## SERBIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS INSTITUTE FOR BALKAN STUDIES



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à fait possible de mentionner l'hypothèse d'une origine celtique pour *Teuta* et ses dérivés dans l'onomastique paléo-balkanique.

Grâce à la qualité des analyses du dictionnaire, il était déjà possible de remettre en question l'origine de deux noms généralement admis comme paléo-balkaniques.<sup>11</sup>

sova i Metohije u rimsko doba u svetlu antroponimije » [Population indigène du Kosovo et de la Métochie à l'époque romaine à la lumière de l'anthroponymie], Kosovo i Metohija u civilizacijskim tokovima, t. 3 : Istorija, istorija umetnosti, éd. M. Atlagić (Kosovska Mitrovica: (2010): 19–40. (Titre et texte originellement en cyrillique.)

Pour une remise en question similaire, voir l'article de D. Stifter, « On the linguistic situation of Roman period Ig », dans *Personal Names in the Western Roman World*, Proceedings of a Workshop convened by Torsten Meißner, José Luis García Ramón and Paolo

Naturellement, les remarques que nous apportons ici ne touchent qu'une partie infime de la densité des données présentes dans cet ouvrage. Bien organisé et ouvert aux non linguistes, ce livre demeure une source indispensable à l'étude du gaulois et de ses traces dispersées à travers l'Empire romain. Nos quelques commentaires quant aux faits balkaniques ne cherchent qu'à mettre en évidence l'apport des données celtiques, surtout celui de l'onomastique gauloise, pour l'étude des peuples et des langues non celtiques d'Illyricum.

Poccetti, held at Pembroke College, Cambridge, 16–18 September 2011, éd. T. Meißner (Berlin: curach bhán publications, 2012), 247–265. Dans cette étude, D. Stifter réfute la celticité antérieurement proposée d'une partie de répertoire onomastique d'Ig.

IOANNA IORDANOU, VENICE'S SECRET SERVICE: ORGANISING INTELLIGENCE IN THE RENAISSANCE. OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2019, 256 p.

Reviewed by Jelica Vujović\*

Historian Ioanna Iordanou, the author of the book presented here, is Senior Lecturer in Human Resource Management (Coaching and Mentoring) at the Oxford Brookes Business School. She is also engaged as a Research Consultant for the European Coaching and Mentoring Council (EMCC). Her research interests are focused on economic and business history, organization studies and management education, intelligence and espionage in the early modern period and the phenomenon of proto-modern organizations and entities in the pre-industrial world.

The central theme of her study Venice's Secret Service: Organising Intelligence in the Renaissance, structured into six chapters, is the intelligence apparatus in the Republic of Venice from about 1500 to about 1630, when it was led by the Council of Ten, a governing body in charge of state security since its founding in 1310. The author conducted extensive archival research in Venice, Florence, Rome, Simancas and London, supplementing her study of the original material with concepts and theories from related sciences, taking into account historiographical research on Venetian spies and secret agents conducted by the Italian historian Paolo Preto, notably his I servizi segreti di Venezia:

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Spionaggio e controspionaggio ai tempi della Serenissima (Milan: Il Saggiatore, 1994).

The first chapter - "Venice and Venetian Intelligence in the European Panorama" shows that intensified rivalries between European countries after the great geographical discoveries, the invention of the printing press, wars and territorial expansion of the Ottoman Empire prompted some of them (Italian city-states, Spain, Tudor England, Bourbon France, the Ottoman Empire) to set out to improve mechanisms of information gathering, and intelligence and counterintelligence activities. Spain under King Philip II was quite successful in such efforts, but still failed to create a systematic intelligence organization, based on management structures determining and controlling the ways in which people worked and communicated with each other. Only the Republic of Venice, supported by its advanced state bureaucracy, succeeded.

The second chapter - "State Secrecy: A Venetian Virtue" - examines the institutional context in which the Venetian state intelligence organization was formed and developed. Iordanou argues that studying secrecy (especially official state secrets) only as a strategy for retaining knowledge and information cannot result in an exhaustive interpretation of the social dynamics it creates during the data exchange process that should be protected. The Council of Ten, through several formal decrees, set out how their representatives and patricians in general should behave and, from the fourteenth century, called on all commoners to secretly denounce anyone or anything that posed a potential threat to state stability and security. The author underlines that these facts are indicative not only of how ubiquitous the culture of secrecy was in early modern Venetian society but also, what she considers to be even more important, that secrecy enabled and encouraged social interactions which would not be possible otherwise.

In the third chapter – "Renaissance Venice's Intelligence Organization" – Iordanou describes the pyramidal structure of the organization. Explaining in detail the importance of correspondence as the primary way of communication in the early modern period, especially over long distances, with special emphasis on encrypted correspondence without which it was practically impossible to preserve information of vital importance to the state, she argues that the Council of Ten had in its hands a powerful mode of management involving complex processes of issuing, sending, receiving and executing orders and the "accountability" of executors of operations (ambassadors, governors, other officials) through written reports. In her attempt to identify the characteristics of the proto-modern state bureaucracy, Iordanou draws on Max Weber, who defined an organization as any social structure governed by an authority based on generally accepted rules and regulations, which, in this case, were issued by the Council of Ten.

"Venice's Department of Cryptology", the fourth chapter, provides an account of the evolution of cryptology in Renaissance Venice, from the domain of "science and art" to a separate independent profession, thanks to the systematic evolvement of diplomacy and the activity of encryption and decryption masters operating in the Doge's Palace in that period. Iordanou gives three reasons why no other Italian and European country (except Spain in the reign of Philip II) was able to establish a professional cryptology service of the size and organizational structure of that of the Republic of Venice in the early modern period. The first reason is related to the already mentioned transformation of cryptology. The second was the existence of an internal school of professional cryptology initiated by the Council of Ten as specialist training of secretaries and all other officials. As the third reason, Iordanou states that the Department of Cryptology was a branch of the Venetian secret service and, as such, was subject to the same organizational rules. Reliance on theoretical knowledge and practical skills,

professional ethics, internal control and discipline, professional development and work organization are some of the characteristics of the profession defined by sociologists and historians, which, according to her, characterize the profession of cryptologist whose development was encouraged by Renaissance Venice. Although they have been linked almost exclusively to the industrial requirements of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, primarily due to the lack of institutional frameworks in which professions could develop (in pre-industrial times these were only churches and universities), Iordanou emphasizes that professionalization, just like the concept of organization and managerial practice, existed long before there was a term to define it.

The fifth chapter, "Venice's Secret Agents", concentrates on those who put the intelligence ideas of the Council of Ten into practice. They came from all strata of Venetian society (ambassadors, governors, merchants, wealthy Jews, commoners). But, in situations where diplomatic etiquette prevented ambassadors, governors and even merchants of patrician descent from participating in intelligence operations, the Council of Ten recruited paid agents, who were willing to embark on dangerous spy

missions. Because of the pejorative meaning of the word "spy", the Venetian government also used the terms "confidant" or "explorator". The author concludes that the lack of professionalization, which was most visible in the parallel use of all these terms despite the difference in meaning, is the reason why contemporary historians have problems with the precise definition of the term "spy".

The last chapter, "Extraordinary Measures", discusses the "additional ways" of preserving numerous land and overseas possessions which the Venetian government intensified during the sixteenth century, in line with its neutral policy towards foreign countries that it began to pursue at the time. Iordanou states that the Council of Ten, ignoring a public outcry that may have been sparked by the cruelty of some of these measures, routinely legalized such acts in the name of the necessity of preventing the enemy from obtaining confidential information about Venetian affairs. Pointing to counterintelligence activities as one of the most relevant functions of the Venetian secret service, the author identifies the range of these extraordinary measures from extreme - such as assassination, to milder ones - such as intercepting letters.

Benno Gammerl, Subjects, Citizens and Others. Administering Ethnic Heterogeneity in the British and Habsburg Empires, 1867–1918. New York – Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2018, 300 p.

Reviewed by Anja Nikolić\*

Benno Gammerl is lecturer in history at Goldsmiths, University of London. His main research interests have so far been imperial history and the contemporary history of homosexuality in Germany. His work on imperial history has been focused mostly on the British and Habsburg Empires and how they administered ethnically heterogeneous groups within their imperial boundaries. His monograph *Subjects*, *Citizens and* 

Others. Administering Ethnic Heterogeneity in the British and Habsburg Empires, 1867–1918 is a thoroughly reworked version of the book Untertanen, Staatsbürger und Andere. Der Umgang mit ethnischer Heterogenität im Britischen Weltreich und im Habsburgerreich which emerged from his doctoral dissertation in 2010.

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