

## **Formation and delimitation of the Bosnian Serbs' ethno-national identity vis-à-vis Bosniaks in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

### **Abstract:**

The aim of this bachelor thesis is to examine the concept of ethno-national identity of Bosnian Serbs in Bosnia and Herzegovina, from the Dayton Agreement in 1995 to the present. The work seeks to synthesize and integrate the prior research works from the area of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is done through a method of systematic review in order to serve as a basis for subsequent research on the current issues. In addition to the basic cultural and ethnic elements defining the Bosnian Serb nation, it is found that the "ethnically cleansed" area of the Republika Srpska plays an important role in self-determination. Exclusive and inclusive elements of a nationalist nature are also examined, which within Bosnia and Herzegovina are mainly produced by institutions that thus strengthen national identity and nationalize society. They are thus central to the formation and delimitation of the ethno-nation of Bosnian Serbs in contrast to other constitutive nations, especially Bosniaks. From the studied articles, it was found that one of the essential elements of the ethno-nation is the Serbian Cyrillic and a certain symbol also represents the whole territory of the Republika Srpska. The authors focused mainly on the strongly nationalist territory or the capital, Sarajevo, which occupies a special position in defining the ethno-nation.

**Key words:** Bosnia and Hercegovina, ethnicity, ethno-nation, nationalism, Republika Srpska, Serbs, systematic review