

BORDER DISPUTE BETWEEN SLOVENIA AND CROATIA
AND THE BLOCKADE OF THE EU ACCESSION TALKS.
NECESSARY OR ABSURDITY IN A 'EUROPE WITHOUT BORDERS'?

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Abstract

This thesis treats the border dispute between Slovenia and Croatia in context of the EU enlargement. It reveals some Slovenian and Croatian argumentations in the disagreement of the maritime delimitation in the Adriatic Sea and exposes other bilateral problems. It enumerates the failed bilateral attempts to solve the dispute. For reasons of understanding, the paper resumes some historical facts in general and the problematic situation in the past in the content area Istria. In addition, this paper examines the concept of borders in general and some aspects of frontiers in the EU in particular. It demonstrates how the establishment of borders affected the population in Istria. It analyses, furthermore, the awareness of the EU concerning the border dispute in its scope and question the Slovenian veto on the EU negotiation talks, i.e. using the EU membership to resolve a bilateral issue.

*Aber zwischen diesen Menschen gleicher Gesinnung
steht noch trennender als die Mauern der Sprache,
als die Gräben der Grenzen der Dämon von Babel,
der sie verwirrt: Politik.*

Stefan Zweig, 1918

COE	Council of Europe
CPY	Communist Party of Yugoslavia
EC	European Community
ECHR	European Court of Human Rights
EEC	European Economic Community
EP	European Parliament
EU	European Union
HDZ	Croatian Democratic Union
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICTY	International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia
JNA	Yugoslav People Army
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
PHARE	Poland and Hungary Action for Reconstruction of the Economy
SAA	Stabilisation and Association Agreement
SAP	Stabilisation and Association Process
SDS	Slovenian Democratic Party
SEA	Single European Act
SFRY	Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea
WWI	World War I
WWII	World War II

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