Making Muslim Women European

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This book is a thorough revision and translation of the doctoral dissertation I defended at the University of Bologna and at the EHESS (École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris) in 2011. It has benefitted greatly from the help and support of many people. First of all, I wish to thank my supervisor Armando Pitassio, who generously gave me an initiation in the history of Southeastern Europe and continued to accompany me throughout the adventure of my doctorate, always pushing me to follow my curiosity. I will never be able to thank Nathalie Clayer enough, my second supervisor and now amazing colleague and friend. She gave me the warmest welcome possible when I arrived in Paris for a six-month stay, and in the end I never left. She taught me how to critically address Balkan Muslim studies and pushed me in the broad ocean of the social sciences. I am also especially indebted to Alexandre “Sacha” Popovic, pioneer in Balkan studies who, with his book L’Islam balkanique, sparked my interest for this field when I was 24 and thus changed the trajectory of my life. I feel blessed to have spent several years in his warm company in Paris.

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Figure 1: Postcard depicting Banja Luka, circa 1910. 