

Institutional Chronology of Nation Building

MONTENEGRO

Montenegro is the youngest independent country in the world, becoming independent (from the state union with Serbia) in June 2006. Montenegro had already been an internationally recognized independent state between 1878 and 1918. From the end of World War Two until 1992 it was one of the six constituent republics of the Federal Peoples' Republic of Yugoslavia, FNRJ (since 1963 called Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, SFRY), between 1992 and 2003 one of the two (the other being Serbia) components of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and from 2003 until independence of the loose state union "Serbia and Montenegro".

1. Census-related Issues (after 1945)

In Montenegro, the *Zavod za statistiku Crne Gore* (Institute for Statistics, Montenegro – MONSTAT), which was established on May 15, 1909, is responsible of carrying out censuses and publishing their results.

In the post-war period, there were censuses in 1948, 1953, 1961, 1971, 1981, 1991, and 2003. The last census was the first separate Montenegrin one, while the others were all-Yugoslav ones.

Percentage for name-giving nation

In the Yugoslav and Montenegrin censuses, the name used for the constitutive people of Montenegro is *Crnogorci* (Montenegrins). There have been significant changes in their share of the total population, reflecting shifts in popular attitudes towards the interpretation of "Montenegrins" as an ethnic category or not. This is also reflected in the changes of the number of people, who identify themselves as "Serbs". These shifts are mainly due to changing patterns of identification and not to migratory movements.

	Montenegrins	Serbs
	<i>In % of the total population</i>	
1948	90.7	1.8
1953	86.6	3.3
1961	81.4	3.0
1971	67.6	7.5
1981	68.5	3.3
1991	61.9	9.3
2003	43.2	32.0

2. National History

2.1 Historical Institutes

The most important institution for historiography in Montenegro is the **Istorijski institut** (Historical Institute) in Podgorica established in 1948. The Institute publishes, together with the Association of Historians of Montenegro, the journal **Istorijski zapisi** (Historical Notes). The *Istorijski Zapisi* were continuing the historical journal *Zapisi*, which had appeared in the inter-war period in Cetinje until 1941.

Apart from the Historical Institute, some other academic institutions also contribute to the national narrative, though not in such a consistent way. These are the Institute for Geography and History, the Institute for Sociology, and the Institute for Language, all at the Faculty of Philosophy in the town of Nikšić, the "Petar Petrović Njegoš" Institute for Language and Literature in Podgorica and the Institute for Montenegrin Language and Linguistics.

The Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts (**Crnogorska Akademija Nauka i Umetnosti** <<http://www.canu.cg.yu>>) also has a historical department, which was, however, pro-Serbian in its national orientation and thus did not contribute to the creation of a Montenegrin national narrative. Opposed to the official Academy, the Doclean Academy of Sciences and Art (**Dukljanska Akademija Nauka i Umjetnosti**, DANU) was established as a non-governmental organisation in 1999. It included also some of the best-known Montenegrin historians. Since 2000, the DANU publishes the journal *Doclea*, which includes many contributions by historians

2.2 Historical Museums

The historical museums of national significance are located in Cetinje, the capital of the first independent Montenegrin state (until 1918).

The **Istorijski muzej Crne Gore** (Historical Museum of Montenegro) in Cetinje was opened to the public in 1989 and is the youngest unit of the National Museum of Montenegro, which is the organizational umbrella of the museums in Cetinje. For national history important as well are the **Biljarda-Muzej Petra II Petrovića Njegoša** (the Museum of Petar II Petrović Njegoš) in the former residence of prince-bishop Petrović Njegoš, and the **Muzej kralja Nikole** (King Nikola's Museum) in the former palace King Nikola, opened as a museum in 1926.

Aside from that, there are 18 local museums in Montenegro, usually also with historical departments.

2.3 Authoritative Publications for National History

- *Istorija Crne Gore* (History of Montenegro), 3 vols. Titograd (Podgorica), 1967, 1970, 1975.
- ŽIVKOVIĆ, Dragoje: *Istorija crnogorskog naroda* (History of the Montenegrin People), 3 vols. Cetinje 1989, 1992, 1998.
- ROTKOVIĆ, Radoslav: *Odakle su došli preci Crnogoraca* (Where did the Montenegrins come from). Cetinje 1995 (second edition: Cetinje 2000).
- ROTKOVIĆ, Radoslav: *Kratka ilustrovana istorija crnogorskog naroda*. Cetinje 1996.
- *Kratka istorija Crne Gore 1496–1918*, ed. Živko M. Andrijašević. Bar 2000.
- *Crnogorski istorijski rečnik* (Montenegrin Historical Dictionary), 4 vols., ed. Šerbo Rastoder et al. Podgorica 2006.

2.4 Associations

- *Istorisko društvo Crne Gore* (Historical Society of Montenegro) existed from 1948 to 1952. Its successor organization, the

- *Društvo istoričara Crne Gore* (Society of Historians of Montenegro) was founded in 1959. Together with the Institute for History it edits the historical journal "*Historijski zapisi*".

3. Folk Culture

There is no academic institute in Montenegro, working on the creation of a 'national' folk culture, neither is there an Ethnographic or Ethnological Institute.

3.1 Professional associations of ethnographers/folklorists

- *Odbor za etnologiju Crnogorske akademije nauka i umjetnosti* (Committee for ethnology of the Montenegrin Academy of Science and Arts), founded in Podgorica in 1973. The Committee has about forty members (mostly ethnologists, but some of the members come from neighboring disciplines).
- *Društvo etnologa Crne Gore* (Association of Ethnologists of Montenegro) was founded in Titograd by the ethnologist Jovan Vukmanović. The association still exists on paper, but stopped any substantial activities in 1985.

3.2 Periodicals

There are no ethnographic or ethnological periodicals in Montenegro, but some recent anthologies deal with Montenegrin folklore and culture:

- *Tradicionalna kultura u Crnoj Gori* (Traditional folk culture in Montenegro), ed. Montenegrin Academy of Science and Arts, Section of Social Sciences (= Anthology Papers, vol. 24). Podgorica 2000.
- *Selo u Crnoj Gori* (The Village in Montenegro), ed. Montenegrin Academy of Science and Arts and University of Montenegro. Podgorica 2004.
- *Etnologija grada u Crnoj Gori* (The Ethnology of the Town in Montenegro), ed. Montenegrin Academy of Science and Arts. Podgorica, in press.

3.3 Ethnographic Museums

In Cetinje the *Etnografski muzej* (Ethnographic Museum) operates since 1951. During the six decades of existence the museum had to change its location three times, and is now located in the building of the former Serbian Embassy. The Ethnographic Museum used to publish the journal "*Glasnik Etnografskog muzeja*" ("Herald of the Ethnographic Museum") from 1961 until 1964. After that, the journal continued as the "*Glasnik Cetinjskih muzeja*" ("Herald of the Museums in Cetinje", since 1968), but it appears rather occasionally than regularly.

3.4 NGOs for "folk culture"

- *Festa* established in 2000. It is of the FECC-a (Federation of European Carnival Towns).
- *Mrkojevići*, established 2004.
- *Orkestar Bokelji* in Herceg Novi.
- *Amatersko kulturno-umjetničko društvo "Mirko Srzentić"* (Nonprofessional Cultural-Artistical Association "Mirko Srzentić")

3.5 Major Recent Exhibitions

- *Od niti do tkanine* (From thread to textile), Cetinje, December 2004.
- *Crnogorka nosnja* (Montenegro national garb), Cetinje, July 2005.
- *Vez i nakit* (Embroidery and ornament), Podgorica, 2007.

3.6 Authoritative Publications about Folk Culture

The main recent publications about Montenegrin popular culture are either reprints of older works, such as of Vuk Karadžić or Jovan Cvijić, or translations of texts by foreign travelers or scientists, such as the two-volume "Ethnography of Montenegro" by the 19th century Russian historian Pavel A. Rovinski, edited in 1998. An important new domestic contribution is:

Tradicionalna narodna kultura u Crnoj Gori: radovi sa naučnog skupa. Podgorica, 7. i 8. decembra 1998, ed. Petar Vlahović. Podgorica 1998.

In the 1990s, the Montenegrin Academy of Science and Arts started the project of the *Enciklopedija Crne Gore* (Encyclopedia of Montenegro) but by now, only a preliminary volume has been published (in 1999).

4. National Language and its Standardization

4.1 Standardization Efforts

The name of the language is still a major issue in Montenegro. In the latest Constitution it is called Serbian language.¹ A new Constitution is being written at the moment, and one of hotly debated issues is the name of the language. The draft of the new constitution calls the official language "Montenegrin", which is opposed by the Serbian but also other parties, which propose different terminologies.

In the 2003 census, about 21 percent of the population of Montenegro declared "*Crnogorski*" (Montenegrin) as their mother tongue.

The official situation is ambivalent. Former prime-minister Milo Đukanović declared his open support for the formalization of the Montenegrin language by declaring himself a speaker of the Montenegrin language in an interview with the Belgrade daily *Politika* in October 2004. Official Montenegrin government communiqués are today given in *English and Montenegrin* on the government's webpage, and the native language version of the government webpage is called *Crnogorski*. The official web page of the President of Montenegro states that it is provided in a "Montenegrin-Serbian version" (*Crnogorsko-srpska verzija*). All these official websites use for their native language section the Latin alphabet and not the Cyrillic, which is the traditional alphabet of Serbian. In 2004 Ministry of Education changed the name of the language of instruction in all elementary and high schools from "Serbian" to "*Mother Tongue (Serbian, Montenegrin, Croatian, Bosnian)*".

Several intellectuals promote the standardization of a separate Montenegrin literary language, most notably the linguist Vojislav Nikčević. The non-governmental cultural-scientific institutions Doclean Academy of Science and Arts, Montenegrin PEN center, Matica Crnogorska (established at the beginning of the 1990s) also support this effort, as well as some individual members of the state-run Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts.

4.2 Institutes for the national language

- *Institut za crnogorski jezik i jezikoslovlje* (Institute for Montenegrin language and linguistics) in Cetinje supports the idea of a Montenegrin language. The Institute publishes books promoting the existence of Montenegrin, and in 2004 also organized an international conference on this topic ("*Norma i kvalifikacije crnogorskog jezika*", "Norm and Qualifications of the Montenegrin Language").
- In contrast, the *Institut za jezik i književnost «Petar II Petrović Njegoš»* at the Montenegrin Academy of Sciences and Arts supports the idea that the spoken idiom of the Montenegrins belongs to the Serbian language.

¹ Article 9 of the current constitution, adopted by the Montenegrin parliament in 1992, declares: "In Montenegro Serbian language of the iekavian dialect will be the official language. Cyrillic and Latin alphabets shall be deemed to be equal."

In May 2007, the "Petar II Petrović Njegoš" Institute for Language and Literature and the Institute for East European and Oriental Studies in Oslo jointly organized the conference "The Language Situation in Montenegro – Norm and Standardization", where many controversies erupted over the question of the existence of a Montenegrin language.

4.3 Major textbooks (grammar of the xy language, dictionary): titles, year of publication

- NIKČEVIĆ, Vojislav: *Crnogorski pravopis s rječnikom* (Montenegrin Orthography with Dictionary). Podgorica 1997.
- NIKČEVIĆ, Vojislav: *Crnogorska gramatika* (Montenegrin Grammar). Cetinje 2001
- NIKČEVIĆ, Vojislav: *Crnogorski jezik. Geneza, tipologija, razvoj, strukturne odlike, funkcije. Od artikulacije govora do 1360. godine* (The Montenegrin Language: Genesis, Typology, Development, Structural Differences, Functions. From the Articulation of the Idiom to 1360). 2 vols. Cetinje 1993 and 1997.

5. Arts and Nation-building

5.1 National Museums galleries, events and festivals

- *Narodni muzej Crne Gore* (National Museum of Montenegro) consists of Nikola's Museum (former State Museum), Art Museum, Historical Museum, Ethnographic Museum and the Museum of Petar II Petrović Njegoš, all in the town of Cetinje, as well as the birthplace of Petar II Petrović Njegoš, situated in the village of Njeguši, some twenty kilometers from Cetinje.

This complex of museums was officially founded in 1896, the year of enacting the Law on the Royal Montenegrin Library and Museum. It was called the General Museum of Montenegro (since Museums Cetinje, 1965), and was renamed National Museum of Montenegro in 1992.

- *Umjetnička galerija* (Art Gallery) was founded in Cetinje in 1950. In the beginning it operated within the State Library, and then independently from 1952 to 1963, when it was integrated with the other Cetinje museums. During the 1970s, the Art Gallery grew into the *Muzej umjetnosti Crne Gore* (Art Museum of Montenegro).

5.2 Main Art Events and Festivals

- *Ex – Yu Fest* (festival of movies from ex-Yugoslav countries), Podgorica
- *HAPS – Hercegovske aprilske pozorine svečanosti* (Herceg Novi April theater festivities), Herceg Novi
- *Internacionalni muzički festival «A Tempo»* (International music festival "A Tempo"), Podgorica
- *Internacionalni sajam knjiga* (International book fair), Podgorica
- *Decembarски dani kulture* (December days of culture), Podgorica
- *Podgoričko kulturno ljeto* (Podgorica's cultural summer), Podgorica
- *Tivatско kulturno ljeto* (Tivat's cultural summer), Tivat
- *Budva Grad teatar* (Budva – Theater Town), Budva
- *Barski ljetopis* (Bar's chronicle), Bar
- *Medjunarodni festival pozorišta za djecu* (International festival of theater for children), Kotor
- *FIAT Festival Internacionalnog Alternativnog Teatra* (FIAT – Festival of the International Alternative Theater), Podgorica
- *Hercegovski "Zimski salon"* (Herceg Novi "Winter salon"), Herceg Novi
- *Ratkovičevi dani poezije* (Ratković's Days of Poetry), Bijelo Polje
- *Cetinjsko bijenale* (Cetinje Biennale), Cetinje
- *Hercegovski filmski festival* (Herceg Novi Film Festival), Herceg Novi

- *Budva Music Festival*, Budva
- *Lastva festivities*, Lastovo, Tivat.
This manifestation is held in August, and consists mainly of performances of music and dance.
- *International festival of tambourine orchestras*, Bijelo Polje
- *International festival of folklore*, Cetinje
- *International festival of clapper music*, Kotor
- *Susreti pod starom masliom* (Meetings under the Old olive tree), Bar. Presentations of books and collections of poetry of children's writers, fine art and literary works on the topic "Olive, peace, friendship".
- *Entrance – festival elektronske muzike* (Entrance – Festival of Electronic Music), Rose, Herceg Novi

Tourist and Other Festivals:

- *Podgorički Maraton* (Podgorica's Ultra Marathon), Podgorica
- *Vrela zima u brdima* (Hot Winter in the Hills), Kolašin, Zabljak, Nikšić, Rožaje, Berane, Cetinje.
Tourist manifestation with lots of culturally-artistic and entertaining events.
- *Dan Svetog Tripuna* (St. Tripun's Day), Kotor.
The festivities in the glory of the protector of the town, Sveti Tripun, begin at the end of January, and end on first days of February. According to the organizers and participants, they can be traced back to 9th century.
- *Festival mimoze* (Mimosas Festival), Herceg Novi, Tivat, Kotor.
Tourist attraction consisting of numerous fiestas, a big carnival, majorettes, as well as the traveling caravan of mimosas.
- *Kotorski karneval* (Kotor Carnival), Kotor.
Traditional masked ball, introspection of majorettes, children's carnival, promotion of local cuisine, carnival concerts.
- *Bokeška noć* (Boka Night), Tivat, Kotor.
Significant fiesta which from year to year offers various programs, whose goal is the preservation of the rich tradition of Boka Kotorska.
- *Dani kamelije* (Days of Camellia), Stoliv, Kotor.
Local manifestation with program dominated by camellia and its arrangements. During the several days of events the exhibition of the arrangements, the Ball of camellia and the choice of the Lady of Camellia stand out, as well as the range of concerts.
- *Putevima Kralja Nikole* (On the Roads of King Nikola), Bar, Bijelo Polje.
The race is in the program of the international cycling organization and is ridden yearly through many cities in Montenegro.
- *Vladimirov krst* (Vladimir's cross), Bar.
In June Orthodox, Catholic and Muslim believers jointly carry Vladimir's Cross to the top of the mountain Rumia, where according to the legend, used to be the Church of the Saint Vladimir.
- *Dani Marka Miljanova* (Days of Marko Miljanov), Medun, Podgorica
- *Dani mladosti* (Day of Youth), Tivat.
Held on the 25th of May – the birthday of Josip Broz Tito. As a part of the program the Yugoslav anthem "*Hej Slaveni*" is being performed, and various cultural and entertaining programs, as well as some friendly football games are being carried out.
- *Dani Mrkojevića* (Days of Mrkojevici), Mrkojevici, Bar. Entertaining manifestation whose explicit goal is to introduce numerous visitors and tourists with the tradition, heritage and cultural identity of the Bar area.
- *Festival vina i ukljeve* (Festival of Wine and Bleak), Virpazar. Promotion of domestic vine growing, national cuisine and "cultural values of Crmnica and Virpazar area".

5.3 National associations of artists

- *Udruženje kompozitora* (Society of Composers), established in 1969. Registered as a NGO in 2000.
- *Udruženje likovnih umjetnika Crne Gore* (Society of Fine Artists of Montenegro), established in Cetinje 1946.
- *Udruženje samoukih slikara i vajara Crne Gore* (Society of Self-educated Painters and Sculptors of Montenegro) founded in Cetinje in 1974. In 1976 it was renamed in *Udruženje Izvornih Likovnih Umjetnika Crne Gore* (Society of Native Fine Artists of Montenegro).
- *Udruženje dramskih umjetnika* (Society of Theater Artists) established in Cetinje in 1946.
- *Crnogorsko društvo teatrologa i pozorišnih kritičara* (Montenegrin Society of Theater Scholars and Critics).

6. Official (State-sponsored) Religion

In 1993, the *Montenegrin Orthodox Church* was re-established in Cetinje as separated from the Serbian Orthodox Church, under which jurisdiction the orthodox parishes of Montenegro have been during the Yugoslav time (since a royal decree in 1920). The Montenegrin Orthodox Church claims to be the sole legitimate Eastern Orthodox Church on the territory of Montenegro and also lays claim to many Serbian Orthodox churches, monasteries and chapels in Montenegro. It is, though, not canonically recognized, neither by the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople nor by other Orthodox churches (except of some obscure, self-proclaimed ones). Also in Montenegro itself, the presence of the Serb Orthodox Church is prevailing. In 1997, the government registered the Montenegrin Orthodox Church as a NGO. In 2007, the church re-constituted its Holy Synod, which proclaimed its autocephalous status in its first decree. In the ongoing debate about the new Montenegrin Constitution, the status of the Montenegrin and Serbian Orthodox Churches in Montenegro is also discussed.

Apart from the unrecognized Montenegrin Orthodox Church, the other important church organizations in Montenegro are: Serbian Orthodox Church, Catholic Church, and Islamic Community. State and church are separated in Montenegro.²

7. National Symbols

7.1 National Holidays

- July 13: *Dan državnosti* (Day of state): it commemorated the anti-fascist rebellion on July 13, 1941, as well as the peace treaty of Berlin, concluded on July 13, 1878, when Montenegro was recognized as a sovereign state. Until 2006, July 13 celebrations were only in honor of the Montenegrin anti-fascist uprising.
- May 21, *Dan nezavisnosti* (Day of Independence): day of the referendum in 2006, when a majority of the electorate voted for independence, thus restoring Montenegrin independence.

7.2 National Emblems

The Government of Montenegro established the new national flag July 12, 2004. The design of the flag is based on a historical flag from the period of the Montenegrin Crnojevići dynasty

² See article 11 of the present constitution on religion: "The Orthodox Church, Islamic religious community, the Roman Catholic Church and other faiths shall be separate from the state. All the faiths shall be deemed to be equal and free in the performance of their religious rites and affairs."

of the 15th century. The coat of arms was installed at the same time. It shows the former coat of arm of king Nikola, the last ruler of independent Montenegro before it was joined with the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes after World War One. The national anthem is "Oj, svijetla maza zoro" ("Oh, you bright dawn in May"), declared official anthem in 2005. Its music is based on a popular Montenegrin folk song and its lyrics were composed by Sekula Drljević in 1937.



Left:
Montenegrin national flag



Right:
Coat of Arms of Montenegro.

8. Finalized (Achieved) or Pending Membership to Main International Organizations

- **UN** member since June 2006
- **OSCE** member since June 2006
- **Council of Europe** member (as the 47th member state) since May 2007.
- **The Bologna Education Treaty**: The then union-state of Serbia and Montenegro signed the Bologna treaty in 2003. It will be fully implemented until 2010.
- **EU**, current status: Montenegro has signed the Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA) in March 2007, and is currently in negotiations for the status of candidate country.
- **NATO**: Montenegro participates in the Partnership for Peace Program since December 2006.
- **World Trade Organization**: Montenegro is an Observer Government and seeks full membership.

9. Other "National" Institutions and Associations

9.1 Sport Organizations

- The *Montenegrin Olympic Committee* consists of 32 national sport associations with 750 registered sport societies. It was created in 2006 and accepted by the International Olympic Committee in 2007.
<<http://www.cokcg.org/>>
- *Auto-motor Federation of Montenegro* was founded in 1946.
- *Vaterpolo i plivački savez Crne Gore* (Waterpolo and Swimming Federation of Montenegro) was established in 1947.
- *Fudbalski savez Crne Gore –FSCG* (Football Federation of Montenegro) was established in Titograd (Podgorica) in 1948. The FSCG became member of UEFA on January 26, 2007.

- *Atletski savez Crne Gore* (Athletic Federation of Montenegro) was founded in 1948.
- *Odbojkaški savez Crne Gore* (Handball Federation of Montenegro) was established in 1949.
- *Savez sportsko-ribolovnih organizacija Crne Gore* (Federation of Sport-fishing Organisations of Montenegro) was established in 1951.
- *Košarkaski savez Crne Gore* (Basketball Federation of Montenegro) was founded in 1955.
- *Rukometni savez Crne Gore* (Handball Federation of Montenegro) was established in 1958.
- *Sahovski savez Crne Gore* (Chess Federation of Montenegro) was founded in 1949.
- *Jedrilicarski savez Crne Gore* (Sailing Federation of Montenegro) was founded in 1948.
- *Bokserski savez Crne Gore* (Boxing Federation of Montenegro) was founded in 1952.
- *Karate Federation of Montenegro* was founded in 1952.
- *Džudo savez Crne Gore* (Judo Federation of Montenegro) was founded in 1961.
- *Teniski savez Crne Gore* (Tennis Federation of Montenegro) was founded in 1976.
- *Gimnastički savez Crne Gore* (Gymnastic Federation of Montenegro) was founded in 1990.
- *Biciklistički savez Crne Gore* (Bicyclers' Federation of Montenegro) was founded in 1994.
- *Crnogorski Skijaški savez* (Montenegrin Skiing Federation) was established in 1994.
- *Kik-bokserski savez Crne Gore* (Kick-boxing Federation of Montenegro) was founded in 1996, etc.

9.2 Main NGOs

There were 3,454 registered NGO organizations in Montenegro in 2006. The most important one, from the point of view of a nation-building role, are:

- *Crnogorski helsinski komitet za ljudska prava* (Montenegrin Helsinki Committee for Human Rights), established in October 1994. The Committee is engaged in the protection of the multi-ethnic, multi-cultural and multi-religious character of Montenegrin Society.
- *Fondacija Institut za otvoreno društvo Crne Gore* (Foundation Institute for Open Society – Montenegro) established 2002, as successor institution of the Institute for Open Society in Podgorica.
- *Crnogorski P.E.N. centar* (Montenegrin P.E.N. centre), founded in 1991.
- *Centar za demokratiju i ljudska prava – CEDEM* (Centre for Democracy and Human Rights), established in 1997.
- *Centar za gradjansko obrazovanje* (Centre for Civil Education) established 2002.