of change at the intra-state level. Neoclassical realism takes into account the power changes within the international system while also including intra-state factors in its analyses. Neoclassical realist theory provides the opportunity to deal with the change in Bulgaria multidimensionally and also opens an important area for leaders. Neoclassical realism is seen to offer a more systemic and comprehensive analytical framework by including internal factors in analyses with regard to explaining the changes in foreign policy.

Keywords: foreign policy, international system, internal factors, leaders, minorities



Security Dimensions in Western Balkans and the Albania-Serbia Nexus

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Abstract: The geographical proximity between the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Serbia is no indication of cooperation in the security sector at the bilateral level. Although efforts to increase collaborations have taken place, especially in the aftermath of Rama's visit to Belgrade in 2014, the relationship between Belgrade and Tirana has yet to fully normalize, irrespective of the last push through the disputable idea of the Open Balkan. Internal and external factors are found to contribute to this, chief among them being their position over the Republic of Kosovo, as well as their military and strategic orientations. Apart from these differences, however, both countries have partaken in important multilateral initiatives with a regional focus. As a result, both countries have also taken part in some key regional schemes involving the South East Europe Defense Ministers Meeting (SEDM), the Forum for Western Balkans Defense Cooperation (SEEC), Western Balkans Defense Intelligence Chiefs (WEBADIC), South East Europe Chiefs of Defense (B9), Centre for Security Cooperation (RACVIAC), the US-Adriatic Charter, the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South East Europe (DPPISEE), and the South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC). Combining these efforts has proven instrumental in fostering cooperation and building communication and trust among participants, including Albania and Serbia. This paper assesses the current security dimensions in Western Balkans, followed up with Serbia and Albania's positioning and how security is dealt with in a regional framework. The study then discusses the national security strategies of Albania and Serbia before making an overview of the main security treaties that affect the region and in particular these two countries.

Keywords: security, Western Balkans, Serbia, Albania

Session VIII - Sociology

Moderator: Assist. Prof. Ahmet Körođlu

16:00 – 17:30

Hall B

The Historical Development of the Bosniak Identity from a Sociological Perspective

Necmettin Yılmaz

The Failure of the Multicultural State to Be Multicultural: The Revolt of the Liberal-Nationalist Elite in Bosnia

Malak Nasıblı

Education of Migrant Children: A Case Study of Serbia

Kamal Tasi'u Abdullahi



The Historical Development of the Bosniak Identity from a Sociological Perspective

Necmettin Yılmaz

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Abstract: Three ethnic groups live in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Ethnic identity is the mainstay of these groups, and these identities have been shaped largely by their religious preferences within the historical process. The influence on the formation of these identities from what had happened at historical turning points should not be ignored. Factors such as the effects from the exclusion experienced by the Bogomils who had the dominant position regarding land ownership during the Ottoman period as well as the Austro-Hungarian administration's emphasis on the Bosnian identity in order to govern Bosnia more easily were also effective in the construction of the Bosniaks' identity. The concept of identity can also be used as a way out in times of social crisis and has an important place in the tradition of symbolic interactionism as led by Mead. According to this tradition, identity is seen as a social product of humans, their environment, and their relationships. Therefore, identity is a sociologically constructed phenomenon rather than a natural concept. As no essential truth of identity exists, almost all identities are a product of construction arising from the relations between individuals and groups. All the changes that Bosnians experienced have paved the way for differentiations that are effective in constructing an identity. The aim of this article is to interpret the historical process of Bosnians since the Middle Ages and the differentiations experienced in this process using a sociological understanding that views identity as a construction process arising from the reflections of human relations.

Keywords: Bosniak identity, identity construction, ethnic identity



The Failure of the Multicultural State to Be Multicultural: The Revolt of the Liberal-Nationalist Elite in Bosnia

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Abstract: Contrary to expectations, the global developments in the 1990s, mainly the deterioration of the bipolar world order with the collapse of one of the poles, did not bring peace and tranquility to every geography. The identity and nation-state formation process has become an insoluble knot for the Balkan geography, which is the scene of the greatest massacres after World War II, and especially for the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Bosnia and Herzegovina not being a single-nation state structurally has affected its reflexes to act as a nation-state. This study aims to examine the issue through two factors, first by briefly mentioning the ethnic identities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the historical background of the relationship between these identities, and then by examining the relations the identities have with the state at the micro level as well as with international organizations at the macro level. The aim of the study is to explain why the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina with its multicultural demographic structure has been unable to follow a multicultural policy. Several reasons for this can be assumed to exist. The political formula of multiculturalism involving the recognition of differences does not work in this country, and this is due to the state having been designed to include all three ethnic unions. The premise of this study is that the structural non-functionality of the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina is effective but not sufficient for explaining its inability to resolve issues related to its ethnic identities. Another argument the study puts forward is the claim that international organizations' liberal attitudes regarding how to resolve these ethno-religious identity issues has undermined the possible negotiation process of the parties that are recognized and sitting at the negotiation table. The proposition of the study is that a state with conflicting ethnic/religious identities cannot build a nation-state with a liberal understanding that is supported internally or externally without first solving its own ongoing intergroup problems.

Keywords: Bosnia and Herzegovina, nationalism, multiculturalism, identity, difference, liberal nationalism



Education of Migrant Children: A Case Study of Serbia

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Abstract: The process of allowing children to participate in a country's education system despite their legal and actual status is put to the test during a migrant crisis, which sees a large influx of immigrants requiring addressing, especially during the additional migrant crisis stemming from the ongoing war in the Ukraine, which has put additional pressure on and highlights the issue of migrant children's education. Due to its importance, having migrant children engage in the social life of a specific country also helps them overcome the trauma of war, poverty, and destruction, as has been learned from previous experiences. This is why education and access to education are so crucial for migrant children, and their relevance should not be disregarded during times when huge numbers of migrants are being housed and basic human needs are being met. A variety of education and inclusive activities should have been adopted from the start. The Republic of Serbia as a country should address this need for education, not only because it is a signatory to numerous international conventions and agreements, but also because it needs to improve its status and image within the international community. Additionally, the inclusion of migrant children will have a positive impact on domestic children, who will learn to accept and aid those who come from different regions, cultures, and religions, and so on. This will also teach children to be compassionate and helpful throughout their lives, as the world is constantly beset by crises and the need for human solidarity is ever present.

Keywords: immigrants, children, inclusion, education, discrimination, human rights

Session IX - Law and Economics

Moderator: Assist. Prof. Bujamin Bela

18:00 – 19:30

Hall A

The Infrastructure of Islamic Finance in the Balkan Region

Rexhail Mustafi

The Legal Dimension of the Issue of Persons Missing in War and Its Impact on the Relations between Kosovo and Serbia

Dr. Ditar Kabashi


Presidential Veto Power in the Light of Comparative Constitutional Law with Particular Emphasis on the Republic of North Macedonia

Emir Kurtishi

An Extraordinary Statesman: Sava Pasha's Contributions to Legal Education and Literature

Elif Aslı Akyüz





The Legal Dimension of the Issue of Persons Missing in War and Its Impact on the Relations between Kosovo and Serbia

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Abstract: The issue of persons forcibly disappeared in the Kosovo War of 1998-1999 is a sensitive issue in public opinion and has constantly challenged the state of Kosovo. The key points of this paper involve the effort to clarify the fate of missing persons, investigations into the facts and necessary data regarding these persons, institutional responsibility, procedural developments, the truth of the situation, and the bureaucratic and political obstacles, as well as recommendations for the measures to be taken for the status and fate of missing persons. An uncompromising element for uncovering the truth about missing persons is objective research that presupposes the prohibition of any identity discrimination of missing persons or their family members based on race, ethnicity, gender, faith, political or social views, connection with any community, economic or social status, disability, or any other status. This paper's focus on review has been particularly oriented by following the normative and analytical methods always with regard to the international and local legal basis of regulating the case of missing persons; the study aims to highlight its possible effects in the direction of normalizing Kosovo-Serbia relations, which has vital importance for lasting peace in the Balkan Peninsula.

Keywords: Missing persons, Kosovo war, factual investigation, legislation, Kosovo-Serbia relations



Presidential Veto Power in Light of Comparative Constitutional Law with Unique Emphasis on the Republic of North Macedonia

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Abstract: Presidential veto represents an important constitutional mechanism these days. As such, it is ipso jure related to the President of a state being allowed to return a draft law that has been approved in parliamentary procedure for reconsideration. Therefore, taking into account the importance and legal consequences a presidential veto produces in respective countries, this paper first aims to study the different models foreseen regarding the right of veto in the constitutions of various countries in the world as well as its uses and transformations and has come to the conclusion that few countries are found these days to have foreseen in their legal acts the right of absolute veto or pocket veto. The study also takes a special look at the constitutional terms within which a president is forced to sign the decree for promulgating the law following the results of the use of an unsuccessful presidential veto. This paper also analyzes the right of presidential veto belonging to the President of the Republic of North Macedonia (RNM) with special emphasis on its use so far by the presidents of RNM using the analytical and comparative legal methods. The study's aim is to detect legal deficiencies and loopholes that have resulted from the use and implementation of the presidential veto so far.

Keywords: president of a republic, assembly, constitution, law, presidential veto

An Extraordinary Statesman: Sava Pashas Contributions to Legal Education and Literature

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Abstract: This study aims to evaluate the works the medical doctor and statesman Sava Pasha produced in the field of law as well as his extraordinary influences on the field of legal education. The first part of the study addresses Sava Pasha's biography and how he has recently become an interest embraced by Albanian researchers based on his possible Albanian roots and contrary to popular belief. Regarding this point, the study states that researches from both cultures about a figure like Şemseddin Sami, who possessed both Turkish and Albanian identities, should be handled with a method free from the features such as bias and deficiency to which at times it has been exposed. After briefly mentioning Sava Pasha's duties in these fields, many of which were administrative duties, the study goes on to discuss his activities in the scientific field, which forms the study's basis. This study examines Pasha's approach toward these institutions' establishment as one of the founders and administrators of the deep-rooted Ottoman educational institutions, as well as how their curricula and education methods were determined. Another section of this study goes on to discusses the most extraordinary contribution of Sava Pasha, who was an Orthodox Christian, to the legal literature in Turkey: An Etude on the Theory of Islamic Law. His work was originally in French and resonated in the West. The work also helped Sava Pasha be awarded the Legion d'Honneur in France. One of the last Sheikhs al-Islam of the time, Mustafa Sabri Efendi said about the work, "Unfortunately no one has looked into it." This work was translated into Turkish by the Presidency of Religious Affairs after more than 60 years had passed since it was written. In addition to this work from Sava Pasha, the current study also discusses a few known works on Islamic legal theory and judicial procedures in terms of their contents.

Keywords: Missing persons, Kosovo war, factual investigation, legislation, Kosovo-Serbia relations





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