

46. South-Eastern Europe

= region of great ethnic diversity

= *Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Yugoslavia, Macedonia* = former communist Yugoslavia together with Slovenia (leader: general Tito)

= *Albania* – the poorest country of Europe

= *Romania, Bulgaria* – they will join the EU in the future (2008-2010)

Croatia

Capital: Zagreb

Population: 4.5 million

GDP/capita (2001): 4,800 USD

= crescent-shaped country, border rivers Sava and Drava + Dinaric Alps, independence in 1991

Regions: *Slavonia and Dalmatia*

- after the war with the Serbs and Bosnians => many historic towns/cities were destroyed, but Croatian economy was quick to recover ⇔ *tourism*
- long coastline with hundreds of bays, islands and beaches => famous tourist destination nowadays especially for people from CZ, SK, H, BiH, I, D
- other large cities: Osijek, Rijeka, Pula, Zadar, Šibenik, Split, Dubrovnik



Bosnia and Herzegovina

Capital: Sarajevo

Population: 4.2 million

GDP/capita (2001): 2,500 USD

- independent in 1992, mixture of Muslim Bosnians, Catholic Croats and Orthodox Serbs => tension between these ethnics => civil war => many thousands of people were killed
- *ethnic cleansing* = removing or “cleansing” of Muslims and Croats from areas they inhabited alongside Serbs => thousands of non-Serbs were murdered => many refugees in Germany, Italy, Sweden and Turkey
- other cities: Mostar, Visoko, Banja Luka, Tuzla



Yugoslavia

Capital: Belgrade

Population: 10.6 million

GDP/capita (2001): 3,000 USD

= Serbia and Montenegro (since 2002), industrial heartland of former Yugoslavia (engineering, food and textile industries)

= reserves of coal and hydro-electricity from the Danube river, Balkan mts.

- >60% of the people are Serbs, Hungarians in Vojvodina
- *bribery and mafias*
- variety of languages (+ Cyrillic script and Latin alphabet)
- famous gastronomy (cevapcici, raznjici)
- other cities: Novi Sad, Priština, Podgorica



Macedonia

Capital: Skopje

Population: 2 million

GDP/capita (2001): 1,200 USD

- poor country => many emigrants, no access to the sea, historically linked to Greece
- tension between Macedonian Slavs and ethnic Albanians
- cultivation of fruit crops and industrial crops, e.g. rice, cotton + tobacco
- location determines the import of machinery, fuel and manufactured goods
- *seismic zone* => plenty of earthquakes



Albania

Capital: Tirana

Population: 3 million

GDP/capita (2001): 900 USD

= the poorest country of Europe

- rugged relief was ruled by Ottoman Turks, during the 20th century ruled by a fascist king and communist dictator => *corruption and economic collapse* in 1997



Keywords

ethnic diversity, communist Yugoslavia, Sava, Drava, Dinaric alps, Slavonia, Dalmatia, Muslim Bosnians, Catholic Croats and Orthodox Serbs, civil war, ethnic cleansing, refugees, Montenegro, Vojvodina, industrial heartland, bribery, gastronomy, Macedonian Slavs and ethnic Albanians, industrial crops