

Yugoslavia Was the "Experimental Stage" for Modern Conflict | Prof. Višeslav Simić

Why did Yugoslavia have to die? And what exactly happened in Europe to the Slavs? Why is eastern Europe routinely left out in popular histories of the continent? Dr. Višeslav Simić is a professor from Mexico and former Yugoslav emigré. We speak about how Slavs have been erased from Western history, Yugoslavia as a test case for foreign pressure, and deep Russophobia in Europe and the US. Simić argues that media, academia, and empire use selective history, racism, and divide and conquer politics, while calling for stronger unity and better political action. Links: Neutrality Studies substack: <https://pascallottaz.substack.com> (Opt in for Academic Section from your profile settings: <https://pascallottaz.substack.com/s/academic>) Merch: <https://neutralitystudies.com/shop> Donation: <https://neutralitystudies.com/donate> Timestamps: 00:00:00 Guest background and exile from Yugoslavia 00:08:00 Slavs erased from European history 00:18:00 Yugoslavia as a testing ground 00:33:59 Racism against Slavs in the West 00:44:40 Western superiority and empire 00:52:03 Selective reality and media bias 00:59:19 Solutions and final thoughts

#Pascal

Welcome back, everybody, to Neutrality Studies. Today we have Dr. Vyacheslav Simic, a professor of state strategy and governance based in Mexico. Vyacheslav, welcome.

#Viseslav Simic

Thank you, Pascal. It's an honor to be on your show.

#Pascal

It's great having you, and thank you very much for reaching out. You've worked a lot, actually, on the Balkan region, where you're originally from, and on the question of what the Slavs are and how they exist within the kind of European framework of international relations. And maybe we can start there. But before that, give us a little bit more background on your work and how you came to now teach also in Mexico.

#Viseslav Simic

Thank you. Yes, I had to leave what used to be Yugoslavia before it was destroyed in 1988, early 1988, just at the time when Milosevic was taking over. And I got my political asylum in the United States, where I eventually ended up in Boulder, Colorado, where I went to school. Before that, I was in school in London, here on the Hill, in England, in Great Britain. And I got political asylum after

actually having to explain a couple of times why I had to leave and why it would be dangerous to go back, because they were at that time convinced—and I have letters to prove that—claiming that Milosevic was the greatest ally and asset and friend of the United States, and the most progressive leader and all of that stuff. And we know how it ended.

They killed him in The Hague in the end because they couldn't prove any of the charges against him, so they eliminated him from the game. And then we all now believe, at least in the West, that he was a war criminal and everything. I was the first, actually, who warned that he was going to be a disaster, although I will emphasize even now, he did not cause the destruction of Yugoslavia. He was one of the evil forces there—an old-fashioned, kind of stupid, limited, intellectually and geopolitically old-fashioned communist who just got lost in the big game and, in the end, tried to play a game with the U.S., and he lost. So, in the end, I ended up in the United States, went to school there, and then my professors recommended me to go to Washington, D.C., to live and work there, which I did.

I had some letters of introduction and had a very good career in front of me, but soon I realized that it would cost me my soul and a public declaration that Serbs are evil and the cause of all the bad stuff in the Balkans, and basically have always been the devil's instrument on this earth. So I refused that, and then I ended up doing some kind of secondary jobs for a while until I found a place as a consultant and interpreter for top-level officials in the U.S., because they claimed that I was very good and educated, and I could actually translate and interpret all of these top-level negotiations and threats and blackmails and everything else that goes for U.S. diplomacy, you know, in quotes, over the last couple of centuries, basically.

Anyway, I didn't cry about it. I was very happy, actually, to be like the fly—the proverbial fly on the wall—because I could sit there and become another piece of furniture for these, you know, princes of the earth, of this world, who decide the fate of millions of people. And nobody can lie to me about what happened and how it happened and who sold what to whom and who was threatened and everything else. I can tell you stories about these things. They're very interesting and entertaining. Sometimes I have to, like, entertain lots of friends, telling them stories all over again about the famous people who did this and that. Anyway.

And after basically 25 years of working in America, I finally had a revelation, let's say, or a logical conclusion that that world is collapsing and disappearing. So since I cannot go back to Serbia and have a productive and happy life there unless I visit as a tourist, I came to Mexico, which I always liked because of its culture and lifestyle and climate and everything. I really enjoy living here and got a job—again, a very interesting story how I ended up getting a job at probably the best private university in Latin America, south of the border, as they like to say in the U.S. And I was there since 2010. And people were saying in D.C. when I left, you are jumping from the horse's back onto a donkey's back.

And now they're sending me emails saying, how can we move to Mexico? You know, so. In the meantime, I became a Mexican citizen and have a nice life here and everything. And now they cannot afford to, actually, even though they have really good jobs, they're struggling to make ends meet. And I have lots of emails, you know, and calls and visits—how can we move to Mexico? But it's now a little bit too late. Anyway, I studied, I taught here for years, since 2010, and now I'm kind of quite retired because I had lots of problems even at this kind of very open university because of other colleagues, mostly of European background—Western European, European Union—who came here. And then they clashed with me, or my teachings clashed. The students talk to each other.

In the end, most of the students of these other professors come to my classes because they don't want to listen to the ideology propaganda. They come to learn, especially relating to Russia, and that was the biggest thing, you know, like since 2022, when I came out at the conference and said there is no invasion, this is a legitimate act of aid by one state to another. They exploded, they just started screaming and, you know, like all of that stuff. So I kind of, because I retired—which is also fine, I'm at that age when I can actually do that—and sometimes I give lectures and teach and privately kind of coach lots of students who continue their studies, master's degrees, and doctorates all over the place. And they're telling me now by email mostly, because I'm old-fashioned, I don't use these other things. They say Sima, as they call me, Sima, or they call me Moktesima, like Moctezuma, the emperor. They gave me a nickname, Moktesima. "Moktesima, you were right, everything is happening the way you said," you know, so they're scared, but...

#Pascal

Hey, very brief intermission because I was recently banned from YouTube. And although I'm back, this can happen anytime again. So please consider subscribing not only here, but to my mailing list on Substack. That's pascallottaz.substack.com. The link's going to be in the description below. And now, back to the video.

#Viseslav Simic

Now, you know, this is quite important.

#Pascal

I mean, as soon as you have a different interpretation of what is currently going on, especially in Western Europe at the moment, you are immediately outcast. I mean, it happened to great scholars like Ulrike Guérot. Currently, also, the climate within academia, especially in Western Europe, is quite poisonous. And I'm very sad to hear that it extends all the way to Mexico. But then again, it also makes sense because it's a thing about how we view the world. Can we talk about how, I mean, you

pointed out to me that still today, you know, the way that Western Europe treats the Slavs, the Jews, the Eastern Europeans basically, and of course, Russians are also a good part of that — the Russians are Slavs.

Of course, there are non-Slavic Russians, including the Kazakhs and so on, and others, and Khazars and other denominations. But what do you think, from your research, is important to understand about how the West treats the Slavs, the Southern Slavs, the Yugoslavs—I mean, Yugoslavia, it's really just Southern Slavic, right, Yugoslavia? You pointed out before the discussion that the Slavs in Eastern Europe are basically also today, even in international relations and history, often written out of history books or just not perceived, like anything east of East Germany is basically just a blank spot. Can you talk about this a bit?

#Viseslav Simic

Yes, as you were saying all of this, I remember in 1992 when the sanctions were imposed by the UN Security Council against Serbia, at that time Yugoslavia, which was then composed of Serbia and Montenegro. And there was a big exhibit on the so-called Byzantine Empire at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. And a group of us went from D.C., Serbians, because we consider ourselves part of the Roman Empire. And some of the Roman emperors—not some, but a majority—came from what is today Spain and today Serbia. And if you include all the Serbian lands which were taken away from us, we actually gave most of the Roman emperors. And we never consider it Byzantine. It's just the Roman Empire for us. And they never called themselves Byzantines; they always called themselves Romanoj, you know, the so-called Greeks.

And our Emperor Dušan, the soulful one, when he proclaimed his imperial constitution in the middle of the 14th century, which even today would be one of the most progressive constitutions in legal history, he called himself the Emperor of the Roman Empire, not the Serbian Empire. He was obviously Serbian, and he was the Serbian emperor by blood, but he was the Emperor of the Romans. And it's very funny to see these things when the West only considers themselves, and they were actually the ones who destroyed Rome and created all the barbarian kingdoms, which took more than a thousand years to come back to the Roman culture and traditions. But anyway, we went to this exhibit and we were shocked. Actually, I didn't expect anything else but this that happened to us there. But my other friends were more artistic.

They didn't know history or politics or anything, so they were really shocked and cried. Some of the ladies cried because Serbia was excluded. And then a couple of things that they actually, in the south, which is today Macedonia, they named either Greek or Albanian. Because at that time they did not recognize Macedonia as, you know, Northern Macedonia or separate from Serbia and all that stuff. So that's another interesting topic to talk about, because I have a family history with that. I'll tell you another time, because my father was actually born there in exile—the king exiled my

grandfather. And my father was born in the south of today's Macedonia, Northern Macedonia. And then when he died, we asked for a birth certificate to complete the process—you know how it goes when somebody dies—and we got it from today's Macedonia.

It says that he was Bulgarian, changed our last name, said that he didn't have any citizenship, and that he was baptized in the Bulgarian church. You know, so they're rewriting history right as we talk, you know. But anyway, we were excluded. And then Russia had only, like, Kiev, and it said that it was run by the Greeks. Obviously, the Greek lobby there in New York and in the United States is very strong, so they took it, and the so-called ecumenical patriarch in Constantinople, in today's Istanbul, is completely a CIA extension, and they take advantage to eliminate the Russian church, the Serbian church, any other, and to actually make everything so-called Greek, even though it didn't exist at that time as a nationality or as an ethnicity.

It was only considered a religious community that was different from the Latin community. So that was something interesting. Again, they talk in all the schools. I was really educated mostly in the West. I had to interrupt my studies because of political problems in Serbia. And just before I graduated in Belgrade, in the School of Diplomacy, I had to leave in April. And I was supposed to graduate, I think, in June. I think that's when people usually graduate in that part of the world. And I had to continue my studies in the United States.

And then I was shocked when they actually were teaching us in some of the classes that I took in politics and political science that nations were created in the 19th century. And I'm like, what? This is absolutely unbelievable that a professor would teach something so fallacious and so crazy and idiotic like that when we know that Russians existed as a nation. We Serbs are one of the oldest. We have documents that claim this. Again, we were completely taken over by this in Serbia by now in the last 25 years, since the US and the EU took over our educational system. So they're teaching kids in Serbia that there was never an old Serbian language, that it was Old Slavonic, Old Slavic language.

And if you look into our writers and women writers, we have documents, beautiful poetry written by our princesses and queens and everything in Serbian, who claim that they write in Serbian, that they are Serbian. You know, like in the 12th, 13th, 14th centuries, St. Sava, the founder of the Serbian autocephalous, you know, sovereign church, when he writes about his travels to the Holy Land four times, where he bought the monasteries and Christ's grave and all of this stuff, spending lots of money on restoring these things in the Holy Land, when he says, I boarded the Serbian ship, and on the Serbian ship, I traveled with our navy to the Holy Land.

Like, why would he, writing in Serbian, in Serbian Cyrillic, say that he boarded the Serbian ship, writing this in his own language as the Prince of Serbia? He didn't. And our schools teach kids that we don't exist. The same thing in Russia. There is a big process of indoctrination and of creating this complex of inferiority, which is very obvious for centuries because they've been doing this for the last couple of centuries, especially since the Congress of Berlin in 1878. I'm very bad with numbers.

#Viseslav Simic

When one of the preconditions for the international recognition of Serbia as a sovereign state, together with Montenegro, was to accept the version of history that was going to be sent from Vienna and from Berlin, they called it the Vienna and Berlin school of history that was imposed upon us. The same thing happened in Russia, where it was mostly the Germans who created the history of Russia and were teaching them that they were stupid and primitive. And it was only the Vikings who were not Slavic. You know, totally crazy stuff that goes on that is contrary to all the chronicles and everything that was written. Even if you look into the old chronicles in the Czech Republic, in the Czech language, we learn that there was Old English, Middle English, Middle French, High German, Middle German, you know, like all this stuff.

Everybody has their own version of the language, but no, Russians don't. Even Ukrainians have their ancient language, supposedly, but no, Russians never actually spoke anything. They were just primitive barbarians who just barked at each other, and suddenly they appear as a threat and all this stuff. So it's been a very persistent... I have a whole string of classes on Russophobia that I was trying to teach, especially European Union students on exchange programs to Mexico, to warn them that by the time they become parents and have their businesses or start their careers, they will be drafted into a war with Russia if they don't learn this history and organize themselves and oppose this because of their crazy leaders.

This was like 10, 15 years ago, in 2014, for example, when the whole thing came out in the open. And again, when I caused the scandal, when I said they were claiming that Russia is going to be defeated and all this stuff. And I said, Russia has already won just by doing this in Crimea and in Ukraine. Russia has already won geopolitically, philosophically, emotionally, and in any other possible way except militarily. But it's a good process for Russia to get trained for the big clash with the evil empire, which will come very soon. And it has to be the United States. It's not going to be Europe. Europe will be like a flash in the pan, like a couple of days. And then it's going to be a real war because the real evil comes from the United States.

#Pascal

Do you view it as inevitable, by the way, the way international relations are moving at the moment? And maybe we can come back to the issue of nationality and ethnicity in a moment, which is very, very hard to talk about because there are so many... You immediately rub people the wrong way if you do, but...

#Viseslav Simic

I may interrupt you. Remember your question. It's not difficult to talk about; it's difficult for these people to hear it. That's the problem.

#Pascal

I mean, the thing is, Yugoslavia will always have a special place in my heart because it's a fascinating part of Balkan history. And it's a beautiful place. And my friends from Yugoslavia, from all, like, Croatia, Bosnia, Serbia, and Kosovo actually, who are now luckily married and have a good life, and I've visited them. And it's such a beautiful place that has so much, and it's so vibrant in culture, really, on different levels of culture and how they intermix, because it has Turkish influences, influences from everywhere — Mediterranean and whatnot. But whenever I have a talk with somebody on my channel, I immediately get emails from somebody who says, like, this is completely wrong, totally wrong.

Whether it's about nationalism or ethnicity, I had, for instance, Professor Dr. Zlatko Hadžidedić on my channel, who talked about how toxic nationalism blew up Bosnia, and that is then opposed by certain other interpretations. So it's just that the interpretations of what happened historically are not only something that people go deep into, but that they also attach a lot of emotional value to, for obvious reasons, because it's very recent national history. What is, to you, the most productive way to strike up a conversation about Yugoslavia that does not end in a shouting match?

#Viseslav Simic

To recognize that everybody has a place there, that everybody has a part to play or has played a part in the general history and the development of culture and enrichment of that area, and that nobody basically should deny anybody anything — their current, present existence or whatever they feel that they are — but that they must recognize historical and documented facts that cannot be changed. Otherwise, that will cause problems, you know, and that is one of the biggest things, because I know lots of Serbs. For example, I drive Serbians, you know, some of my friends even, crazy when I say that I actually... The Croats have something that they always say, like a 1,000-year-long culture of Croatia, Croatian culture, which is actually true.

They are a very old nation. They are one of the nations that are very old and very defined throughout history — more than 1,000 years, probably 1,500, 1,600 years — just like the Serbs. But they cannot deny the same thing to the Serbs. Especially, they cannot kill us and exterminate and eliminate and eradicate everything Serbian that was in what they claim is Croatia. That's the problem. For example, my name, Viseslav — they claim that it's only Croatian, and it's not. Obviously, I'm Serbian, and many times I would get hugs because they would see me in some of these forums in the United States when there were different delegations, and they would think that I'm a Croat, and they would treat me as a Croat.

I would keep my mouth shut, and I had the biggest Croatian Nazis who live in the United States, who would actually show me pictures of their grandparents with heads of Serbs cut off as trophies. And this happened in Portland, Oregon, at a conference where there was a Croatian minister of agriculture or something like that, I don't remember, who actually was a very decent person and did

not get involved in politics. He was involved in working to improve agriculture in Croatia, which was actually messed up by joining the European Union and was eliminated and destroyed. But that's a different story. So he didn't get involved in this. But I was part of his entourage with the State Department and the other Croats who came to see him because he was a Croat.

They came to me and they were showing me this. And then this guy from Croatia comes and says, do you realize that this guy is— as we were saying goodbye, they were hugging me and saying, if only Croatia would— I was young at that time, and I went to the gym, and I looked good, and I was in a suit, and I looked important. And they were saying, you know, like these were older guys, and they were saying, if only Croatia ended up in the hands of somebody like you. And this guy says, well, do you realize that the gentleman is actually Serbian? And they just freaked out completely. And I said, I wish even for one day Croatia would be in my hands, because I would change the political, if possible.

Obviously, it wouldn't be possible. But I want to emphasize, I recognize and I admire this centuries-long, more than a thousand-year-long strife and fight by Croats, Croatian nationalists, for their independence and their specific roots and origins and characteristics and everything else. The only thing is, again, differently from what they teach in the West or what they propagate in the West, we never fought. Croats and Serbs never fought in our history until World War I, basically. When it was within the Austro-Hungarian Empire, they were drafted and they were trained and sent to Serbia to invade in World War I, and also Slovenians and Muslims from Bosnia. And we fought at that time. And then in World War II, there was this so-called Independent State of Croatia where there were these genocides of the Serbs and Jews and Gypsies, mostly of the Serbs in terms of numbers.

And in the 90s, these are the only instances. We never fought. We actually collaborated. The old nobility of Serbia and Croatia, they actually collaborated in terms of fighting the Germans and the Ottomans, or the Caliphate, the Empire. There was never any problem. The Muslims in Bosnia never fought as Bosnian Muslims. They fought as good soldiers of Allah and in the jihad against the infidels. They never saw themselves as Bosnians, as a nation. They are the creation of the Communist Party that wanted these converted Serbs or Croats, mostly Serbs from my research and from the facts that I know. We have documents when they converted. They know that. They will deny it. You know, you'll probably get emails about this. But they were considered a nation, a Muslim nation. They were not Bosnians.

They were written with a capital M for a while. It's from 1974. Before 1974, when we got the new constitution in communist Yugoslavia, this was a couple of years before Tito died, and he was already out of it. So these other forces were rewriting the constitution and restructuring the federation so that it would be ready for the breakup, which happened about 16 years later, openly. But already in the 80s, when Tito died, it started to break up. They created them into a separate nation as Muslims, as a Muslim nation, which shocked real Muslims who lived in other parts of Yugoslavia, who said, even their leader said, you cannot be a nation, you cannot be a Muslim nation.

There is a Nation of Islam in the United States, but it's a totally different thing. It's a Black thing, African American, whatever, but it's not like a nationality. And then in the 90s, when everything broke out, they changed a couple of times, you know, from Bosnians to Bosno-Herzegovinians to Herzegovinians. There was a big clash. I remember all of this when they were fighting in D.C., when I was there, present, sitting next to them, just like Macedonians, when they would fight among themselves in the delegation, the official delegation of the new country of Macedonia. Who is speaking Macedonian? Because they didn't know what Macedonian was.

It was actually a Croat who wrote the grammar and created the Macedonian language. Just like, you know, there is that Bulgarian lady who found documents in the Austrian archives about how the Albanian nation was created by the Austrians, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, to cut off Serbs and Russians from the Adriatic Sea. Lots of different things I'm throwing at you right now, but we have to recognize this, that these people have a right. And there were forces in the late 80s, in the early 90s, who wanted to unite on every side. Who wanted not to unite, but to work together to come to a solution so there would be no war. And most of the people didn't want it. But it was the West.

The United States, specifically their embassy, we have the documents and the testimonies of the now late Canadian ambassador who went with this guy, who invited him as an ally, thinking that Canada would just go along with it, and who, thank God, left us testimonies, firsthand experience and testimony, how they convinced the Muslim leadership, that horrible Satanist guy, Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia, to actually take away his signature from the peace agreement in Bosnia and start a war, and America would support them. The same thing they did in Ukraine, in Ukraine later. As I always say, Yugoslavia was the playground to prepare everything for Russia. We were the experimental stage of what was going to happen to Russia and later to China.

#Pascal

I think that is overall, that's how it makes good sense to view what happened to Yugoslavia. This breakup in the 1990s was anything but predetermined. There were a lot of ways to prevent it or to never ever let it go to that place. There were internal factors and external ones. When it comes to nationality, I think Professor Dr. Hacideric would have a different interpretation of Bosnia and Bagels in the 19th century. But we can put that one aside and just maybe also focus a bit on, you know, this... Maybe let's... let's just call it the racist part. The racist part of the imperial project, which does contain divide and conquer.

#Viseslav Simic

I mean, Yugoslavia was divided and conquered.

#Pascal

And today it is conquered. If you look at the largest U.S. military base in the entire region, it's in Kosovo, of course. And how these... Yeah. Let's leave it aside. Let's call it... Yeah, let's leave it at that. I mean, it's there.

#Viseslav Simic

The U.S. recognized that Kosovo is part of Serbia. They have a signature on the resolution before, saying Kosovo and Metohija is a province of Serbia.

#Pascal

Yeah.

#Viseslav Simic

That supersedes any other political arrangement. This is international law, so we should stick to it.

#Pascal

In Serbia and Kosovo, yeah, I don't know how to phrase it. But the point is, the base is there, and we know how also the European Union is basically running Bosnia and, you know, this way of control over an entire region. And I had this—just sorry that I need to do this—but I had this interesting conversation with a friend of mine, a Taiwanese friend, years ago, and I told him about my best friends in Switzerland who, again, Croat from Bosnia, from Herzegovina, a husband, Serb from, well, Kosovo. Yeah. And, you know, they had a lot of problems to get married because of family history, but now they are, and things are good, luckily. And I told my friend, my Taiwanese friend, how both of them, or all of them, all of their families, were quite discriminated against in Switzerland for a long time. The last syllable in your name, you know, Simic—the “ic” will automatically out you, right?

Especially in Switzerland, the largest immigrant groups in the 90s were, you know, from the different Yugoslav parts. A lot of racism. And then I showed him a picture of my friends, and my Taiwanese friend goes like, "But Pascal, they're white." And I told him, "Yeah, that's how good we are in Europe—we manage to be racist even against people of the same skin color." And we still do that to this day. And that brings us back to the Slavs, right? Of course, the Russians and Mr. Putin are as white as Mr. Merz and Mr. Macron. But still, Russophobia works. And when it comes to the Southern Slavs, to the Yugoslavs, you know, there's a similar kind of racism. I mean, how do you view that part, which definitely is coming—that kind of racism is coming from the Western part of Europe?

#Viseslav Simic

Yes, I will tell you a funny story, and I'll try not to make it sound racist, even though it actually is, but reversed. I remember in one of the think tanks in D.C., one of the institutes—I will not name it—

I was waiting for a delegation. I was, of course, with the American side. And if I keep my mouth shut, I can pass, you know, all dressed up with a suit and everything, as an American, you know, which I am—officially an American citizen—and I was working for the American side, from the State Department, in this institute where they were supposed to have this dialogue or whatever forum. And the Serbian delegation—this was just after Milosevic was overthrown, the new government and everything—and we are sitting there, and the Serbs were coming, whatever they were.

I don't know if all of them were Serbs or if they were other ethnicities, but a black young lady turns to me—she just happened to stand next to me, I never met her before and never after that—but I remember this. She turns to me and says, "You can tell the Slavs are coming, they stink, you know." So I just swallow it and don't say anything, but I use it as an example that even a black person, who would probably now claim she was part of Black Lives Matter and Antifa or whatever—because this was, you know, during the Obama years—she's probably claiming systemic racism against black people in the United States.

She herself got this Anglo-Saxon, Western European, American racism incorporated into her psyche when it comes to Russians. And I said this also cost me a lot of positions and jobs and status in D.C. when I said many, many decades ago that the racism that they cannot express anymore against blacks, Mexicans, women—well, anti-women sentiments—Jews, whoever it is, because it's all forbidden, you lose your job. You concentrate that and you aim it, throw it at the white people from Europe who have no one to defend them and who are seen as evil. Even though, especially Southern Slavs, we had never had colonies. We were not colonial powers. We were actually colonized.

This is something that shocks my Mexican students many times when I tell them in class, when they start saying, you know, like the Spanish are responsible for, you know, everything that's bad in Mexico. It's the Spanish, you know. I'm like, okay, don't be like the Serbs, like my people. Whenever something is wrong, it's the Turks, because we were under the Turks for 500 years—which is not true—but that's like a myth. And the Spanish were, I mean, the Mexicans or Latinos or the original population were so many nations here, you know, like even today there are 68 nations who deserve their own independence according to Western European and American standards when they're applied to Eastern Europe and Russia.

Why don't they apply it to Canada and to the United States and to Mexico, for example, and then create 68 new countries in Mexico, about 420 in the United States, and over 600 in Canada? Can you imagine the United Nations suddenly has about a thousand new members, and the United States reduces to like a third of its size, and Canada just disappears, basically? But anyway, I tell my Mexican students, shut up, don't complain. The Spanish have been gone since, let's say, 1810. In Serbia, the Turks have been gone since 1804. You cannot blame anybody but yourselves, and we cannot blame anyone but ourselves for all the little things—corruption and everything. We should fight it. So I'm very critical of my own. But then again... and this racism is so internalized.

They don't even recognize it. And you can see the smirk, you know, like when you say something, you know, like that actually civilization started in what is today Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria—the agriculture. There are documents and evidence and everything, in agriculture, metallurgy, and all this stuff. They just go like, you know, like it's so obvious. It's very easy to see. I remember in the UN, for example, I went again with the American delegation. This was during the Yeltsin years and the early Ukrainian so-called independence, when in the Security Council there was a Russian ambassador and we were entering.

And I remember a British guy, like second, third level, fourth level in the hierarchy in the British embassy to the United Nations, was telling—and I don't know if I should use it, I don't like to use bad words and all of that stuff, but I'm just quoting—he was calling them motherfuckers, you know, the Ukrainian ambassador and the Russian ambassador, in front of everybody at the UN, at the Security Council. You know, it was unbelievable, in one of the sessions, aside, not in the main room and all of this stuff.

And they were just going, you know, with the horrible conflicts of inferiority because they were ready to take everything and anything, just not to be in Moscow or in Kiev, in Ukraine or in Russia, because the fantasy was that the good life was in New York, in the UN. And I lived in Moscow, I worked in Moscow, in Russia, and later in Georgia, in Tbilisi. And I remember how I lived in New York before that, and I remember when I went to Moscow, even though I visited Moscow during communist times as a student, but I remember how much richer, in terms of multiculturalism and everything else, it was. It was poor—these were the worst years, '95, '96, when I was there, in terms of economics and finance and everything.

But it was more grandiose than any time in New York when I lived there. And New York was dirty and filthy and cranky, and everybody was nasty. And it was filthy and greasy everywhere, with rats and everything. And even in those horrible years in Russia, it was still grandiose and magnificent. Of course, now you will get emails that Sima is totally obsessed with Russia and all this stuff. But the facts tell the story. Just go to Moscow today and you will compare it, you will see with your own eyes. Again, if you're part of the press corps, you will, you know, like during the Olympics in Sochi, remember when they were showing a toilet that doesn't work in the Olympic village, and this is typical for Russia, nothing works and all this stuff.

So, you know, it depends what you want to see. But racism is there, and you can see it all the way back to the 16th century in England. And it comes from this grandiose idea that came to England with the Jewish re-immigration and the infection of the Protestants there under Cromwell, with this superiority complex that they picked up from the Jews—that they are the chosen ones. So this is the clash between the so-called Zionist Christians who claim that they are the chosen ones. They actually hate the Jews. I know this. I have heard them when they speak openly, because they claim the Jews are not the chosen ones, but they are useful to them.

#Pascal

That's the point about Christian Zionism. They use the Jews in order to get to the end.

#Viseslav Simic

Exactly. And the government in Israel is using, and those who support it are using, the power of the United States. But that's a different story. But this complex of superiority in England grew from this Protestant kind of vision of themselves as being chosen. And then when they immigrated to the United States, they instilled it in their Protestant WASP upper class who was running the United States. And it's obvious in all the literature and everything in both countries. And then it spread to all the other parts of Western Europe.

#Pascal

What do you think is the main factor to explain all of this? Because, I mean, you made the very good point that the southern Slavs didn't really—they didn't move. I mean, they didn't really go about and start conquering large swaths of land. And also the fact—I mean, the reason why the war was so horrible and the different extermination campaigns—is because Serbs and Croats and Bosnians and so on were living right next to each other, not just village next to village, but within the villages they were living next to each other. So, which obviously meant that for hundreds of years it was fine. It was okay to be next to each other until it wasn't, right? And then it collapsed. But that's one thing of a people that stayed stable.

One of the things these days that kind of strikes me as very, very important is that the Western Europeans never stayed stable. They always tried to go somewhere. They had crusades down to the Holy Lands, on the one hand. They had campaigns to overthrow Russia, right? Napoleon maybe just being one of the largest at the time. And, of course, they went west. And then they exterminated people in the West, in North America. They just sat there, said, "It's our land," and then killed the people who were there before, I mean, through various means, and then expanded, expanded, expanded. I mean, that's the one thing—that Western Europeans expanded the physical territory that was under the control of people who looked like them. And, of course, they kept political rights very closely to them.

I mean, it took literally a war to expand it also to the Black population. And we can have an entirely different discussion about how well developed those rights are today. But the other states, the more or less stayed put—do you think that that has an influence also on this development of culture in certain places and the lack of culture in others? And the imitation, right, that the Supreme Court and so on of the United States is modeled after ancient Greek temples, which is kind of bizarre for a nation that's 250 years old, right? But a nation, or a country, a political system. Can you speak to that?

#Viseslav Simic

Yes, I think that it's a clash. It's a psychological issue, I think, because they have this thing installed into themselves. You know, I also have a whole bunch of lectures showing the development of this sense of superiority and the need to lead, you know, like the white man's burden, as they call it. And I always protest because I don't consider myself white anymore. Others do. I'm Serbian. I have different citizenships, but my ethnicity, my culture, my everything is Serbian, and I don't see myself—I don't see—well, other than general humanity and cultural background and all this stuff, but I'm different from the Swiss. I'm not equal to Swedish or English or Portuguese or whatever.

So don't put me in this. So it's the English culture, the English upper class, who developed this necessity to feel superior, in spite of the fact that they were actually, over centuries, very inferior, and that they became rich and mighty through piracy—which we see coming up again. Trump said, we are like pirates, except that you don't need the word "like." We are pirates, we Americans. They are just robbing and grabbing. This is how Queen Elizabeth, with Francis Drake and the others, stole the stolen gold through the genocide by the Spanish and the Portuguese from Latin America, from the native people, from the original races and nations who were very sophisticated and developed in their own way.

Let's not be anachronistic and judge from our point of view today, because they had beautiful poetry, like the Aztecs, the so-called Aztecs, the Nahua. I actually translated a whole bunch of so-called ancient Aztec poetry into Serbian, trying to do the rhythm and everything, but they never published it, obviously, because I don't get anything published in Serbia. But anyway, it's very beautiful and all of this stuff. But they imposed internationally—to steal from the French too, and the Portuguese, and the Spanish especially—and then internally they imposed the belief in witchcraft and eliminating witches, which, if you study this, and there are lots of good studies and facts, it was not a religious thing at all. It was used like today, when they talk about, you know, religious issues with Islam, for example, and all of this stuff. It was the same thing.

And it was very rarely the Catholic Church. Being Serbian, I'm not very friendly or I'm very suspicious and very fearful of the Catholic Church hierarchy. Not ordinary Catholics, you know, they just happened to be born into a Catholic family, just like I was born into a Serbian Orthodox family. So I don't see them as enemies or anything. They're just people whom I have to meet and then judge based on my relationship with them and what they do. But the hierarchy, I have to defend. Most of the movies in the West, in Hollywood, are against the Catholic Church burning witches. Very few witches were burned by the Catholics. Some crazy bishops in the hierarchy said, no, this is superstition. It was the crazy, primitive English and Germans and barbaric Anglo-Saxons who did it. Protestants. Protestants. They did it. You know why? Because there were lots of widows that they had to eliminate.

#Viseslav Simic

Elder women, and at that time, remember, it's not 60, 70, 80 years old. This was a 40-year-old woman who inherited from three, four husbands who died before, lots of property, and it was

useless in a woman's hands. So how do you get rid of her? Well, you get the last son of the last husband, or the firstborn son of the last husband from maybe a previous marriage, three wives before this woman who married—his mother married this man—and he wants his father's property, but it goes to this woman who now can marry somebody else, and he wants it.

So it was a big coordination between the so-called Protestant Church, which from the Orthodox view is a heretical organization, to actually take away a percentage, like Henry VIII did—the whole Reformation—to just dispossess the Catholic Church, who was the greatest possessor of wealth and land in England. And he left his daughter, Elizabeth I, a magnificent kingdom, very rich in finance and growth potential, because he took somebody else's money. So these two things made them economically, financially, and politically powerful—piracy and hunting down witches—and then this religious view that they are superior because God has chosen them. But then still, read the documents from their descriptions of Russia, and don't go for the Western abridged versions where they only talk about how Russians are smelly, stinky, primitive barbarians.

But read the letters of their wives, for example, their mistresses going back to France, to England, to other Western countries, talking about how—or the nannies who write back to France and to Germany and to England—how magnificent Russia is and how they're shocked by the wealth and the enormity of this land and how sophisticated it is. They could not stand it. So the combination of this fake superiority, or religiously, fanatically induced necessity for superiority, and then fear and envy. Because, as I said before we started recording this, Slavs are the biggest chunk of the so-called white population, and we do not see ourselves as white. We see ourselves as Polish, Russian, Serbian, Croat, whatever.

And this is the part of the European family of nations, if you want, in terms not of states but nations, nationalities, ethnic groups, that is the only one remaining uninfected by all of this stuff that is destroying the Western nations. If they like it, this whole wokeness and everything else that they're doing in the West, if they think that is beneficial to them, that's fine. We don't care. But it's obvious to everybody in the world that it is destroying them. Look at the political structure in the West—it's falling apart. Look at the European Union, the so-called European Union. It is not a European Union. They talk about Europe, and they do not have the two biggest countries in Europe as part of the European Union.

Russia is almost half of the European territory, and only the European side of Russia. The culture—if you tell me that it's not a sick group of people who forbid Tchaikovsky or Tolstoy or Dostoevsky and other Russian artists and writers and all of this stuff—you can believe whatever you want, you know. But people who cannot distinguish between past and present, they live in this warp that lots of people escape to, this mystic and esoteric kind of niche world, an area on the internet where they talk about lizard people and, uh, the time warp and, you know, like all of this stuff. I think that Europeans mostly are in that because they confuse past and present.

I was recently talking to some people about our Serbian writer, playwright, and poet, a bishop prince of what is today Montenegro, but he considered himself Serbian. Njegoš, who actually was brought up in The Hague at the International Court of Justice—this shows how sick and uneducated and primitive these people are, the ones in these highest positions who were going to bring up charges against Njegoš, who died in the middle of the 19th century—because in one of his poems he is describing the massacre between the Ottoman, well, the Caliphate at that time.

People talk about the Ottoman Empire. Yes, it was the Ottoman Empire, but it was actually the Islamic Caliphate that was trying to exterminate Serbs in Montenegro. What is today Montenegro? And this clash, and he described this—these events happened in the middle of the 18th century, and he lived in the first half of the 19th century. So he was describing this. And some of these lawyers, you know, the prosecutor's office in The Hague, was going to bring up charges. And we have it on YouTube, I think. Still, I have it somewhere in my archives because I save everything, because it's all scrubbed and eliminated.

And they were talking about bringing up charges against these Serbian nationalists that probably people who write you these emails will say, yes, it's our interpretation of this. Well, if a writer is describing, you know, like the killings of the Jews in Auschwitz or whatever, you know, and then you're claiming that this writer is a Nazi and we should actually ban his books because he described it so well that we almost feel like it's real—which it was real—but anyway, and we're confused. This tells you that these people are in this warp of time and space, that they cannot distinguish between past, present, and future, that they are completely messed up in their psychology, in their emotions, in everything else.

This need to feel superior is projected then upon anybody who can be pointed at as nasty, evil, ugly, horrible, you know, whatever, just so that I come out as good. And this is what we have seen in this wokeness, in this whole thing against Russia, against the Slavs. Because they—I always show my Mexican students typical news items from Mexico—what they were complaining in the West about Trump, for example, saying, he's saying that all Mexicans are rapists and lazy people who just come to live off the benefits. Or Muslims come to Europe and live off these—like no Muslims work, you know, in Europe. There are obviously people who take advantage of these things, but you set it up for them.

The same thing in the United States. And then I tell them, like, okay, but Trump is only voicing what your media have been showing to you all the time. Because when you look at the news from Mexico, they always show these ugly, kind of murderous Mexican men who look kind of wild and nasty, and you don't trust them. And their women are always seen as kind of chubby, small, not really good-looking, and everything. Mexico is full of beautiful people. Like any place—Switzerland or Serbia or Japan, wherever—you can find ugly, you can find fat, you can find perfect, you know, angelic-looking people. It's just what you choose to see and what you choose to project.

The same thing about Russia. When they showed Russia, Russian people, or as I mentioned earlier, remember the Sochi Olympic Games, when they would show all of these things that... Let's see what happens in the United States now in the soccer thing that's coming up. We can always find probably a broken toilet and say, okay, America is falling apart. Yes, it's falling apart in certain places, but in certain places it's perfect. So these are very limited views and very kind of stupid, I would say, approaches to and acceptance by the general populace. So you create this vision of Mexicans as rapists and lazy and useless and just drunkards who make lots of noise.

And of course there are some, but there are also beautiful, gorgeous, wonderful people who work hard and make a good life in America and who bring lots of values in culture and history and everything else. The same thing with Russia. If you concentrate on showing people chubby, fat Russian women who in the 90s didn't take showers because there was no running water, obviously you're going to see ugly people. If you see Russians who are drunkards because they lost their jobs, their son got killed in Afghanistan because he was sent there, and they had only one child, and the father just gave up on life and is forgetting everything by getting drunk, like the middle class in America now with this fentanyl, just escaping the cruelty of modern American life.

You can concentrate on that. People show these videos of L.A. and American cities where these fentanyl addicts are, like, all twisted around themselves, you know, like, and ugly and smelly and all of this. Yeah, that's also America, but there is also beautiful stuff. So it all depends, you know. We should... The problem with everybody is this, and I will finish with this so then you can say something. I have a tendency to overtalk. One thing that I like from Marx is one famous quote when he says that the philosophers before Marx, or whoever talked about Marx—I don't remember who said this, but it was about Marx—tended to describe the world, but Marx and Marxists wanted to change it.

So this is what we should do. We should try to organize people all over the world into these communities of intellectuals and really educated people who know how to organize political things, to actually work together to come to power and replace these idiots and these evil, nasty people in Switzerland, in Serbia. The Serbian government is one of the most corrupt, most evil, nasty people—murderers. They keep telling me that I'm over-exaggerating all the time, but the facts are telling us they're committing great treason all the time. They're murderers, literally, and they're thieves. So is the European Union.

#Pascal

You're very good at distributing equally to everybody. They deserve it. But I think if I had to boil down our discussion over the last hour, then it would be one about being aware of selective reality—how selective we get when we create these concepts, right? Be it from the national—who or what is my nationality—all the way to how we perceive other countries and how they're portrayed, like how the selectiveness of the realities we live in and how they then can clash when there's no need for clash if we just, like, broaden the goddamn picture. I very much enjoyed this. And we did reach the

one-hour mark. But can you tell me where people should go who would like to read more from you or listen to more of your analysis?

#Viseslav Simic

Unfortunately, I think this is just the second interview in English. I gave one to one of the alternative media that a friend of mine—the one I was telling you about, who wanted to recommend me to you—recommended, and that person called. But it's kind of like a niche group in the United States that is very anti-globalist and everything, which was very well received. And I got lots of emails and communications from these people saying that. But they are very American, nationalistic, and concentrated only on America, and they cannot really see anything other than that. And they still think that they are the best and the only ones, and that they have a mission to save the world.

This is my second time in English, or other than Serbian. I have given, like, for the last 20 years, I think, or so. Whenever YouTube started, I was on, and I stopped giving interviews about a year and a half ago because they just want to talk about Vucic and the government. And I want to talk about solutions, you know, like what we should do to actually—not to talk about what they have done to us, but what we can do to actually eliminate them and then actually correct everything and put together alliances with Croats and Muslims and Albanians and whoever, to create a better environment and save ourselves collectively from Brussels and from the European Union and from the United States.

But if you want to, I will give my email address and people can contact me, and I will send them PDFs of these books and everything. And maybe some other people will invite me for talks on shows similar to yours, which I actually—I do want to say that I have watched almost every show of yours. And I always insist with my friends, when we talk about you and your show, they all love your show and your guests. Sometimes we disagree and we have big discussions and everything, but generally, they're very informative, very high-level intellectually, and very decent—extremely decent and proper.

But I always say, neutrality studies—just go back to Westphalia, to the origins of the international order of sovereign states in which we officially still live: the Peace of Augsburg, the Peace of Westphalia, the Peace of Utrecht, and the Peace of Tilsit, and you will have neutrality. If we go back to the balance of power, if we go back to respect for *cuius regio, eius religio*—like, don't get involved in other people's affairs—your country, my limit is... my border, your border is sacrosanct, and I don't get involved in yours, you don't get involved in mine.

And we negotiate. Remember the very good definition of diplomacy by René Albrecht. I always have problems with French. He said that it is the management of relations among sovereign nations through negotiations conducted by the appropriate agents, which we don't have anymore. We have

all sorts of non-sovereign entities. What is the European Union? It's not a sovereign entity. And yet we have, even here in Mexico, an embassy of the European Union. Through appropriate agents, we use TikTok and Twitter or whatever Trump is using. This is not diplomacy.

And then stop practicing this “revolutionary diplomacy,” in quotes, that has been practiced by Americans in the last 40 years, which destroys. This is why I named my book on Kosovo, on privatization in Kosovo, *Kosovo: Ground Zero of the Neoliberal World Order.* This is when it died—not in Iraq, not in Afghanistan, not now in Gaza or Iran. It died in Serbia in '99, in '95 in Bosnia, when they bombed Serbs in Bosnia. That’s when everything died. But we don’t want to talk about it because it upsets those—you know, they call them strawberries here because they’re easily bruised. *Las fresas,* like snowflakes in the United States, you know.

#Pascal

It's another discussion that we need to have. And we had planned to go to Kosovo, but we got absorbed by the rest of what we had to talk about, about the big picture. But I'm very grateful that we could do this. Anyone who wants to get in touch with you, I'm happy to connect you via email. And Vyacheslav Simic, thank you so much for your time today.

#Viseslav Simic

Thank you, Pascal.