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## Indigenous National/Ethnic Minorities in the Alps-Adriatic-Pannonian Region, 1921–1938

The article deals with the problems of indigenous national/ethnic minorities in Alps-Adriatic-Pannonian region, which came into being as result of drawing of new state frontiers after World War I and dissolution of the Habsburg Monarchy. Characteristically for the Alps-Adriatic-Pannonian region are ethnically mixed areas settled by indigenous minorities. Some of them have their specific minority rights guaranteed on the basis of international agreements. This article intends to prove that these minorities had to cope with similar incomprehensible problems in the states where they lived as the minorities even today have to cope with. The states very often treated minorities as a disturbing factor, which needed to be eliminated as soon as possible. To achieve this, the states on the one hand neglected economic development in the regions, which were settled by minorities; and on the other hand, they tried to assimilate the ethnic/national minorities through administrative-political reforms and by not supporting the activities of specific minority organizations. Therefore, the minority population began to emigrate from the regions of their indigenous settlement. It is interesting to note that all of the above mentioned facts are also valid for today's era of a united Europe.

Keywords: Alps-Adriatic-Pannonian region, indigenous national/ethnic minorities, ethnic conflicts, ethnicity, nationalism

### *Avtohtone narodne/etnične manjšine v alpsko-jadransko-panonskem prostoru, 1921–1938*

*Prispevek obravnava problematiko avtohtonih narodnih/etničnih manjšin v alpsko-jadransko-panonskem prostoru, ki so nastale kot posledica oblikovanja novih državnih meja po prvi svetovni vojni in razpadu Avstro-Ogrske. Za alpsko-jadransko-panonski prostor je tudi danes značilna etnična pomešanost, poseljenost z avtohtonimi manjšinami, večina katerih ima specifične manjšinske pravice zagotovljene na podlagi mednarodnih pogodb. V nadaljevanju prispevka bo dokazano, da so se te manjšine spopadale s podobnimi problemi nerazumevanja njihovih potreb s strani držav, v katerih so živele, kot je to značilno tudi za današnje obdobje. Države so manjšine pogosto imele za moteč dejavnik, ki ga je potrebno čim prej in na takšen ali drugačen način odpraviti. S tem ciljem so na eni strani načrtno zapostavljale gospodarski razvoj z manjšinami poseljenih območij, na drugi pa so poskušale manjšine čim prej asimilirati tudi na podlagi upravno-političnih reform in neustreznega podpiranja specifičnih manjšinskih organizacij. Manjšinsko prebivalstvo se je zato začelo v vse večjem številu izseljevati z območij svoje avtohtone poselitve. Vse navedena dejstva veljajo tudi za današnje obdobje združene Evrope.*

*Ključne besede: alpsko-jadransko-panonski prostor, avtohtone narodne/etnične manjšine, mednacionalni konflikti, etničnost, nacionalizem*

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