When It Comes to Kosovo, Are Serbs All Speaking the Same Language?

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Notre Dame Student Peace Conference, 4–6–13
Kosovo a majority Albanian region
1998–9 conflict
UN Resolution 1244
Parallel Institutions
Serbia does not recognize EU membership for Serbia dependent on Kosovo
Talks between Belgrade and Pristina
What Do Serbs Really Think?

- Mutual perceptions of Serbs in Belgrade and Gračanica, Kosovo

- What perceptions, if any, exist?
- What effect do these perceptions have on the conflict in Kosovo?
Methods

- Semi-structured interviews in Belgrade and Gračanica
- 5 one-on-one interviews
- 2 group interviews
Interviewees

Belgrade
- Miloš
- Milan
- Dragan
- Stefan

Gračanica
- Luka
- Jelena, Nela, Sara, Gordana
- Nikola, Momčilo, Predrag, Nenad, Jelica, Marija
What’s So Different Between Us?

- Belgrade
  - Cultural Differences
- Gračanica
  - Difference in Access/Experience
Što južnije, to tužnije

- From Ottoman Empire
- Poorer in south
- Less access in south
- Used to build perceptions
- Što severnije, to modernije
Does Serbia Care?

- Many in Belgrade do not care about Kosovo anymore
- Never recognize vs. Need to compromise
- Who does Belgrade speak for?
- What do those in Kosovo need?
Conclusions

- Perceptions and differences fall along urban/rural lines
- Does not explain views on conflict
- “Official” Serbs and “second-class” Serbs
Bibliography