History of Yugoslavia

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Chronology

About 1800–1918 South Slavic Movement and the founding of Yugoslavia

1804–1813 First Serb Uprising against the Ottoman Empire
1809–1813 Founding of the “Illyrian Provinces” along the north and east coasts of the Adriatic Sea by Napoleon Bonaparte; harmonization of administration and standardization of the “Slavonic language”
1814 Creation of the Kingdom of Illyria as successor state to Illyrian Provinces after the territory’s repossession by Austria-Hungary; existence until 1849
1815–1817 Second Serb Uprising
1830 Founding of the Illyrian Movement by Ljudevit Gaj (promoting the idea of South Slavic cultural unity); autonomy of the Principality of Serbia
1835 *Novine Horvatze* (Croatian news) and *Danicza* (Morning star), publications advancing the cause of the Illyrian Movement
1844 *Načertanije* (The plan) by Serbian statesman Ilija Garašanin propagating the idea of expanding Serbia’s borders and influence
1848/1849 Hungarian Revolution against the rule of the Austrian Habsburg monarchy
1849 Founding of Croatia-Slavonia as a crown land within the Habsburg monarchy; appointment of Baron Josip Jelačić as governor (Ban)
1850 Vienna (Literary) Agreement on a standardized Serbo-Croatian language based on the Štokavian dialect
1860 *Jugoslovjenstvo*, a manifesto by the Croat historian Franjo Rački on Yugoslavism
1866 Founding of the Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts in Zagreb by Bishop Josip Juraj Strossmayer and Franjo Rački
1868 Croatian-Hungarian Settlement (Nagodba) between Hungary and the Triune Kingdom of Croatia, Slavonia, and Dalmatia
1875–1878  Great Eastern Crisis; Russo-Turkish War
1878  Congress of Berlin; occupation of Bosnia-Herzegovina by Austria-Hungary; independence of Serbia and Montenegro; Kosovo and Macedonia remain in the Ottoman Empire; Slovenian and Croatian territories remain part of the Habsburg Monarchy (Slovenia, Dalmatia, Istria under Austrian rule; Croatia and Vojvodina under Hungarian); emergence of the Albanian national movement (League of Prizren)

1881  Abolishment of the Military Frontier
1882  Principality of Serbia becomes the Kingdom of Serbia
1889  Five hundredth anniversary of the historic Battle of Kosovo (28 June)

1892  Birth of Josip Broz in Kumrovec (Croatia)
1893  Founding of the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization

1903  Murder of Serbian king Aleksandar Obrenović; election of Peter I. Karadjordjević as his successor; Ilinden Uprising of Macedonians against the Ottoman Empire; “People’s Movement” and mass protests against the Hungarian governor in Croatia

1905  Resolution of Fiume calling for Croatian self-rule and general civil rights and liberties; Serb–Croat party coalition in Croatia; “New Course” in Serb–Croat cooperation

1906–1911  Austro-Hungarian customs war against Serbia (“Pig War”)

1908  Annexation of Bosnia-Herzegovina by Austria-Hungary; Bosnian annexation crisis; partition of Sandžak between Serbia and Montenegro; founding of the Serb National Defense (Narodna odbrana)

1909  First pan-Yugoslav conference of South Slavic socialists
1911  Founding of the Black Hand
1912  Founding of the Balkan League by Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Montenegro to liberate “European Turkey”; First Balkan War (against the Ottoman Empire); founding of Albania

1913  Demise of the Balkan League due to conflicts over the partition of Macedonia; Second Balkan War (between the former allies); Treaty of Bucharest; annexation of Kosovo by Serbia and the partition of Macedonia between Greece, Serbia, and Bulgaria

1914  Assassination of Austrian crown prince Franz Ferdinand in Sarajevo by Gavrilo Princip; Austro-Hungarian declaration of war on Serbia; July Crisis and the outbreak of the First World War; Austrian invasion into Serbia
1915  Retreat of the Serbian government and army through Albania to Corfu (“Albanian Golgotha”); occupation of Serbia and Macedonia by the Central Powers; founding of the Yugoslav Committee in London, headed by Ante Trumbić

1917  Corfu Declaration; agreement between the Croat-led Yugoslav Committee and the Serbian government on the founding of a South Slavic kingdom under the Karadjordjević dynasty

1918  Allied breakthrough on the Salonica Front; surrender of Austria-Hungary; founding of the National Council of Slovenes, Croats, and Serbs; secession of South Slavs from the Habsburg monarchy and resolution to unify with Serbia

1918–1941  The First Yugoslavia

1918  Proclamation creating the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes (SHS) by King Peter I. Karadjordjević

1919–1920  Paris Peace Treaties; international recognition of the Kingdom of SHS and the demarcation of its borders; founding of the Free State of Fiume by Gabriele d’Annunzio

1920  Popular referendum in Carinthia; creation of the Little Entente with Czechoslovakia and Romania as part of the French security system; introduction of universal male suffrage; elections to the constitutional assembly; founding and outlawing of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia

1921  Passage of the centralist Vidovdan Constitution despite Croat boycott; intensification of the Serb-Croat constitutional conflict

1924  Third Party Congress of the CPY with a focus on the national question (recognition of different Yugoslav peoples/nations)

1925  Treaty of Nettuno on the demarcation of Italy’s borders

1928  Assassination in the Skupština (National Assembly) of the Croatian Peasant Party politician Stjepan Radić; government crisis

1929  Suspension of the constitution by King Alexander Karadjordjević; declaration of a royal dictatorship; renaming of the SHS state to “Kingdom of Yugoslavia”; administrative reorganization into banovine; founding of the Croat Ustasha movement

1930  Intensification of the Great Depression’s impact on Yugoslavia

1931  Constitutional octroi and the introduction of a sham democratic system

1934  Assassination of King Alexander I in Marseille; regency of Paul Karadjordjević
Chronology

1935  Election of the semiauthoritarian Milan Stojadinović as prime minister; abatement of Great Depression; state intervention in the economy; rapprochement with Germany and Italy

1936  Liquidation of farmers’ debts

1937  Failure of the Concordat with the Vatican

1939  Tito’s official appointment to the position of CPY General Secretary; Serb-Croat Settlement (Sporazum) to create the autonomous Banovina of Croatia

1941–1945  The Second World War

1941  Entry of Yugoslavia into the Tripartite Pact; military coup in Belgrade; German attack on Yugoslavia (Operation Retribution); surrender of Yugoslav army; flight into exile of the king and his government; dissolution of Yugoslavia; founding of the Independent State of Croatia (under Ante Pavelić); German military government in Serbia (Milan Nedić’s regime); annexation of various areas by Italy, Germany, Hungary, Albania, and Bulgaria; formation of a nationalist Serb resistance movement under Draža Mihailović (Chetniks) and the Yugoslav communist partisan movement under Josip Broz (Tito); “general insurrection”; the founding and fall of the partisan republic of Užice; extreme acts of “retribution” by occupational forces; massive “ethnic cleansing”; start of the extermination of Jews and Roma

1942  Battle of Sutjeska; first meeting of the Antifascist Council of the People’s Liberation of Yugoslavia Antifascist Council (AVNOJ) in Bihać

1943  Launching of Operation White and Operation Black by German military to combat partisans; Battle of Neretva; Italy’s surrender; second meeting of the Antifascist Council of the People’s Liberation of Yugoslavia (AVNOJ) in Jajce; announcement of creation of a federal and socialist Yugoslavia; Allied recognition of Tito; partisan military victories

1944  March of the People’s Liberation Army into Belgrade; Vis Agreement between Tito and the royal exile government on the re-establishment of Yugoslavia; formation of a common interim government; measures expropriating the ethnic German population

1945  Unconditional surrender of Germany; Bleiburg massacre; creation of the People’s Front; abolition of the monarchy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>Proclamation of the creation of the Democratic Federal Yugoslavia (DFJ); elections to the constitutional assembly; Trieste crisis; land reform and state purchasing program for agricultural produce</td>
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<td>1946</td>
<td>Constitution of the Federal People’s Republic of Yugoslavia (FNRJ); partition into six equal constituent republics; war criminal trials; nationalization of large landholdings, banks, and means of production</td>
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<td>1947</td>
<td>Paris Peace Conference; recognition of Yugoslavia’s borders (annexation of Istria without Trieste)</td>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>Break with Stalin; expulsion of Yugoslavia from Cominform; political purges</td>
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<td>1949</td>
<td>Expulsion from the founding of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance</td>
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<td>1950</td>
<td>Introduction of self-management system; Cazin peasant uprising; Yugoslavia’s stance of neutrality between the power blocs in the East–West conflict</td>
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<td>1952</td>
<td>Renaming of Communist Party of Yugoslavia as the League of Communists of Yugoslavia</td>
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<td>1953</td>
<td>Constitutional reform incorporating the self-management system</td>
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<td>1954</td>
<td>Expulsion of Milovan Djilas from the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia; normalization of relations with the Soviet Union; Novi Sad agreement on a written Serbo-Croatian language in two variants</td>
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<td>1955</td>
<td>Declaration in Moscow by Khrushchev and Tito on the right of every country to pursue socialism its own way; Bandung Conference and the beginnings of the Nonaligned Movement</td>
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<td>1957</td>
<td>Severance of diplomatic relations by West Germany in line with the Hallstein Doctrine</td>
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<td>1961</td>
<td>First conference of the Nonaligned Movement in Belgrade</td>
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<td>1963</td>
<td>Passage of a new constitution transforming the Federal People’s Republic of Yugoslavia into the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY); formation of the Praxis group</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>Eighth Party Congress of the League of Communists; introduction of market-economy reforms and the federalization of the constitution</td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>Removal of Aleksandar Ranković as the head of the secret police</td>
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1967  “Declaration on the Status and Name of the Croatian Literary Language”
1968  Student revolts; Albanian uprising in Kosovo and West Macedonia; recognition of Bosnian Muslims as the sixth constituent people; introduction of national security doctrine of “All-People’s Defense”
1970  *Islamic Declaration* by Alija Izetbegović
1971  Croatian Spring; ousting from power of party leadership in Zagreb; constitutional amendment expanding the federalization of Yugoslavia; Brezhnev’s visit to Belgrade
1972  Ousting from power of party leadership in Belgrade; political purge within the party
1974  Passage of a new constitution; granting of greater authority and power to the republics and autonomous provinces; confirmation of Tito as president for life
1976  Law on Associated Labor to expand self-management
1977  CSCE meeting in Belgrade
1980  Tito’s death; collective presidency; growing economic problems and national tensions
1981  Kosovo uprising; imposition of martial law; political trials
1987  Rise of Slobodan Milošević to the top of party leadership in Serbia; party infighting with Serbian president Ivan Stambolić; memorandum of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts; nationalistic meetings and mobilization efforts; Bosnian Agrokomerc affair
1989  Election of Slobodan Milošević as Serbia’s president; revocation of autonomy of Kosovo and Vojvodina; 600th anniversary celebration of the Battle of Kosovo; economic crisis; growing conflict over reform within Yugoslavia; institutional paralysis and legislative backlog
1990  Disbanding of the League of Communists; introduction of the multiparty system; failure of reforms proposed by Ante Marković; Franjo Tudjman’s assumption of power as Croatia’s president; declarations of sovereignty by the parliaments of Slovenia, Croatia, and Kosovo; Slovenian referendum on independence; Serb-Montenegrin veto of the Croat Stipe Mesić as the president of Yugoslavia; declaration of autonomy by Croatian Serbs

1991–2018  **Collapse of Yugoslavia and Successor States**
1991  Violent incidents in the regions of Croatia inhabited by Serbs; declarations of independence by Slovenia, Croatia, and
Macedonia; deployment of the Yugoslav People’s Army; outbreak of war in Slovenia and Croatia; German recognition of Slovenia and Croatia; declaration creating the Republic of Serb Krajina; resolution on independence passed by Bosnian diet despite Serb veto.

1992
Ceasefire and the stationing of UNPROFOR in Croatia; founding of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by Serbia and Montenegro; founding of the Serb Republic within Bosnia-Herzegovina; independence referendum and international recognition of Bosnia-Herzegovina; outbreak of war; massive “ethnic cleansing” actions

1993
“War within the war” between Croats and Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina; creation of UN safe areas; establishment of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia

1994
Shelling of the Markale market in Sarajevo; begin of NATO air strikes against Serb positions; founding of the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina by Croats and Muslims

1995
Croatian military operations Flash and Storm to retake Krajina; Srebrenica massacre; Dayton Peace Accord

1996
Founding of the Kosovo Liberation Army

1998
Armed conflict between Albanian guerilla fighters and Serb security forces in Kosovo; mass exodus and expulsion

1999
Failure of the Rambouillet negotiations for a self-governed Kosovo; NATO strikes against targets in Serbia and Kosovo; UN Resolution 1244 setting up an interim administration mission in Kosovo; start of the process to determine the status of Kosovo

2000
Defeat of Slobodan Milošević by the democratic opposition in Serbia; start of the EU Stabilization and Association Process for the Western Balkan states

2001
Armed revolt by Albanian extremists in South Serbia and Macedonia; Ohrid Framework Agreement on equal rights for Albanians

2003
Transformation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia into the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro

2004
Accession of Slovenia to the European Union

2006
Referendum on independence and international recognition of Montenegro

2008
Unilateral declaration of independence by Kosovo

2013
Accession of Croatia to the European Union

2018
European Commission’s new Western Balkan Strategy