

Bibliographische Berichte der Bibliothek des Hamburger Instituts für Sozialforschung

Krieg in Kroatien und Bosnien
eine Bibliographie 1989 - 1996

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The War in Croatia and Bosnia
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Preface

The conference "War, Genocide and Remembrance" - which was held in Frankfurt am Main in May 1996 and jointly organised by the Fritz Bauer Institute, the Hamburg Institute for Social Research and the journal "Perspektiven" - focused on the war in former Yugoslavia. At the conference the lack of available literature in the regions affected by the war was also discussed.

Many of the libraries in Bosnia have been destroyed. Additionally it is not clear whether works which the government considers unacceptable were being collected or in fact suppressed. Given the lack of financial and library resources, there is still no authoritative record of the works available. For this reason, conference participants identified the generation of an updated bibliography on former Yugoslavia as an urgent priority.

Beginning in the summer of 1996, staff at the Hamburg Institute for Social Research began preliminary discussions on and preparations for producing a bibliography covering the crisis affecting the Yugoslavian confederation, its disintegration and the wars in Croatia and Bosnia. In autumn 1996 work began the bibliography itself which was jointly compiled by the Hamburg Institute for Social Research's library and its research unit "Nationalism, Ethnicity and Xenophobia".

Target Group

Our select bibliography seeks to meet the needs of academics and researchers, individuals interested in politics, and libraries and institutions focusing on former Yugoslavia and the national states that emerged in the wake of its dissolution.

Contents and Survey Period

The bibliography spans works treating the crisis, the country's disintegration, armed conflict, the embargoes, refugees and migrations; ethnic nationalism, traditionalism, and populism and, not least, the issues surrounding external intervention. It also records publications on issues relating to international law, policies on the recognition of new states, and the treatment of war crimes in the courts.

Additionally, it includes literature relating to the various economic, cultural and social changes in the area. The events leading up to the war are also traced back to 1980, the year of Tito's death.

We have confined our bibliography to literature published between 1989 and 1996 in the languages German, Serbo-Croatian, English, and French.

The Bibliography's Structure

The bibliography contains ca. 4.600 documents. It lists monographs, anthologies, journal articles, and essays in anthologies. It does not include reports from daily and weekly newspapers, news magazines, book reviews, fiction, and literature written for the young. Nor does it embrace official government publications and unpublished doctoral theses.

The bibliography is divided into three sections. Part 1 contains works whose publishers or authors are known. Part 2 registers anonymous publications: this includes those titles or essays which were published in magazines using an abbreviated name and whose actual authors cannot be identified. Part 3 constitutes an alphabetical list with the full bibliographical details for periodicals containing items incorporated into the bibliography.

The literature has been cited using international bibliographical standards. The decision was made to list the titles of works but to omit references to any series of which they were a part. Where identifiable, first names of individuals have been cited in full and any middle names abbreviated. Serbo-Croatian names have been transliterated.

Research Sources

For each of the four languages included, the research team searched the national bibliographies, general and specific journal surveys, concealed bibliographies included in other publications, and databases of relevant institutions. In this context the comprehensive data available at the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (Science and Politics Foundation) in Ebenhausen deserves mention.

Additionally the research team searched 200 academic and political journals that are currently under subscription in the Hamburg Institute for Social Research's archives and library.

Trips to the 1996 book fairs in Belgrade and Frankfurt am Main as well as visits to major research institutes and libraries in Serbia also proved very fruitful to our quest for relevant literature.

Original copies of some twenty-five per cent of the total documents listed in the bibliography, were examined and references thus verified.

The sources were not available in equal measure for literature in all four languages. Former Yugoslavia has the poorest bibliographical records. We can only speculate about the number of relevant works which our search failed to locate. One of the project's aims was to create a comprehensive pool of data in the shortest time possible. Consequently - in spite of the large quantity of works cited (approx. 4.600) - this necessarily remains a select bibliography of literature related to the topics specified above.

Due in particular to staffing and time constraints, we were unable to generate an index of subjects treated in the literature.

Form of Publication

The bibliography has been published on diskette in three different file formats (Winword 6.0, WordPerfect 6.0 for Windows and ASCII) so it can be produced and distributed at the lowest possible cost.

Special Note

We would particularly like to draw attention to a bibliography which appeared at the end of 1996: "Stankovic, Dobrila u. Zlatan Maltaric: Svetska bibliografija o krizi u bivsoj Jugoslavija (Translation: International Bibliography on the Crisis in Former Yugoslavia) Beograd 1996." In

this compilation, the Institute of International Politics, the Institute of Contemporary History and the Faculties of Law and Political Science - all of them resident in Belgrade - have listed 2,650 works on the crisis in former Yugoslavia. A far greater percentage of these works are in English and French rather than Serbo-Croatian. The bibliography also includes the results of a search of numerous Serbo-Croatian weekly periodicals and a survey of the four institutes' own libraries. It forms a valuable complement to our bibliography, not least because the four organisations have collected titles from their own specialist fields and perspectives and have also incorporated works on the early history of the Balkan region, Yugoslavia and the individual republics.

Users interested in UNO documents are hereby referred to the "Index to United Nations Documents and Publications".

We hope that this bibliography proves a useful aid to understanding the wars in Croatia and Bosnia. We would like to thank all those individuals who have helped us - either with their suggestions, through their research or by allowing us to access their infrastructures.

Gudrun Döllner

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