

# Small States International Relations and Diplomacy

Montenegro

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# Small States International Relations and Diplomacy - Historical Background

- *Historical Background* -Three (four) periods of diplomatic representation
  - ✓ From 1711 to early 1800s – ah hoc representation and special missions
  - ✓ From 1800s to 1878 – first stable representatives without international recognition
  - ✓ 1878 to 1918 – full fledged diplomatic service
  - ✓ 2006 onwards

Primary goal: independence, territorial expansions unification and(or) state preservation

- *How do issues of scale, limited resources and dependence of larger/ 'kin' states affect international relations of your country?*
- 1711 and Russian-Turkish war was the beginning of institutional build of the state (4 ad-hoc diplomatic missions to Moscow)
- State dependency on support and funding – each mission usually resulted in some sort of material support of the Russian emperor to Montenegro (10.000 ruble in 1715)
- 1717 Venician dukal – the family Radonjic

# Small States International Relations and Diplomacy – Priorities / focus of Foreign Policy

- Which are the main general aspects / priorities / goals of your country's foreign policy and diplomacy?
- Three primary goals – a) economic development, b) peace and security, c) and EU membership

a) Dependence on FDI, bilateral agreements with countries (recently Egypt and Thailand), focused specifically on developing tourism

China – highway project ~ 900 million

Turkey – 250 to 2000 firms owned by Turkish nationals from 2017-2019

Malta among top 10

b) NATO membership – legacy of the 90s and reassurance through global security project

c) Primary goal – insistence on the regatta principle in EU accession talks

# Small States International Relations and Diplomacy – Institutions/Agencies

- Which are the main states' institutions/ actors of your country's foreign policy?
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs – [structure](#); Around 130 employees, Special organizational units for NATO, EU(?) and Economic and Social Diplomacy
- President of Montenegro – representation, appoints dipl. representatives and receives accreditation letters, small staff including Foreign policy advisor
  
- Are there any non-institutionalized actors that your country uses in its foreign policy (e.g. NGOs)?
- (Honorary consuls?)
- Associations of Montenegrins in Luxemburg

# Small States International Relations and Diplomacy - Bilateral Relations

- **Bilateral Relations:**
  - 182 countries in the network of bilateral relations (independence)
  - Role of Serbia?
- **Focus in specific geographic areas and why ?**
  - Neighbours and countries with potential for FDI
  - Azerbaijan, Turkey, Russia, China, Italy

# Small States International Relations and Diplomacy - Multilateral Relations

- **Multilateral Relations:**

- UN, NATO, Council of Europe, OSCE
- Mediterranean Union in Barcelona
- Western Balkans 6 Initiative
- Western Balkans Counter-Terrorism Initiative
- Central European Initiative 2020

- **What criteria are used for choosing allies and alliances?**

- Nominally allies are chosen on similar values and goals, rule of law, democracy, respect for human rights etc.
- De facto based on economic partnerships and interests

# Small States International Relations and Diplomacy – Diplomatic Types

- Does your country use various types of Diplomacy (public diplomacy / cultural diplomacy / Economic diplomacy)?
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs has a joint office for Economic and Cultural Diplomacy
- Economic ID – [HERE](#)
- Economic and Business Opportunities – [HERE](#)
- Economic citizenship program
  
- Creative Montenegro Programme - Including the President
- Language and Cultural events?
  
- Size (underdevelopment) focuses Montenegro to the role of recipient rather than a benefactor

# Small States International Relations and Diplomacy - Societal Beliefs

- What the public opinion of your country believes about the foreign policy?
  - Division between East-West orientation
  - Most visible in NATO membership debate
- Does public opinion influence the foreign policy? Any examples?
  - Limited influence of pro-russian and pro-serbian news outlets
  - Kosovo and NATO
- How do issues relating to scale, limited resources, dependence on larger/ other 'keen' state and ownership/control of media outlets affect foreign policy?
  - Private capital in media
  - Variety of opinions and leanings
  - Limited influence



# Small States International Relations and Diplomacy -Challenges

- Which are the main challenges for your country in foreign policy and diplomacy?
- Determining areas of interest (both geographic and economic)
- Independence in decision-making
- Navigating multiple conflicting partnerships
- Dependence on global financial markets