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Religion and how it has affected the Political Culture of Montenegro

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Montenegro is a country situated in the west-central Balkans, Southeast Europe, and is bounded by Croatia, Serbia, Albania, and Bosnia, and Herzegovina. Montenegro's capital is Podgorica despite the nation's cultural center being the historical capital of Cetinje (R. Lampe). For the greater part of the 20th century, Montenegro was recognized as part of Yugoslavia before becoming a component of the federal union of Serbia and Montenegro during the period lasting from 2003 to 2006. The name Montenegro can be traced back to the late 15th century when the name Montenegro was first used in reference to the Southeast European nation after Montenegro fell under the rule of the Ottoman Empire. Montenegro was later able to attain independence during 1695 under the authority of the House of Petrović-Njegoš. During the 1878 Congress of Berlin, Montenegro's independence was finally recognized by the Great Powers before later in 1910 Montenegro became a kingdom. After the events of World War I, Montenegro was recognized as part of Yugoslavia before Yugoslavia broke up leading to the formation of Serbia and Montenegro. After an independence referendum in 2006, Montenegro finally declared its independence which saw the dissolving of Serbia and Montenegro.

Today Montenegro is recognized as a civic democratic and sovereign republic as proclaimed by the nation's 2007 constitution (R. Lampe). The nation is ruled by a president who is the head of state serving an elected term of five years. The government of Montenegro is recognized as the country's executive branch of government, headed by a Prime Minister. The Montenegro Parliament is recognized as the nation's legislative body mandated with implementing laws, appointing the Prime Minister alongside his team of ministers as well as justices of all courts in Montenegro. In 2019 following claims of abuse of power by former Montenegro President Đukanović, Montenegro ceased being a democracy and became a hybrid regime. This research paper focuses on how religion in Montenegro influences the nation's political culture.

Annotated Bibliography

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CENGAGE. Political Culture | Encyclopedia.com. Encyclopedia.com. (2018). Retrieved 18 May 2021, from

<https://www.encyclopedia.com/social-sciences-and-law/sociology-and-social-reform/sociology-general-terms-and-concepts/political-culture#:~:text=Political%20culture%20is%20the%20set,operating%20norms%20of%20a%20polity.>

The article offers insight on the topic of political culture. The article begins by defining the term political culture. The article further highlights the need for political culture. The article further explains how a nation's political culture is prone to change based on historical events within a political system. The article however fails to highlight the political culture of Montenegro. The article is still useful to the article as it aids in the understanding of the concept of political culture which is the research paper's main focus.

Dorđević, N. (2020). Montenegro: New government, old problems - Emerging Europe. Emerging Europe. Retrieved 18 May 2021, from

[https://emerging-europe.com/news/montenegro-new-government-old-problems/.](https://emerging-europe.com/news/montenegro-new-government-old-problems/)

The article highlights the change in the political culture of Montenegro following the recently concluded elections that saw citizens of Montenegro elect a Prime Minister who did not belong to any political party. The article highlights the emergence of technocracy in Montenegro while establishing what this means for the former ruling party DPS. The article also highlights some of the issues the new political outfit for Montenegro may be faced with throughout their term in authority. The article however fails to highlight how the political culture affects how the nation's citizens but rather focus on how the political culture has

played a role in establishing a relationship with its neighboring Serbia. The article is however useful as it offers insight into the political culture of the nation of Montenegro.

Dorđević, N. (2020). Why religion is causing an almighty row between Montenegro and Serbia - Emerging Europe. Emerging Europe. Retrieved 18 May 2021, from <https://emerging-europe.com/news/why-religion-is-causing-an-almighty-row-between-montenegro-and-serbia/>.

The article highlights the passage of a controversial freedom of religion law in Montenegro and how the passage of the law has fueled rows between Montenegro and Serbia. The freedom of religion law would oversee government repossession of property with no official ownership records being held by religious communities. The article highlights the increased protests against the law led by the Serbian Orthodox Church as well as the Serbian State. The article highlights just how much influence religion has on the people of Montenegro and its environs, therefore, making the article insightful for the research paper.

MILLER, A. (2020). Religion and Politics: Demonstrations in Montenegro | ACLED. ACLED. Retrieved 18 May 2021, from <https://acleddata.com/2020/11/03/religion-and-politics-demonstrations-in-montenegro/>.

The article begins by highlighting the occurrence of demonstrations in Montenegro following the passing of the Religious Freedom Law in 2019. The article also highlights how the demonstrations were able to influence the outcome of the following elections in Montenegro. The article also highlights the influence of the Serbian Orthodox Church as well as the Montenegrin Orthodox Church. The article is therefore useful to the research as it offers insight into how religion shapes the political culture of the nation.

Poláčková, Z., & van Duin, Montenegro Old and New: History, Politics, Culture, and the People. P. Sav.sk. Retrieved 18 May 2021, from https://www.sav.sk/journals/uploads/04241525SPS_1_2013_Z%20Polackova_P%20van%20Duin.pdf

The article focuses on Montenegro's growth as a modern European nation. The article also highlights the fact that the nation is developing into a multicultural nation despite being dominated by a Slavic Orthodox community. The article also analyzes the current conditions, attitudes, as well as feelings of various cultures within the nation. The article is useful for the paper's research as it offers insight into the cultural landscape of the nation.

R. Lampe, J. (2021). Government and society. Encyclopedia Britannica. Retrieved 18 May 2021, from <https://www.britannica.com/place/Montenegro/Government-and-society>

The article offers insight into the political landscape of the nation offering insight into the nation's political culture. The article also offers insight into the various cultures of the people of Montenegro. The article also offers insight into the various cultural institutions available in Montenegro. The article however fails to highlight the nation's political culture. The article is however still useful for the research as it allows one to better understand the nation's government and society.

R. Lampe, J. (2021). Montenegro | History, Population, Capital, Flag, Language, Map, & Facts. Encyclopedia Britannica. Retrieved 18 May 2021, from <https://www.britannica.com/place/Montenegro>.

The article offers background information about the nation of Montenegro. The article provides details surrounding the nation's capital. The article also provides a brief history of

the nation. However, the article fails to highlight the culture of the Montenegro people. The article is still useful for the research paper as it offers background information about the nation allowing a better understanding of the Nation's geographical background.

Ralev, R. (2020). Montenegro's DPS ready to go into opposition - Djukanovic.

Seenews.com. Retrieved 18 May 2021, from

<https://seenews.com/news/montenegros-dps-ready-to-go-into-opposition-djukanovic-712250>.

The article highlights the fall of Montenegro's Democratic Party of Socialists (DPS) after close to 30 years in governance. The article also highlights the country's new coalition government. The article also highlights the results of the recently concluded elections. Apart from the results of the recently concluded elections, the article provides information on previous elections in Montenegro. The article despite failing to highlight how the political landscape of the nation affects the citizens offers insight into the political culture of the nation.

ŠĆEKIĆ, R., & RUTOVIĆ, Ž. (2016). POLITICAL LIFE IN MONTENEGRO IN THE TRANSITION PERIOD [Ebook]. Retrieved 18 May 2021, from <https://dergipark.org.tr/tr/download/article-file/256933>.

The article highlights Montenegro's political culture over the course of the last two decades. The article highlights the political transformations and changes experienced in Montenegro. The article focuses on the social-political changes in Montenegro following the introduction of a multi-party system. The article also highlights the rule of the nation's DPS. The article is therefore useful for the research as it offers insight into the nation has been able to establish its political culture.

Sinanović, E. (2020). The Serbian Orthodox Church and the 2020 Montenegro Elections. Berkleycenter.georgetown.edu. Retrieved 18 May 2021, from <https://berkleycenter.georgetown.edu/posts/the-serbian-orthodox-church-and-the-2020-montenegro-elections>.

The article offers insight into how the Serbian Orthodox Church was able to influence the recently concluded 2020 elections in Montenegro. The article highlights the controversial law on Freedom of Religion as the main reason behind the church's involvement in the political scene in Montenegro. The article also offers a background of the Church in Montenegro. The article is useful for the research as it offers insight into the influence of religion on the political culture of the nation.