

Abstract

In this research I want to explore the discourse of national identity that led to independence of Montenegro, which I do not see as coherent and omnipresent, but rather as ambiguous, strongly opposed and still struggling with other narratives and feelings of belonging. I want to understand uncertainties – what objects, practices or, stories can not be determined uniformly, but in interplay and relation with multiple national narrations. I want to examine how people without the power to intervene on institutional levels marked and categorized themselves and neighboring others. It is not clear who “we” are, nor who are “they.” At least, this question solicits multiple answers. People in Montenegro have lived in the midst of various national discourses, and their active role can be found in the choices they make and in the effort to make their actions and beliefs meaningful. I want to analyze how they do it, what is the logic of their choices and what meanings they ascribe to terms “Montenegrin”, “Serbian”, “our”, etc. I will do one-year fieldwork in Podgorica, Kolašin, and Tivat.