

**Proposed Topic:****"Assessment of Multinational Federalism in Bosnia and Herzegovina"****Registered in SIS: Yes Date of registration: 21.10.2011****Topic Characteristics:**

This research proposal will basically refer to functionality of federal values that lead to a federal political culture in the example of Bosnia and Herzegovina after the Dayton Peace Agreement signed in 1995 by focusing on the federal model that has been applied with Constitution, as a part of the said agreement. Hence, it will show to what extent the conflict that had led to the Bosnian War of 1992-1995 was resolved by implementing a federal model and constitution in 1995 and if so, what is the role of federalism in it.

I have chosen the way of assessing multinational federalism in Bosnia and Herzegovina to evaluate federal system in post-war period in order to have a better perspective to observe the ability of federal state to enhance Bosnia as a unity. Today Bosnian Serbs, Bosnian Croats and Bosniaks constitute the main national identities, in Republika Srpska and in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, two constituent entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Republika Srpska, as it could be understood from the name- Serb Republic, is led by an administration representing a Serbian majority whereas Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), known as Muslim-Croat Federation is dominated by Bosnian Croats and Bosniaks (O'Shea, 1996). Within this multinational structure, federal model is undergoing difficult times but on the other hand it has been working for 15 years and with the prospective of joining international bodies such as European Union and NATO, it is expected to achieve keeping the will for living together for longer years. I will firstly elaborate on theory of multinational federalism and then looking at the historical facts what come out as today's complex issues. Then focus on the current administrative bodies and role of international organizations. Each part will be followed by discussions of the facts and their compatibility with principles of federalism.

**Hypotheses:**

1. Federalism cannot work without a stable democracy.
2. Multinational federalism is used to create diversity between people in Bosnia and Herzegovina
3. International intervention in Bosnian federal system leads to trigger the mistrust between nations.