



Post-
Yugoslav
Space as
'Antipode'
of (East-
Central)
Europe

FORMER YUGOSLAV FEDERATION





<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdS9M7oSVOg&t=1895s>


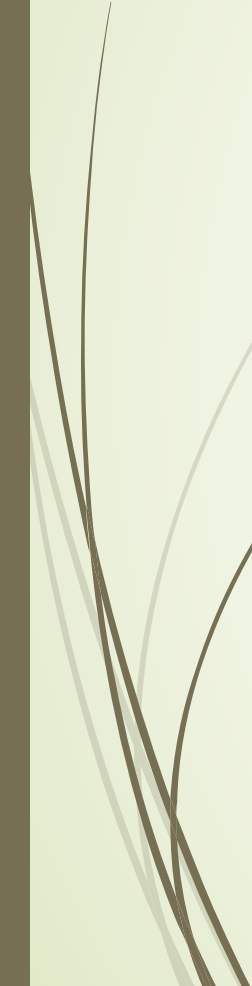
- ▶ **Socialist YU dissolution** in the beginning of the 1990s introduced **wars of YU succession (Ramet) and instability** in the region
- ▶ With **economic and social crisis** that was then coupled with **major political problems**, former **YU broke and almost decade-long ethnic conflicts** followed
- ▶ **Autocratic regimes, failed economy, nationalist discourses, and wars** added to the region being viewed in extremely negative terms
- ▶ Hence, **former YU space was/has been (?) mostly associated with brutality and instability**, thus essentially representing an **antipode** to '(civilized) Europe'



- Post-conflict transformation, democratization, and transition of the region has seen **the countries in the Western Balkans move towards EU and NATO** since 2000
- “The EU has developed a policy to support the gradual integration of the Western Balkan countries with the Union. On **1 July 2013, Croatia** became the first of the seven countries to join, and **Montenegro, Serbia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania are official candidates**. Accession negotiations and chapters have been opened with **Montenegro and Serbia**. **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (which submitted its membership application in early 2016) and **Kosovo are potential candidate countries.... The EU aims to promote peace, stability and economic development** in the Western Balkans and open up the prospect of **EU integration.**” (EU)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfclZepWJYk>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h13_AA3KsPU

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- However, while process of **Europeanization** has indeed in many ways seen the **countries** of the region **transformed**, there are **still many issues** to tackle in this regard
 - **Political instabilities** coupled with **institutional fragility** and **economic underperformance**, **organized crime** networks and **systemic corruption**, **statehood issues** and (at times very **problematic**) **regional relations**, just to **name the few**, have all remained to plague the region
 - Additionally, **EU's approach** has been **problematic ('stabilitocracy')** in this respect as well: *Has Europeanization of the region stalled lately? Has the EU met 'its match' in reforming the Western Balkans? Finally, does EU really want the region (given the domestic issues that Brussels has been facing for quite some time now)?*
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nl7GK1S4FN8>
 - <https://europeanwesternbalkans.com/2017/12/01/reverse-trend-stabilitocracy-promotion/>

➤ <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/display.asp?K=9781847693242>

➤ “Since 1989, Europe’s eastern rim has been in constant flux. **This collection focuses on how political and economic transformations have triggered redefinitions of cultural identity.** Using discursive modes of identity construction (deconstruction, reconstruction, reformulation, and invention) the book focuses on the creation of opposition to **old and new 'outsiders' and 'insiders' in Europe.**”

