



*SERBIA*

*(REPUBLIC OF SERBIA)*



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### Economics

- 1970 oil crisis put Serbia into massive foreign debt.
- 1979-1985 the Yugoslav currency became worth 9000% less than it did.
- Most of the economy runs on services, industry and agriculture
- 9.2% of population is below poverty line
- Since the 2008 financial crisis, public debt relating to GDP has increased.
- Abundance of coal
- Tourism employs 3% of nation's workforce total
- Serbia relies heavily on trade, so if the trade stopped Serbia would have a crisis
- Services
  - Pros: Reduce the material & energy consumption and minimizes environmental degradation from heavy industry
  - Cons: Depends more on other countries, more import than export, and more skilled workers are required
- Financial state: Serbia is in debt but still doing alright like the economy isn't breaking down it's still holding its own

### History (1970 - present)

- 1980- Tito, Communist dictator of Serbia, dies
- 1986- changes were made to 1974 constitution
- 1987- created anger, especially in Croatia and Slovenia
- 1987- Milosevic had become head of Communist Party in Serbia
- 1989- Milosevic becomes president, Communist collapse
- 1991- Croatia & Slovenia didn't agree with Milosevic's policies, they declared independence
- 1992- cease-fire established against Milosevic's troops, UN Security Council passed economic sanctions against Yugoslavia
- 1996- peace treaty between Croatia and Yugoslavia, Milosevic defeated in presidential election
- 1998- Kovsko began fighting for their independence
- 1999- NATO bombed Yugoslavia on behalf of Kovsko, treaty worked out between Yugoslavia and NATO
- 2001- Milosevic on trial for war crime and genocide charges
- 2003- Serbian Prime Minister assassinated
- 2008- Serbia gains closer ties with European Union

## Political Structure

- The current leader is President Tomislav Nikolić.
  - He came to power by being selected by national assembly.
- The type of government is parliamentary republic.
  - Head of the government is Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucić.
- The function of the parliamentary republic is to follow the parliamentary system which is a system of government. At which the executive branch derives the acceptance of governing law from legislature also is accountable.
- Advantages of parliamentary republic are it is faster and easier to pass laws. Also can be less expensive.
- Disadvantages of parliamentary republic are:
  - Expensive to operate
  - Conflict between the head of state and head of government
  - Can drift into instability
- Types of government Serbia has had since 1970s are:
  - Communist government which last from 1946-1980
  - In the 1980s the government rotated between 6 republics and 2 religions
  - In 1987 Milosevic took control making the communist government to resurface
  - In 1992 Federal republic of Yugoslavia came into place
  - 2003 a parliamentary republic first came into session

## Cultural and Social

- Serbian literary tradition is the country history of epic poetry
- Serbians take great pride in making their meals like Greeks
  - Lunch is considered the most important meal
  - Breakfast wasn't considered a meal until late 1800s
  - Food has similar tastes to the border countries
  - Serbians like to make their own food rather than buying it from a grocery store
  - Grow and eat their own food than buying already picked food
- The wars(world wars and civil wars) have caused the cultures evolve and change
- Most of Serbia is Orthodox Christians
  - These are also religions in Serbia
  - Muslim
  - Roman Catholic
- In Serbia people take great pride of food which is one of the main things the focus on. Religion is also a major part of their culture, they will make special meals for special religious days.



## Physical Structure

- Size of the country 77,474 km<sup>2</sup> (29,913 sq mi)
- Pannonian plain covers the northern third of the country
- Easternmost of the tip extends into Wallachian plain
- Southern third of the country is mountains
- Dinaric Alps stretches into the southwest
- Carpathian and Balkan mountain stretch in north-south direction east
- Population:
  - 7,041,599
- The population is decreasing
  - Net Decrease of 1 person every 35 minutes
  - Death rates exceeds birth rates
- Major decrease in population started in 1990s
  - 300,000 people left Serbia
- Has the largest refugee population in Europe
- Only one city has a population over 1 million people
- This is significant because it's going to keep decreasing

