

BELLUM PERMANENS: Germani et Serbi

[*PERMANENT WAR: The Germanic peoples and the Serbs*]

Summary: This article tends to shed some more light on historical events which marked the relations between Germans and Serbs from the early Middle Ages to the present day. The very choice of facts and their brief presentation in this paper is no accidental, because it aims to create as realistic picture as possible for the reader about the cultural-political conflict between the Germanic peoples and the Serbs - the corps of Slavic nations which emerged after the 7th century by separating from the Serbs (*initially by natural and later by forced ethnogenesis*). Their civilizational differences and opposing geopolitical aspirations will not be reconciled in the foreseeable future, and that is why we can only speak of the different intensity of these conflicts, but certainly not of their cessation. From the data provided here, the one can see exactly the depth and true scale of this centuries-old conflict (*which in a literal sense, is never interrupted*). Accordingly, for the reasons stated, understanding the essence of German-Serbian relations throughout history can lead us to get a much clearer view of the present geopolitical position of the Serbs as well as their perspective into the future.

Key words: Serbs, Slavs, Germani, limes Sorabicus, comes et dux Sorabici limitis

According to publicly available historical sources, conflicts between the Germanic peoples¹ and the Serbs² can be traced with certainty since the 7th century, and starting with the 9th century, they can freely be projected on the Slavs³ as a whole, because in that case too, the pattern of behavior of the Germanic peoples was essentially the same.

Without going into the reasons for the German's behavior, I will dwell here only on the genesis of some of the historical events, as well as their description, because (*from modern perspective*) they also have a special geopolitical dimension.

In order to understand the magnitude of these Germanic-Serbian or Germanic-Slavic conflicts, we need to completely »strip« Germanic-Serbian relations. Throughout the

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¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Германи*; Latin: *Germani*; Greek: *Γερμανικοί λαοί* (*Germanic people*) / *Γερμανικά φύλα* (*Germanic tribes*).

² Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Серђи*; Greek: *Σέρβοι*; Latin: *Sorabi / Serbi / Servi*; German: *Sorben / Serben*; English: *Sorbs / Serbs*; Upper Sorbian: *Serbja*; Lower Sorbian: *Serby*.

³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Славени*; Greek: *Σκλαβηνοί*; Latin: *Slavi / Sclavi / Sclaveni*.

history, they were characterized by political, military, religious and cultural conflicts whose continuity goes back at least a thousand and four hundred years, and it is obvious that it goes back to the past (*primarily because they were neighbors even before*).

I don't want (*in any moment*) to presume the cause of that hostility here, because today is impossible to trace the cause of that irrational hatred (*which is obviously one-sided*). Instead, I will hold to the facts that precisely and clearly define it.

Since the 6th century, border between Germani and Serbs was on the river Elbe⁴, in modern Germany, but we also know that, in that period of the European history, Serbian tribes were pushed to the east inch by inch.⁵

Modern scientists have no doubts that the precise location of the Serbs in the early Middle Ages (*because position of the border between the Germanic and Serbian tribes has changed during the Dark Ages and that was the period with no written sources*) can be determined only by some very serious multidisciplinary research in the future, that will discuss the results of modern DNA Genealogy, archaeology, anthropology, paleolinguistics, and onomastics (*toponyms, hydronyms and anthroponyms*) in detail.

However, I want to emphasize here (*at the very beginning*) that, in this paper, I will not consider the first encounters between the Germanic peoples and the Serbs (*before the 7th century*), although we know for sure that they happened (*also with a lot of clashes*), because there are no known written historical source that describes them.

Saying that, I hold the destiny of Sorbiodunum⁶ in my mind, and also the origin and fate of that tribe which gave the name to modern south-England province of Wiltshire⁷ (*County of Wilts*), and also the various settlements of the Serbs in the modern Netherlands (*the founders of Wiltenburch*⁸) or some other tribes whose settlements existed in Denmark⁹ and Sweden¹⁰ in the early Middle Ages.

⁴ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Лаба / Елба; Latin: *Albis*, Upper Sorbian: / Lower Sorbian: *Lobjo*; Czech: *Labe*, German: *Elbe*; Polish: *Łaba*; Russian: *Лаба / Эльба*. The name of the region »Transalbingia« (*Cyrillic: Трансалбинџа*) is based on the Latin name *Alba* for the river Elbe. This term usually applies to the territory east of this river, but in the past it also included a part of the region west of it (*when it was inhabited by Serbian tribes*).

⁵ This is the reason why it is important to emphasize that even after the 9th century there were some Serbian enclaves on the west side of the river (*on its left bank*).

⁶ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Сорбодунум (Сорбски град / Утврђење Сорба = Сорбски град / Утврђење Сорба); Latin: *Sorbiodunum / Sorviodunum*. The name originates from the two words: Sorbian + Dunum (*[Sorbs = Serbs] + [Dunum = Fortress]*), i.e. *Serbian fortified town*. The first word is a modulation of Celtic-German name for the Northern Serbs (*in modern Germany there is a variation of this name - »Sorben« [English: Sorbs], which still exists*), while the other word is certainly of Celtic origin and means fortified settlement (Celtic: *dūnon = fortress*; Welsh: *dinas = city / din = fortress*; Irish: *dún = fortress*). By the way, until the late Middle Ages, Serbs (*and all other Slavs*), used the word »grad« (*or hrad*), to describe a fortified settlement (Serbian: *Град / Градац / Градец / Градина / Градуице [Grad / Gradac / Greadec / Gradina / Gradište]*).

⁷ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Вилтшир; Latin: *Wiltoniensis comitatus / Wiltonia*. »I have to add, that as a further proof of the Slavonic origin of the Weletes, the former inhabitants of Wiltshire, there seem to serve efficiently the fact that Old Sarum was called by the Britons Sorbiodunum; that is, the town of the Sorbes. Now Sorbi, Serbi, Sierbi, Sirhi, Srbi, Sarbi was the native name of the ancient Slavonians;« (Chapter: *The Slavonians in England*) – „NOTES AND QUERIES: A Medium of Inter-Communication for Literary Men, General Readers Etc.“, No. 167, Third Series – Volume Seventh (London: *Oxford University Press*, Saturday, March 11th, 1865, p. 208).

⁸ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Вилтенбурх (today *Utrecht*); Latin: *Viltaburg, / Oppidum Viltorum*; Dutch: *Wiltenburch (modern name of this city is Utrecht)*. Map: *Vltraiectvm Dominivm [Domain of Utrecht]* – Johannes „Jan“ (or Joan) Willemsz Blaeu „*Theatrum Orbis Terrarum, sive Atlas Novus in quo Tabulae et Descriptiones Omnium Regionum*“ [*Theater of the World, or a New Atlas of Maps and Representations of All Regions*] (Amsterdam: *J. & G. Blaeu*, 1645). »Unquestionable proofs, however, of their having settled in the Nether-

I will end consideration of the events of that era with the final fall of Berlin into the hands of Germans, as one of the stages in the realization of an anti-Slavic plan, that is, the early Germanic project, which could come under the modern term »*Drang nach Osten*«¹¹ [*Drive to the East*].

It is for this reason that I will not elaborate further on those numerous traces of the Northern Serbs in the east (*for example, throughout present-day Poland*), where their participation in the ethnogenesis of modern Poles¹² is clearly evident, and not only there

lands exist in the names of the cities evidently, as Wiltsween in Holland; Weltenburg, near Utrecht, etc., and in such purely Slavonian names as Kamen, Sweta, Widenitz, Huduin, Zwola, Wispe or Wespe, Slota, etc.» – Cyril Edwin Hart: „*The Tribal Hidage*“ [*Read October 23rd, 1970*] (pp. 133-157), Transactions of the Royal Historical Society, Volume 21 (London: *Royal Historical Society*, 1971, p. 155). »*Willibrord naar Wiltenburg*« [*Willibrord to Wiltenburg*] – Jan W. J. Burgers: „*De Rijkroniek van Holland en zijn auteurs*“ [*Rhyme Chronicle of Holland and its Authors*] (Hilversum: *Uitgeverij Verloren*, 1999, p. 439). Rijkroniek van Holland [*Rhymed Chronicle of Holland*] by Melis Stoke (1235-1305) sentence 112 till 114, telling Willibrord comes to Utrecht, but the old name of Utrecht was Wiltenborch (*Wiltenburg*). This chronicle covers the period from 689 to 1305. »*They widened the area of 'Slavonia' or 'Slavia' to the whole of Holland, Gelderland and Batavia, and accepted his 'Slavs, called Wilts' (Slavi, qui et Vilti) as ancestors of the people of Holland and the neighbouring territories. This 'Slavonic origin myth' helped to demonstrate that the ancestors of the proud citizens of Utrecht, Gouda, Tiel and other cities had always been a special and independent people between Franks and Friesians.*« – Libuše Hrabová [author] / Erik S. Kooper [editor]: „*Wiltenburg und der holländische Mythos von den Anfängen*“ [*Wiltenburg and the Netherlands Myth from the Beginning*] (pp. 51-60), The medieval chronicle III. Proceedings of the 3rd International Conference on the Medieval Chronicle. Doorn/Utrecht from 12th to 17th May 2002. (Amsterdam: *Rodopi*, 2004, p. 51).

⁹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Данска. Danish: Danmark.

¹⁰ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Шведска. Swedish: Sverige. In Sweden still exist the names of settlements that refer us to the founders of those settlements in the Early Middle Ages (*at the latest*). For example, one can find settlements named Sörby all over Sweden: Borgholm Municipality [*Borgholms kommun*], Kalmar County [*Kalmar län*]; Falköping Municipality [*Falköpings kommun*], Västra Götaland County [*Västra Götalands län*]; Gotland Municipality [*Gotlands kommun*], Gotland County [*Gotlands län*]; Hässleholms Municipality [*Hässleholms kommun*], Västra Skåne County [*Skåne län*]; Kil Municipality [*Kils kommun*], Värmland County [*Värmlands län*]; Kungsör Municipality [*Kungsörs kommun*], Västmanland County [*Västmanlands län*]; Linköping Municipality [*Linköpings kommun*], Östergötland County [*Östergötlands län*]; Nyköping Municipality [*Nyköpings kommun*], Södermanland County [*Södermanlands län*]; Örebro Municipality [*Örebro kommun*], Örebro County [*Örebro län*]; Ronneby Municipality [*Ronneby kommun*], Blekinge County [*Blekinge län*]; Umeå Municipality [*Umeå kommun*], Västerbotten County [*Västerbottens län*]; Växjö Municipality [*Växjö kommun*], Kronoberg County [*Kronobergs län*]; ...etc. The fact that orthography rules in Swedish language follow the former pronunciation rules and therefore there is a difference between spelling and pronunciation of words is very important to us. For example, modern Swedish letter »ö« transcribes into Serbian language as »e«, and in accordance, the name of Norse Viking Chief Björn Järnsida (*the pagan King of Sweden*), transcribes into Serbian language as Бјерн - „Гвоздени“ (*Björn Ironside*). For example, Rimbert[us] (830-888), Frankish Archbishop of Bremen and Hamburg (*in the period of 865-888*), writing the book „*LIFE OF ANSGAR COMPOSED BY RIMBERT: Supplemented with the Life of Rimbert*“ [*VITA ANSKARII AUCTORE RIMBERTO: Accedit Vita Rimberti*], about his predecessor Saint Ansgar [*Sanctus Ansharius*] (801-865), notes the name of abovementioned king in the form of – *Bern*, because in the abovementioned book he writes »*Bern, King of Swedes*« [*rege Sueonum Bern*]. So, Swedish language kept the older form of pronunciation of different forms of the Germanic name for the Serbs (*Sörby, Sörbyn, Söra-by, etc*) and it is always in the form »*Serbi*« (*i.e. Serbs*). In order to be completely clear, I wish to emphasize that Swedish language is a part of German languages, that is, it is one of the northern-German languages and it is one of the descendants of the Old Norse language (*its eastern subvariant*). As a separate language it occurs in the 8th century, while modern Swedish language originates from the 16th century. Swedish language is the most similar to Danish and Norwegian language, so the speakers of those languages can understand each other.

¹¹ Andreas Lawaty / Hubert Orłowski: „*DEUTSCHE UND POLEN: Geschichte, Kultur, Politik*“ [*GERMANS AND POLES: History - Culture - Politics*] (München: *Verlag C. H. Beck*, 2003, p. 34).

¹² »*Ein Hauptstamm der Sarmaten, welcher von Alters her den Namen der Serbier führete, war bereits vor Christi Geburt gerade aus Asien nach Kleinund Groß-Polen gezogen und dafelbst feßhaft geworden.*« [*Yet*

but also on the ethnic area of their northern neighbours, Kashubs¹³ (even nowadays in Kashubia¹⁴ we can see toponyms like: Serbian village¹⁵ [54°45'05"N 17°39'57"E], Ser-

before Christ, a main Sarmatian tribe, that had name Serbier for centuries ago, moved from Asia directly to Small and Great Poland and settled there.] – Friedrich Wilhelm von Taube: „HISTORISCHE UND GEOGRAPHISCHE BESCHREIBUNG DES KÖNIGREICHES SLAVONIEN UND DES HERZOGTHUMS SYRMIE: Sowol nach ihrer natürlichen Beschaffenheit, als auch nach ihrer itzigen Verfassung und neuen Einrichtung in kirchlichen, bürgerlichen und militärischen Dingen.“ [HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE KINGDOM OF SLAVONIA AND VOIVODESHIP OF SYRMIA: A description of their natural characteristics, their current organization, as well as the new arrangement in ecclesiastical, civic, and military matters.], Band II [Volume 2] (Leipzig: Kaiserl. Königl. wirkl. Regierungsrathe, 1777, p. 43). »Le troisième royaume fondé par les Serbes, sous le nom de Pologne« [The Serbs established their third kingdom and they called it Poland] (Chapitre XIII: Royaume de la Serbie rouge [Chapter XIII: Kingdom of Red Serbia]; Paragraphe: 4 [Paragraph: 4]; Clause: 12 [Clause: 12]) – Stanislaw Jan Bohusz Siestrzeniec: „Precis des recherches historiques sur l'origine des Slaves ou Esclavons et des Sarmates, et sur les Epoque de la conversion de ces peuples au christianisme; par Mgr Stanislave Siestrzenec de Bohusz...“ [Precise historical research on the origin of the Slavs or Slavonians and Sarmatians, and on the Epochs of the conversion of these peoples to Christianity; by Monsignor Stanislave Siestrzenec de Bohusz,...] (Санкт Петербург: Императорская Академія Наукъ, 1824, p. 99). »The White Servians possessed the whole of Bosnia to the banks of the Verbaz, and divided it into small principalities and republics, that were oppressed at different periods, by the Bulgarian and Hungarian kings. Bosnia from being a Servian Zupanija became a Hungarian province; and the bannat of Mazovia was formed in the north of Servia by the monarchs of Hungary.« – Malthé Conrad Bruun [Conrad Malte-Brun]: „Universal geography; or, A description of all the parts of the world on a new plan, according to the great natural divisions of the globe, accompanied with analytical, synoptical and elementary tables.“, Volume 4 (Philadelphia [PA, USA]: John Laval and S. F. Bradford, 1829, p. 125).

¹³ »Крижаки Прускіе Кѣданскъ взяли и збурили. Въ лѣто 6813. Нача княжѣти Кѣдиминъ Витуповичъ въ Лнтвъ, въ Новгородку и Керновъ, и воева на Русь крѣпко. Сихъ время преже, Премышлява короля Польского убили самы Ляхы, пьяного, въ мѣстѣ Рогозномъ, а забили бояре Лядскіи Налецъ и Заремба; Богъ сотворилъ отмщеніе ему, понеже онъ преже жену свою, имень Лукерію, удави ради другое, которая просия у него, да въ единой ризѣ пуститъ ю въ домъ; она бо бѣ рода князей Сербскихъ, съ Кашубъ, отъ поморія Варязкаго, отъ Стараго града за Кѣданскомъ.« [Prussian crusaders occupied and razed Gdańsk. In 6813 (this is a mistake made during the copying of chronicle – Vytenis, Grand Duke of Lithuania was succeeded 6823, i.e. 1315 by his brother Gediminas), started the rule of Gediminas in Lithuania, Novgorod and Kernavė, and he waged a furious war with Russia. Earlier, Lechites (that refers to Poles – translator's note), in Rogoźno (Rogoźno is a town in Poland – translator's note), have killed drunken Polish King Przemyslaw. His murderers were Lachówan boyars (nobles, followers of the Latin Church – translator's note) Nalec and Zaremba. That was the God's revenge (chronicler refers to King Przemyslaw II – translator's note), for murdering his own wife Ludgarda, for the sake of another one who wanted to be his only companion. She (Ludgarda of Mecklenburg – translator's note) was of the genus of Serbian knyazes from Kashubia, of Varangian Littoral, of the Old Town of Gdansk.] – Author [unknown]: „Полное собраніе Русскихъ лѣтописей“ [Complete Set of Russian Chronicles], изданное по высочайшему повелѣнію Археографическою комиссіею, томъ второй [issued by the Archeographic Committee at the Direction of His Imperial Majesty]. Ипатіевская лѣтопись [Hypatian Chronicle] (Санкт Петербург: Карл Эдуард Прац / Karl Eduard Pratz, 1843, p. 227). Since 1810, the codex has been preserved in the Russian National Library [Российская национальная библиотека], Moscow (Russian Federation). »Wie aber in jener Stelle Kaschubische Serben...« [There are Kashubian Serbs in that place...] – Ernst Eduard Kunik: „Die Berufung der schwedischen Rodsen durch die Finnen und Slawen: Eine Vorarbeit zur Entstehungsgeschichte des russischen Staates“ [The Invitation of Swedish Rodsians to the Finns and Slavs: Preliminary Work on the Genesis of the Russian State], Erste Abtheilung [Volume I] (Sankt Petersburg: Sankt Petersburger Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften, 1844, p. 63). »Populations speaking Sorbian and Kashubian, linguistically the most closely related to extinct Slavic dialects spoken in the past in present-day eastern Germany, were used to assess Slavic ancestry in the eastern German Y-chromosomal pool. In addition, German admixture was assessed in genetic outliers detected in the MDS analysis, that is, the Sorbs and Kashubes, with the Greater Polish-speaking population of Kociewie as the parental population (the Greater Polish dialects directly neighbour the Kaszuby region and share linguistic similarities with the Lusatian dialects).« – Krzysztof Rębała et al: „CONTEMPORARY PATERNAL GENETIC LANDSCAPE OF POLISH AND GERMAN POPULATIONS: From early medieval Slavic expansion to post-World War II

bian lake¹⁶ [54°45'58"N 17°38'10"E] and Nature Reserve of Sarbska Spit¹⁷ [54°46'42"N 17°39'52"E] in Leba¹⁸). Of course, in the scientific public, these facts are not some great news, because it is known that »Serbs« was the original name¹⁹ for all Slavs.²⁰

resettlements“ (pp. 415-422), European Journal of Human Genetics, Volume 21 (New York City [NY, USA]: Macmillan Publishers Limited, 2013, p. 417).

¹⁴ Gerard Labüda: „Kaszubi i ich dzieje“ [Kashubians and their history] (Gdańsk: Oficyna Czeć, 2000, pp. 104-105).

¹⁵ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Сербско село; Kashubian: Sôrbstk; Polish: Sarbsk; German: Sarbske. Map: Ducatus Pomeraniae, Citerioris et Ulterioris [Duchy of Pomerania, Nearer and Farther] – Matthäus Seutter: „Composite Seutter Atlas“ [Seutter's Composite Atlas] (Augsburg: M. Seutter, 1755, map № 34). Map: Preussische Provinz Pommern – Heinrich Kiepert „Grosser Hand-Atlas des Himmels und der Erde“ [Great Hand-Atlas of Heaven and Earth] (Weimar: Weimar Geographisches Institut, 1886, p. 13). Map: Das Slawische Sprachgebiet in Hinterpommern [Slavic speaking area in Pomerania] – Franz Oskar Tetzner: „DIE SLOWINZEN UND LEBAKASCHUBEN: Mit 1 Sprach Karte und 3 Tafeln Abbildungen Land und Leute, Haus und Hof. Sitten und Gebräuche, Sprache und Litteratur im östlichen Hinterpomern.“ [SLOVINCIANS AND KASHUBIANS FROM LEBA: With one language map and three pictures of people's life, houses and yards. The customs and habits, language and literature in the Eastern Sub-Pomerania.], (Berlin: Verlag von Emil Felber, 1899, p. 274). This title mentions the area surrounded by the Leba River and Lebsko Lake.

¹⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Сербско језеро; Kashubian: Jezoro Sôrbstkò; Polish: Sarbsko; German: Sarbsker See.

¹⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Резервам природе „Сербску pm“; Polish: Rezerwat Przyroda „Mierzeja Sarbska“; Czech: Přírodní rezervace „Mierzeja Sarbska“.

¹⁸ Between Sarbsko Lake and Baltic Sea near Leba town in Pomeranian Voivodeship, Poland.

¹⁹ »Dieselbe naturgemässe Entstehung der Ländernamen lässt sich auch bei den Slawen wahrnehmen. Lange mochten sie den ursprünglichen Gesamtnamen Serben geführt haben ehe die einzelnen Lokalnamen wie Lutschanen, Drevlänen u. s. w. aufkamen.« [The identical natural origin of state names can be noticed in Slavs. For a long time, before the common name Serbs, they have used local names like Lutici, Drevlians, etc.] – E. E. Kunik: „Die Berufung der schwedischen...“, 1844, pp. 55-56. »Bekanntlich hat sich die früheste Gesamtbennennung des slawischen Stammes Serben heutigen Tages bei den Serben an der Donau und den Wenden in der Lausitz erhalten...« [It is known that the name Serbs, as the first common name for Slavic tribes, has remained even today in Serbs on the Danube river as well as in Wends in Lusatia...] – Ibidem, p. 62. »Den alten Namen Serben hatte der Wendenstamm noch in der vorstaatlichen Zeit beinahe überall mit dem Namen „Slawen“ vertauscht, jeder einzelner Zweig aber führte, wie bei den Germanen, auf seinem kleinen Raume einen Specialnamen z B. in der Nähe der Polanen am Dnepr wohnten Drevlanen, Chrowaten, Uglitschen u. s. w.« [Before the emergence of the state, the old name Serbs was replaced by Wends into the Slavs, but each tribe (similar to Germani), have had its own local name, for example, near Polans on the Dnieper river, lived Drevlians, Croats, Ulichs, etc.] – Ibid., p. 63. »Bald wird die einheimische Benennung Serben als Colectivname als Name der grossen nationalen Einheit verdrängt und weicht auch der Name Veneter mehr und mehr einem einheimischen Namen: Slovenen...« [Soon, the native name Serbs, as a common name for large ethnic formation, was suppressed, as well as Veneti, by a local name: Slavs...] – Gregor Krek: „EINLEITUNG IN DIE SLAVISCHE LITERATURGESCHICHTE: Akademische Vorlesungen, Studien und kritische Streifzüge“ [DIVISION OF SLAVIC HISTORY OF LITERATURE: Academic Lectures, Studies and Critical Debates] (Graz: Verlag von Leuschner & Lubensky, 1887, p. 292).

²⁰ Johann Kaspar Zeuß: „Die Deutschen und die Nachbarstämme“ [The Germans and the Neighboring Tribes] (München: Ignaz Joseph Lentner, 1837, p. 601). Ami Boué [Amédée Boué]: „La Turquie d'Europe ou observations sur la géographie, la géologie, l'histoire naturelle, la statistique, les moeurs, les coutumes, l'archéologie, l'agriculture, l'industrie, le commerce, les gouvernements divers, le clergé, l'histoire et l'état politique de cet empire“ [European Turkey or, observations on the geography, geology, natural history, statistics, customs, archeology, agriculture, industry, commerce, diverse forms of government, clergy, history and political economy of this empire], Tome deuxième [Volume 2] (Paris: Arthus Bertrand, 1840, p. 34). Auguste Viquesnel: „VOYAGE DANS LA TURQUIE D'EUROPE: Description physique et géologique de la Thrace“ [A JOURNEY TO EUROPEAN TURKEY: Physical and geographical description of Thrace] (Paris: Arthus Bertrand, 1868, p. 465). Franjo Rački: „SLOVENSKI SVIET: Historičko-statističko-etnografičke razprave“ [SLAVIC WORLD: Historical-Statistical-Ethnographic Discussion] (Zagreb: Lavoslav Hartmán i družba, 1870, p. 6). Benjámín von Kállay: „Geschichte der Serben“ [History of the Serbs], Erster Band

In order to see Serbian toponyms in the area of modern Germany it is best to use atlases and maps made by German Slavist Reinhold Trautmann²¹ (1883-1951), Czech historical geographer Hana Skalová²² (1897-1965) and German linguist Ernst Eichler²³ (1930-2012), and the maps of distribution of the Polabian Serb tribes were published by other authors (*Petar Mardešić*²⁴, *Andreas Bensch*²⁵, etc.).

Merovingians and German expansion into Serbian lands

Today, we can only assume when the first clashes between Merovingians (*a dynasty of Frankish kings*) and Serbs have occurred.

That probably happened during the reign of Hlodowig²⁶ [*Chlodovechus*] (c. 466 - 511), King of the Franks (reigned: c. 509 - 511), at the northern or northwestern borders of his country.

In any case, some smaller or larger clashes with Serbs certainly occurred during the reign of his son Theuderic I (c. 487 - 533/4), Frankish King of Metz and Rheims²⁷ (reigned: 511-533/4), who occupied Thuringia²⁸ in 531, and for sure during the reign of his grand-

[*Volume I*] (Budapest/Wien: *Verlag von Wilhelm Lauffer*, 1878, pp. 12-13). Nicu N. Iorga [*Nicolae Iorga*]: „*Histoire des roumains et de la romanité orientale*“ [*History of Romanians and Eastern Roman Empire*], Volumul II [*Volume II*], Les maîtres de la terre [*jusqu'à l'an mille*] (București: *Académie Roumaine*, 1937, p. 301).

²¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Ражхолд Траутман*. Reinhold Trautmann: „*Die Elb- und Ostseeslavischen Ortsnamen*“ [*Slavic toponyms near the Elbe River and the Baltic Sea*], Teil I [*Part I; 1948*] / Teil II [*Part 2; 1949*] / Teil III [*Part 3; 1956*], *Abhandlungen der deutschen Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin [Disputes of the German Academy of Sciences at Berlin]* (Berlin: *Deutsche Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin*).

²² Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Хана Скалова*. Hana Skalová: „*Topografická mapa území Obodriců a Veletů-Luticů ve světle místních jmen*“ [*Topographic map of Obodrites and Veleti-Lutici in the light of local names*] (Praha: *Československé akademie věd*, 1965). The book is of exceptional importance for early medieval Serbian history – containing 32 maps with toponyms of Serbian settlements.

²³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Ернст Ајхлер*. Ernst Eichler: „*Atlas altsorbischer Ortsnamentypen: Studien zu toponymischen Arealen des altsorbischen Gebietes im westslawischen Sprachraum*“ [*ATLAS OF OLD SORBIAN PLACE NAMES: Study of the Toponyms of the Old Serbian region in western-Slavic speaking area*] Heft 1 [*Issue 1; 2000*], Heft 2 [*Issue 2; 2003*], Hefte 3-4 [*Issues 3-4, 2004*], Heft 5 [*Issue 5; 2004*] (Leipzig: *Sächsische Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Leipzig – Kommission Deutsch-Slawische Namenforschung*).

²⁴ Map: *Средња Европа за Карловића – Baltičko-Polapski Slaveni* [*Central Europe at the time of the Carolingians – Balto-Polabian Slavs*] – Petar Mardešić / Zvonimir Dugački / Nada Klaić: „*Historijski atlas*“ [*Historical Atlas*] (Zagreb: *Učila*, 1954, p. 8).

²⁵ »*Regio Surbi*« – Andreas Bensch: Broschüre „*SERBJA/SERBY: Die Sorben in Deutschland*“ [*Brochure SERBJA/SERBY: The Sorbs in Germany*] (Bautzen: *Stiftung für das sorbische Volk*, 2009, p. 5).

²⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Хлодовуз*. Historians assume that this Frankish ruler was the founder of the Merovingian dynasty. History remembers him as »*Clovis I*«, but that represents an incorrect transcription of his original name. I emphasize this because it is a Germanic name which is probably derived from two archaic German words, »*hlod*« [*fame*] and »*wig*« [*combat*], i.e. informally - »*famous warrior*«. That was the base for names like *Chlodwig* / *Ludwig* (*German given name*), *Lodewijk* / *Lodewijch* (*Dutch given name*), *Louis* (*French given name*), *Luis* (*Spanish given name*), *Luigi* (*Italian given name*) and *Lewis* (*English given name*). King Hlodowig was the son of Childeric I (c. 437 - 481), a Merovingian King of the Salian Franks (reigned: 458-481), and Basina (c. 438 - 477), a Thuringian princess.

²⁷ This feud was later known as – *Austrasia*.

²⁸ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Турингија*; German: *Thüringen*. The original kingdom eventually becomes Frankish [*Merovingian*] Duchy of Thuringia (*in the period of 631/2-719*), Frankish [*Carolingian*] Duchy of Thuringia (*in the period of 849-908*), Margravate of Thuringia (*in the period of 1000-1090*) and Landgravate of Thuringia (*in the period of 1111-1572*).

son Theudebert I (c. 503 - 547/8), Frankish King of Austrasia (reigned: 533/4 - 547/8), because there was Serbs in that period, in eastern part of Thuringia (*they were the first Serbs baptised by German Catholic priests*²⁹).

President of the Royal Historical Society³⁰ (*in the period of 1976-1980*) J. M. Wallace-Hadrill³¹ (1916-1985) is probably right saying that Austrasia, for Merovingians, was a Frankish territory used as a barrier against Slavs (*or, to be precise, against Serbs*).³²

Great conflict between Merovingians (*who tried to expand their kingdoms in all directions*) and Serbs, emerged during the reign of Samo (5?? - c. 658) King of the Slavs (reigned: 623 - c. 658).³³

Czech historian and linguist Frantisek Martin Pelcl (1734-1801), speaking about ethnicity of King Samo, points out: »*Samo was a Slav from the land of the Serbs*³⁴, *i.e. from the modern city of Meissen*³⁵. *That Serb gave an (good) advice to nearby Czechs*³⁶ *how to defeat stronger enemy.*«³⁷.

At the other hand, German historian Count Francis Henry Hieronymus Valentin of Lüt-zow³⁸ (1849-1916), who was a member of the Royal Bohemian Society of Sciences³⁹, and of the Bohemian Academy of Sciences and Arts⁴⁰, also mentions the origin of King

²⁹ Ian Nicholas Wood: „*The Merovingian Kingdoms 450-751*“ (London / New York City [NY, USA], Routledge – Taylor & Francis Group, 2014, p. 311).

³⁰ The Royal Historical Society (abbreviation: *RHS*) is a learned society of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which advances scholarly studies of history. The society was founded and received its royal charter in 1868, and until 1872 it was known as the Historical Society. During the 1897, it merged with the Camden Society (*founded in 1838*), and its main office is at University College London.

³¹ He was a Professor of Medieval history in the University of Manchester and one of the foremost historians of the early Merovingian period.

³² John Michael Wallace-Hadrill: „*Fredegar and the History of France*“ (pp. 527-550), Bulletin of the John Rylands Library, Volume 40, № 2 (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1958, p. 548).

³³ John Michael Wallace-Hadrill [translator]: „*The Fourth Book of the Chronicle of Fredegar with its continuations*“, Medieval Classics (Westport [CT, USA]: Greenwood Press Publishers, 1981, pp. 56-58).

³⁴ The Serbs in Germany (German: *Sorben*; English: *Sorbs*) or Lusatian Serbs (*Lusatian Sorbs*).

³⁵ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Мишно / Мајсен*; Latin: *Misnia / Misna / Misena*; German: *Meißen*.

³⁶ The term Bohemian was originally used, and not the term Czechs (*ethnogenesis of Czechs did not began before the 10th century*).

³⁷ »*Dieser Samo war ein Slawe, aus dem Lande der Soraben oder aus dem heutigen Meißen. Dieser Sorabe gab also unfern Czechen guten Rath, wie sie die Feinde mit Bortheil angreifen und schlagen sollten.*« – Frantisek Martin Pelcl: „*Geschichte der Böhmen von den ältesten bis auf die neuesten Zeiten.*“ [The History of Bohemia from the Earliest to the Recent Times], Erster Theil [Part I] (Wien / Berlin: Johann Nepomuk Ferdinand von Schönfeld, 1782, p. 23). Borthheil – an old German word that is no yet in use in its original form. Over time it evolved into a new form, which is still used today, and it is – »*Vorteil*«. Earlier Germans would say »*Bortheil und Nachteil*«, and at the present time they say »*Vorteil und Nachteil*«. Therefore, in this case Samo taught them how to defeat superior enemy (*an enemy that has the advantage*).

³⁸ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Гроф Франц Хенрих Хијеронимус Валентин од Лицова*; German: *Franz Heinrich Hieronymus Valentin Graf von Lütow*; Czech: *Hrabě František Jindřich Jeroným Valentýn z Lützowů*.

³⁹ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Краљевско научно друштво Бохемије*; Latin: *Regia Societas Scientiarum Bohemica*; German: *Königliche böhmische Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften*; Czech: *Královská česká společnost nauk*. From this scientific institution (*founded in 1784*) later derived (1890) the Bohemian Academy of Sciences and Arts (*i.e. Czech Academy of Sciences and Arts*), and further (1953) the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences [*Československá akademie věd*], *i.e.* (1992) the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic [*Akademie věd České republiky*].

⁴⁰ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Чешка академија наука и уметности*; Czech: *České akademie věd a umění*. The formal name of this scientific institution was „*Böhmische Kaiser Franz Josef Akademie der Wissenschaften, Literatur und Künste*“ [English: *Emperor Franz Joseph's Czech Academy for Sciences, Literature, and Arts*; Czech: *Česká akademie císaře Františka Josefa pro vědy, slovesnost a umění*].

Samo: »*The old German chronicles tell us that in the year 623 Samo, who probably belonged to one of the Slavonic tribes that then inhabited Northern Germany, aided the Bohemians in their struggle against the Avars, and that with his help they succeeded in freeing their country from alien domination.*«⁴¹

The origin of this ruler is controversial among historians because he is referred to as a Frankish merchant (*a Frankish citizen*), though this does not necessarily represent a determination of his ethnicity.

I say this simply because Romans, and Franks later, named their subjects by their country. This is probably the case here, too, because if we analyze the behavior of Samo and his acceptance by Serbs of Bohemia, or Slavs (*as Fredegar refers to them*). At that time, the Bohemians were Serbs⁴² (*their ethnic name was the only one mentioned in that area for a few next centuries*), and not Czech people⁴³, because ethnogenesis of the Czechs⁴⁴ starts during the 10th century.

Foreign chroniclers often confused the national name Serbs with the local name of some of their tribes, or with the territory name that local Serbs inhabited. On that way, sometimes accidentally and sometimes intentionally, they were making great confusion concerning this matter.

We must start with the fact that Franks were Germanic people and that the Serbs had a hostile attitude toward them.

⁴¹ Franz Lützwow: „*BOHEMIA: An historical sketch by the Count Lützwow*“ (London: J. M. Dent and Sons Limited / New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1920, p. 9).

⁴² »...*Scilavi qui vocantur Dalmati et Bohemi atque Sorabici...*« [Slavs known as Dalmatians and Bohemians, are Serbs] – Friedrich Kurze [editor]: „*Annales fuldenses sive Annales regni Francorum orientalis*“ [The Annals of Fulda or Annals of Eastern Frankish Kingdom] (Hannoverae: Impensis bibliopolii Hahniani, 1891, pp. 94-95). »*V srbském národě jest země jižto, Charváty jméno je. V té zemi byl Lech, jemužto jméno bylo Čech.*« [In the Serbian people, there is a land, and its name is Croatia, and in that land was a Lech (Pole – translator's note), whose name was Czech.] – Václav Flajšhans: „*KRONIKA TAK ŘEČENÉHO DALIMILA: Novým jazykem přepsal V. Flajšhans*“ [CHRONICLE OF SO CALLED DALIMIL: Rewritten by V. Flajšhans in modern Czech language], Žeň z literatur [Harvest of literature], Svazek LIII [Volume 53] (Prague: Jan Laichter, 1920, p. 11). »*Leží země v srbském kraji, Charváty ji nazývají a v ní kdysi vládł Lech který nosil jméno Čech.*« [In Serbian area there is a land, and its name is Croatia, and in that land the ruler was Lech [Pole – translator's note], whose name was Czech.] – Marie Krčmová: „*Kronika tak řečeného Dalimila*“ [Chronicle of so called Dalimil] (Praha: Svoboda Publishing House, 1977, p. 12).

⁴³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Чечу*; Czech: *Čechové / Češi*.

⁴⁴ Mentioning of the Czechs in this period of the Bohemian history is absolutely frivolous and unprofessional. It is the same as mentioning of Ukrainians before 1917 in the history of Russia, i.e. so-called Montenegrins and Macedonians as (*ethnically defined nations*) before 1945 in the history of Hum Peninsula. It goes without saying that serious historians must not fall into the trap of contemporary politics or geopolitics, so they must never defy the personal choices of an individual or a group today to the determination of people in the past (*not even in the same territory*). It would be as if I, as a Serb, began to declare myself today as an ethnic Hungarian, and on that basis started to demand that my ancestors also define as Hungarians, and not the Serbs (*as they used to declare and consider themselves for life*). The situation is quite the same with the formation of synthetic nations from the ethnic corpus of the Serbs and Russians (*on the territories occupied by foreigners*), i.e. with the deliberate mixing of concepts of state and people, territory and people, citizenship and people or, for example, religion and people – which I will further explain later in this paper.

⁴⁵ »*According to the commonly accepted theory of ethnonym 'Czech' derives from the earliest period of Slavic settlement in the Bohemian basin. It is true that written sources testify to the presence of the term 'Cechs' only in the late tenth-century legend of St Václav.*« – Przemysław Urbańczyk / Nora Berend / Przemysław Piotr Wiszewski: „*Central Europe in the High Middle Ages: Bohemia, Hungary and Poland, c.900-c.1300*“, Cambridge Medieval Textbooks (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, December 19th, 2013, p. 92).

It is not likely that the Serbs would voluntarily accept a foreigner as their ruler (*in this case he would be an enemy, too*).

In accordance to that, in the complete history of Lusatian Serbs or Serbs on the south (*in the Hum Peninsula*⁴⁶) there is no record of such example. This is acceptable for Spaniards, Croats, Hungarians, Romanians, Bulgarians, Greeks, or Danes, but absolutely never by the people who declare themselves as Serbs.

I emphasize one more time that in today's Bohemia (*and also in that one which was a part of Great Moravia*⁴⁷) there are no Bohemians (*at least not as an ethnic group or nation*), but only Serbs (*Serbian tribe Milčeni*⁴⁸ *is dominant in that region*), as sole inhabitants of that area (*good examples for this are Serbian princesses Saint Ludmila*⁴⁹ *and Drahomira of Stodor*⁵⁰).

The policy »*Divide and rule*«⁵¹ (*or Divide and conquer*), can also be seen through the Frankish or Anglo-Saxon mixing of tribal names or the names of particular areas with the name of the native people, which was also characteristic behavior of Romans and Greeks before them (*in some other cases*).

⁴⁶ Petar B. Bogunović [Петар Б. Бозуновић]: „DYNASTIA NEMAGNICH ET GENUS FAMILIA BOGOUNOICH: Per vestigium documentorum archivi Ragusini“ [THE NEMANJIĆ DYNASTY AND ORIGIN OF THE BOGUNOVIĆ FAMILY: Tracing the documents of Dubrovnik Archive], Časopis „Viteška kultura“ [Journal „Chivalrous culture“], Broj 7 [№: 7] (Beograd: Veliki priorat Vitezova Templara Srbije, 2018, p. 62).

⁴⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Велика Моравска. Latin: *Regnum Marahensium / Regnum Marauorum*; Greek: Μεγάλη Μοραβία; Old Slavonic: Моравьска область; Czech: *Velká Morava*; also *Regnum Sclavorum* (*realm of Slavs*) or alternate *Regnum Rastizi* (*realm of Rastislav*) and *Regnum Zuentibaldi* (*realm of Svätopluk*). It was formed in 833 by unification of Principality of Moravia and Principality of Nitra, and later (*from the year of 894*) Principality of Lower Pannonia / Balaton Principality. Owing to their invasions (862, 881 and 892), Hungarians weakened Great Moravia State (*original formal name is unknown*), which was torn by internal conflicts. They destroyed it »*de facto*« (read: *took to pieces*), during the military campaigns from 894 till 902.

⁴⁸ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Милчани; Upper Sorbian: *Milčeno*; Lower Sorbian: *Milčany*; Latin: *Milšca*; Czech: *Milčané*; Polish: *Milczanie*; German: *Milzener*.

⁴⁹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Лудмила. Saint Ludmila (c. 860 - 921) was the daughter of Serbian Knyaz Slavibor (c. 827 - after 860) who ruled the city of Pšov (*today Mělník in central Bohemia*) and its environment in Bohemia. Slavibor was the ruler of Serbian tribe Milčeni. Princess Ludmila was married to Bořivoj I of Bohemia (c. 852 - c. 889), Duke of Bohemia (reigned: 867-889) and progenitor of the Přemyslid dynasty, who was the first Christian Voivode of Bohemia. The couple was converted to Christianity around 871, probably through the efforts of Saints Cyril and Methodius. The Bohemian Voivodeship [*Ducatus Bohemiæ*] was at these times subordinated to Great Moravia (833 - c. 906/907). Saint Ludmila was the first Slavic saint, canonized by still the one universal Christian Church then existed (*before »the Great Schism« of 1054*). She was the mother of Svythnev I (c. 875 - 915), Voivode of Bohemia (reigned: 894/895 - 915) and Vratislaus I (c. 888 - 921), Voivode of Bohemia (reigned: 915-921). Also, she was the grandmother of Wenceslaus I (c. 907 - 935), aka „*Saint Wenceslaus*“, Voivode of Bohemia (reigned: 921-935), Boleslaus I the Cruel (c. 915 - 967/972), Voivode of Bohemia (reigned: 935 - 967/972) and Strezislava (9??-987). The mortal remains of the Saint Ludmila of Bohemia were buried in the St. George's Basilica [*Bazilika Sv. Jiří*] (*it is a part of Hradčany royal complex, widely known as the Prague Castle*). »*Blahoslavená Ludmila byla ze země srbské, knížete srbského dcera.*« [Blessed Ludmila was from the Serbian Land, the daughter of a Serbian knyaz.] – Oldřich Králík [editor]: „*Nejstarší legendy přemyslovských Čech*“ [Most Ancient Legends of Přemyslid Bohemia] (Praha: Vyděhrad, 1969, p. 267).

⁵⁰ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Драгомира од Стодорана / Драгомира од Хавельана / Драгомира од Хавела. Czech: *Drahomira ze Stodor*. Hevellian Princess Drahomira (c. 877/890 - after 934/936) from Brandenburg was Voivodess [*Duchess*] consort of Bohemia from 915 to 921. She also acted as regent of the Bohemian Voivodeship [*Duchy of Bohemia*] from 921 to 924 during the minority of her son Wenceslaus. Princess Drahomira was the wife of Vratislaus I (*Ludmila's younger son*). She arranged (921) the Ludmila's murder (*Ludmila was strangled*).

⁵¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): завади на владај (*or завади на освоју*); Latin: *Divide et impera*.

Considering the tendency of the Frankish rulers to conquer the surrounding territories, the formal occasion for the attack of the Merovingians on the Serbs should be taken into detailed consideration.

Information about this event is provided by a Frankish source (*Historia Francorum; Chronicarum quae dicuntur Fredegarii Scholastici libri IV*⁵²), which is certainly one-sided but let's say that Fredegar's quote is true although it speaks about the »evil« Slavs and the »honest« Franks (*as victims of criminal acts committed by Slavs*).⁵³

Merovingians had conflicts with Serbs prior to 631, because they have subdued Serbian Voivode Dervan (c. 590 - 636), before this year⁵⁴, for whom Fredegar says that he is »Voivode of the people of the Serbs, from the nation of the Slavs«⁵⁵.

After this »incident« with Frankish merchants in Bohemia, in 631, Merovingian army attacked the King Samo's Serbs from three directions but with catastrophic results, because Dagobert⁵⁶ (c. 603 - 639), King of the Franks (reigned: 629-639) was utterly defeated during the Battle of Wogastisburg⁵⁷ (*the exact location of the city is unknown, it was probably somewhere inbetween todays central Austria and Bratslava in Slovakia*⁵⁸).⁵⁹

⁵² Serbian (Cyrillic script): Четири књиге хронике такозваног Фредегара Схоластика.

⁵³ »In this year, the Slavs called Wends killed Frankish merchants in Samo's kingdom, along with a host of others, and despoiled them of their property. This was the beginning of a quarrel between Dagobert and Samo, king of the Slavs.« – Alexander Callander Murray: „FROM ROMAN TO MEROVINGIAN GAUL: A reader“ (Peterborough [Ont., Canada]: Broadview Press, 2000, p. 478). I would not speak more about the cause of war with the Serbs, but, for certainly, it is not the one mentioned by Fredegar. It would be the same as accepting as a truth a formal cause for German attack on Poland (September 1st, 1941) by historians of the 21st century. Namely, Germans made up that incident, directed by them, and they blamed the very same country that they wanted to attack for it. This incident is known as »Gleiwitz incident« (Germans call it: »Überfall auf den Sender Gleiwitz«). This staged attack (performed on August 31st, 1939) on radio-station „Sender Gleiwitz“ in Gleiwitz (today Gliwice, Poland), was executed by a group of German officers of the »Security Service of the Reichsführer-SS« [Sicherheitsdienst des Reichsführers-SS], under the command of SS-Sturmbannführer [assault unit leader; a military rank equal to Major] Alfred Helmut Naujocks (1911-1966). The operation was planned by SS-Gruppenführer Reinhard Tristan Eugen Heydrich (1904-1942), who was the chief of the Reich Main Security Office (including the Gestapo, Kripo, and SD). This fake incident served as an excuse for the attack of Nazi Germany on Poland, and that started the Second World War (1939-1945).

⁵⁴ Dervan's Serbs certainly did not voluntarily subdue to the Franks. It is clear that it was the consequence of some earlier military conflict.

⁵⁵ »...deruanos dux gente surbi[or]u[m] qui ex genere sclauinorum...« – Fredegarus Scholasticus [Fredegar „Schoolmen“]: „Fredegarii Chronicarum Liber Quartus cum Continuationibus“ [The Fourth Book of the Chronicle of Fredegar with Its Continuations], i.e. Liber X [Chapter 10] (Fol. 110v-134v), as a chapter in a transcript of the book written by Gregorius Turonensis [Gregory of Tours]: „Historiae Francorum“ [History of the Franks], Type of book: Manuscript, Universitätsbibliothek Heidelberg [Heidelberg University Library], Inventar-Nummer [Inventory number]: Cod. Pal. lat. 864 (Lorsch: Laureshamense Monasterium / Reichsabtei Lorsch, c. 800, Fol. 125r). »...Deruanus dux gente Surbiorum, que ex genere Sclauinorum...« – John Michael Wallace-Hadrill: „Fredegarii Chronicarum Liber Quartus cum Continuationibus“ [The fourth book of the Chronicle of Fredegar with its continuations] (London: Thomas Nelson and Sons, 1960, p. 57). »Dervanus dux gente Surbiorum, que ex genere Sclavinorum...« – Erwin Koschmieder: „Die Welt der Slaven“ [The World of the Slavs] (Köln: Böhlau Verlag, 1990, p. 202).

⁵⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Дагоберт; Latin: Dagobertus. He was also the King of Austrasia (reigned: 623-634). King Dagobert died (in 639) and he was buried in Basilica of Saint-Denis, so he was the first Frankish king, who was buried in this church located in the northern suburb of modern Paris (France).

⁵⁷ Latin: Castrum Vogastisburg.

⁵⁸ Petr Charvát: „The Emergence of the Bohemian State“ (Leiden / Boston [MA, USA]: Brill Publishers, 2010, p. 39).

The Frankish army was consist of Alamanni, Lombards, and Austrasian Franks^{60 61}. The latest made the bulk of Frankish forces and they were annihilated by Samo's army in this three-day long battle.

After this Frankish defeat, Voivode⁶² (*Duke*) Dervan probably joined King Samo.⁶³ Samo's army took the advantage of this victory and marched into Thuringia and other eastern regions of Merovingian Kingdom.

These Serb raids on Frankish territories probably stopped after small defeat that Frankish nobleman Radulf⁶⁴ (5?? - after 642)⁶⁵ committed on Dervan's Serbs in 635 or 636, in Thuringia.

Duke Radulf⁶⁶, will become the King of Thuringia⁶⁷ later, after he managed to defeat (in 642) Merovingian expedition forces sent against him by Sigebert III⁶⁸ (c. 630-656), King of Austrasia (reigned: 633-656).⁶⁹

Carolingians

Charles the Great⁷⁰ (742-814), King of the Franks⁷¹ [*rex Francorum*] (reigned: 768-814), King of the Lombards⁷² [*rex Langobardorum*] (reigned: 774-781) and Em-

⁵⁹ »The formation of this great Slavonic State excited the jealousy of Dagobert, king of the Franks, and he invaded the lands of Samo in several directions. His main army was, however, defeated in a great battle fought at Wogastisburg...« – F. Lützw: „BOHEMIA: An ...“, 1920, p. 9.

⁶⁰ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Франци / Фрѣзи / Фрѣзи; Latin: *Franci / gens Francorum*.

⁶¹ Alamanni and Lombards had some successes at the start and took some regions before they encircled the main force of Samo's army at Wogastisburg.

⁶² Voivode, Voievod, Vojvoda or Wojewoda is a Slavic term for a military commander (»war-leader« or »warlord«, i.e. the highest military rank) in Central, Eastern and Southern Europe. The titles »voivode« (male) and »voivodess« (female) were, sometimes, equal to the royal titles, but in the West they are referred as »duke« (male) and »duchess« (female).

⁶³ »...c. 631 AD that the Merovingian king Dagobert I. (629–639) was defeated by the “Slav” king Samo near the Wogastisburg, and that soon after the Sorb dux Dervan broke with the Frankish king...« – Sebastian Brather: „The beginnings of Slavic settlement east of the river Elbe“ (pp. 314-329), Journal „Antiquity“, Volume 78, Issue 300 (York: York Publishing Services Ltd., June 2004, p. 314).

⁶⁴ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Радулф. According to the Chronicle of Fredegar (written in 642), he was a son of one Chamar.

⁶⁵ The Serbs were led by Voivode Dervan, who fought against Franks in Thuringia (in the period of 631-634), but his raids in the eastern Merovingian regions were stopped a few years later (probably in 636) by the Frankish nobleman Radulf (*Duke of Thuringia*).

⁶⁶ Soon after the Battle of Wogastisburg, the Frankish king gave him the title of the Duke of Thuringia (*dux Thoringiæ*). The king did it in 632 or 633 (certainly before 634).

⁶⁷ The former Thuringian kingdom (400-531), that was conquered by Francia in 531.

⁶⁸ He was the eldest son of Dagobert I, King of the Franks.

⁶⁹ Timothy Reuter: „Germany in the Early Middle Ages 800-1056“ (1st edition), Series: Longman History of Germany (London/New York: Routledge, 1991, p. 55).

⁷⁰ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Карло - „Велики“; Latin: *Karolus Magnus / Carolus Magnus* (anglicized as *Charlemagne*); Greek: *Κάρολος ο Μέγας / Καρλομάγνος*.

⁷¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): краљ Франака. On the territory of former Yugoslavia, Franks (Carolingians) held the areas of the modern Republic of Slovenia, ethnic Croatia (territory of today's northwestern Dalmatia), Zagorje (Serbian: *Загорје*, the name for the »land behind the hills«, the inhabitants of this territory were later forced to become Croats and after that the unhistorical term – Croatian Zagorje, came in use), as well as Slavonia (with the part of Syrmia), hence the Serbian name for Fruška Gora (Cyrillic: *Фрушка Гора*; German: *Frankenwald*). The mountain's name originates in the old Serbian ethnonym »Fruzi« (Cyrillic: *Фрѣзи*) of which singular form is »Frug« (Cyrillic: *Фрѣг*); and its adjective is Fruški, which was used for naming the Frankish people (i.e. Franks). The name »Fruška Gora« (*Frankish mountain*) represents a his-

peror of the Romans⁷³ [*imperator Romanorum*] (reigned: 800-814), often had clashes⁷⁴ with Serbs on the eastern borders of his country (*Charles combined different types of pressure to achieve his goals*)⁷⁵.

One of the famous military conflicts was with the tribes of the Polabian Serbs, which were led by Dragovit⁷⁶ (??? - after 789), Knyaz of the Lutici⁷⁷ (c. 740 - after 789).

Lutici and Franks had a long history of military conflicts.⁷⁸

Frankish army, with its allies (*Frisian, Saxon, Obodrite*⁷⁹, etc.), crossed the Elbe river (789) and attacked Knyaz Dragovit⁸⁰ and the alliance of Serbian tribes.⁸¹

torical reminder (*kept in the mind of the Serbs*) in the form of toponym that refers to Frankish military campaign (*in the 9th century*) which led to a brief formation of Frankish southeastern border on this Serbian mountain.

⁷² Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Лангобарди / Ломбарди; Latin: *Langobardi*; Greek: Λογγοβάρδοι / Λομβαρδοί. Frankish King Charles I, conquered (774) Kingdom of the Lombards [*Regnum Langobardorum*] (568-774).

⁷³ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): цар Романа; Latin: *imperator Romanorum*. »Charles had called himself 'Imperator Caesar Carolus rex Francorum invictissimus;' and again, 'Carolus serenissimus Augustus, Pius, Felix, Romanorum gubernans Imperium, qui et per misericordiam Dei rex Francorum atque Langobardorum.« – James Bryce: „*The Holy Roman Empire*“ (London: Macmillan and Co., 1871, p. 129). Name of this country will be changed through the next centuries: Empire of the Romans and Franks [*Romanorum sive Francorum imperium; sometimes with Romanum (Roman) replacing Romanorum (of the Romans) and atque (and) replacing sive (or)*] (800-888), Roman Empire [*Imperium Romanum*] (962-1157), Holy Empire [*Imperium Sacrum*] (1157-1254), Holy Roman Empire [*Imperium Romanum Sacrum*] [1254-1512] and Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation [*Imperium Romanum Sacrum Nationis Germanicæ*] (1512-1806). The standard designation of the Holy Roman Emperor was »August Emperor of the Romans« (*Romanorum Imperator Augustus*).

⁷⁴ This Frankish ruler led a lot of military campaigns during his boisterous life, and those were: Saxon Campaign (771-804), First Lombardy Campaign (773-774), Second Lombardy Campaign (776), First Iberian Campaign (777-778), Second Iberian Campaign (779-812), Third Lombardy Campaign (780), Breton Campaign (786), First Beneventan Campaign (787), Bavarian Campaign (787-788), Campaign against the the Avars, i.e. Avar Khaganate (791-796), Second Beneventan Campaign (792-?), Campaign against the Serbian tribes from the lower Elbe (798), Pannonian Campaign (799-803), Eastern Roman Campaign (801-810), Bohemian Campaign (805-806) and Danish Campaign (808-810).

⁷⁵ Jennifer R. Davis: „*Charlemagne's Practice of Empire*“ (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015, pp. 433-434).

⁷⁶ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Дразовит / Дразовић; Latin: *Drogoviz*.

⁷⁷ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Љутућу / Вилци; Latin: *Luticii / Lutici / Lutitii / Lutizi / Welatabi / Wilzi*; German: *Luitizen / Lutitzen / Lutizen / Wieleten / Wilciken / Wilkinen / Wilsen / Wilzen*; English: *Lutici / Velei / Wiltzes / Wilzi / Wilzians*; Polish: *Lucice / Lutycy / Wieleci / Wieletowie / Wilcy*. The Lutici were a federation of Serbian Polabian tribes, who lived in what is now northeastern Germany. Four tribes made up the core of the federation: the Redarians, Circipanians, Kessinians and Dolenzians. Among all Slavic nations, only the Serbian people kept memory of (*for more than a thousand years*) the same meaning of these, seemingly, different names. These names refer to the same alliance of Polabian Serb tribes, which is known as – »Љутућу« (*Ljutici* [English: *Lutici*]), »Вилци« (*Vilci* [English: *Wilci / Wilzi / Wilzians / Wiltzes*]) or »Велети« (*Velei* [English: *Velei*]). In Serbian language »Ljutici« (*a Serbian tribal name that originates from the adjective »angry«*) meaning »angry people«, and the meaning of the word »Vilci« is completely same. So, it is not a coincidence that the Southern Serbs in the Hum Peninsula (*in the Dinaric region*) has a saying: »Што вилениу?«, i.e. »Што се љутуиу?« [*Why are you angry?*], or »Што си повилениу?«, i.e. »Што си се наљутуио?« [*Why did you get angry?*]. This is a classic example of two terms with completely identical meaning, because in Serbian language there is no difference between »вилениу« [*vileniti*] and »љутуиу« [*ljutiti*].

⁷⁸ Einhard [*author*] / Evelyn Scherabon Firchow [*translator*] / Edwin Hermann Zeydel [*translator*]: „*Vita Karoli Magni / The Life of Charlemagne*“ (Coral Gables [FL, USA]: University of Michigan Press, 1972, pp. 60-61).

⁷⁹ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Бодрућу / Ободруму; Latin: *Abodriti / Obotriti*; German: *Abodriten / Abotriten / Bodrizen Obodriten / Obotriten*; English: *Abodrites / Obodrites / Obotrites*; Polish: *Obodryci / Obodrzycy* /

The decisive battle of this war took place near the capital city of Lutici tribe, which was known as »*civitas Dragowiti*«⁸² [*City of Dragovit*] by Frankish sources.

Its location is unknown, but historians think that it was in the lands of Circipania⁸³ (*Germans called this region by that name and they called its inhabitants - Circipanes*⁸⁴) or, to be more precise – it could be one of the three main fortresses in that area (*Teterow, Malchin, and Demmin*). Most probably it was the fortified city of Demmin⁸⁵ [$53^{\circ}54'18''N$ $13^{\circ}02'38''E$], because of its location and because it was the capital city of Pomeranian voivodes [*Pomeranian dukes*] later, and there are small chances that it was the city of Branibor⁸⁶ [$52^{\circ}24'54''N$ $12^{\circ}34'00,12''E$].

After the siege, Dragovit was defeated and forced to pay a tribute and accept presence of Christian missionaries in his lands.

The Serbs did not accept a vassal relationship for long and they often refused to pay a tribute, and even waged wars against the Frankish Kingdom and, after the year 800, against the newly formed Frankish Empire.

Because of that, the Serbian limes⁸⁷ [*limes Sorabicus*⁸⁸; *i.e. Serban frontier, later Sorbian March*⁸⁹] were formed between the years of 805 and 808, during the reign of Charles the Great.⁹⁰ The parts of this military border were »*limes Saxoniae*«⁹¹, on its northern end, and »*limes Avaricus*«⁹² on its southern end.

Obodrzyce. Obodrites, were a confederation of medieval Serbian tribes (*as a part of ethnic corps of the Polabian Serbs*) within the territory of modern Mecklenburg and Holstein in northern Germany.

⁸⁰ It is interesting fact that some sources refer to him as the »*King of the Wiltzes*« [Latin: *rex Wiltorum*].

⁸¹ Bernhard Walter Scholz / Barbara Rogers-Gardner: „*CAROLINGIAN CHRONICLES: Royal Frankish annals and Nithard's Histories*“ (Ann Arbor [MI, USA]: University of Michigan Press, 1970, p. 68).

⁸² Matthias Hardt: „*Hesse, Elbe Saale and the Frontiers of the Carolingian Empire*“ (pp. 217-232), *THE TRANSFORMATION OF FRONTIERS: From Antiquity to the Carolingians*, Volume 10 (Leiden / Boston / Köln: Koninklijke Brill NV, 2001, p. 224).

⁸³ In 936, the Circipania was incorporated into the Billung March of the Roman Empire.

⁸⁴ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Цирципану; German: *Circipanen / Zirzipanen*; English: *Circipani / Circipanians*; Polish: *Czreżpienie / Czreżpieczanie / Czereżpieczanie / Czerespienie*. The Circipanes were a tribe of the Polabian Serbs, who was living in the area surrounded by the upper Recknitz, Trebel and Peene rivers, the western border ran east of Güstrow.

⁸⁵ A Saxon army unsuccessfully besieged the settlement during the 1147 Wendish Crusade.

⁸⁶ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Бранубор; Lower Sorbian: *Bramborska*; Upper Sorbian: *Braniborsko / Branibór pši Habolu*; German: *Brenna / Brennabor Brennaburg / Brendanburg / Brandenburg / Brandenburg an der Havel*; Polish: *Branibór*.

⁸⁷ This defense line of Franks and Saxons, was made as a barrier toward Obodrites (*a confederation of medieval Serbian tribes*).

⁸⁸ »Historically, we know that the Slavs were finally checked by Karl the Great, in the ninth century, at the so-called *Limes Sorabicus*. This fortified frontier is shown on our map on page 66, bounding the area ruled in large squares diagonally.« – William Zebina Ripley: „*THE RACIAL GEOGRAPHY OF EUROPE: A Sociological Study*“ (pp. 49-68), Journal „*Appletons' Popular Science Monthly*“, Volume LII [*i.e. Volume 52*], Issue 1 / from November 1897 to April 1898 (New York [NY, USA]: D. Appleton and Company, 1898, p. 63). Lubomira Havliková: „*What was the Location of Serbia Mentioned in the Cosmas Chronicle of the Czechs?*“ (pp. 185-191), „*Spomenica dr Tibora Živkovića*“ [*Homage to Dr. Tibor Živković*], Зборник радова [Collection of Works], Број 32 [Volume 32] (Београд: Историјску институтом Београд, 2016, p. 190).

⁸⁹ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Сербска марка; German: *Sorbische Mark / Sorbenmark*.

⁹⁰ Paul Honigsheim: „*Der limes Sorabicus*“ [*The Serban Frontier*] (pp. 303-322), *Zeitschrift des Vereins für Thüringische Geschichte und Altertumskunde* [*Journal of the Society of Thuringian History and Antiquities*], Band 24 (1905/6) [Volume 24 (1905/6)] (Jena: Gustav Fischer, 1906, p. 304).

⁹¹ Frankish »*limes Saxoniae*« [*Saxon frontier*] (810-1138/9). »...the Avarian mark tier known as '*Limes Sorabicus*' and '*Limes Saxoniae*, continuous line of lavic settlements stretching from the North Sea...« – Iwo Cyprian Pogonowski: „*POLAND: A historical atlas*“ (New York [NY, USA]: Dorset Press, 1989, p. 255). James

The above mentioned Frakish »fortification line«⁹³, was formed as a special defense line⁹⁴, i.e. the eastern frontier of the Carolingian Empire (800-888).⁹⁵ For some time, this (*State*) border line was also an ethnic border between the Germanic peoples and the Serbs.

The boundary line was stretching from the Istria⁹⁶ Peninsula in the Adriatic Sea⁹⁷, then northward across Erlangen⁹⁸ and valley of the River Saale⁹⁹ (or *Saxon Saale*¹⁰⁰), up to Lübeck¹⁰¹ on the Baltic Sea¹⁰² (*today German seashore*). As a consequence, in the sec-

Westfall Thompson: „*New east frontier colonial Germany*“ (New York [NY, USA]: *Frederick Ungar Publishing Company*, 1962, p. 469). Peter Spring: „*Great Walls and Linear Barriers*“ (Barnsley: *Pen and Sword Books Ltd.*, 2015, p. 119). Ole Crumlin-Pedersen et al.: „*VIKING-AGE SHIPS AND SHIPBUILDING IN HEDEBY: Ships & Boats of the North*“ (Schleswig: *Archäologisches Landesmuseum der Christian-Albrechts-Universität*, 1997, p. 35).

⁹² Frankish »*limes Avaricus*« [or *terminus Avaricus* = *Avar frontier*, i.e. *Avar March*] (796 - c. 830), later grows into a so-called March of Pannonia [*Marcha pannonium*] (c. 830 - c. 950) or Eastern March [*Marcha orientalis*; i.e. *Bavarian frontier*], that will be formally divided into March of Austria (976-1156), and Bavarian Eastern March (994-1018). It was referred to in some documents as »*terminum regni Baioariorum in oriente*« [the end of the Kingdom of the Bavarians in the east]. »*The Wendish frontier district is already called marca Vinedorum by Fredегarius. The east Mark, founded by Charles the Great after the conquest of the Avars, is called limes Avaricus or terminus Avaricus, and later marca orientalis or Baioariae.*« – Alfons Dopsch: „*The Economic and Social Foundations of European Civilization*“ (New York [NY, USA]: *Harcourt, Brace & Company*, 1937, p. 147). Pierre Riche: „*THE CAROLINGIANS: A Family Who Forged Europe*“ (Philadelphia [PA, USA]: *University of Pennsylvania Press*, 1993, p. 109). André Vauchez / Michael Lapidge: „*Encyclopedia of the Middle Ages: A-J*“ (Chicago [IL, USA] / London: *Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers*, 2000, p. 136). Alfons Dopsch: „*The Economic and Social Foundations of European Civilization*“ (New York [NY, USA]: *Routledge*, 2013, p. 147).

⁹³ Latin: *limes* (a military district under the command of a *dux limitis*). »*Marca and limes also often mean much the same. Both describe not only the boundary itself but also the boundary-land, the boundary-district, boundary-strip, or boundary-edge.*« – *Ibid.*, p. 147. »*I think, arrive at an understanding of how the original conception of the Mark (= boundary) was combined with that of the common Mark (= communia, compascua), and why the two became fused.*« – *Ibid.*, p. 147.

⁹⁴ »*Im Falle eines tschechischen Überfalls hat der dritte Teil aller Kämpfer ins Feld zu ziehen, im Falle eines sorbischen Überfalls aber die gesamte Streitmacht!*« [In the case of being attacked by Czechs a third of fighters is expected to enter into the battle, and in the case of being attacked by the Serbs our entire forces should fight!] – Hans Brüchner: „*Die Geschichte der Sorben bis zum Verlust ihrer politischen Selbständigkeit*“ [The history of the Serbs until the loss of their political independence], Heft 1 [Issue 1], Schriftenreihe über die Sorben [Series on the Serbs] (Bautzen: *Regierung der Deutsche Demokratischen Republik Ministerium des Innern / Hauptabteilung Sorbenfragen*, 1955, p. 21). In the original order of Charles the Great from the year 807, Czechs are not mentioned at all, but Bohemians (*Bohemian tribes – inhabitants of Bohemia*) which population consisted of Serbian tribes as well. Charles lived prior to the start of ethnogenesis of the Czech people (in the 10th century). Tone Glavan: „*Lužiški Srbi*“ [Lusatian Serbs] (Ljubljana: *Matica slovenska*, 1966, p. 35).

⁹⁵ Name of map: »*Śłowiańszczyzna zachodnia i Germania w VI-IX wieku po nar. Chr.*« [Slavic West and Germania from 6th to 9th centuries after Christ] (Map: № 6) – Włodzimierz Andrzej Franciszek Ksawery Dzwonkowski (1880-1954): „*PRAHISTORIA ZIEM POLSKICH: Śłowiańszczyzna pierwotna. Początki polskiej Kultury i organizacji*“ [PREHISTORY OF POLISH LANDS: Ancient Slavs. The Beginnings of Polish Culture and Organization] (Warszawa: *E. Wende i SKA*, 1918, the map between pages 88 and 89).

⁹⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Истра*; Latin: *Histria*; Greek: *Ἰστρία*.

⁹⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Јадранско море*; Latin: *Mare Adriaticum / Mare Adrianum / Mare Hadrianum / Mare Adriaticum / Mare Superum*; Greek: *Αδριατική θάλασσα / Αδριατικό πέλαγος / Αδριατικός κόλπος*.

⁹⁸ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Ерланген*; Latin: *Erlanga*; German: *Erlangen*.

⁹⁹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Сала*; Latin: *Salæ*; German: *Saale*.

¹⁰⁰ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Саксонска Сала*; German: *Sächsische Saale*.

¹⁰¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Лубек*; Latin: *Lubeca*; German: *Lübeck*.

¹⁰² Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Балтичко море*; Latin: *Balticum mare / Suecicum mare / Sarmaticum mare*; German: *Ostsee*; Polish: *Morze Bałtyckie / Bałtyk*; Russian: *Балтийское море*; Danish: *Østersøen*; Swedish: *Östersjön*.

ond half of the 9th century, the eastern part of the Duchy of Thuringia¹⁰³ [*Ducatus Thuringiae*] (631/2-912), was known as Serbian March¹⁰⁴ or, later, as Thuringian March¹⁰⁵ [*Thuringia cum marchis suis*]. The first name was a symbolic one, because it was just a memory of the times when the Serbian limes was built – during the reign of the Emperor Charles the Great.

Here is a list of Frankish dukes of Thuringia¹⁰⁶, who had the (*Carolingian*) title of »Count and Duke of the Serbian frontier«¹⁰⁷ [*comes et dux Sorabici limitis*]¹⁰⁸:

- Thachulf¹⁰⁹ (before 837 - 873), Duke of Thuringia¹¹⁰ [*dux Thuringorum*] (reigned: 849-873);
- Radulf II¹¹¹ (8?? - before 880), Duke of Thuringia (reigned: 874 - before 880);
- Poppo II¹¹² (8?? - after 906), Duke of Thuringia (reigned: c. 880 - 892);
- Conrad¹¹³ (c. 860 - 906), Duke of Thuringia (reigned: 892);
- Burchard¹¹⁴ (8??-908), Duke of Thuringia (reigned: c. 893 - 908);
- Otto I¹¹⁵ (c. 836 - 912), Duke of Thuringia (reigned: 908-912).

¹⁰³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Војводство Туринџија*; German: *Herzogtum Thüringen*.

¹⁰⁴ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Сербска марка*; German: *Sorbische Marc / Sorbische Mark / Sorbenmark* (i.e. *Serbische Marc / Serbische Mark / Serbenmark*); English: *Sorb[ian] March* (i.e. *Serb[ian] March*).

¹⁰⁵ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Туринџиска марка*; German: *Mark Thüringens / Thüringer Mark / Thüringische Mark*.

¹⁰⁶ These Frankish warlords were military commanders over the counts with lands bordering the Serbs (of course, only those who were near Thuringia).

¹⁰⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *граф и војвода Сербске границе* [anglicized as *Grave and Voivode of the Serbian frontier*]. »Graf und Herzog des Sorbischen Limes« – Wilhelm von Dönniges: „*GESCHICHTE DES DEUTSCHEN KAISERTHUMS IM VIERZEHNTEN JAHRHUNDERT: Von Heinrich VII. bis auf den Tod Karls IV., 1308 - 1378*“ [*HISTORY OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE IN THE 14TH CENTURY: From Henry VII until the death of Charles IV., 1308 - 1378*], Zweite Abtheilung [Second Division], Erster Abschnitt [First Section], Vorlaufender Theil der Darstellung [Leading Part of the Presentation], Das deutsche Staatsrecht und die deutsche Reichsverfassung [German Constitutional Law and the German Constitution], Erster Theil / Historische Entwicklung seit Karls des Großen Kaiserkrönung bis auf das zwölfte Jahrhundert [First Part / Historical Development Since Charlemagne's Coronation to the 12th Century] (Berlin: Verlag der Nicolaischen Buchhandlung, 1842, p. 338). Hans-Jürgen Brachmann: „*Der Limes Sorabicus – Geschichte und Wirkung*“ [Serbian Frontier – History and Effect] (pp. 117-207), Zeitschrift für Archäologie [Journal of Archeology], Band 25 / 1991 [Volume 25 / 1991] (Berlin: Deutscher Verlag der Wissenschaften, 1992, p. 186).

¹⁰⁸ »comes et dux Sorabici limitis (cum Thuringiis)« [Count and Duke of the Serbian frontier (with Thuringia)] – F. Kurze: „*Annales fuldenses sive Annales...*“ , 1891, p. 95. »dux Sorabici limitis« [Duke of the Serbian frontier] – Ibid., p. 38. »Sorabici limitis« [Serbian frontier] – Ibid., p. 51. Matthias Hardt: „*Limes Sorabicus*“ [Serbian Frontier] (pp. 446-448), Reallexikon der germanischen Altertumskunde [Real-Lexicon of Germanic Antiquities], Band 18 [Volume 18] (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter GmbH & Co. KG, 2001, p. 446). »In the Merovingian era, important men who performed military functions received the title comes.« – Bernard Stanley Bachrach: „*EARLY CAROLINGIAN WARFARE: Prelude to Empire*“ (Philadelphia [PA, USA]: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2011, p. 214). »The honorable nature of the comes intitulation, in this context, likely results from the idea of being close to the king, a royal „companion“.« – Ibid., p. 214.

¹⁰⁹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Тахулф* Latin: *Thacholf / Thachulf / Thaculf / Thakulf*. He may have been the son of Hadulf.

¹¹⁰ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *војвода Туринџије*; German: *Herzog von Thüringen*.

¹¹¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Радулф II*.

¹¹² Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Попо II*.

¹¹³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Конрад - „Старују“*.

¹¹⁴ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Брухард*.

¹¹⁵ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Отон I - „Славиу“*; Latin: *Otto I dux Saxoniae*; German: *Otto der Erlauchte*.

Ottonians

Otto, the Duke of Saxony [*dux Saxoniae*] (reigned: 880-912), annexed the Duchy of Thuringia to the Duchy of Saxony¹¹⁶ [*Ducatus Saxoniae*] (804-1296), and formally, this Duchy was nullified (913) by his son Henry the Fowler¹¹⁷ [*Henricus Auceps*] (876-936), Duke of Saxony (reigned: 912-936) and later King of East Francia [*rex Francorum orientalium*] (reigned: 919-936). Duke Henry was succeeded by his son, Otto the Great¹¹⁸ [*Otho Magnus*] (912-973), Duke of Saxony¹¹⁹ (reigned: 936-973), King of East Francia¹²⁰ (reigned: 936-973) and Emperor of the Romans [*imperator Romanorum*] (reigned: 962-973), who waged war (939) against the rebel Serbs on the banks of Elbe river, and from that time, Serbian tribal alliances were militarily defeated, i.e. from the moment (941) when he (*the second Saxon who ruled on the East Francia throne*) managed to persuade captured Serbian leader¹²¹ Tugumir¹²² (8?? - after 941), Knyaz of the Hevellians¹²³ (before 929 - after 941) to join him [*»Among the Serbian tribes, the most famous were Glomacze¹²⁴ on the Elbe river, Hevellians on Havel¹²⁵, and Redarians¹²⁶ on Prig-*

¹¹⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Саксонско војводство / Војводство Саксонија*; Low German: *Hartogdom Sassen*, German: *Herzogtum Sachsen*.

¹¹⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Хенрих I - „Птичар“*; *Heinrich der Vogler / Heinrich der Finkler*.

¹¹⁸ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Отон I - „Велики“*.

¹¹⁹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *војвода Саксоније*; German: *Herzog von Sachsen*.

¹²⁰ Since the 13th century, this famous Saxon ruler will be known as Otto I, King of the Teutons [*Otto I Theutonicorum rex, i.e. Otto I, King of the Germans*].

¹²¹ After he was released from the captivity, this Serbian Knyaz (938) openly started to cooperate with Germans (*mostly with Gero the Great*) against his own people.

¹²² Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Тугумир*; Latin: *Tugumirus*; German: *Tugumir der Heveller*.

¹²³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Гавелјани / Хавелјани / Хавели / Стодорани*. Latin: *Haefeldan* (source: *Alfredus / Ælfræd [Alfred the Great]: Chronica Anglosaxonum [Anglo-Saxon Chronicle]*) / *Hehfeldi* (source: *Geographus Bavarus [Bavarian Geographer]: Descriptio civitatum et regionum ad septentrionalem plagam Danubii [Description of cities and lands north of the Danube]*) / *Heveldun* (source: *unknown author of the Saxonica Annales Quedlinburgenses [Annals of Quedlinburg]*), *Heveldi* (source: *Adamus Bremensis [Adam of Bremen]: Gesta Hammaburgensis Ecclesiae Pontificum [Deeds of Bishops of the Hamburg Church]*) / *Hevelli* (source: *Widukindus Corbeius [Widukind of Corvey]: Res gestae saxonicae sive annalium libri tres [The Deeds of the Saxons, or Three Books of Annals]*) / *Hevellun* (source: *Thietmarus Merseburgensis [Thietmar of Merseburg]: Chronicon Thietmari [Thietmar's Chronicle]*); German: *Heveller / Stodorjane*; English: *Hevellians / Hevelli / Hevellers / Stodorans*; Polish: *Hawelanie / Hawolanie / Hobolanie / Hoblanie / Oblanie / Stodoranie*; Czech: *Havolané / Stodorané*. The Hevellians were a tribe of the Polabian Serbs, who settled around the middle parts of the river Havel in the present-day Havelland region of Brandenburg in eastern Germany. They called themselves – *Stodorans*.

¹²⁴ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Гломачи / Далеминци*; Upper Sorbian: *Glomačenjo*; Latin: *Daleminzi / Talaminzi* (source: *Bavarian Geographer*), *Glomacze* (source: *Thietmar of Merseburg*), German: *Daleminzier / Daleminzen / Glomatsch*; English: *Glomacze / Golomacze / Dolomici / Dolomicians*; Polish: *Glomacze / Golomacze*. The Glomacze were a tribe of the Polabian Serbs, who was living near the middle Elbe valley in eastern Germany.

¹²⁵ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Хавел / Хафел*; Lower Sorbian / Upper Sorbian: *Habola*; Latin: *Habala / Habola / Havila / Labola / Albola*; Czech: *Havola*; Polish: *Hawela*; German: *Havel*.

¹²⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Петраци / Редарју / Редару*; Lower Sorbian / Upper Sorbian: *Redarojo*; Latin: *Redarii / Redares* (source: *Widukind of Corvey*) / *Riedere* (source: *Otto I*), *Redarii / Rederii / Riedirii* (source: *Thietmar of Merseburg*) / *Retharii / Retheri / Rederi* (source: *Adam of Bremen*) / *Ridari / Rederi / Riaduri* (source: *Helmoldus [Helmold of Bosau]: Chronica Slavorum [Chronicle of the Slavs]*); Czech: *Rataři*; Polish: *Redarowie / Ratarowie*; German: *Redarier / Redaner*; English: *Redarians / Redarii*. The Redarians were a tribe of the Polabian Serbs, who was living near the Oder estuary in eastern Germany. The original name of this tribe is unknown but Russian historians and linguists believe that it was – *Retari*, although there are no

nitz¹²⁷.«¹²⁸], as well as when thirty Serbian tribal leaders (*the župans*) were killed (*after the banquet they were called for*).

Military-border regions (*known as »the marks« or »the marches«*) were formed east of the Frankish Empire on the occupied Serbian territories.

On the far north, there was the Billung March [*Billunger Mark*] (936-983) and to the south from it there was much larger Gero's March [*Marca Geronis*] (937-965).

In 939, using the Serbian chieftains discord, Saxon warlord Gero the Great¹²⁹ (c. 900 - 965), started a great military campaign against them and he managed to occupy Serbian ethnic areas by all means (*using non-selective murders, frauds, robberies and briberies*). First (941), he conquered the Hevellians, and then the tribal alliances Lutici and Obodrites.

In 954, he suppressed the rebellion of Ukrani¹³⁰ and in 955 the rebellions of Lutici, Obodrites, Redarians, Dolenzians¹³¹, and other tribes.

After the death of Margrave Gero, the vast territory of his kingdom was divided into several different marches by the Emperor Otto:

- Northern March [*Nordmark*] (965-983);
- Eastern March [*Ostmark*] (937-954 / 955-965);
- March of Meissen [*Mark Meißen*] (965-1221);
- March of Merseburg [*Mark Merseburg*] (965- 982), later becomes a part of *March of Meissen*;
- March of Zeitz [*Mark Zeitz*] (965-982), later becomes a part of *March of Meissen*.

Northern March is later divided into two new marches:

- March of Lusatia [*Mark Lausitz*] (965-1367);
- March of Landsberg [*Mark Landsberg*] (1261-1347).

solid evidence for this hypothesis, so it is possible that, as guardians of the shrine of the god Rad[igost in the town of Retra, they had the original name – *Retrarji*.

¹²⁷ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Пригниту*. German: *Prignitz* (earlier *Priegnitz*). The region in the northwest of modern Brandenburg.

¹²⁸ »*Unter den sorbischen Stämmen zeichneten sich vorzüglich die Dalemingier an der Elbe, die Heveller an der Havel, die Redarier an der Priegnitz aus.*« – Wolfgang Menzel: „*Die Geschichte der Deutschen: Das Mittelalter*“ [*HISTORY OF THE GERMAN: Middle Ages*], Zwehter Band [*Part II*] (Zürich: *Gefñersche Buchhandlung*, 1825, p. 71).

¹²⁹ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Герон I - „Велику“*; German: *Gero der Große*. Margrave Gero was the son of Count Thietmar (8??-932). His father was a military tutor [*vir disciplinae militaris peritissimus*] of Henry the Fowler while he was the heir and then Duke of the Duchy of Saxony.

¹³⁰ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Украни*; Latin: *Ukri / Ukrani / Uchri / Ucrani / Vucrani / Vucri*; German: *Ukranen / Ukker / Vukraner*; Polish: *Wkrzanie*. The Ukrians were a tribe of the Polabian Serbs in the March of the Uecker (*terra U[c]kera / Uckermark / Uckerland*). In the course of the medieval Ostsiedlung (*the German eastward expansion*), the Ukriani were Christianized and Germanized by Saxons, who founded monasteries, castles, and towns; the Serbian heritage is reflected in the many regional towns whose names end with »-ow« and »-in«.

¹³¹ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Доленчани / Долинци*; Latin: *Tholenzi / Tollensani*; German: *Tollensanen / Tollenser*; English: *Dolenzians / Tollensians*; Polish: *Doleczanie / Dolency / Dołęzanie / Tołęzanie*. Dolenzians are also known as: *Dolenzi / Tholenzi / Tolenci / Tolensa / Tolenze / Tolenzi*. The Dolenzians were a tribe of the Polabian Serbs, who was living the shores of the lower and middle Tollense (*Dołęza*) river in eastern Germany.

At the end, one more march has derived from the Northern March:

- March of Brandenburg [*Mark Brandenburg*] (1157-1806).

Let speak again about the Germanic military campaigns, undertaken by East Francia King Henry the Fowler, which led to defeat of the Hevellians in 928 and occupation of their capital Branibor (*Brandenburg an der Havel*).

After that, the same German ruler has defeated the Serbian tribe Glomacze and occupied their capital Gana (*probably located near present-day Stauchitz*) in modern Meissen.

In 948, the towns of Havelberg and Brandenburg became Christian dioceses, and in 968, the town of Magdeburg became an archdiocese.

East Francia King Otto the Great, defeated (963) Serbian tribe Milcenians¹³² and gave its land to Gero.

When the internal discord erupted in the Roman Empire, Serbian tribes in Brüchner started a great rebellion against the forced baptizing and military actions in that rebellion were initiated and led by the Serbs from Lutici tribal alliance.

Very quickly (*through successful military actions*) they managed to banish German political and religious representatives.

From the Serbian shrine in Retra¹³³, they attacked diocese Havelberg, and on June 29th, 983 they took it. Three days later they also conquered Brandenburg diocese and many settlements along the river Tanger on the west. In the same time, they annihilated Germans in the March of Zeitz.

According to chronicler Thietmar of Merseburg (975-1018), Obodrites joined Lutici and destroyed the Monastery of St. Lawrence¹³⁴ in Kalbe as well as the diocese in Oldenburg, and they even attacked Hamburg.

The immediate consequence of this uprising was the almost complete stoppage of further Germanic penetration to the east for the next 200 years.

Most of the time, the dioceses of Havelberg and Brandenburg existed only titularly, while the bishops lived in the imperial court.

Eckard I¹³⁵ [*Ekkehard I*] (c. 860 - 1002), Margrave of Meissen (reigned: 985-1002) defeated the Serbian tribe Lusatians (*around 990*) and annexed its land to the Roman Empire.

Ascanians

German Count Otto of Ballenstedt¹³⁶ [*Otto von Ballenstedt*] (c. 1070 - 1123), Duke of Saxony (reigned: 1112) in 1115 occupied Serbian town of Serbište¹³⁷ (*Zerbst*).

¹³² Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Милчани*; German: *Milzener*; English: *Milceni / Milcenians / Milzeni*, Polish: *Milczanie*; Czech: *Milčané*. The Milcenians were a tribe of the Polabian Serbs, who was living in the present-day Thuringia, Bohemia and Upper Lusatia region (*Germany [Saxony and Brandenburg] and Poland [Lower Silesia and Lubusz]*).

¹³³ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Ретра*; Latin: *Rethra*. The name of this settlement is referring to the god Rade-gast (*Radagoszcz / Radegost / Radigast / Redigast / Radgosc*), and the main shrine in that area was dedicated to him. Oscar Schwebel: „*Geschichte der Stadt Berlin*“ [*History of the City of Berlin*], Band I [*Volume I*] (Berlin: *Brachvogel & Ranft*, 1888, p. 33).

¹³⁴ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Манастир „Светог Лаурентија“*; Latin: *Monasterium sancti Laurentii*; German: *Kloster des Heiligen Laurentius*.

¹³⁵ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Екехард I*.

¹³⁶ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): *Отон од Баленштета*. Francis Joseph Tschan [*translator*]: „*The Chronicle of the Slavs by Helmold Priest of Bosau*“ (New York [NY, USA]: *Columbia University Press*, 1935, p. 123).

His son, Albert of Ballenstadt, known as Albert the Bear¹³⁸ [*Albrecht der Bär*] (1100-1170), who held the title Count of Anhalt (reigned: 1123-1170), Duke of Saxony (reigned: 1138-1142) and Margrave of Brandenburg (reigned: 1157-1170), managed to defeat disunited Serbian tribes and establish a fortress Spandau¹³⁹ on the basis of two former Serbian forts.

Namely, after the death of the last Hevellian Knyaz Pribislav-Henry¹⁴⁰ (1075-1150), his lands were taken by Sprevanian¹⁴¹ Voivode Jaxa of Köpenick¹⁴² [*Jaxa de Copnic*] (c. 1125 - c. 1176).

This happened between 1150 and 1153, when Jaxa, as a ruler of Voivodeship of Kopanica¹⁴³ [*Duchy of Kopanica*] to claim the lands of neighboring tribe Hevellians, to stop the further German conquering of Serbian lands. Unfortunately, this land was also claimed by abovementioned Saxon Duke Albert I, which meant that there will be new conflicts between local Serbs and this famous Saxon nobleman.

Serbs were defeated and Branibor, the capital of Hevellians (*and surroundings of present-day Berlin*), was occupied by Albert's German forces, who defeated (1157) Voivode Jaxa (*there is still a public dilemma whether this Serbian voivode was a pagan¹⁴⁴ or was he forced to »sit on the fence«*).¹⁴⁵

¹³⁷ »The German city of Zerbst (Serbište in Slavic)...« – Mark Cummings [editor]: „THE ENCYCLOPEDIA AMERICANA: International Edition“ (Danbury [CT, USA]: Grolier Incorporated, 1993, p. 571). »Territorium Zerbiste« – Reinhold Specht: „Geschichte der Stadt Zerbst“ [History of the City of Zerbst], Band 1 [Volume 1] (Zerbst: Verlagsbuchhandlung Friedrich Gast Zerbst / Anhaltische Verlagsgesellschaft mbH, 1998, p. 20). »das Zerbst ein slawisches Wort (sirbiste)« – Ibid., p. 20. »Sorbenort« – Ibid., p. 20. »Serben (Sorben)« – Ibid., p. 20. »Die alte slawische Zerbster Burg« – Ibid., p. 21.

¹³⁸ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Албрехт од Баленштета / Албрехт - „Медвед“.

¹³⁹ »Spandau, district of Berlin, Germany, on the Havel River at the mouth of the Spree, Originally the site of a Sorbian (Wendish) fortress, Spandau became German c. 1230 and was granted civic rights in 1232.« – Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc.: „The New Encyclopædia Britannica: Micropædia“, Volume 11, Edition 15 (London: Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., 1991, p. 67).

¹⁴⁰ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Прибислав-Хенрих; Latin: Pribislaus Henricus; German: Pribislaw-Heinrich. Pribislav was a Serbian Knyaz from the Hevellian tribe, who was baptized in 1137. He was baptized by the German Catholic priests and he was given Germanic name – *Heinrich*.

¹⁴¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Спревљани / Спревани; German: Sprewanen; English: Sprevanians / Sprewane / Sprevani; Polish: Sprewianie. The Sprevanians were a tribe of the Polabian Serbs who lived around the river Spree, where Berlin is now, in the Brandenburg area of eastern Germany.

¹⁴² Serbian (Cyrillic script): Јакша од Копника / Јакша од Копеника / Јакша од Кепеника / Јакша од Кепника. Köpenick (or Cöpenick; earlier Kopnik and Copanic) is a historic (Prussian) town and locality (Ortsteil) that is situated at the confluence of the rivers Dahme and Spree in the south-east of the German capital city of Berlin. It is interesting that during the Middle Ages we find a settlement in the area of Shkodër [Cyrillic: СкаДАР] (in today's Republic of Albania) that is called Kopenik [Cyrillic: Копенук]. »Jaxa duci Sorabiae« [*Jaxa, Voivode of Serbia*] – Herbert Ludat: „LEGENDEN UM JAXA VON KÖPENICK: Deutsche und slawische Fürsten im Kampf um Brandenburg in der Mitte des 12. Jahrhunderts“ [LEGENDS ABOUT JAXA OF KÖPENICK: German and Slavic princes, who wage war over Brandenburg during the mid-12th century], Band 2 [Volume 2] (Leipzig: Verlag von Solomon Hürzel, 1936, p. 13). »Fürst der Sorben« [Knyaz of the Serbs] – Ibid., p. 13. »Jaxa Sorabia« [*Jaxa of Serbia*] – Ibid., p. 34. »wendische Burg Köpenick« – Imanuel Geiss: „Geschichte griffbereit“ [History at Your Fingertips], Band 3 (Schauplätze) [Volume 3 (Locations)] (Reinbek: Rowohlt Taschenbuch Verlag GmbH, 1987, p. 251). Köpenick (or Copanic / Cöpenick) [52°26'45"N 13°34'38"E] is a historic town and locality (Ortsteil) that is situated at the confluence of the rivers Dahme and Spree in the south-east of the German capital city of Berlin.

¹⁴³ The Voivodeship of Kopanica was a Serbian principality in Central Europe in present-day central and eastern Brandenburg. Its capital was Kopnik (German: Köpenick; today part of Berlin).

¹⁴⁴ Johannes Schultze: „Der Wendenkreuzzug 1147 und die Adelsheerrschaften in Prignitz und Rhingebiet“ [The Wendish Crusade of 1147 and the nobility in Prignitz and Rhingebiet] (pp. 95-124), Jahrbuch für die Geschichte Mittel- und Ostdeutschlands [Yearbook for the History of Central and Eastern Germany], Nr. 2

In that region Germans formed (1157) Margraviate of Brandenburg [*Marchia Brandenburgensis*] and gave it to Ascanian¹⁴⁶ Prince Albert, and those few German settlements east of the river Elbe (*often razed by Serbs during their fight for freedom*) were rebuilt.

The similar scenario repeated when Germans, informally took the lands north of Mecklenburg, after a few years of fighting against Niklot¹⁴⁷ (c. 1105 - 1160), Knyaz of the Obodrites (reigned: 1129-1160), they forced his son Pribislav¹⁴⁸ (reigned: 1160-1178), to become a vassal (1167) of Henry the Lion¹⁴⁹ [*Henricus qui Leo*] (1129-1195), Duke of Saxony (reigned: 1142-1180).

I think that I will stop here, because there is enough evidence made to prove the continuity of anti-Serbian actions made in the Middle Ages by the Germanic peoples.

Contemporary history

In modern days, anti-Serbian activities of the Germanic nations became visible before and during the Congress of Berlin¹⁵⁰ (*from June 13th to July 13th 1878*), and the »product« of that was the Austro-Serbian Secret Convention¹⁵¹ (*June 28th, 1881 and February 8th, 1889*). Following that, came a long-planned Austro-Hungarian annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina (*October 5th, 1908*), and the culmination was Austro-Hungarian Ultimatum to Serbia (*July 23rd, 1914*), i.e. invasion of the Kingdom of Serbia conducted

[№ 2] (Berlin: *Max Niemeyer Verlag*, 1953, p. 124). The author speaks about conclusions made by German numismatist Richard Gaettens (1886-1965).

¹⁴⁵ Lutz Partenheimer: „*Albrecht der Bär, Jaxa von Köpenick und der Kampf um die Brandenburg in der Mitte des 12. Jahrhunderts*“ [*Albert the Bear, Jaxa of Köpenick and the Battle of the Brandenburg in the Middle of the 12th Century*] (pp.151-193), Forschungen zur Brandenburgischen und Preußischen Geschichte [*Research on Brandenburgian and Prussian History*], Neue Folge [*New Sequel*], Band 4 [*Volume 4*] (Berlin: *Wolfgang Neugebauer und Frank-Lothar Kroll – Preußische Historische Kommission / Staatsarchiv Preußischer Kulturbesitz*, 1994, p. 153).

¹⁴⁶ The House of Ascania (German: *Askanier*) is a dynasty of German rulers. It is also known as the House of Anhalt, which refers to its longest-held possession, Anhalt.

¹⁴⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Никлот*. Niklot (anglicized as *Nyklot*) was a pagan Voivode (reigned: 1129-1160) from the Serbian tribe Obodrite and an ancestor of the House of Mecklenburg.

¹⁴⁸ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Прибислав*; Latin: *Pribislaus*; German: *Pribislaw*.

¹⁴⁹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Хајриху III - „Лагу“*; German: *Heinrich der Löwe*.

¹⁵⁰ Светлана Ивановна Данченко [*Svetlana Ivanovna Danchenko*]: „*Руска јавност о Србији и руско-српским односима (1878-1885)*“ [*Russian public opinion about Serbia and Russian-Serbian relations (1878-1885)*] (pp. 113-134), Историјски часопис [*Historical Review*], Књига XXXIII (1986) [*Volume 33 (1986)*] (Београд: *Историјски институт Београд*, 1987, p. 118). Original title: „*Русская общественность о Сербии и русско-сербских отношениях (1878-1885 гг.)*“.

¹⁵¹ Слободан В. Јовановић [*Slobodan V. Jovanović*]: „*Влада Милана Обреновића (1878-1889)*“ [*Government of Milan Obrenović (1878-1889)*] (Београд: *Издавачка књижевница Геце Кона*, 1927, pp. 56-58). Александар Растовић [*Aleksandar Rastović*]: „*Посета Комисије београдске општине Лондону 1884. године*“ [*A Visit of the Commission of Belgrade Municipality to London in 1884*] (pp. 177-196), Историјски часопис [*Historical Review*], Књига XLV-XLVI (1998-1999) [*Volume 45-46 (1998-1999)*] (Београд: *Историјски институт Београд*, 2000, pp. 186-187). Момир Самарџић [*Momir Samarđžić*]: „*Политика Србије према Бугарској и Тајна конвенција 1881. године*“ [*Serbia's Policy Towards Bulgaria and The Secret Convention from 1881*] (pp. 29-42), Часопис „*Зборник Матице српске за историју*“ [*Journal „Collected Papers of Matica Srpska for History*“], Број 71-72 [№ 71-72] (Нови Сад: *Матица српска Одељење за друштвене науке*, 2005, pp. 39-40). Александар Растовић [*Aleksandar Rastović*]: „*Велика Британија и Србија 1903-1914*“ [*Great Britain and Serbia 1903-1914*], Посебна издања [*Special Editions*], Књига 50 [*Volume 50*] (Београд: *Историјски институт Београд*, 2005, p. 36).

by Austria-Hungary (July 29th, 1914), and Austro-Hungarian and Bulgarian occupation of Serbia as an aftermath of it (1915-1918).

During the First World War, Kingdom of Serbia (*according to the facts presented on the Versailles Peace Conference 1919*), lost 1,247,435 people, i.e. 28% of its population determined by 1914 census.

In the Second World War, Nazy Germany attacked (April 6th, 1941) Kingdom of Yugoslavia (*for Serbs this war will last until May 15th, 1945*), and inflict even greater casualties to Serbs. That was confirmed by Official report of Democratic Federal Yugoslavia (1945), published on May 26th, 1945, which reported that the total number of victims (*of all nations, people who have been murdered or died because of war*) was – 1,685,000, and later, the State Commission of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia (1945-1963), established to determine the war crimes made on the territory of former Kingdom of Yugoslavia, found that this number was even greater – 1,706,000.¹⁵² The vast majority of these casualties were Serbs, because they raised an uprising¹⁵³ against the followers of Nazism, that is, the occupiers, but also because their ethnic space (*where major war operations took place*) was the target of the occupiers (*Germans, Italians, Hungarians, Croats, Bulgarians and Albanians*).

Anthropologist and paleopathologist Dr. Srboľjub Źivanović¹⁵⁴ (1933-), who is the only living member of the State Commission¹⁵⁵ of Judicial Anthropologists of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which carried out excavation (1964) at the Ustaša concentration camp Jasenovac (*at the execution complex Donja Gradina*), states

¹⁵² Barry M. Lituchy [editor]: „JASENOVAC AND THE HOLOCAUST IN YUGOSLAVIA: Analyses and Survivor Testimonies“ (New York: Jasenovac Research Institute, 2006, p. 3).

¹⁵³ In 1941, Serbs conducted the first uprising in occupied Europe. The uprising and fight against occupiers in dismembered Kingdom of Yugoslavia (*in the period of 1941-1945*) started when Miloš Kondić [Милоу Кондић] (1910-1941), and four of his friends (Маринко Баста [Маринко Баста], Mile Dardić [Миле Дардић], Miloš Slijepčević [Милоу Слјепчевић] and Savo Vostroža [Саво Бодрожја]) attacked by fire arms a group of Ustaša (*members of the „Ante Starčević“ platoon from Municipality of Prijedor*) between the villages Kijevo and Tramošnja, that is, on the edge of the forest „Kijevska Gora“ (near the village Sjenokos in Municipality of Sanski Most). This „Đurđevdan uprising“ [Ђурђеѿдански устанак] in Sanski Most, was led by above mentioned Serbian Chetniks on Serbian christened Slava [крсна Слава] „Saint George's Day“ [Ђурђеѿдан] (May 6th, 1941), i.e. exactly one month after the attack (April 6th, 1941) of „Axis powers“ on Yugoslavia, and eighteen days after signing of unconditional surrender of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. On the next day (May 7th, 1941), a few hundred people, from the settlements Tramošnja, Kijevo, Kozica, Hazići, Stratinska, Obrovac, Pervani, Kmećani, Ilidža, Vilusi, Dadmanovac and Šljivna, as well the village Radmanovići (*near Banjaluka*) joined them. German occupying forces sent „132nd Infantry Division“ (*Wehrmacht*) [132. Infanterie-Division] („Infantry Regiment № 436“ [Infanterie-Regiment Nr. 436] and Artillery Regiment 132 [Artillerie-Regiment 132]) against them. These units were led by German Lieutenant general [Generalleutnant] Rudolf Sintzenich (1889-1948), assisted by Croatian Colonel Matija Čanić (1901-1964), and they committed numerous war crimes against the Serbs (*civilians and prisoners of war*).

¹⁵⁴ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Professor Dr. Źivanović is certainly the most significant follower of the famous Serbian academic Dr. Branko M. Šljivić (1895-1963). Currently, he is the director of the European Institut of Early Slavonic Studies, a member (*since 1963*) of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland and Royal Society of Medicine in London, and in 1968 he started teaching anatomy (*also in London*) at the prestigious The Royal Hospital of St. Bartholomew (*founded in 1123*). Moreover, since 2000, Dr. Źivanović holds the function of the president of The International Commission for the Truth on Jasenovac which is based in Banjaluka.

¹⁵⁵ Members of the Commission were Vida Brodar (1925-2014), Institute of Biology (*Biotechnical Faculty at the University of Ljubljana*), Zdravko Marić (1930-2006), Archaeology Department (*National Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina*), Anton „Tone“ Pogačnik (1934-1974), Institute of Anthropology (*Biotechnical Faculty at the University of Ljubljana*) and Srboľjub Źivanović (1933-), Institute of Anatomy, Medical Faculty at the University of Novi Sad.

that »Over 700,000 Serbs, 23,000 Jews and 80,000 Roma were killed only in the Jasenovac system of Croatian concentration camps...«¹⁵⁶.

North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's military operation, i.e. unlawful aggression on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia¹⁵⁷, was committed in 1999, against¹⁵⁸ the Charter of the United Nations, during the Kosovo War. The air strikes¹⁵⁹ lasted from March 24th, 1999 to June 10th, 1999.

American General Wesley Kanne Clark, Sr. (1944-), coordinated those air strikes on Serbs, as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe^{160 161}.

The official NATO¹⁶² operation code name was „Operation Allied Force“¹⁶³ (but in the USA it has another name¹⁶⁴).

Brigadier general in the Norwegian Army, Henning-A. Frantzen¹⁶⁵ (1968-), is one of the few officers of this organisation who openly argues statements of the NATO leaders

¹⁵⁶ Srboľjub Źivanović [Србољуб Живановић]: „Хрватски геноцид против Срба, Јевреја и Рома“ [Croatian Genocide Against the Serbs, Jews and Roma], Библиотека „Сведочанства“ [Collected Edition „Testimony“], Књига 54 [Volume 54] (Београд: Европски институт за изучавање древних Словена / Издавачка кућа „Пешић и синови“, 2018, p. 169). »Dr. Hermann Naubacher (Hitler's personal assistant for the South-East Europe and the Balkan affairs) independently from Dr. Źivanović, gave (in 1956) a similar assessment of killed Serbs, because he states the following: „When Ustasha leaders say that they have slaughtered million of orthodox Serbs (including babies, children, women and old persons), I think that it is obviously exaggeration and self-praise. Based on the reports received by me, I estimate that the number of innocent people, that were slaughtered, amounted to three quarters of a million [750,000 – translator's note].“ – P. B. Bogunović: „DYNASTIA NEMAGNICH...“, 2018, pp. 90-91. »Wenn führende Ustascha-Männer behaupteten, daß eine Million pravoslavische Serben (einschließlich der Säuglinge, Kinder, Frauen und Greise) geschlachtet wurden, so ist das nach meiner Meinung eine ruhmredige Übertreibung. Auf Grund der mir zugekommenen Berichte schätze ich die Zahl der wehrlos Abgeschlachteten auf dreiviertel Millionen.« – Hermann Neubacher: „SONDERAUFTRAG SÜDOSTEN 1940-1945: Bericht eines fliegenden Diplomaten“ [SPECIAL MISSION SOUTHEAST 1940-1945: Report of a Flying Diplomat] (Göttingen: Musterschmit-Verlag, 1957, p. 31). Dr. Gideon Grief (1951-), head researcher (historian) of the Holocaust Institute „Shem Olam“ (Israel), author of monumental multidisciplinary scientific study of the Jasenovac concentration camp, named „JASENOVAC: Auschwitz of the Balkans – Ustasha Empire of Cruelty“ (2018), especially emphasizes that in this camp complex alone, in the most brutal manner more than 800,000 Serbs were killed.

¹⁵⁷ Abbreviation: FRY.

¹⁵⁸ »Then, in March 1999, operation NATO launched 'Allied Force' without a specific UN Resolution explicitly sanctioning the use of force.« – Henning-André Frantzen: „NATO AND PEACE SUPPORT OPERATIONS, 1991-1999: Policies and Doctrines“ (London / New York: Frank Cass and Co. Ltd., 2004, p. 71).

¹⁵⁹ »As for NATO's additional 18 members, 13 contributed aircraft for use in the operation, with 11 allies (Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, and Turkey) eventually participating in offensive and defensive air combat operations of all types.« – Benjamin S. Lambeth: „NATO'S AIR WAR FOR KOSOVO: A Strategic and Operational Assessment“, Project Air Force Series on Operation Allied Force (Santa Monica [CA, USA]: Rand Corporation, 2001, p. 20).

¹⁶⁰ Abbreviation: SACEUR.

¹⁶¹ Bruce R. Nardulli et al.: „DISJOINTED WAR: Military Operations in Kosovo, 1999“ (Santa Monica [CA, USA]: Rand Corporation, 2002, p. xvi).

¹⁶² Thirteen members of NATO participated in this barbaric attack: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, and United States.

¹⁶³ In FR Yugoslavia (i.e. Serbia and Montenegro), the operation was incorrectly called „Merciful Angel“ (Serbian: Милосрдни анђео).

¹⁶⁴ The United States called it „Operation Noble Anvil“. Preben Bonnén: „TOWARDS A COMMON EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY: The ways and means of making it a reality“, COMPAS: Group on Security and Defence Studies, Volume 1 (Hamburg / London: Lit Verlag, 2003, p. 188).

¹⁶⁵ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Хенинг-Андре Францен; Norwegian: Henning-André Frantzen. Dr. Frantzen is a Deputy Head Department of Security Policy and Operations.

that bombardment of Yugoslavia (1999), was not made against Serbian state and people.¹⁶⁶

In geopolitical sense, this war action of NATO (*directly against Serbs*), caused a negative reaction of military command¹⁶⁷ of the Russian Federation¹⁶⁸, and that led to worsening of the relations with NATO, and that condition (*minimum contacts between two sides*) is present even nowadays.¹⁶⁹

Based on the given facts, it is clear that this Anglo-Saxon, anti-Serbian, activities do not stop, and that is visible in the statement made on August 13th, 2019 by the U.S. Embassy in Priština.¹⁷⁰ Namely, this statement (*that U.S. Embassy forwarded¹⁷¹ to the Public company „Tanjug News Agency“¹⁷²*), members of the Quint group¹⁷³ openly ask that the Republic of Serbia accepts the forcible secession of part of its territory (*Serbian Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija¹⁷⁴*).

Today, the southern Serbian province is (*formally and legally*) under the authority of the United Nations, and it is de facto under the (*informal*) occupation of NATO.

What happened that allowed such aggression to be carried out against a sovereign country that did not attack anyone, and especially not a member of NATO?

American diplomat and malicious CIA¹⁷⁵ agent William Graham Walker¹⁷⁶ (1935-), who was the head of the OSCE¹⁷⁷ Kosovo Verification Mission¹⁷⁸, staged a fake cause for attack on Serbs.¹⁷⁹

¹⁶⁶ H.-A. Frantzen: „NATO AND PEACE...“, 2004, p. 71.

¹⁶⁷ The government of Russian state was pro-Western at that time and did not even care about Russian national interests.

¹⁶⁸ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Руска Федерација, Russian: Российская Федерация. Russia was formidable military power even after breakdown of the USSR (*with great nuclear arsenal*), but »on its knees«, at least in economic sense. Economic power of its citizens drastically fell during »pirate privatisation« (*encouraged by Western countries*), and people were on the verge of existence and even open rebellion, so all of that led to »pacification« of the Russian Federation for a long period. It is clear that, in that period, Russia was unable to conduct any conventional military conflicts (*except for self-defense*) but in the last few years situation has changed.

¹⁶⁹ »After the ending of Operation Allied Force, Russia continued its policy of freezing its relationship with NATO.« – Stephen Badsey / Paul Latawski: „Britain, NATO and the Lessons of the Balkan Conflicts, 1991 - 1999“ (Hamburg / London: Routledge – Taylor & Francis Group, 2004, p. 149).

¹⁷⁰ »The governments of France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States stand united in our aim to see the full normalization of relations between Kosovo and Serbia via a comprehensive, politically sustainable, and legally binding agreement that contributes to regional stability.« – Title of the media statement: „Joint Statement by the Governments of France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States, August 13, 2019“, Website owner: Embassy of the United States in Priština, Kosovo, Date: August 13th, 2019.

¹⁷¹ „ЗЕМЉЕ КВИНТЕ УПУТИЛЕ ЗАХТЕВ БЕОГРАДУ И ПРИШТИНИ: Укинути таксе, обуставити кампању...“ [QUINTA COUNTRIES MAKE A REQUEST TO BELGRADE AND PRIŠTINA: Revoke the tariffs, suspending the campaign...], Дневник [Daily news] (Нови Сад: Dnevnik Vojvodina press, August 14th, 2019, p. 2).

¹⁷² Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Јавно предузеће „Новинска агенција Танјуг“. Serbian state news agency based in Belgrade.

¹⁷³ Members of the Quint group are United States, Italy, France, Germany, and Britain.

¹⁷⁴ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Аутономна Покрајина Косово и Метохија.

¹⁷⁵ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Централна обавештајна агенција; English: Central Intelligence Agency (abbreviated: CIA).

¹⁷⁶ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Вилијам Грејам Вокер.

¹⁷⁷ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Организација за европску безбедност и сарадњу; English: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

¹⁷⁸ Serbian (*Cyrillic script*): Косовска верификациона мисија.

In 1999, following the Račak operation, Walker was putting pressure¹⁸⁰ on forensic experts headed by Finnish pathologist Dr. Mary Helena Ranta¹⁸¹ (1946-) to name the perpetrators of the »massacre« (*Serbian security forces*), thus way wanting justification in the international community for the later NATO¹⁸² bombing of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia¹⁸³.

This unusual behavior caught the eye of Dr. Ranta, who was completely surprised by Walker's attempts to accuse Serbs for, obviously, fabricated crime.¹⁸⁴

The most convincing evidence that the story about the alleged massacre in Račak village was just a media spin is the fact that Serbian General Goran Lj. Radosavljević¹⁸⁵ „Guri“ (1957-), who led¹⁸⁶ the police operation in Račak on January 15th, 1999, has never been accused for any crime, and especially massacre or war crime. There is no doubt

¹⁷⁹ »Manipulacije sa leševima, sa uniformama i tome slično, od ranije su dakle specijalnost tog čoveka, čija prošlost u svakom slučaju umanjuje kredibilitet svake njegove dalje aktivnosti, pa i priče vezane za događaje u Račku.« [Even before that, manipulations with corpses, uniforms and similar things, were a „trademark“ of that man whose past diminishes the credibility of any of his later activities, including the story related to the „Račak incident“.] – Avram Noam Chomsky: „NOVI HUMANISTIČKI MILITARIZAM: Lekcije Kosova“ [THE NEW MILITARY HUMANISM: Lessons from Kosovo] (Beograd: Plato, 2000. p. 52).

¹⁸⁰ »However, the Kosovo Verification Mission's immediate qualification of Racak as a massacre was followed by the journalists' reports about Racak. These reports — as with many others based on unverified or false facts about extreme atrocities committed by a side designated as 'bad' — served as the main trigger for the political and military decisions made by the international community. Thus, in spite of immediate doubts about the version of the event put out (Johnstone 2002), these reports were used as justification, first, for the Rambouillet conference, then for the ultimatum to Serbia, and later for its bombardment. Through reporting on what the Finnish experts called the Racak 'massacre' perpetrated by the Serbs, the Washington Post had the most important role in distributing inaccurate conclusions from the forensic team report. However, only two years later a few European newspapers made the real content of the Finnish report known to the public.« – Ivo Aertsen et al.: „RESTORING JUSTICE AFTER LARGE-SCALE VIOLENT CONFLICTS: Kosovo, DR Congo and the Israeli-Palestinian case“ (Portland [OR, USA]: Willan Publishing, 2013, p. 165).

¹⁸¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Мари Хелена Ранта*. Dr. Ranta was a forensic odontologist at the Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Helsinki (*Helsinki, Republic of Finland*). Also, she was a leader of the European Union Forensic Expert Team that was involved in performing autopsies of victims from the Kosovo village of Račak.

¹⁸² Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Организација Северноатлантског споразума*; English: *North Atlantic Treaty Organisation*.

¹⁸³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Савезна Република Југославија* (abbreviated: *CPJ*).

¹⁸⁴ »Helena Ranta, head of the team, denied that any of their findings could be considered as a proof of an organized massacre. She flatly refused to term the event a massacre or blame Serbian security forces, as William Walker did in January.« – Valdas Anelauskas: „Discovering America as it is“ (Atlanta [GA, USA]: Clarity Press, 1999, p. 448). Transcripts of trials held before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (abbreviated: *ICTY*); Case №: *IT-02-54 (Prosecutor v. Slobodan Milošević)*; Accused Name: *Slobodan S. Milošević*; Witness: *Mary Helena Ranta*; Date: *Wednesday, March 12th, 2003*; Page: 17754.

¹⁸⁵ At the onset of the Kosovo conflict, Goran Radosavljević was Assistant Head of Special Operations Staff and member of the Ministry of Internal Affairs Staff in Priština (*in the period of 1998-1999*). Later, he became Commander (*overall head*) of elite »counter-terrorism units« known as the „Operational Pursuit Groups“ (abbreviation: *OPG*) within the Public Security Department of the MIA (Serbian: *MVIT*). At the end of the Kosovo conflict, Radosavljević was the Commander of a Serbian police training center in Petrovo Selo (*Kladovo municipality*).

¹⁸⁶ Transcripts of trials held before the ICTY; Case №: *IT-02-54 (Prosecutor v. Slobodan Milošević)*; Accused Name: *Slobodan S. Milošević* (Cyrillic: *Слободан Светозара Милошевић*); Witness: *Colonel Bogoljub Janičević*; Date: *Friday, September 30th, 2005*; Page: 44976. Transcripts of trials held before the ICTY; Case №: *IT-05-87/1-T (Prosecutor v. Vlastimir Đorđević)*; Accused Name: *Vlastimir Đorđević* (Cyrillic: *Властимир Ђорђевић*); Document description: *Trial Judgement*; Date: *Wednesday, February 23rd, 2011*; Page: 154.

that it was a legitimate police anti-terrorist action (*that was carried out flawlessly*) and the evidence for that can be found in the fact that this action is studied in NATO Special Operations Bulletins as one of the examples of how to react to the terrorists. He received a gold medal from NATO [*NATO Medal for Peace Achievements*] for the action of liquidation of terrorists.

Countries that have »*German roots*« were the loudest in demands that the international community should recognize self-declared independence of so-called Republic of Kosovo from the Republic of Serbia.

That attitude was followed by recognitions of independence of the southern Serbian province: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (*February 18th, 2008*), United States of America (*February 18th, 2008*), French Republic (*February 18th, 2008*), Commonwealth of Australia (*February 19th, 2008*), Federal Republic of Germany¹⁸⁷ (*February 20th, 2008*), Kingdom of Denmark¹⁸⁸ (*February 21st, 2008*), Grand Duchy of Luxembourg¹⁸⁹ (*February 21st, 2008*), Kingdom of Belgium (*February 24th, 2008*), Swiss Confederation¹⁹⁰ (*February 27th, 2008*), Republic of Austria¹⁹¹ (*February 28th, 2008*), Kingdom of the Netherlands¹⁹² (*March 4th, 2008*), Canada (*March 18th, 2008*), Principality of Liechtenstein¹⁹³ (*March 25th, 2008*), Kingdom of Norway¹⁹⁴ (*March 28th, 2008*), etc.

Thanks to vivid diplomatic activities of the Republic of Serbia, number of countries that recognize independence of Kosovo, fell (*until August 17th, 2019*) to 98 out of 193 (50,8%) member states of the United Nations (UN).

A small number of Northern Serbs (*Lusatian Serbs*), who survived until modern times, are also in risk. The book „*Webersik: Geographisch-statistisches Welt-Lexikon*“ (*printed 1908*) explains the resistance of Serbs to Germanization (*almost a thousand years*) in the north of Europe. Please, pay attention that in 1900, there had been 116,811 Wends¹⁹⁵ (*Sorbs, i.e. Serbs*) in German provinces Saxony and Brandenburg. The vast majority of Wends, or in numbers 93,032 (79,64% of the total number of Wends) spoke only Wendish¹⁹⁶ (*Serbian languages, also called Sorbian, Lusatian, or Wendish*), and 23,779 (20,36% of them) spoke both, Wendish and German^{197 198}.

¹⁸⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Савезна Република Немачка; German: Bundesrepublik Deutschland.

¹⁸⁸ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Краљевина Данска; Danish: Kongeriget Danmark.

¹⁸⁹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Велико војводство Луксембург; German: Großherzogtum Luxemburg.

¹⁹⁰ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Швајцарска Конфедерација; German: Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft; French: Confédération suisse.

¹⁹¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Република Аустрија; German: Republik Österreich.

¹⁹² Serbian (Cyrillic script): Краљевина Холандија; Dutch: Koninkrijk der Nederlanden.

¹⁹³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Кнежевина Лихтенштајн; German: Fürstentum Liechtenstein.

¹⁹⁴ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Краљевина Норвешка; Bokmål: Kongeriket Norge.

¹⁹⁵ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Винди / Венди; Latin: Venedi; Old English: Winedas; Old Norse: Vindr; German: Winden / Wenden; Danish: Vendere; Swedish: Vender; Polish: Wendowie. Wends (or Lusatians) is a historical name for Northern Serbs (wrongly named Lusatian Sorbs) living near Germanic settlement areas.

¹⁹⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): вѣндски / вѣндску; German: Windisch / Wendisch.

¹⁹⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): немачки; German: Deutsch / Deutsche Sprache.

¹⁹⁸ »Wenden, 1) slawische Volk in Brandenburg und Sachsen, in der Ober- und Niederlausitz, (1900) 116.811 Köpfe stark; davon sprachen 93.032 nur wendisch, 23.779 wendisch und deutsch.« [Wends, 1) A Slav people in Upper and Lower Lusatia (in Brandenburg and Saxony). There were, 116,811 heads (in 1900); 93,032 of them spoke just Wendish language, and 23,779 spoke both Wendisch and German.] – Gottlieb Webersik: „WEBERSIK: Geographisch-statistisches Welt-Lexikon“ [WEBERSIK: Geographical and Statistical World Dictionary] (Vienna / Leipzig: A. Hartleben's Verlag, 1908, p. 899).

There have been no other Wends but Sorbs/Serbs in both of the German provinces, that time and today.

Destruction of the national cultural and historical heritage of the Serbs

Cultural and historical heritage of the Serbs in the Hum Peninsula, was submitted to robbery for centuries, from the Fourth Crusade (1202-1204), which is described in the letter (*Document № 873/50*), that Institute for Protection of Cultural Monuments¹⁹⁹ of the PR Serbia²⁰⁰ sent (1950) to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the FPR Yugoslavia²⁰¹.

Austro-Hungarian occupation authorities, during the First World War (1914-1918) robbed to the bones all Serbian cultural and historical values that they found, and especially the ones found in the National Museum in Belgrade, National Library and State Archives.²⁰²

On April 6th, 1941, German Air Force (*Luftwaffe*) committed planned bombing (*using incendiary bombs*)²⁰³ of National Library of Serbia, which is proved by documents presented on the after-war trial of General Alexander Löhr²⁰⁴ (1885-1947), a German Air Force commander. Evidence showed that this library was one of the prime objectives of the bombing of Belgrade. During this bombing it is completely destroyed the Library building along with a book collection of 500,000 volumes, an invaluable collection of 1424 Cyrillic manuscripts and charters, a collection of old maps and prints of roughly 1,500 items, collections of 4,000 journals as well as 1,800 newspaper titles, its rich and irreplaceable archives of Turkish documents about Serbia and the complete correspondence of distinguished figures of the cultural and political history of Serbia, and all holdings lists and catalogs.²⁰⁵

¹⁹⁹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Завод за заштиту споменика културе.

²⁰⁰ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Народна Република Србија; English: *People's Republic of Serbia*.

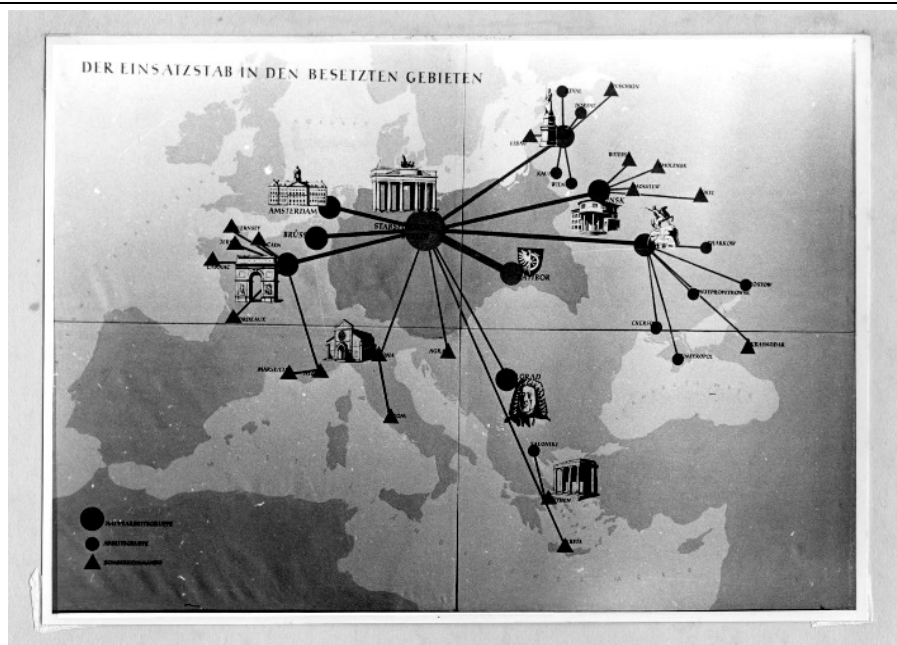
²⁰¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Федеративна Народна Република Југославија; English: *Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia*.

²⁰² Владимир Поповић [*Vladimir Popović*] / Нада Јевремовић [*Nada Jevremović*]: „Народни музеј у Београду 1844-1994“ [*National Museum in Belgrade 1844-1994*], Каталог изложбе 150 година Народног музеја у Београду [*Catalog of the exhibition on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the National Museum in Belgrade*] (Београд: Народни музеј, 1994, p. 19). М. Д. Ристовић: „*PLJAČKA UMETNIČKOG I KULTURNOG ...*“, 2001, p. 66.

²⁰³ Мираш Кићовић [*Miraš Kićović*]: „Историја Народне библиотеке у Београду“ [*History of the National Library in Belgrade*] (Београд: Народна библиотека, 1960, p. 166).

²⁰⁴ He was a German Air Force commander-in-chief in Southeast Europe during the World War II.

²⁰⁵ »У званичном немачком документу који се односи на бомбардовање Београда, предоченом на поратном суђењу, види се да је на почетку Другог светског рата Народна библиотека била означена као један од првих циљева. Дакле, намерна, осмишљена злочиначка акција бомбардовања запаљивим бомбама Народне библиотеке 6. априла 1941. године, чији је циљ, на жалост, достигнут, била је уништење писаних споменика културе српског народа, дакле националног сећања. Уништен је комплетан књижни фонд од 500000 свезака, збирка од 1424 ћирилска рукописа и повеље, 1500 јединице картографске и графичке збирке, 4000 наслова часописа, 1800 наслова новина, богати архив турских докумената о Србији, целокупна преписка значајних личности из културе и политичке историје Србије и Југославије, сви инвентари и каталози Народне библиотеке.« – Александра Вранеш [*Aleksandra Vraneš*]: „Путеви и раскрсја Народне библиотеке Србије“ [*The Roads and Crossroads of the National Library of Serbia*] (pp. 1-12), Часопис „Књижевност и језик“ [*Journal „Literature and Language“*], Број 1-2 [№ 1-2] (Београд: Народна Библиотека Србије, 2012, p. 9-10).



A map showing the activities of the Reichsleiter Rosenberg Taskforce in occupied Europe. [Yad Vashem Archives; Number: FAI 73/3; Archival Signature: 368]

During German occupation of Serbia in the Second World War (1941-1944), Germans had the same attitude as Austro-Hungarians (*during the First World War*), except they formed a special organization for coordinated systematic robbery of Serbian cultural and historical heritage. Its name was Reichsleiter Rosenberg Taskforce²⁰⁶ or, to be more precise, most of the »works«²⁰⁷ were committed by its Main working group „South-east“²⁰⁸, that sent one part of Serbian cultural treasure to Ratibor²⁰⁹ (*in occupied Poland, and later it was distributed further*), and the rest became part of private collections of influential people of Nazi Germany²¹⁰, who were in military service in Serbia.²¹¹ This organization even dealt with issues related to Serbian Orthodox Church.²¹²

²⁰⁶ „Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg“ (abbreviation: ERR).

²⁰⁷ Milan D. Ristović: „PLJAČKA UMETNIČKOG I KULTURNOG BLAGA SRBIJE U DRUGOM SVETSKOM RATU I PROBLEMI NJEGOVE RESTITUCIJE: Nekoliko fragmenata“ [THE PLUNDER OF SERBIA'S ARTISTIC AND CULTURAL RICHES IN WORLD WAR II AND THE PROBLEM OF RESTITUTION: Several Fragments] (pp. 65-78), Časopis „Istorija 20 veka“ [Journal „History of the 20th Century“], Broj 1 [№ 1] (Beograd: Institut za savremenu istoriju, 2001, p. 75).

²⁰⁸ Arbeitsgruppe: „Südost“ (later the Hauptarbeitsgruppe: „Südost“), i.e. Einsatzgruppe Nr. 10 – ERR Hauptarbeitsgruppe Südost.

²⁰⁹ Ratibor (now Polish Racibórz): ERR Hauptabteilung II [RRT Department II], IIa Referat Westen und Südosten [IIa Section „West and Southeast“], Erfassung und Sichtung der sichergestellten Kulturgegenstände [Storage and sorting of collected cultural goods].

²¹⁰ Third Empire [Drittes Reich]: German Reich [Deutsches Reich] (in the period of 1933-1943) and Greater German Reich [Großdeutsches Reich] (in the period of 1943-1945). Nazi Germany is the common English name for Germany between 1933 and 1945, when Adolf Hitler (1889-1945) and his Nazi Party (Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei; abbreviation: NSDAP) controlled the country.

²¹¹ Muharem Kreso: „Njemačka okupaciona uprava u Beogradu 1941-1944“ [The German occupation administration in Belgrade 1941-1944] (Beograd: Istorijski arhiv Beograda, 1979, p. 74). Patricia Kennedy Grimsted: „ROADS TO RATIBOR: Library and Archival Plunder by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg“

The Netherlands went the farthest in legalizing the theft of valuable cultural goods, because, for example, according to their law, a person who »owns« a stolen object, whose real owner is another person or legal entity, may, after some time, acquire even the right of ownership of the object if the beneficial owner has not taken any specific legal action (*for the return of property*) against this person for some years.

Even a thief of a valuable painting will, after a continuous possession of twenty years, become its legal owner. The real owner has lost his property by operation of law and can no longer claim it back. This certainly is a strange legal consequence, that can't be justified by the fact that the real owner has lost his possession of the painting for such a long period without reclaiming it in the mean time, since he didn't know who had stolen his property, so he was unable to claim it back from him. Nevertheless in the Netherlands this rule still applies in favour of thieves and crooks, unless an object has been stolen that was recognized as European or national cultural heritage (*Article 3:310a*²¹³ and *3:310b*²¹⁴, *DCC*).

So, it is clear that, for centuries, the Serbs (*as well as all other Slavs*) confronted with the open theft of their cultural and historical heritage, which, for a long time, does not apply only to the appropriation of various material possessions, because all this takes on a completely different dimension (*since the Middle Ages*), through the open theft of historical figures and historical events.

(pp. 390-458), Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Volume 19, Issue 3, (Oxford: *Oxford University Press*, 2005, p. 439).

²¹² Unknown [editor]: „*Nemačka obaveštajna služba*“ [*German Intelligence Service*], Zbirka dokumenata br. VIII [Collection of documents № 8], Dokument br. 351 [Document № 351] (Beograd: *Državni sekretarijat za unutrašnje poslove FNRJ, Uprava državne bezbednosti, III odeljenje*, 1956, p. 998). See a part of the document in which Colonel Wutz, Head of RRT Section [Oberst-Einsatzführer Wutz, ERR Gaustellenleiter] is mentioned. German leadership position, named »Gaustellenleiter«, could be translated as »Regional Level Department Head«.

²¹³ Dutch Civil Code; Article 3:310a [Prescription of claims for the return of cultural objects]: Clause 1 »A right of action to claim the return of a movable thing which under the national law of a Member State of the European Union or of another State, being a party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, is a cultural object as defined in Article 1, under (1) of the Directive, referred to in Article 3:86a, and which is claimed back by one of these States on the basis that it has been removed unlawfully from its territory, becomes prescribed on the expiry of one year as of the day following the one on which that State has obtained knowledge of both the place where the object itself is situated and the identity of its possessor or holder, and in any event thirty years from the day following the one on which the object was removed from the territory of that State.« and Clause 2 »The last period is seventy-five years in case of an object which forms a part of a public collection as defined in Article 1, under (1), of the Directive, referred to in Article 3:86a, and of religious objects as defined in the Directive in the Member States of the European Union or in the other States that are a party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area, where these are subject under national law to special protecting measures.«.

²¹⁴ Dutch Civil Code; Article 3:310b [Prescription of claims for reclaiming objects of national heritage]: Clause 1 »A right of action to claim the return of a movable thing which under the Act on the Conservation of Cultural Heritage has the status of a protected object or which forms a part of a public collection or is put on an inventory list as meant in Article 14a, paragraph 2 of that Act and of which the owner has lost possession after the moment on which it was classified as a protected object or during the time that it formed a part of a public collection or an inventory as mentioned before, becomes prescribed on the expiry of five years from the day following the one on which both, the place where the object itself is situated and the identity of the possessor or holder have become known, and in any event thirty years from the day following the one on which a not-entitled person has become the possessor of the object.« and Clause 2 »The right of action of the owner of a movable thing cannot become prescribed pursuant to paragraph 1 as long as a State still has a right of action to claim the return of that movable thing on the basis that it has been removed unlawfully from the territory of the Netherlands, which claim may be brought to a court of another Member State of the European Union or of another State that is a party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area.«.

Not only Germans do this, but also English people, Dutch people, Swiss people, Swedes, Austrians and, encouraged by the Anglo-Saxons, for almost a century or two, the Hungarians, Romanians, Bulgarians, Albanians and Greeks. Apart from them, Croats, as well as a whole series of synthetic nations, which came into being thanks to communists, such as Montenegrins [Црногорци] (*this nation was created in 1945*), Macedonians [Македонци] (*this nation was also created in 1945*) and Muslimans [Муслимани] (*a nation created in 1970*), who later (1993) changed their name to Bosniaks [Бошњаци]²¹⁵, for strategic reasons, with the consent of the Americans (*CIA: US Inter-agency Balkan Task Force*).

Just as the Germans appropriate the early history of the areas in present-day Germany, such as Thuringia, Saxony-Anhalt Brandenburg, Mecklenburg, etc., so do the Croats (*with the open support of Anglo-Saxon historians*) appropriate the entire history of Dubrovnik (*they intentionally mix religious and national senses to convert Serb Catholics into Croats*)²¹⁶. When it comes to the Serbs who are Catholic Christians by religion, from Dalmatia and especially from proud city of Dubrovnik [Ragusa], the things are even worse because the Croats say that they belong to Croatian nation in spite of the historical facts²¹⁷ that show something completely opposite.

Lets »travel« to the past a little more and see what Ragusan chronicler Mavro Orbini (1563-1614) said about the Croats in his book „*Regno de gli Slavi*“ [The Realm of the Slavs] from 1601, where he mentioned a fact that the Croats offered to help Republic of

²¹⁵ American CIA solved the whole problem of ethnicity of Muslimans (*the Serbs with Islamic religious orientation*) by introducing (*by no coincidence*) the territorial term »Bosniaks« (*which was already, unsuccessfully tried by Austro-Hungarian Monarchy during the occupation of Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1878 to 1918*), because that makes Serbs, in the eyes of most citizens of the world, a national minority in their own country.

²¹⁶ It is a long list of Serb Catholics from Dubrovnik, who are »stolen« by Croats and »ripped« off from their Serbian cultural and historical heritage or even erased from our memories. Here I will mention just a few of them who had a greater influence: Šišmundo „Šiško“ Menčetić Vlahović (1457-1527), Džore A. Držić (1461-1501), Vlaho A. Držić (1503-1567), Frano-Mavro Orbin (1563-1611), Marin M. Getaldić (1568-1626), Ivo [or Dživo] Bunić Vučićević (1592-1658), Nikola Bošković (1641-1721), Ignjat Đurđević (1675-1737), Ruđer-Josip N. Bošković (1711-1787), Luka „Lukša“ Sorgo (1734-1789), Antun L. Sorgo (1775-1841), Antun Kaznačić (1784-1874), Vlaho Getaldić (1788-1872), Pavle „Pavo“ P. Rešetar (1809-1880), Vuk Vrčević (1811-1882), Antun Paško Kazali (1815-1894), Marijan „Mato“ Karol Natali (1816-1895), Matija Ban (1818-1903), Nikola „Niko“ Pucić (1820-1883), Medo Pucić (1821-1882), Nikola „Nikša“ M. Gradišć [1825-1894], Lovro Kukuljica (1828-1871), Rafael „Rafo“ Pucić (1828-1890), Konstantin Vučković (1828-1893), Ivan „Ivo“ Stojanović (1829-1900), Konstantin „Kosta“ J. Vojnović (1832-1903), Đorđe „Đura“ J. Vojnović (1833-1895), Valtazar „Baldo“ V. Bogišić (1834-1908), Pero V. Budmani (1835-1914), Antonije „Antun“ Vučetić (1845-1931), Luko A. Zore (1846-1906), Jovan I. Đaja (1846-1928), Božidar „Božo“ I. Đaja (1850-1914), Vid Vukasović Vuletić (1853-1933), Ivan „Ivo“ K. Vojnović (1857-1929), Špiridon „Špiro“ Kalik (1858-1909), Antun Puljezi (1858-1927), Nikola-Urban Talija (1859-1943), Marko Car (1859-1953), Vlaho Matijević (1860-1917), Milan-Karlo P. Rešetar (1860-1942), Baldo N. Gradišć (1861-1949), Andro P. Murat (1862-1952), Luko Bunić (1863-1940), Antun Fabris (1864-1904), Lujo V. Adamović (1864-1935), Marko P. Murat (1864-1944), Lujo K. Vojnović (1864-1951), Matija „Mato“ Gracić (1865-1944), Ivo Čipiko (1869-1923), Miho Fabris (1870-1939), Stijepo Knežević (1870-1950), Paskoje „Paško“ Vučetić (1871-1925), Nikola Stanišić „Dobrečić“ (1872-1955), Stijepo Kobasica (1882-1944), Petar M. Kolendić (1882-1969), Ivan Đaja (1884-1957), Nikola „Niko“ H. Mirošević-Sorgo (1884-1966), Ilija Sindik (1888-1958), Marko Ignjat „Inko“ Job (1895-1936), Jorjo Tadić (1899-1969), Cvijeto B. Job (1899-1986), Aleksandar „Aco“ V. Apolonio (1916-2001), Ivan N. Mirošević-Sorgo (1926-1991), etc.

²¹⁷ Antun Fabris: Časopis „DUBROVNIK: Kalendar za godinu 1898“ [Journal „DUBROVNIK: Calendar for the Year 1898“] (Dubrovnik: Antun Pasarić Printing House, 1897, p. 67). Antun Fabris: Časopis „DUBROVNIK: Kalendar za godinu 1902“ [Journal „DUBROVNIK: Calendar for the Year 1902“] (Dubrovnik: Antun Pasarić Printing House, 1901, p. 71).

Ragusa [*Respublica Ragusina*] against the Serbian noble house of Vojinovic, which ruled over the lands in the city's surrounding. Citizens of Dubrovnik [*Ragusinians*] refused their offer and, as a reason for that, stated (*as Orbin clearly wrote*): »Voi siete dal paese molto lontani...«²¹⁸ [...you are from a land far away from us...].

Of course, the people who are familiar with history of this part of Europe also know that this city, through its more than a thousand years old history (*it was founded in 614 AD*), has always been surrounded by Serbian lands and that the most of its trade was with neighboring Serbian rulers who also gave Republic of Ragusa (1358-1808) surrounding lands for expansion.

It was in 1939 that Dubrovnik [*Communitas Ragusina – Ragusan municipality*] became a part of a Croatian administrative region, for the first time in its history, when Knyaz Pavle A. Karađorđević (1893-1976), regent of Yugoslavia (*in the period: 1934-1941*) reformed formerly existed banates (*provinces, i.e. subdivisions of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia*), actually, when he formed Banate of Croatia. By that decision, he separated the city of Dubrovnik from Banate of Zeta and became a part of newly formed Banate of Croatia, because of his servile attitude towards the Croats.

Nowadays, even in Serbia, many people think that Dubrovnik's »flowers of culture« from Gundulic family (Italian: *Gondola*), and represented by Ivan [or *Dživo*] F. Gundulić „*Mačica*“ (1589-1638), Frano Ivana Gundulić (1630-1700), Frano Augustin Getaldić-Gundulić (1743-1798), Frano Š. Getaldić-Gundulić (1833-1899) and Đivo Ferry Gundulić (1870-1933), are actually Croats.

While the first of, above mentioned, Gundulic family members, in all his works praised Serbian history, culture and tradition, the next-to-last of them was a leader of Serbian party in Dubrovnik and even became a city major (*in the period of 1889-1899*), while the last one was also the last Gundulic who was born in Dubrovnik. Unfortunately, he was forced to leave his hometown under the pressure of Croatian chauvinists (*incited by the Vienna court*), and on October 26th, 1893, he left the port of Hamburg with a boat to America (*New York City, NY*). His life ended in South America (*in Chile*) where he married twice and left six descendants (*three daughters and three sons*).

At the end, I can only cite the words of Natko Nodilo (1834-1912), a famous historian from Dubrovnik, who spoke about nationality of Dubrovnik citizens: »In Dubrovnik, if not even from the very beginning, in other words, since people remember, Serbian language was spoken; it was spoken, both by the people, and by the nobility, both at home, and publicly.«²¹⁹

Unfortunately, the Anglo-Saxon historical public does not react when Croats (*again with the tacit support of governments and institutions in the West*) steal Serbian figures (*even*

²¹⁸ Mavro Orbini: *IL REGNO DEGLI SLAVI, HOGGI CORROTTAMENTE DETTI SCHIAVONI: Historia di don Mavro Orbini Raguseo, abate Melitense. Nella quale si vede l'Origine quasi di tutti i Popoli che furono della Lingua Slava, con molte & varie guerre, che fecero in Europa, Asia & Africa; il progresso dell' Imperio loro, l' antico culto, & il tempo della loro conversione al Christianesimo. E in particolare veggonsi i successi de' Re' che anticamente dominarono in Dalmatia, Croatia, Bosna, Servia, Russia, & Bulgaria*“ [*THE REALM OF THE SLAVS...*] (Pesaro: Girolamo Concordia, 1601, p. 395).

²¹⁹ »U Dubrovniku, ako i ne od prvoga početka, a to od pamtivijeka, govorilo se srpski; govorilo, kako od pučana, tako od vlastele, kako kod kuće, tako i u javnome životu.« – Sperato „Natko“ P. Nodilo: „Prvi ljetopisci i davna historiografija dubrovačka“ [*The First Chronicles and the Old Dubrovnik Historiography*] (pp. 92-128), Časopis „Rad“ [*Journal „Work“*], Knjiga 4 [*Volume 4*], Svezak 65 [*Issue 65*] (Zagreb: Jugoslavenska akademija znanosti i umjetnosti, 1883, p. 117).

from recent Serbian history), like in the case of the scientist Nikola M. Tesla²²⁰ (1856-1943).

Conclusion

When I speak about what has happened and what is, unfortunately, still happening in the attitude of the Germanic peoples towards the Serbs (*generally speaking towards Slavs, too*), I cannot but emphasize what needs to be done to protect national identity (*on the entire Serbian ethnic area*), as well as the territorial integrity of the Serbian state.²²¹ This issue is not related only to economic strengthening of the Republic of Serbia²²² and Serb Republic (*the political entity of Bosnia and Herzegovina*), i.e., strengthening and equipping their armed forces, but it also encompasses what I might call »systematic work to build the national consciousness of the Serbian people«, through the development of an educational system, the development of science, as well as a complex (*special*) information system.

In the earlier period, the bearers of national awakening of our people (*in the second half of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century*) were inspired by the work of many national organizations, such as, for example: „Serbian Sokol Movement“²²³ (1857-1914; i.e. „First Serbian Society for Gymnastics and Fighting“²²⁴ [1857-1864], „First Belgrade Society for Gymnastics and Fighting“²²⁵ [1881-1891], Belgrade gymnastic society „Soko“²²⁶ [1891-1910], Civil gymnastic society „Dušan Silni“²²⁷ [1891-1907], Chivalrous society „Dušan Silni“²²⁸ [1907-1910], and Association of the Sokol societies „Dušan Silni“²²⁹ [1910-1914]), „Saint Sava Society“²³⁰ (1886-1914), Secret military

²²⁰ I would remind Anglo-Saxon historians that he was born in the wider area, which was named – Military Frontier [*Militärgrenze*] (1553-1881) within the Austrian Empire [*Kaiserthum Oesterreich*] (1804-1867), and later within the newly created Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Military Frontier was never part of the Croatian state at the time of Nikola's birth and residence in Lika, that is, it was not until 1939 that it became part of the Banate of Croatia (1939-1941), but only within the Kingdom of Yugoslavia (1929-1945), and in 1941 (*thanks to Nazi Germany*) this territory (*Lika*) was included into the so-called Independent State of Croatia. To say that a Serb from today's Croatia is a Croat is a great insult to the Serbs that once lived there. It would be the same as it would be for the emperors of the famous Eastern Roman Empire (395-1453), often mistakenly called the »Byzantine Empire«, to be called Turks, merely because the 1453 Ottoman Turkish Sultanate (c. 1299 - 1923) occupied their state. In other words, just because their capital Constantinople [*today Istanbul*] (*in which many emperors of the Romans were born*) is now part of the Republic of Turkey (1923-).

²²¹ The Germanic peoples have been acting throughout history exactly the same as water in nature – that is, when they notice an empty space within the cultural or state sphere of Serbs (*or Slavs*), they fill it immediately.

²²² Serbian (Cyrillic script): Република Србија.

²²³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Српски соколски покрет (*anglicized as Serbian Falcon Movement*) / Српска соколска друштва (*Serbian Sokol Societies; anglicized as Serbian Falcon Societies*).

²²⁴ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Прво српско друштво за гимнастику и борење.

²²⁵ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Прво београдско друштво за гимнастику и борење.

²²⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Београдско гимнастичко друштво „Соко“ (*anglicized as Belgrade gymnastic society „Falcon“*).

²²⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Грађанско гимнастичко друштво „Душан Силни“ (*anglicized as Civil gymnastic society „Dushan the Mighty“*).

²²⁸ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Витешко друштво „Душан Силни“ (*anglicized as Knights' society „Dushan the Mighty“*).

²²⁹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Савез соколских друштава „Душан Силни“ (*anglicized as Association of the Sokol societies „Dushan the Mighty“*).

²³⁰ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Друштво Светога Саве.

society „*Black Hand*“²³¹ (1901-1917; i.e. „*Black Hand*“ [1901-1911] and „*Unification or Death*“²³² [1911-1917]), Serbian national society „*Pobratimstvo*“²³³ (1906-1914) and Serbian patriotic (*paramilitary*) organization „*People's Defence*“²³⁴ (1908-1914) and behind all of them was Serbian Secret service, i.e. Serbian state (*Kingdom of Serbia*)²³⁵ као и In-the-field Secret Service²³⁶ (*secret service of Chetnik movement*²³⁷ during the *World War II*).

It is obvious that the activities of aforementioned organizations were closely connected with systematic national work, based on the works of Ilija „*Garašanin*“ M. Savić (1812-1874), Matija Ban (1818-1903), colonel Antonije „*Ante*“ V. Orešković (1829-1906), Stevan „*Steva*“ J. Todorović (1832-1925), Miloš S. Milojević (1840-1897), Svetomir K. Nikolajević (1844-1922), Colonel Vladan Đ. Đorđević (1844-1930), Colonel Milutin Gr. Mišković (1864-1934), Lieutenant colonel Vojislav M. Živanović (1870-1932), Colonel Dragutin „*Apis*“ T. Dimitrijević (1876 -1917), Captain Dušan Radović „*Kondor*“ (19??-1944), etc.

Therefore, it is clear (*from the foregoing*) what must be done in order to prevent this kind of behavior of some nations and their states in international scientific public, and that is, certainly, foundation of a serious scientific institution that would have a professional approach to the Serbian national history.

Revealing the truth about the early or recent history of our nation to the wider public has a similar importance, because both are blurred or even openly falsified.

In the current geopolitical environment, the Serbs (*like all other Slavs*) must do everything in their power to prevent the realization of that maxim »*Winners writing the history!*«, because it would be (*in the long run*) very detrimental to their national interests. The scientific community must constantly search for historical truth, especially when it is known that it has not been completely revealed or that it is not based on solid grounds. History cannot, and should not, be treated as a random process, instead, its discovery must always be organized very seriously.

What Serbs will have to do (*sooner or later*) is to set up at least two serious scientific institutions to study our closer and further past, not only for better guidance in the present but, above all, for the future of Serbs as a nation.

One of those two institutions should be some kind of multidisciplinary „*National Institute for Geopolitical Studies*“²³⁸ (*name of the Institute is not of great impor-*

²³¹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Тајно војно друштво „Црна рука“*.

²³² Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Тајно војно друштво „Уједињење или смрт“*.

²³³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Српско национално друштво „Побратимство“* (anglicized as *Serbian national society „Blood-brotherhood“*).

²³⁴ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Српска патриотска (полувојна) организација „Народна одбрана“*.

²³⁵ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Краљевина Србија*.

²³⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Теренска тајна служба*. Captain Dušan Radović „*Kondor*“ sent a written proposal to Yugoslav Army General Dragoljub „*Draž*“ M. Mihailović (1893-1946) for formation of special intelligence service on March 1st, 1943. In late 1943, Mihailović decided to form a special intelligence organization, which he named „*In-the-field Secret Service*“ (abbreviation: *TETAC*; i.e. *Теренска Тајна Служба*).

²³⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Четнички покрет*. For Serbian people it is a common name for the Yugoslav Army in the Fatherland [*Југословенска војска у отаџбини*].

²³⁸ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Национални институт за геополитичке студије*. This kind of Institute, should have been composed of, at least, six basic complementary scientific units: *Department of Geopolitics*, *Department of History* (with sections for *Historical geography* and *Historical cartography*), *Department of Archeology*, *Department of Linguistic* (with sections for *Linguistic*, *Paleonto-linguistic* and *Slavistics*), *Department of Anthropology*, and *Department of DNA genealogy* (with sections for *Molecular history* and

tance, more important is its purpose). The second institution should be some kind of „Fund for Serbian Cultural and Historical Heritage“²³⁹ (*again, name is not relevant*). This Fund and the, above mentioned, Institute, would have to serve as some other national institutions worldwide, for example, Great Britain (*Great Britain, Department of National Heritage*), Russia (*Центр Национальной Славы России*), Austria (*Bundesdenkmalamt*), Sweden (*Riksantikvarieämbetet*), Poland (*Narodowy Instytut Dziedzictwa*) and Germany (*Deutsche Stiftung Denkmalschutz*).

Moreover, they should encompass a much broader range of scientific activities, because of the threat to cultural and historical heritage that Serbs (*as a small nation*) face in the 21st century.

In present times, nations defend themselves by strengthening the intellectual base of society, as much as by strengthening their own defense forces.

The quest for truth has never been an incitement for inter-ethnic hatred (*which is not inherent in the Serbian people*), though this hypothesis is often attributed to Serbs by the propaganda machinery of the Anglo-Saxon world.

The truth is there to show the moral path to escape from the problem that Serbs, as a nation, face today.

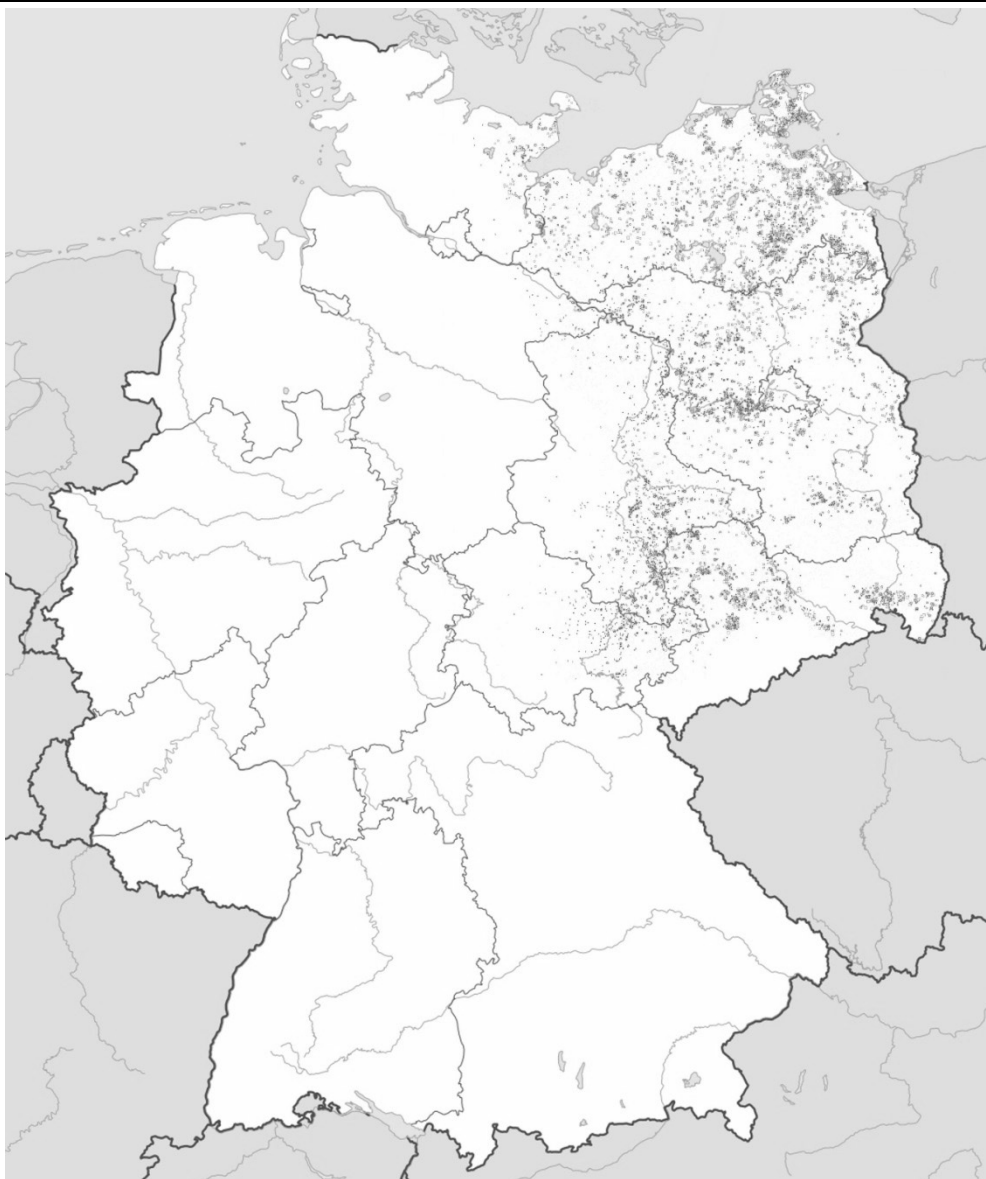
Gathering knowledge and learning from the best (*regardless of their geographical, racial or religious background*) must be one of the priorities of Serbia, which means that it should continually follow the achievements of all those well-organized nations derived from the Germanic peoples.

It is indisputable that only historical truth creates a solid precondition for victory in the field of struggle for national consolidation, that is, only it enables us to impartially and realistically view the present geopolitical position of the Serbs as a nation.

From all of the above, it is clear that history, tradition and culture can directly help to shape national consciousness of the young Serbs, despite the continued global pressure of the Germanic nations from the West (*though in the bipolar world of the 21st century their power and influence are increasingly declining*).

Molecular archeology). Although I immediately (*back in 2013*), supported this progressive national project (*the formation of the Institute*) I would like to emphasize that I am not its conceptual creator, because this merit belongs to the Serbian sociologist and geopolitician Dr. Ljubisa Despotovic (1962-). However, my idea was to create a separate Fund (*linked to the Serbian Diaspora*), as a national institution, which would base its programmatic work upon the Institute's activities. Also, my suggestion was to include a scientific project called „*Serborum hereditas culturalis et historica*“ [*Cultural and Historical Heritage of the Serbs*] in the work of the Institute, which would organize translation into Serbian and then publishing of all foreign historical sources that are relevant to Serbian national history.

²³⁹ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Фонд сербског културно-историјског наслеђа*.

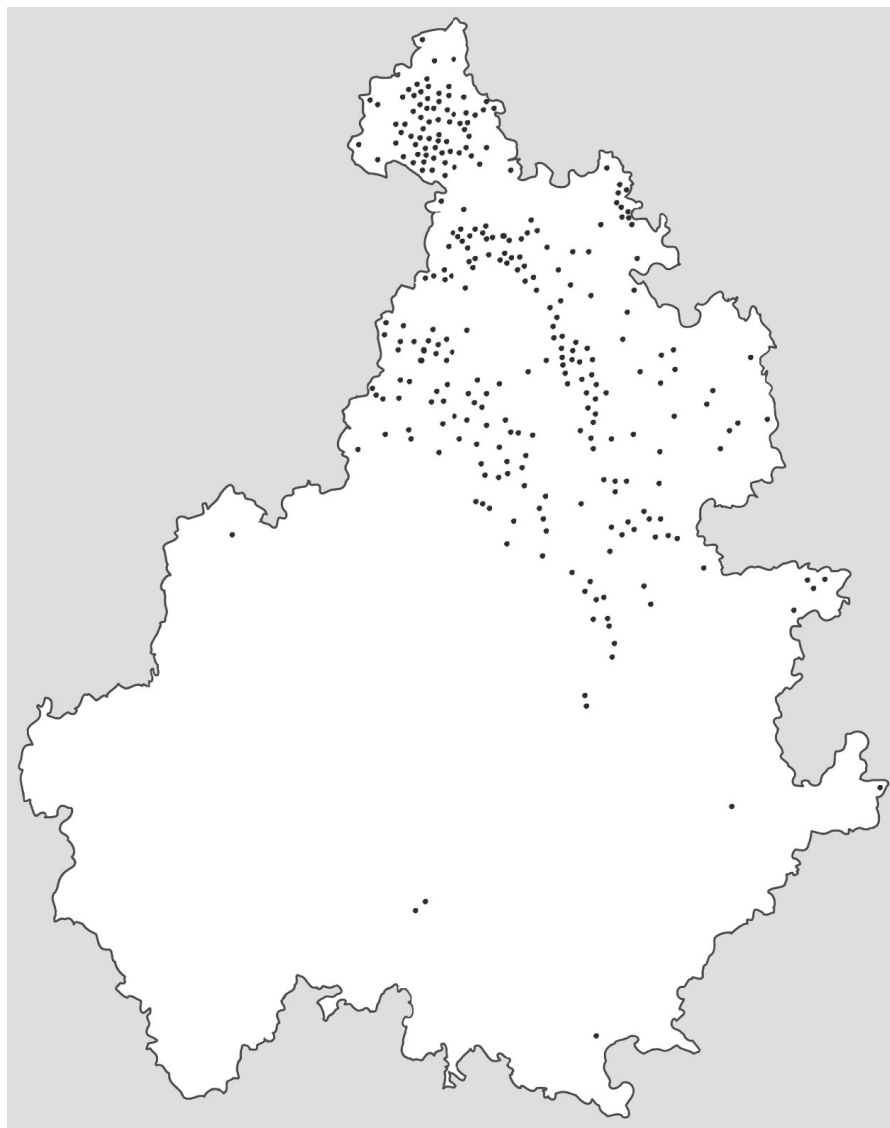


GERMANIA SLAVICA

Archaeological sites of the Serbian people on the territory of modern Germany.
[the illustration is based on a map published in 1985 by the German historian Dr. Herrmann]

NOTE 1

Joachim Herrmann (1932-2010): „DIE SLAWEN IN DEUTSCHLAND: Geschichte und Kultur der slawischen Stämme westlich von Oder und Neiße vom 6. bis 12. Jahrhundert“ [THE SLAVS IN GERMANY: History and culture of the Slavic tribes west of Oder and Neisse from the 6th to the 12th century], Band 14 [Volume 14] / Name of map: „Die Slawen in Deutschland“ [The Slavs in Germany] (Berlin: Zentralinstitut für Alte Geschichte und Archäologie der Akademie der Wissenschaften der DDR, 1985).

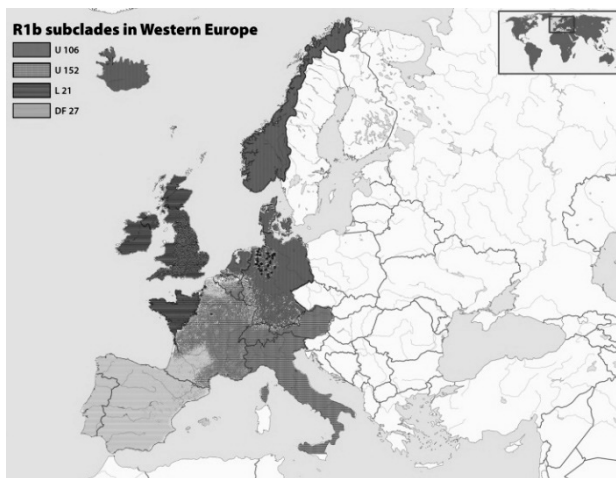


THURINGIA SLAVICA
[the old Serbian settlements in Thuringia, Federal Republic of Germany]



limes Sorabicus

[this was de facto the ethnic border between the Germanic peoples and the Serbs in the 9th century]



Empire of the R1b haplogrup (Y-DNA) in Europe

[area with high concentration of haplogroup characteristic of the Celts and the Germanic peoples]

NOTE 2

First illustration shows the border of the Serbian frontier (Latin: *limes Sorabicus*), while the second one shows the border of dominance of Celto-Germanic haplogroup R1b (with marked stretch of major branches) in Europe. This boundary is almost exactly the same (a minor deviation is visible only to the north in the zone of the first devastating breakthroughs of the Saxons) with a defensive line established between the Germanic peoples and the Serbs at the beginning of the 9th century by Frankish Emperor Charles the Great. Border of the Serbian limes (on the first illustration) is made on the basis of the map »*Słowiańszczyzna zachodnia i Germania w VI-IX wieku po nar. Chr.*« [Slavic West and Germania from 6th to 9th centuries after Christ] (Map: № 6), which in the book „*PRAHISTORIA ZIEM POLSKICH: Słowiańszczyzna pierwotna. Początki polskiej Kultury i organizacji*“ [PREHISTORY OF POLISH LANDS: Ancient Slavs. The Beginnings of Polish Culture and Organization] (Warszawa: E. Wende i SKA, 1918, the map between pages 88 and 89) published by Polish historian Włodzimierz Andrzej Franciszek Ksawery Dzwonkowski (1880-1954).



Title of coin: **dinar**²⁴⁰

Ruler who minted the coin: **Jaxa of Köpenick**²⁴¹ (c. 1125 - c. 1176)

Title of the ruler: **Voivode of the Serbian tribe of Sprevani**²⁴² (reigned: before 1150 - c. 1176) and **Knyaz of the Serbian tribe of Hevelli [i.e. Stodoran]** (reigned: 1151-1157)

Minted time: c. 1156

Weight of the coin: **0.82g**

Text on the coin (revers): **+ IACZA DE COPNIC**

Description of the coin (*revers*): **Portrait of a Serbian Voivode in knight's armour (perhaps a chain mail or scale mail combined with plate armour), with a shield in his right hand and a flag in the background while holding a palm branch (a symbol of warrior glory) in his left hand.**

Language: **Latin**

Alphabet: **Latin script**

Inventory number: **18201100**

Place of storage: **Coin Cabinet of the Bode Museum / Berlin State Museums**²⁴³ (Berlin, Federal Republic of Germany)

²⁴⁰ Latin: *denarius*.

²⁴¹ „Jaksa was probably a Lusatian Wend or Sorb« – Ivor Norman Richard Davies / Roger Moorhouse: „MICROCOSM: A Portrait of a Central European City“ (London: Jonathan Cape, 2002, p. 87). Gerard Labùda: „Jaksa z Kopanicy – Jaksa z Miechowa“ [Jaxa of Köpenick – Jaksa of Miechów], *Polski słownik biograficzny [Polish Biographical Dictionary]*, Tom X [Volume 10] (Wrocław: Zakład Narodowy im. Ossolińskich - Wydawnictwo Polskiej Akademii Nauk, 1962-1964, pp. 339-341).

²⁴² Sprevan Voivodeship of Kopanica (*Sprevan Duchy of Kopanica*).

²⁴³ German: *Münzkabinett im Bode-Museum / Staatliche Museen zu Berlin*.



Two orders of the Serbian crown of the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg with gryphons.

NOTE 3

The Serbian Obodriten Knyaz (a direct descendant of the first known Obodriten knyazes Niklot and his son Pribislav) Frederick Francis II [Friedrich Franz II] (1823-1883), Grand Voivode of Mecklenburg-Schwerin [Großherzog von Mecklenburg-Schwerin] (reigned: 1842-1883), i.e. and his cousin Frederick William II [Friedrich Wilhelm II] (1819-1904), Grand Voivode of Mecklenburg-Strelitz [Großherzog von Mecklenburg-Strelitz] (reigned: 1860-1904) they established on May 12th, 1864 prestigious „Order of the Serbian Crown of the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg“ [Lower Sorbian: *Rědy Serbskeje krony wjelikowojwodow Mecklenburgskeje*], which the Germans call Orden der Wendischen Krone der Großherzöge von Mecklenburg, or summarized Orden der Wendischen Krone / Hausorden der Wendischen Krone. The Order (left) with a motto »Per aspera ad astra« [Through hardships to the stars], was intended for Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin [Großherzogtum Mecklenburg-Schwerin], while the other one (right) bore a motto »Avito viret honore« [He flourishes with hereditary honours] and was slated for the adjacent Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Strelitz [Großherzogtum Mecklenburg-Strelitz]. About the Serbs' connections with the play »gryphon« as a heraldic symbol, please look at the scientific paper „A Contribution to the History of the Serbs and Slavs“²⁴⁴ (2018).

Serbian architect and self-proclaimed heraldist Dragomir M. Acović²⁴⁵ (1943-) in his book „СЛАВА И ЧАСТ: Одликовања међу Србима - Срби међу одликовањима“ [GLORY AND HONOR: Decorations among Serbs - Serbs among decorations] (Београд: Службени гласник, 2013) on pages 249, 263 and 279 forges the name of this order, calling it the wrong – »Order of the Vandalic Crown«.

²⁴⁴ Petar B. Bogunović [Петар Б. Богуновић]: „Appendix ad Historiam Serborum et Slavorum“ [A Contribution to the History of the Serbs and Slavs] (pp. 159-188), Часопис „Култура полиса“ [Journal „The Culture of Polis“], Број 39 [№ 39] (Нови Сад: Култура - Полис & Институт за европске студије – Београд, 2019, pp. 176-177).

²⁴⁵ Acović graduated from the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Belgrade and is the owner of the Belgrade architectural studio »Grifon« [Gryphon]. He practices heraldry unprofessionally (from a hobby), through his private heraldic association (founded in 1991 in Belgrade), which he calls himself „White Eagle“.

APPENDIX

The anti-Slavicism was not only part of the official chauvinist policy of the Germanic states (*the consequences of which are the topic of this work*), as it captured much deeper roots in Germanic social elites by entering the discourse of the Anglo-Saxon Philosopher's School. The best example of this is what German philosophers Georg Hegel²⁴⁶ (1770-1831) and Frederick Engels²⁴⁷ (1820-1895) used to say. Thus the famous Hegel advocated the terms »*historical peoples*« [geschichtlichen Völkern] and »*non-historical peoples*« [geschichtslosen Völkern], where he included the Slavs in these other (nations without history), while unlike him, Engels showed a much greater degree of pathological hatred of the Slovenes, and even derided the Southern Slavs derisively as »*residual fragments of peoples*« [Völkerabfälle²⁴⁸] and »*ruined fragments of peoples*« [Völkerruinen²⁴⁹].²⁵⁰ Both scholars undoubtedly emphasized the intellectual superiority of the Germans over the Slovenes (*Hegel classified the Serbs as »broken barbarian remains«*²⁵¹), justifying attempts at their violent Germanization. The aforementioned Germanic view of the Slavs, and therefore of the Serbs, began as early as the 19th century (*after the Congress of Berlin 1878*), rooting in the Serbian political and intellectual quasi-elite. This auto-chauvinist phenomenon (*with its admixtures of German-Romanticism*²⁵²), gained momentum with the development of

²⁴⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Георг Вилхелм Фридрих Хегел; German: Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel.

²⁴⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): Фридрих Енгелс; German: Friedrich Engels.

²⁴⁸ »*about the Southern Slavs, whom he described as 'residual fragments of peoples'«* – Marcel van der Linden [editor] / Karl Heinz Roth [editor]: „BEYOND MARX: Theorising the Global Labour Relations of the Twenty-First Century“ (Boston [MA, USA]: Brill, 2013, p. 303).

²⁴⁹ »*Die österreichischen Slawen als „Völkerruinen“«* [Austrian Slavs as „ruins of the people“] – Ernst Hanisch: „DER KRANKE MANN AN DER DONAU: Marx und Engels über Österreich“ [THE SICK MAN ON THE DANUBE: Marx and Engels on Austria] (Wien: Europaverlag, 1978, p. 169).

²⁵⁰ »*Peoples which have never had a history of their own, which from the time when they achieved the first, most elementary stage of civilization already came under foreign sway, or which were forced to attain the first stage of civilization only by means of a foreign yoke, are not viable and will never be able to achieve any kind of independence. And that has been the fate of the Austrian Slavs.*« – Karl Heinrich Marx: „The Political Writings“ (New York City [NY, USA]: Verso Books, 2019, p. 225).

²⁵¹ »*gebrochene barbarische Reste*« – Georg W. F. Hegel [autor] / Eduard Gans [editor]: „Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel's Vorlesungen über die Philosophie der Geschichte“ [Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel's Lectures on the Philosophy of History], Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel's Werke [Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel's Works], Band 9 [Volume 9] (Berlin: Verlag Duncker und Humblot, 1840, p. 425).

²⁵² German-Romanticism is a socio-pathological phenomenon, which is always associated with the non-Germanic people, and most often with the Slavs. Namely, this anonymous term refers in contemporary historical science to the uncritical, extremely condescending and defeatist attitude of scientists (*historians, archaeologists, linguists, etc.*) towards the conclusions (*about the history of Eurasia*) found in the scientific material of Germanic (*usually Anglo-Saxon*) historiographies. By this we mean taking for granted (*without thorough scientific verification*) anything that comes from the Anglo-Saxon School of History. It is particularly noticeable that this phenomenon in Slavs is justified (*directly*) related to auto-chauvinism, and its direct consequence is the creation of pseudo-history (*in the educational systems of Slavic states and peoples*). This pseudo-history is so shaped that it always overtly or covertly celebrates and exaggerates Germanic historical heritage, and it does diminish and belittle the Slavic cultural and historical tradition. To prevent any doubt from the scientific public on what is being served to them as an »*ready made meal*«, the German Romantists (*people who uncritically propagate Germanic theories in history, archeology, linguistics, anthropology, genetics, etc.*) argue that their »*historical truth*« is a kind of a »*sacred cow*«, i.e. that no one else is allowed to discuss it critically (*except, of course, themselves*). Such a one-dimensional view of historical science is not scientific, it's pseudoscientific. That is, a long-term Anglo-Saxon geopolitical project aimed at the Slavic scientific community. Also, germanophiliacs (*this expression originated from the term Germanophilia, which defines pathological love for the Germanic people, that is, for their culture, traditions and history, by members of the non-Germanic people*) is a mocking expression for the German Romantists, which by its form plastically defines and emphasizes this phenomenon as a sick state of human consciousness. In accor-

the chaos called »Yugoslavism« (1918-2003) and »communism« (1944-1990), which have intellectually crippled the present-day Republic of Serbia and Republika Srpska, leading to negative selection, which will only begin to bear its worst fruit in recent years (*above all, in the field of science, education and information*).

This phenomenon could be described by a Serbian saying: »When the water is muddy, the dregs will come up to the surface!«²⁵³.

All of the above is also reflected in history, or rather its interpretation. Namely, the attitude of the people towards their own identity is often reflected in their relation to their own past, which is why older history, and especially recent history, is the focus of contemporary Anglo-Saxon West politics. It is for this reason that control of the media is the main form of Anglo-Saxon activity in the field of history.

John Swinton²⁵⁴ (1829-1901), a well-known New York journalist (*late 19th century*) uttered a few words about contemporary journalism at a New York banquet: »There is no such a thing in America as an independent press, unless it is out in country towns. You are all slaves. You know it, and I know it. There is not one of you who dares to express an honest opinion. If you expressed it, you would know beforehand that it would never appear in print. I am paid \$150 for keeping honest opinions out of the paper I am connected with. Others of you are paid similar salaries for doing similar things. If I should allow honest opinions to be printed in one issue of my paper, I would be like Othello before twenty-four hours: my occupation would be gone. The man who would be so foolish as to write honest opinions would be out on the street hunting for another job. The business of a New York journalist is to distort the truth, to lie outright, to pervert, to villify, to fawn at the feet of Mammon, and to sell his country and his race for his daily bread, or for what is about the same — his salary. You know this, and I know it; and what foolery to be toasting an "Independent Press"! We are the tools and vassals of rich men behind the scenes. We are jumping-jacks. They pull the string and we dance. Our time, our talents, our lives, our possibilities, are all the property of other men. We are intellectual prostitutes.«²⁵⁵

The same conclusions can be applied to the vast majority of today's historians, since their unwillingness to deal with vague and inaccurate records of (*some*) historical events is a classic example of »scientists« following the (*wrong*) imposed historical patterns without any critical reference to the same.

At the very end of this paper, I would like to point out that historians should (*for the sake of basic professional ethics*) at least adhere to some of the words uttered by Russian Imperial general Lavr G. Kornilov²⁵⁶ (1870-1918), which have entered the Russian officer's code of honor²⁵⁷.

In my free translation, the general's words would look something like this: »SOUL - to God, HEART - to a woman, DUTY [LIFE] - to Fatherland, HONOR - to no one!«^{258 259}.

dance with the herein given definition, I would like to point out that it should not by no means mix two terms – Germanophile (*a person who loves German history, culture, tradition, language, etc.*) on the one hand, with the other which represents an expression for social-pathogenic behavior defined by the term – the German Romanticist.

²⁵³ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Када се вода замути, талог се дигне на површину.*

²⁵⁴ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Дон Свинтон.*

²⁵⁵ Edwin J. Schellhous: „The new republic“ (New York City [NY, USA]: United States Book Company, 1883, pp. 122-123). Richard Owen Boyer / Herbert Montfort Morais: „Labor! Untold Story“ (New York City [NY, USA]: Cameron Associates, 1955, p. 81).

²⁵⁶ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Лавр Георгијевич Корнилов*; Russian: *Лавр Георгиевич Корнилов*; English: *Lavr Georgiyevich Kornilov*. Lavr Kornilov was a Russian military intelligence officer and imperial general (*general of the infantry*).

²⁵⁷ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Кодекс части руских официра*; Russian: *Кодекс чести русского офицера*.

²⁵⁸ Serbian (Cyrillic script): *Душа – Богу, срце – жени, дуг [живот] – отаџбини, част – никоме!*; Russian: *Душа – Богу, сердце – женщине, долг [жизнь] – Отчеству, честь – никому!*. Description: »Your

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 - Case №: IT-05-87/1-T (*Prosecutor v. Vlastimir Đorđević*); Accused Name: *Vlastimir Đorđević* (Cyrillic: *Властимир Ђорђевић*); Document description: *Trial Judgement*; Date: *Wednesday, February 23rd, 2011*.

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soul belongs to God, your heart to a woman, your duty [i.e. life] to the Fatherland, but your honor...sell your honor to no one!«.

²⁵⁹ Сергей Темирбулатович Баймухаметов [*Sergey Temirbulatovich Baimukhametov*]: „*Ложь и правда русской истории*“ [*Lies and Truth of Russian History*] (Москва: *Издательская группа „Эксмо*“, 2005, p. 394).

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СТАЛНИ РАТ: Германи и Срби

Сажетак: Овај чланак тежи да баца нешто више светлости на историјске догађаје, који су обележили односе Германа и Срба од раног средњег века до данашњих дана. Сам избор чињеница, и њихов краћи приказ у овом раду, није нимало случајан, јер он има за циљ да код читаоца створи што реалнију слику културно-политичког сукоба германских народа и Срба, тј. корпуса славенских народа који су после 7. века настали издвајањем од њих (*у почетку природном, а касније и веиштакком етногенезом*). Њихове цивилизацијске разлике и супротне геополитичке тежње, неће се помирити у догледној будућности, и зато једино можемо говорити о различитом интензитету ових сукоба, али свакако не и о њиховом заустављању. Из података, који се овде износе, може се тачно видети дубина и праве размере овог вековног сукоба (*који буквалном смислу, никада није ни прекидан*). Управо из наведених разлога, разумевање суштине односа Германа и Срба кроз историју, може да нас доведе до стварања много јаснијег погледа на садашњи геополитички положај Срба, као и на њихову перспективу у будућност.

Кључне речи: Срби, Славени, Германи, Србски лимес, гроф и војвода Србске границе