



Nations and Citizens in Yugoslavia and the Post-Yugoslav States

One Hundred Years of Citizenship

Igor Štiks

"What does it mean today to be a 'citizen' in a world in which national identities, traditions and boundaries are increasingly in question? The rise and fall of Yugoslavia as retraced and analyzed by Igor Štiks constitutes an exceptional case study of what citizenship can signify in a highly volatile historical period and geopolitical space. Štiks' meticulously documented and well thought-out analysis constitutes a unique and indispensable resource for anyone seeking to understand the role citizenship can play in a globalized world." - Samuel Weber, Avalon Foundation Professor of Humanities, Northwestern University, USA

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Between 1914 and the present day the political makeup of the Balkans has relentlessly changed, following unpredictable shifts of international and internal borders. Between and across these borders various political communities were formed, co-existed and (dis)integrated.

By analysing one hundred years of modern citizenship in Yugoslavia and post-Yugoslav states, Igor Štiks shows that the concept and practice of citizenship is necessary to understand how political communities are made, un-made and re-made. He argues that modern citizenship is a tool that can be used for different and opposing goals, from integration and re-unification to fragmentation and ethnic engineering.

The study of citizenship in the 'laboratory' of the Balkans offers not only an original angle to narrate an alternative political history, but also an insight into the fine mechanics and repeating glitches of modern politics, applicable to multinational states in the European Union and beyond.

Igor Štiks is a Leverhulme Fellow at the University of Edinburgh, UK. He is co-editor of *Citizenship After Yugoslavia* (2012); *Citizenship Rights* (2013); and *Welcome to the Desert of Post Socialism* (2014). He is the author of two prize-winning novels, *A Castle in Romagna* (2000) and *Elijah's Chair* (2006).

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