
REVIEWS

Harald Heppner, Goran Vasin, Nenad Ninković (eds.), *The Habsburg State-wide and the Regions in the Southern Danube Basin (16th–20th Centuries)*, Vienna: New Academic Press, 2021, 258 pp.

If one looks through a book containing articles examining the history of the Habsburg Empire, one would certainly find a variety of topics related to the period of time between the sixteenth and twentieth centuries. This particular collection of fourteen articles and one essay was published in Vienna in 2020 by New Academic Press, and was edited by Harald Heppner of the University of Graz, Nenad Ninković of the University of Novi Sad, and Goran Vasin, also of the University of Novi Sad. In the introduction, the editors explain how unique the Habsburg state was throughout the Empire from Vienna to the Danube and Sava rivers. The collection focuses on the relationship between the ruling elements (in the capital city of Vienna) and the areas along these rivers (the peripheries). The majority of studies deal with topics related to the eighteenth century, since the circumstances that arose after the Ottoman wars served as a catalyst for transformation in the areas acquired by the empire. Up until the outbreak of World War I, this process encompassed convergence, distance, and resistance.

The first article, 'The Struggle for Commonness in the Habsburg Monarchy 1718–1918. An introduction' (pp. 9–19), written by Harald Heppner, deals with commonality and commonness in the Habsburg state between the eighteenth and twentieth centuries. The author defines commonness as the result of the willingness of men and women within the Habsburg Monarchy to come together and cooperate in furtherance of a common destiny. The article points out three categories of the social base (supporters, receivers, and enemies), remarks on periodizing the subject, and reflects on the motivations produced from foreign and domestic affairs. It focuses additionally on the material world and psychological impacts.

The second article, by Nenad Lemajić of the University of Novi Sad is 'The Influence of the Habsburgs as Kings in Hungary on the Situation in Srem between 1526 and 1537' (pp. 19–25). Srem's location on the frontier south of the formal Kingdom of Hungary and north of the Ottoman Empire led not only to specific economic and political relations, but also to the significant influence from these general processes. This complex situation developed at the time when the first Habsburg kings began ruling Hungary. It was then that Hungary was exposed to strong military pressure from the Ottoman state, which began with the fall of Belgrade in 1521 and culminated with the Battle of Mohács in 1526. Intense waves of migration from the Balkan region affected Srem. At the same time, the feudal military and social structures in Hungary collapsed, which the Habsburgs as Hungarian kings were not able to control. In 1537, Ferdinand's military campaign in Slavonia became a catastrophe after the withdrawal from Osijek, when the army was destroyed at the Battle of Gorjani. After that, relations between the central authorities and the population of Srem, which had been firmly integrated into the Ottoman system for 150 years, was interrupted.

The third article, 'The Rise of a New Center on the Periphery of the Empire through the Influence of the Archbishops of Karlovci 1690–1790' (pp. 25–45), by Nenad Ninković is a compilation and an excellent overview of the history of the Archbishops of Karlovci from 1690 to 1790. The author focuses on their political, theological and educational activity at the southern border of the Habsburg Monarchy. By granting Serbs privileges, Emperor Leopold I, the Serbs received religious freedoms almost equal to those of Catholics, which formed a foundation from which to build a strong Orthodox Church. The Church quickly took a leading role among the Serbs since they were not among the nobility in the Habsburg Monarchy, and the middle class was beginning to emerge. Up until the end of the eighteenth century, the hierarchy

lead by the archbishops of Karlovci, was the most influential among the Serbs. Ninković's article examines how the influence of the archbishops of Karlovci expanded and the extent to which they influenced the Serbian political development. In addition, it demonstrates that changes introduced by Vienna were accepted by Church and spread among Orthodox believers. It also points out attempts by the archbishops to become the leaders of the Serbian people in the Habsburg Empire (*caput nationis*).

The next article is by Vladan Gavrilović, whose paper 'Migrations of Serbian People to the Province of Srem during the Austro-Turkish War 1737-1739' (pp. 45-57) examines Serbian migration from Serbia to Srem during the Austro-Turkish War of 1737-1739, which firmly established the border between the Habsburg Monarchy and the Ottoman Empire along the Sava and Danube rivers. The Serbs, who had provided significant assistance to the Habsburg Imperial Army during its initial incursions into central and southern (Old) Serbia, were forced to migrate, as they done in 1690, following the defeat and collapse of the Imperial units. After the fall of Belgrade in 1739, many traders and craftsmen, who were Germans, Armenians, and Aromanians, as well as Serbs, also retreated and settled in the urban centers of Srem.

Sabine Jesner's paper, 'Making and Shaping a New Province. The Habsburg Banat and the Personnel Issue (1718-1753)' (pp. 57-71) deals with how the Viennese Court managed to transform the former Ottoman Eyalet of Temeswar into a Habsburg province after the 1718 Peace Treaty of Passarowitz (Požarevac) in. The change in rule was marked by a newly introduced style of administration in the incorporated province, which was built on civil and military components. This paper offers insights into Habsburg personnel management in the Banat. Jesner's paper also focuses on identifying vocational fields and the various measures implemented by the new Habsburg administration in this new province at the edge of the Monarchy.

The paper by Boro Bronza from the University of Banja Luka, 'The Evolution of the Border Region around the Una River as a Province throughout the Second Half of the 18th Century'

(pp. 71-83) is about issues in the eighteenth century that involved the line of demarcation between Austria and the Ottoman Empire at the Military Frontier in Banija. During the second half of eighteenth century, the region along the Una River at the border between Habsburg and Ottoman Empire, became an area of dramatic transformation. Significantly shaped by the outcome of previous wars between ancient enemies, the region modernized through both militarization and immigration. The causes of the war and how it unfolded between 1788 and 1791 only further underlined these aspects of regional evolution, which, resulted in the creation at the end of eighteenth century of firm structures to underly a future province that was particularly connected to Zagreb through various aspects of development.

The paper by Isidora Točanac Radović, 'The Influence of the Center on the Provinces in the Eighteenth Century: The Abolition of the Orthodox Holidays in the Habsburg Monarchy' (pp. 83-99) looks at three stages of reforming the Orthodox Church calendar between 1769 and 1786. It gives insight into how church reforms initiated by Maria Theresa affected the ecclesiastical calendar. During the 1770s, many religious holidays observed as non-working days by the Roman Catholic and the Orthodox population were abolished. One of the reasons for abolishing these religious holidays was to increase the number of working days to extend the working year.

The next article, 'The Local Elite in Central Government Service: Banat Military Frontier Officers in the Eighteenth Century' (pp. 99-123) by Jelena Ilić Mandić of the Institute of History Belgrade is about the Society of the Habsburg Monarchy Military Frontier, which was dependent on proper military organization and its members fulfilling their obligations. The paper deals with the role of the central government, which was represented in the Hofkriegsrat in Vienna, in army cadre (re)structuring at the Banat Military Frontier. The author addresses the central government's assignment and disposition of frontier officers and how they were regarded in Vienna. Their dual role as representatives in local society and as government servants gradually changed, with the latter becoming more prominent over time.

The article 'The 'Serbian Athens' on the Periphery of Hungary: Novi Sad in the 18th and 19th Centuries' (pp. 123–139) by Branko Bešlin of the University of Novi Sad is about how the city of Novi Sad became the Serbian cultural and economic center of the Serbs in Southern Hungary in the second half of the eighteenth and the first half of the nineteenth centuries. The author analysis how geographic factors and their interrelationship with historical circumstances explains why the city emerged relatively late. The paper also highlights some peculiarities concerning Novi Sad's further economic, social, and urban development to explain how a provincial city in the Habsburg Monarchy grew into one of the largest urban centers in Serbia and the Pannonian Basin.

The paper by Hrvoje Petrić of the University of Zagreb, 'On the Lower Sava and Drava Rivers at the End of the Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries' (pp. 139–173), discusses some aspects of the interrelationship of humans and the Sava and Drava rivers at during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. The main emphases are on hydro-regulation and flooding. Even though river regulation is, at first glance, a proper way to prevent damage from floods, it is clear that people lose advantages associated with living in harmony with the river and nature in general. In this article, the author sought to question some aspects of the relationship between the people and Sava and Drava rivers in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

The paper by Daniela Haarmann, 'The Role of the Museum Between the Center and Periphery in the Early 19th Century' (pp. 173–197) analyses the power struggles between the Viennese Cabinet (center) and the Styrian National Museum (Joanneum) and the first excavation campaigns in Dalmatia (both as peripheries). The paper demonstrates in four sections the thesis that the 'periphery' is mainly defined and created by the perspective of the center. Moreover, it contributes to the research of historic museology by emphasizing the political power of these institutions and their actors.

The article by Drago Roksandić of the University of Zagreb, 'Truths' in Karlovac in 1848 (According to the Personal Diary of Dragolja

Jarnević)' (pp. 197–221) is a very unusual paper about the Karlovac commoner Dragolja Jarnević (1812–1875), who was one of the few woman among the literati of Croatian Illyrism. Her way of life and the values she advocated for and practiced also anticipated the gender awakening of women in Croatia during the nineteenth century. She kept a personal diary from 1833 to 1873, which was published as a critical edition in 2000 and has been an object of research ever since. This article focuses on the political culture of everyday life in Karlovac in 1848 as she experienced it. She recorded her impressions of the figures around her and the phenomena of everyday life in a unique and critical way. Dragolja Jarnević's diary proves a unique historical source for the history of small-town culture and mentalities in the Habsburg Monarchy.

The next paper by Dejan Mikavica, 'Literature and Politics. Serbian Liberal in Southern Hungary 1860–1878' (pp. 221–231), is about the formation of the first Serbian political parties in Southern Hungary in the second half of the nineteenth century. With the development of civil society and the rising number of educated people, competitors to the Church appeared, who were the predecessors of political parties. These parties played an increasingly important role in Serbian society. The first party, founded by Svetozar Miletić, had a liberal–civic direction. The period between 1860 and 1878 was marked by a gradual decline in the influence of the Church and the rise to power of liberal politicians.

The paper by Goran Vasin of the University of Novi Sad, 'Anticlericalism and Liberalism of the Serbian Political Elite in the Habsburg Monarchy in the 1870s' (pp. 231–249) is about anticlerical politics among the Serbian political elite in the second half of the nineteenth century. Anticlericalism became an important feature of Serbian social life in the Habsburg Monarchy. Pertinent to liberal principles and often inspired by Protestant ethics and national ideology, Svetozar Miletić and the liberals consciously confronted the hierarchy of the Serbian Church. In the second half of the nineteenth century, all bishops in the Metropolitane of Karlovci were elected under direct influence of the state. The Bishop of Buda, Arsenije Stojković, and the radical Bishop of Vršac, Gavriilo

Zmejanović were significant examples. Thus, a decades-long struggle turned into a race for influence and funds, while actual influence on schools and enlightenment faded. It therefore came as no surprise that most Serbian representatives were elected from lists presented by Hungarian political parties.

The book ends with the essay 'Musical Representations of the South East in the Habsburg Monarchy' (pp. 249–257) by Harald Haslmayr. Based on musical examples, this article attempts to gain knowledge of the history of mentality from musical works of Austria's music past that refer to the region of South Eastern Europe using the methodological central question 'Can sounds be historical sources'? In order to escape this dilemma two publications are presented in the essay of Haslmayr ('We and Passarowitz. 300 Years of Impact on Europe', and the second that was published as an essay in the programme of the 'Arabella' premiere on February 9th 2008 at the Opera of Graz). The author through the guidance of these two mentioned publications explains how the reader can look on these music pieces from Joseph Haydn and Johann Strauss as historical sources.

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Duško M. Kovačević, *History of Foreign Policy in the Russian Empire 1801–1917*. Belgrade: Zavod za udžbenike, 2019, 623 pp.

(Duško M. Kovačević, *Istorija spoljne politike Ruske imperije 1801–1917*. Beograd: Zavod za udžbenike, 2019, 623 str. (Serbian Cyrillic))

The theory of the long nineteenth century as an overture to the drastic changes in the map of Europe that occurred after the Great War is of

relevance to the history of the Russian Empire. The path to the modern era and the new society and polity was full of challenges for the Great Powers of the nineteenth century. Dynamic transformations within states and struggles for a leading position in the politics of colonization through endless wars exhausted the strength and sustainability of certain socio-political systems. Issues of equal importance included either a social or national crisis to which they were unable to respond, or a series of wars that culminated in the devastating Great War. One of these two issues is dealt with in this monograph by Duško M. Kovačević. In this book about the Russian Empire in the nineteenth century, the author exposes military and diplomatic relations with European countries led by the government that were focused on expanding the empire's borders and maintaining Russian influence in its areas of interest. When becoming familiar with the circumstances of the nineteenth century, a question is also raised regarding how much influence foreign policy had in sustaining Russian autocracy (Russian: *самодержавие*).

This monograph is the culmination of historical research into the Russian Empire's foreign policy and Serbian–Russian relations in the nineteenth century. The author's long and exhaustive research of documents of Russian and Serbian provenance has resulted in numerous monographs and journal articles. Among other things, the author has examined Serbian–Russian relations from the Congress of Berlin up until 1899 and Russia's relationship with the Radical Party and King Milan.¹ Out of an aspiration to shed light on the complex processes of Russian foreign policy in the last decades of the nineteenth century, the author has produced an extensive body of work on the evolution of Russia's foreign policy after the Crimean War and the period of conservatism in Russian foreign policy, and how this was reflected in its influence in the Balkans.² Research into

¹ These include Kovačević (M) D. (2015), *Russia, Radicals and King Milan (1881–1899)*, *Spomenica istorijskog arhiva 'Srem'*, 14, 13–25; Kovačević, D. L.J. Kuzmičova (1996), *Annual Report by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Empire on Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (1878–1903)*, Novi Sad: SANU ogranak u Novom Sadu.

² These include Kovačević (M) D. (2003), *Serbia and Russia 1878–1889: From the Congress of Berlin to the Abdication of King Milan*, Beograd: Istorijski institut; Kovačević (M) D. (2012), *Russia in International Relations 1856–1894: From the Crimean War to the Alliance with France*, Beograd: Službeni glasnik.