



## JCC KAD ZORA SVANE: THE KINGDOM OF SERBIA, 1918

As the First World War drew to a close, the Serbian army returned to its once-occupied homeland celebrating a victory which was truly Pyrrhic. With 58% of their adult male population having perished in the war and most of the countryside having been razed to the ground by Austria-Hungary and Bulgaria, there is a massive amount of work to do before Serbian independence can be truly celebrated. Yet delegates are faced with more than just these massive economic expectations. During the war, the exile Serbian cabinet and Southern Slavic leaders from Austria-Hungary met on the Greek island of Corfu, signing a declaration that they would unite into Yugoslavia after the war. Delegates will face the tasks of stabilizing relations with its aggressive neighbors—Bulgaria, Hungary, and Italy—and managing expectations from the United Kingdom and others at the Paris Peace Conference. They will have to incorporate Montenegro and Macedonia more closely into their realm while facing increasing autocratic tendencies from the son of the king. Amongst these issues surfacing at both domestic and international levels, there is one question in everyone's mind: who is Serbia, and will it become a regional power once more?

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