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Contents
VOLUME 2: 1888-1914

Document number Page number
1 Consul-General J.E. Kurt, Sarajlicca, to the Minister of Salisburi, 23 August 1891, enclosing translation of material from the Albanian people to the Greek Patriarch at Constantineple, and extract from La Terra, 16 August 1890 [O 307/171] 1
2 Sir W. White, Constantinople, to the Minister of Salisburi, 21 December 1888, regarding Bulgarian minorities, petition addressed to the Grand Vicer by Bulgarians of the Vjekof Sarajlicca, Momoletka, exiling, despatch from Consul-General Kurt, Sarajlicca, to Sir W. White, 2 December 1888, despatch from M. Mikhail, Momoletka, to Consul-General Kurt, 7 November 1888, extract from the Minutes, July 1883, and Consul-General Kurt, Sarajlicca, to Sir W. White, 14 December 1888 [O 307/171] 5
3 Translation of an article in the New York Times, 8 February 1897 [PO'7/126]
4 Mr. E. Freeman, Secretary to Foreign Secretary, London, 12 February 1897, letter of Russian landlord to make the pilgrimage to Mecca [PO'7/126]
5 Mr. E. Freeman, Secretary to Foreign Secretary, London, 20 March 1897, letter to the Orthodox Controversy [PO'7/126] 34

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Over 1,000 volumes
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Albania and Kosovo: Political and Ethnic Boundaries 1867–1946
1 volume, 1100 pages, and 1 map box; ISBN 9781852079109

This two volume set of documents and maps provides the historical background appropriate to understanding the present Balkan crisis. It makes available the essential historical texts and maps determining the formation of boundaries in the Kosovo region. Treaties, political reports and diplomatic correspondence have been selected from British government files to show the main historical developments in territorial relations between Albania, Kosovo, Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia and Greece.

The collection begins with the rise of Balkan nationalism in the mid-nineteenth century, and ends with the provisional Government of Albania set up in 1944, turning away from its original close links with Yugoslavia, fearing Yugoslav expansionism, and seeking alliances with China and other Communist powers.

Armenia: Political and Ethnic Boundaries 1878–1948
1 volume, 1000 pages; ISBN 9781852079550

This collection of documents and maps provides scholars with an independent research publication whose primary aim is to illustrate key events, using material from British government archives, as markers in defining Armenian territory. These 70 years are crucial in the formation of the boundaries of what now constitutes the state of Armenia.

The “Armenian Question” came under international scrutiny with the rise of modern nationalism in the Armenian communities living in the Ottoman and Russian empires. Borders had always shifted to and fro on the territory inhabited by Armenians. What changed from the nineteenth century onwards was that the Armenians – despite being militarily and politically weak – now tried to set a political agenda of their own (ultimately, the creation of an independent Armenian state encompassing a large part of what they considered to be their historical homeland) and to gain the maximum from the rivalry of the Great Powers in Anatolia and the Transcaucuses.
Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia: Historical Boundaries 1815–1945

1 volume, 700 pages, and 1 map box; ISBN 9781852079659

The purpose of this document collection is to establish from the historical record the diplomatic and cartographic background to the Balkan zone of territorial and ethnic conflict. The primary focus of the work is on the internal, i.e., the shared boundaries of Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia rather than on their relationships with states on their outer periphery. The Editor has sought to provide documentary evidence at the main watersheds of history between the end of the Napoleonic era and the end of the Second World War. Since then, as Tito’s régime established itself, the international community has been able to gain few documentary traces of internal Yugoslav administration. This publication offers, therefore, a survey of the great imperial shift of the Balkan territories in the nineteenth century, from the Ottoman to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and of the creation of the twentieth century kingdom, subsequently the republic, of Yugoslavia. Text and maps support each other closely.

Caucasian Boundaries: Documents and Maps 1802–1946

1 volume, 928 pages, and 1 map box; ISBN 9781852079604

This collection of key documents provides background information on present-day conflicts in the Caucasian region, and includes historical maps from British, French, German, Russian and Ottoman sources.

The aim of this work is to depict the evolution of major boundaries of Transcaucasia and the Northern Caucasus as measured and agreed by the international community at certain historic watersheds. Through extensive research into diplomatic and military records of the British government, we have attempted to trace descriptions of recognised frontiers and boundaries. The documents, used in conjunction with the map box, will depict evolving geopolitical claims of the key states of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and North Caucasus; but also territories such as Dagestan, Circassia, Kars, Elisavetopol, Abkhasia, Kouban, at times subsumed into the larger states, are covered.
This new collection of documents has been brought together in an attempt to add a depth of understanding to consideration of the ethnic conflicts within the Balkan region over the last 150 years. It is wide-ranging in its coverage of the position and treatment of ethnic minorities within the Balkan states and beyond. Countries covered are: Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Croatia; Dalmatia; Greece; Kosovo; Macedonia; Moldavia; Montenegro; Romania; Serbia; Slovenia; Transylvania; Turkey; and, to some extent, the Austrian Empire. It will be discovered that within each state is a minority of some kind with a degree of persecution formed against them, whether they be Jews, Magyars, Circassians, Muslims, Christians or former residents of a different country such as Greeks in Turkey or Albanians in Greece.

A knowledge of the geographical dimension is fundamental to an understanding of how independent Greece came to be defined in terms of territory, how it actually grew in size and how its driving force, the Great Idea of uniting all ‘Greeks’ within one territorial state, was made reality.

Aimed at presenting diplomats, politicians and scholars with the cartographic and documentary material for reflecting on the development of Greece and the continuing controversies over its territory and sovereignty, the atlas contains material relevant to understanding not only the complex political problems in the wider Balkans but also the strained relationships between Greece and Turkey.
Montenegro: Political and Ethnic Boundaries 1840–1920

2 volumes, 1800 pages; ISBN 9781852079055
Editor: B. Destani, with an introduction by former President M. Djukanovic

The documents in this collection describe in detail the history of Montenegro, first as the independent principality and later as the sovereign state. There is extensive correspondence between the British Government in London, and the Embassy in Constantinople, and directly with Prince Nicholas in Cettigné; naturally a large proportion of the documents are concentrated around 1878. These documents form an invaluable first-hand research base for the study of this politically important state and in his introduction the former Montenegrin President Milo Djukanovic recommends this work to the research community as well as to the broader readership.

Oil Resources in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus 1885–1978

9 volumes, 6000 pages, and 1 map box; ISBN 9781840973150

The greatest currently anticipated source of petroleum is said to be in the Caspian Sea off Baku, but the Caucasus region has been exploited for oil for centuries, as have other smaller, but key fields in Roumania. Now that so many former Soviet satellite states, Azerbaijan and Roumania included, are independent territories, there is global involvement and interest in their development. Through these documents the history of the industry and business itself is depicted, but the involvement of European and overseas companies and governments in this field will serve also as a lens through which to focus on political relations with Russia, her successor state the USSR, and annexed territories.

These nine volumes depict the sustained interest, efforts and effectiveness of Great Britain in acquiring, and then defending, petroleum resources in a geo-political realm where it had neither legal standing nor political presence in the late 19th and early 20th century. Thereafter, they address its fight to obtain redress for those oil interests following the seizure by the USSR of numerous concessions and equipment after World War I, notably those in Roumania, and again after Allied oil denial policy during World War II, and the impact upon relations and trade in petrochemicals between eastern and western Europe. During the Cold War era and beyond, issues and shifts in international relations are depicted through the western European acquisition of Russian oil: Great Britain defied the USA in the late 1950s to end an embargo on Russian oil imports, and gradually began to resume trade with the USSR, thus marking the beginning of the end of the Cold War, and by the end of the 1970s perhaps even foreshadowing Perestroika.
These volumes cover the period from the beginning of 1917 to the end of 1970 during which the political landscape of Russia changed beyond recognition. Beginning with the dying days of Imperial Russia under Nicholas II, the last of the Romanov Tsars, Russia then saw revolution, civil war, the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the rule of Lenin followed by the dictatorship and purges of Stalin, the invasion of Russia by Nazi Germany, the period of the Cold War when the Soviet Union ruled much of Eastern Europe and threatened the rest, the era of de-Stalinisation under the rule of Krushchev and ending with the collective leadership of Brezhnev and Kosygin.

[Extract from Quarterly Report No. 54, 8 April 1953]: “A quarter which began with the ‘doctor’s plot’, took in its stride Stalin’s death and his succession by Malenkov and ended with Chouen-Lai’s acceptance of the voluntary repatriation of Korean war prisoners, has claims to be historic. The apparent departure from attitudes which, while Stalin was alive, seemed immutable, is astonishing enough. But even more remarkable is that the process of change should have been initiated before he was cold in his grave and by men whom we still have no reason to suppose were not, while he was alive, anything but his devoted associates.”

This important collection of British political reports on the former Yugoslavia will provide extensive historical background to modern developments and while the reports are written from the point of view of British diplomatic interest, the observations and judgements are largely balanced, and may contribute to a wider understanding of the political and ethnic heritage of the peoples and states of the former Yugoslavia. The material provides useful summaries of actual events, together with evaluations of their political significance.

The main series within the volumes comprises the diplomatic annual reports or reviews from Belgrade. The annual reports have been supplemented with special “situation reports”, current events reports, personality reports, and weekly or fortnightly reports to provide continuity and to fill gaps.
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