Abstract

In connection with the commemorations of the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War it became clear that Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia had developed wildly different and conflicting interpretations of the causes, aims and consequence of the Great War. In Serbia the war is remembered both as an example of national suffering and of triumph on the side of the Allied forces, while in Bosnia, Croatia and Montenegro it is mainly understood as an example of tragic and futile sacrifice. When it is understood at all, that is. In the thesis, I have examined how and why these different collective memories have emerged in states that, until recently, have been part of a common Yugoslav state and a unified Yugoslav memory tradition concerning the Great War.