Since the time when Serbia was one of the six republics of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRJ), the country has been through very difficult cultural, political and ideological challenges and changes. While the dominant socialist ideology in former Yugoslavia, organized around Tito’s idea of “brotherhood and unity”, helped to pacify and diminish differences between various ethnic and religious groups, Serbian society during the period of the Milošević regime has deployed different ideological patterns characterized by national pride, territorial integrity, and the policy of “all Serbs in one country” politics. These ideas were brought together under the banner of securing national and cultural identity, as well as territorial integrity.

When discussing dominant political discourses, contemporary societies in the Western Balkans are characterized as societies „in transition“, moving from socialism to capitalism and liberal democracy which is often equated with the path to the European Union. If we’re to discuss the new geopolitics of Western Balkans, we cannot avoid discussing the nationalism and it’s own rigid framework formed during the eighties and all the consequent mutations thereof. The direct corelation between nationalism as an ideology and it’s applications either through policy or actions of relevant actors is something that has been forming not just the public space in Serbia for the past thirty years, it has been forming the geopolitical space as well.

My research topic will be concerning the question of the mechanisms which are used by the political and social elites in order to transfer the ideology of nationalism to nationalism as praxis, and what are the goals of the ruling elite(both cultural and political) that are attempted to be achieved, and whether they are ideological or practical in nature.