Lecture 2

What is ‘political geography’? ‘Balkanization’, ‘domicide’, and other ‘keywords’

Political geography...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WHO</th>
<th>ethnically mobilized (ethno-national) groups in former Yugoslavia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT</td>
<td>territory, autonomy, independence, sovereignty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHERE</td>
<td>‘homelands’ and ‘borders’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHEN</td>
<td>end of Tito era and Communist collapse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOW</td>
<td>group identity, elite manipulation, militarization, ethnic cleansing, war and genocide, external assistance, postwar landscape icons and memorials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5 key concepts

Place - space is organized into places often thought of as bounded settings in which social relations and identities are constituted. Places can be formal, i.e. Colorado, or informal, such as a coffee shop.

Space - an abstract notion. Spaces are defined by the social meaning instilled on them by human actors. Example: our classroom.

Territory - a general term used to refer to a portion of space that is occupied by a political actor.

Scale - refers to one or more levels of representation, experience and organization of geographical events and processes

Network - linear linkages and connections within societies and economies.

scale
...keywords in geography

- Genocide
- Ethnic cleansing
- Domicide
- Consociationalism
- Refugee
- Internal Displacement
- Landscape
- Nation
- State
- Geopolitics
- Scale

spatialization + territorialization
Dead and missing

Humpty Dumpty geopolitics?

Ethnic composition before the war in BiH (1991)

Ethnic composition in 1998

- Croats - more than 66%
- Croats - 50-66%
- Croats - up to 50%
- Serbs - more than 66%
- Serbs - 50-65%
- Serbs - up to 50%
- Bosniaks - more than 66%
- Bosniaks - 50-65%
- Bosniaks - up to 50%
Consociational glue?

Illustrations

ESTIMATE OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS still seeking solutions in South-Eastern Europe
POST WAR QUESTIONS
1. Was it genocide? Who is responsible? Will the Hague provide justice?
2. Is ethnic cleansing a human rights violation?
3. Will semi-independent states like Republika Srpska survive?
4. Can ethnic relations be restored or are non-ethnic solutions preferable?
5. How will economic recovery proceed?
6. What are legacies of post-war landscapes and can they be de-ethnicized?