

## **Abstract**

Module “Appropriation and representation of public symbols in private spaces after 1945”

Starting from the premise that nation is an imagined community that constructs its perceptions of the past with regard to the present, this project deals with the case of Montenegro and its nationhood, especially with their visibility in the field of symbolic representation. Between 1945 and 1990 as a member republic of Yugoslav federation, Montenegro underwent the most crucial process of nation-state and identity building. To gain knowledge of these processes we will examine ordinary people’s recollections of national symbols they used and were familiar with in private spaces and what they meant to them during that period and what symbols are used now, after the independence of the country. The results will be compared with the official ideology to examine to which extent the aims of the political elite and the people correlated. We will analyze how the political decisions shape national symbols and, if and what kind of impacts these stimulated regarding nation-state and nation-building.

Vladimir Dulović