

Reading #1 page 4 → NATO military intervention in Yugoslavia controversial b/c NATO was formed as a collective security/defensive alliance against the Soviet spread of communism in Europe

Bosnia
1992-1995

"ethnic cleansing"
of Serbian controlled areas

→ NATO involved in Serbian civil war & UN peacekeeping operations

Kosovo
1998-1999

NATO bombing campaign of Serbia

→ accused of deliberately targeting civilians
→ admitted to some mistakes, counter claim that Serbs using civilians to protect their troops

→ KLA revenge attacks on defeated Serbs in Kosovo

→ NATO peacekeeping & return of refugees

Serbia — defence of national argument

dangers of ethnic nationalism
"exclusive nationalism"
based on national hatreds

the narrative that Kosovo Serbs were being victimized by Albanians / perception throughout Serbia that Kosovo Serbs were being brutally victimized

allegations of epidemics of rape in media — indep. committee of Serbian lawyers & human rights experts found the incidence of rape in Kosovo signif. lower than in other regions of Yugoslavia

1981-87 only 5 inter-ethnic murders — 2 Serbs killed by Albanians & 3 Albanians killed by Serbs

expulsions of Kosovo Serbs by Albanians described as a "genocide" & a call for the expansion of a Greater Serbia

MUSLIM KOSOVO ALBANIANS
→ narrative that Serbs the victim of ongoing injustices/activities
JUSTIFIED HORRIFIC ACTS

1988 — strip Kosovo of its autonomy

→ control of local police, courts, military to Serbia
→ dictate social policy & deem an official language

Kosovo has been an equal partner in Yugoslav Federation since 1974 Constitution

JUSTIFIED significance pg. 92

→ righteous justification necessary to initiate and maintain violence
→ collective violence motivated by the perpetrators responding to what they see as injustice (pg. 93)

→ misdirected justice

"a moralistic pursuit of justice"

→ the role of victim & offender is reversed

→ a "tragedizing of history" in which "every aspect of Serbian history was seen as another example of persecution & victimization at the hands of external negative forces"

— the USES & ABUSES of HISTORY

top of page 95

violence as pre-emptive or defensive actions

→ individuals & territories increasingly defined along ethnic lines

→ the events in Bosnia one of the darkest chapters in the 20th century

→ ethnic cleansing

→ systematic rape

→ ruthless shelling of Sarajevo

→ brutal civilian deaths

→ shelling of Bosnian Muslim men & boys at Srebrenica
"UN safe zone"