

## ***Yugoslavia, Indonesia, and the Non-Aligned Movement: Romanticization, Yugocentrism, and De-ideologization***



Foto: Muzej Jugoslavije

In 2024, the Indonesian embassy in Belgrade celebrated 70 years of diplomatic relations, yet official Serbian rhetoric framed this as a continuous "Serbian–Indonesian" friendship, retrospectively overwriting the Yugoslav framework. In the early 1960s, Yugoslavia and Indonesia co-founded the Non-Aligned Movement, with Tito and Sukarno embodying its decolonizing aspirations, even as early strategic divergences emerged. Despite the 1965

anti-communist turn in Indonesia and the violent dissolution of Yugoslavia, bilateral state relations continued, revealing a pragmatism that often superseded ideological kinship. Contemporary romanticization of this history serves to obscure ruptures—mass violence, regime changes, and secessions—while enabling selective political uses, from Bosnia to Kosovo.

**Nebojša Đorđević** is a doctoral candidate in Sociology at the University of Belgrade. He holds a Magister Humaniora in Cultural Studies from Surakarta, Indonesia, as a recipient of the Indonesian government scholarship. His professional experience includes work at the National Gallery of Indonesia in Jakarta and the Indonesian Pavilion at the Venice Biennale. His research focuses on Serbian–Indonesian relations, decolonization, and critical whiteness studies.

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Wo: **Online**, Register at: [zeljana.tunic@slavistik.uni-halle.de](mailto:zeljana.tunic@slavistik.uni-halle.de)

Hosted by: Jun.-Prof. Dr. Željana Tunić (Slavic Cultural Studies, University Halle-Wittenberg), and Prof. Dr. Jürgen Dinkel (A Global History of the Modern Era, University Leipzig)