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Football and politics



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Football has nothing to do with politics. To what extent do you agree with this statement?

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This modul is a review about sport life in the period from 1918. to 1930., more specifically about one famous case and the problems that have occurred related to Yugoslav national sport team on Football First World Championship in Uruguay

This topic is selected because we assume it is interesting to most of students and teacher. The topic is controversial because the influence of politics to sport and could help us to bring closer problems like: nation in Yugoslav Kingdom, dictatorship, centralization, political disagreements, unitarism... Our attention was to show student croatian-serbian issue on some small and intersting incident/case.

A

Critical analysis of sources on participation of Yugoslav team in the First World Football Championship and problems in relations between nations in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. Deepening the knowledge about local and world's sports history. Introducing the fun part of history and awaking the interest for history as a science.

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1. Students will develop critical thinking through learning about causes and consequences
2. Students will find out connection between political conflict and sport
3. Students will compare this famous case in history with the problems and violence happening these days among sport fans.
4. Strengthening of interest and enthusiasm for the subject.

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The teacher will present the theme to the class. The workshop has two phases – first phase is individual work and work in pairs, and the second one is group work and presentation of the results.

STEP 1/ : Introduction and motivation – the teacher will read an introduction, then show the picture of the old leather ball from 19th century. Students will answer to the proposed question and we conclude what we know about football history.

- Try to compare playing football now and a hundred years ago.
- What were the conditions?
- Do you know something about football history?

STEP 2/ F

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: Work in groups - Photograph analysis

and filling out the table – Students will analyze sources about newspaper announcement about new interesting game – football, source about first championship and founding of the Football Association (Zbornik) 0.2(o)-0.2(se)-0.2(d)-0.2() 0.2(q)-0.2(u) 0 0 10 0 0 T.2454 1.2(e)-0.2(re) Proposed question for discussion:

- Do we consider football an old traditional sport? Why?
- Name some famous football clubs from the beginning of the 20



45
minutes

Q :

- Read the sources by chronological order and make a timeline
- Analyse all points of view about moving Football association from Zagreb to Belgrade. What can you conclude?
- Why is it important that seats of football associations are in the capital cities of the state? Explain your answer.

STEP 4/ W C : Group work – source reading and analyzing.

After short introduction students will work in groups. The task is to analyze the sources about the First World Football Championship, answering three questions from the tasks:

Q :

Why Croatian players refused to play for national team on World Championship?
Find the connection between politics and sports, business and sports, now and then.
Explain!

Do you know of any player in present time who refused to play for national team and why?

What are the possible reasons to refuse the national team today, and what were the reasons in the past?

STEP 5/

a) **R** -

Group work – source reading and analyzing.

Students will analyze the sources and answer the questions from tasks. In the end we will conclude together and fill the table: causes/incident/consequences.

Q :

Compare the national team welcome in Ljubljana, Zagreb and Belgrade. What can you conclude?

Why were they given a cold welcome in Zagreb?

Make a connection between this welcome and the situation in the country in those days.

b) **F**

Q :

1.) Name some money problems incurred after the World Championship.

In the end we will conclude together and fill the table: causes/incident/ consequences.

Table no 1

We can conclude workshop with key question:

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Introduction

- The Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenians (later Kingdom of Yugoslavia) was established in 1918, with the capital in Belgrade. After 1918 new supra-national sport associations were established. Some of them were established in Zagreb, such as the Yugoslav Olympic Committee or the Yugoslav Football Association.
- Attempts to create a unitarian and centralised state with the centre in Belgrade generated tensions, especially between Croats and Serbs. After the main office of the Yugoslav Football Association was transferred in 1930 to Belgrade, Croatian representatives refused to play in Yugoslav teams for three years.
- Tensions between Croats and Serbs in the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (from the 1929 Kingdom of Yugoslavia) will be reflected on the football as well.

Source 1

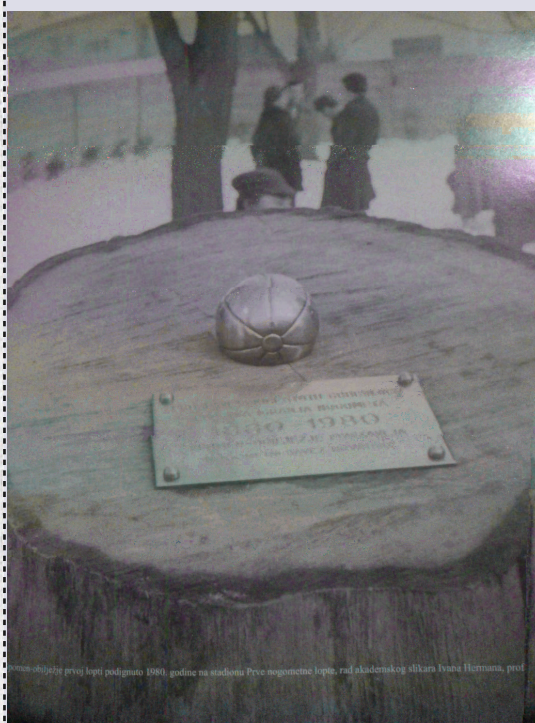
A 19 C



Zupanja – the cradle of Croatian football", Zupanja, 2005.

Source 2

A 19 C ,



Zupanja – the cradle of Croatian football", Zupanja, 2005.

Q :

1. Try to compare playing football now and a hundred years ago.
2. What were the conditions?
3. Do you know something about football history?

Source 1

A

(1893.)

"Since all around Europe, lately, and also outside Europe, some games took over gymnastic games in gymnastic societies, particularly so-called English games, such as: Lawn Tennis, Football, Cricket (...) so the Croatian Falcon decided to introduce some of those games to its members (...) The games will start next week, and the first to be shown will be Lawn Tennis and Football"

Sto godina nogometa u Hrvatskoj 1880. – 1980., NIŠRO Prosvjeta, Bjelovar 1984., glavni urednik Franjo Frntić

Source 2

E

In 1912 / 1913 there was the first football championship of Croatia and Slavonia, with six clubs involved. HASK was the champion. The second championship started in 1913, but was not finished due to the WWI. Founding of Yugoslav Football Association was at the Assembly in Zagreb, on 15 April 1919. Besides delegates from Croatia there were representatives of some other areas, so after the discussion there prevailed the opinion that it was more useful to establish the football organization of the new country of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. So that day, instead of renewing the work of Football section and establishing of Croatian Football Association, the Yugoslav Football Association (JNS) was established, with its seat in Zagreb.

Sto godina nogometa u Hrvatskoj 1880. – 1980., NIŠRO Prosvjeta, Bjelovar 1984., glavni iurednik Franjo Frntić

Source 3

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Yugoslav national team played its first international game at Olympic Tournament in Antwerp in 1920. Two heavy defeats and last place at the tournament, followed by moderate plays at Olympics in Paris and Amsterdam, did not discourage football pioneers. National team kept playing friendlies and local tournaments (Balkan Cup, Neighboring Countries Cup), and in 1930 participated at the First World Cup in Uruguay.

Subsequently, the Football Federation was founded in 1919, even though the first club had been founded in Subotica in 1901, FK Backa. The club was presented to the public in a friendly game against Hungarian side TK Mohacs. In 1903, Belgrade and Zagreb got their first football babies: Soko (Falcon) and HASK (Hrvatski Akademski Športski Klub - Croatian Academic Sport Club). Football gained a lot of popularity, so clubs were founded in Ljubljana (Ilirija), Kragujevac (Šumadija), Novi Sad (NAK), Sarajevo (Gradjanski), Varazdin (VGŠK), Split (Hajduk), Belgrade (BSK, Jugoslavija, BASK...), Zagreb (Gradjanski, Concordia, Akademija, PNIŠK)...

The first national championship took place in 1923 and the winner was Gradjanski Zagreb. Until World War II, Gradjanski and BSK Belgrade won five titles each and provided major backbone for national team. In 1929, the headquarters of FSJ (Fudbalski Savez Jugoslavije - Yugoslav Football Association) were moved from Zagreb to Belgrade. Antagonism between Serbian and Croatian officials erupted twice. First in 1930, when Croatian clubs prohibited their players to play for national team, and then in 1933 when championship was not held, since the clubs could not agree on competition system.

www.rsssf.com (19.07.2013)

World's organization for football history and statistics

Source 4

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1923 1930.

| | Club | Championship (prvak) | runnerup (viceprvak) |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | BSK Beograd | 5 | 5 |
| 2 | Građanski Zagreb | 5 | 2 |
| 3 | Hajduk Split | 2 | 5 |
| 4 | Jugoslavija Beograd | 2 | 3 |
| 5 | Concordia Zagreb | 2 | 1 |
| 6 | HAŠK Zagreb | 1 | 0 |
| 7 | Slavija Sarajevo | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | Sašk Sarajevo | 0 | 1 |

www.rsssf.com (19.07.2013)

World's organization for football history and statistics

Q :

1. Do we consider football an old and traditional sport? Why?
2. Name some famous football clubs from the beginning of the 20th Century.
3. When was it founded and where was the seat of Yugoslav Football Association?

Introduction:

Serbian political elite insisted on centralized state, strongly opposing the idea of federalization which was demanded mostly by Croatian political leaders. The Serbian led government in Belgrade attempted to form a centralized country by relocating state institutions to the capital of the country. The move of the office of the national football association was part of this process.

The Yugoslavian Football Association was founded in 1919 in Zagreb, and in 1930 it was transferred to Belgrade.

Source 1

C

The '6th January' government worked on creating organizations and associations based on an ideology of integral Yugoslavianism. These were particularly enforced in the so-called 'precanski krajevi *'. In December 1929 the first state organization of physical culture was created (Falcon of Kingdom of Yugoslavia). Complete state hold over the physical culture was introduced in 1931 with the forming of the Ministry of national physical culture. The following were created: Yugoslav Shooting Association, Yugoslav Fire-fighting Association, Yugoslav Scouts Association, Association of sports federations enclosing a number of sports. Sports in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, organizationally connected into state Association of sports federations, had a significant role in implementing military education of youth.

**This term was used to refer to all the areas populated by Serbs but outside Serbia, mainly west of the Drina river.*

Branko Petranović: ISTORIJA JUGOSLAVIJE, knjiga I - KRALJEVINA JUGOSLAVIJA, www.znaci.net/00001/93_6pds.

Source 3

T A
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ZAGREB, 16 March

'Jutarnji list' brings: General Assembly of the Yugoslav Football Association was held here today. According to the Agenda, this session was supposed to be continuation of the session started on 24 November last year, and only certified deputies from that time were able to vote. They moved to the discussion on changing the Article 1 of the Federal rules on the seat of the Association. With 213 votes in favor, the conclusion was that this paragraph is changed and Belgrade is set as the seat of the Association. The Association of football referees also moves to Belgrade."

Jutarnji list, 16.ožujka 1930.

Source 2

C

At regular session of Yugoslav Football Association, held on 16 March 1930 in Zagreb, in the period when '6th January' dictatorship was in force, majority of votes of delegates decided that the seat of the Association be moved from Zagreb to Belgrade.

The fact was that according to the rules of that time, a club – member of the association, did not have to send its own representative – delegate to the session. Smaller registered clubs used to give their 'vote' to representatives of larger clubs who were believed to have appropriate football policy. Each such empowerment meant one vote at the assembly, so certain delegates to the assembly would have several votes, based on empowerments from football clubs. This was crucial during adoption of decisions, since one delegate could have dozens of votes. One delegate from Zagreb at the assembly when transfer of the seat was discussed had in total 26 empowerments from his area. However, in a mysterious way that was never cleared, those empowerments disappeared in the night between Saturday and Sunday, and could not be presented at the assembly. The lack of those 26 empowerments was decisive in the decision of moving the seat of Yugoslav Football Association from Zagreb to Belgrade.

Sto godina nogometa u Hrvatskoj 1880. – 1980., NIŠRO Prosvjeta, Bjelovar 1984., glavni urednik Franjo Frntić

Source 4

I G A FA

Tomorrow, starting at 8 o'clock, there will be a session of the General Assembly of the Yugoslav Football Association, where many important issues will be discussed. There is great interest in all sports circles in the whole state for this session, since very important propositions are on the Agenda. Delegates from Sarajevo, Osijek, Belgrade, Skopje, Split, Ljubljana and Subotica arrived to Zagreb. Many clubs will send their own representatives. The main topic of the discussion will be the issue of changing the rules. It is possible there will be quarrels due to many registered clubs in Zagreb football sub-association. They will further talk about proposal to changes in holding (playing) the state league matches of Ljubljana sub-association, participation in the World Cup, changing the way of delegating referees to games, as proposed by Subotica sub-association, etc. Only club delegates and persons with special permissions will be allowed at the session.

Slovenec, br.63. 16.marca 1930.

Source 5

T FA B

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*acclamation – electing by simple yelling, without individual vote

Politika, 17 March 1930

Source 6

A F A B

After significant decision on transfer of Yugoslav Football Association to Belgrade

"The Sunday session of the YFA resolved one big problem of Yugoslav sports life. Regarding the transfer of Yugoslav seat the sportsmen were divided into two sides, which would not be so bad, per se, but the fight about staying of the Association in Zagreb became so twisted that one was not able to see the end of unreasonable and unsporting fights."

'Politika', daily paper close to the Government, Belgrade, 19 March 1930.

Source 7

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Yesterday morning, former representatives of YFA received a police notice they should instantly hand over the business to the new elected Board. Today (in the afternoon) at 15:00 hrs. it was done.

Slovenec, Novine Slovenske pučke stranke, br 65,

Source 8

T H M *

- "Regarding acknowledgment of these changes in the leadership of Yugoslav football at FIFA, I can immediately tell you that they will recognize the leadership legalized at the authorities."
- "If Yugoslav sport clubs should agree to it, I would recommend to hold a conference, possibly in Maribor, where I would put efforts to remedy the problems between Belgrade and Zagreb".
- *Hugo Meisl = Austrian selector and member of the FIFA Board

Politika, 20 March 1930

Source 9

F FA B

"The First session of the YFA was held in Belgrade last night. After a long discussion, the complaint of Zagreb sub-association that the YFA was moved to Belgrade by force and not by legal means, was rejected."

Hrvatski list, 23. 3. 1930.

Q :

1. Read the sources by chronological order and make a timeline
2. Analyse all points of view about moving Football Association from Zagreb to Belgrade. What can you conclude?
3. Why is it important that seats of football associations are in the capital city of a state? Explain your answer.

There was a lot of problem with Yugoslav national football team during the preparation for the world championship in Uruguay 1930. Yugoslav Football Association was founded and seated in Zagreb since 1919. Transferring the association from Zagreb to Belgrade was a political decision. It looks like football is always much more than a game for most of the citizens. Previous presidents of Yugoslav Football Association were mainly Croats – dr Hinko Wurth, dr Ante Jakovac, dr Miroslav Petanjek, dr Veljko Ugrinic, dr Kazimir Kremedic, dr Ivo Lipovscak, Dragan Vuckovic, Vatroslav Krceli, Ante Pandakovic and Janko Safarik. Football selectors were mostly Croats too – Veljko Ugrinic, Dusan Zinaja and Ante Pandakovic. Croatian citizens and public were resigned, angry and revolted. Nine of Croatian players from list for Uruguay refused playing for Yugoslav national team in the world championship. Players from Slovenia and Subotica (serbian club) joined them and removed their players. After the football match in Athens in 1930, selector Ante Pandakovic (also Croat) abandoned the Yugoslav national team. New selector is former football player and first Serbian international umpire (sports referee), Bosko Simonovic.

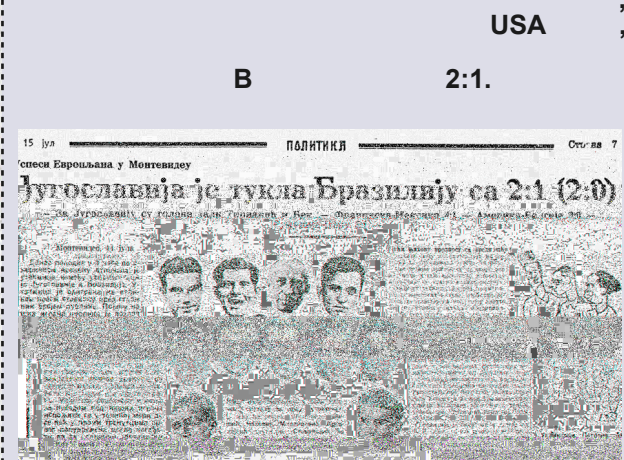
Source 1

P ć "F " /F
"F "



Politika', 26. jun 1930, br. 7950 – godina XXVII

Source 2



Politika, dnevni list blizak vladi, Beograd, 15. 7. 1930.

Source 3

W C

In newspapers bought in Zagreb there was nothing about the participation of Yugoslavia in Montevideo. The only news regarding the upcoming competition was a statement by one Zagreb football activist who stated (without consequences):

"We take care of health of our players and we do not let them go to Montevideo, in the adventure that could cost them their lives. They will be exposed to famine there, and we feel sorry for everyone who went to this trip across the ocean."

To the World Cup without Croatian players – feuilleton in 'Blic' newspaper, online edition, 21 April 2010; taken from the book: Vladimir Stanković "Montevideo bog te video", Beograd

Source 4

T , B

- Today, Yugoslavia plays against Bolivia
- Yugoslavia is the favorite – 'The best team, 'European champions' – said the Uruguay press about our players"



Politika', 17 July 1930

Q

1. Why Croatian players refused to play for national team on World Championship?
2. Find the connection between politics and sports, business and sports, now and then. Explain!
3. Do you know of any player in present time who refused to play for national team and why?
4. What are the possible reasons to refuse the national team today, and what were the reasons in the past?

Source 1

R

Welcoming was warmhearted, like everywhere along the road. First in Ljubljana, then in Zagreb, Sisak, Nova Gradiska; in Sid the fans literary occupied the couch with the players, while the climax was in Belgrade, with 5000 exalted people waiting at the railway station. The football players were literary taken out of the train through the couch windows and carried on sholders of the fans to Terazije square...

Vladimir Stanković, Montevideo! Bog te video, Beograd 2010.

Source 2

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"At 9:05 this morning our football team arrived to Ljubljana by train. They very successfully fought on football fields of South America and achieved envious results representing our sport abroad. At that time quite a number of representatives of Ljubljana sports life came to the station and gave a warm welcome to our national team."

Politika, Septembar 1930., br. 8018 – godina XXVII

Source 3

R

Welcoming in Zagreb, 1 August 1930.

"Today at 12:30, by express train from Paris, our football national team from Montevideo arrived to Zagreb. There was no sporting welcoming of any kind in Zagreb. Only sports correspondents for Belgrade press were present."

„Politika“, Beograd, utorak 2. rujan 1930., br. 8018 – godina XXVII

Source 4

W

"Thousands of fans at the welcoming of our team members at Belgrade Grand train station."



Politika, Septembar 1930., br. 8018 – godina XXVII

Source 5

3 A 1930. () B



Vladimir Stanković, Montevideo Bog te video, Beograd

Q

:

1. Compare the national team welcomes in Ljubljana, Zagreb and Belgrade. What can you conclude?
2. Why were they given a cold welcome in Zagreb?
3. Make a connection between this welcome and the situation in the country in those days.

Source 6

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F C
A

The affair over the money from South America is sharpening further. The BSK decided to file a complaint against the YFA.
Belgrade, 23 August

“The issue of distribution of 450.000 dinars the national team brought from Uruguay is getting worse and it seems it will be settled in the court. While some asked the money to be given to the YFA to the benefit of the overall Yugoslav sort, others asked the money to be given to BSK, saying the BSK (Belgrade Sport Club) takes the credit that our team went across the ocean in the first place. We reported that the Chairman of the YFA, Safarik, and national selector, Simonovic, resigned, for they asked half of the money to be given to BSK.

Source 7

D

“The newspaper campaign is about to start in Yugoslavia, to negate the quality of the ‘Selection of Serbia’ and the way of representing the Yugoslav football. Belgrade and BSK selection defeats in friendly matches will be called a ‘disgrace’ of the Yugoslav reputation, forgetting that the very reputation was made by that selection of players. A large sum of earned money (over 450.000 dinars), however, will not be called ‘disgrace’, but it will be demanded for the whole sum to go to the YFA, as if the friendly matches were played by the national team, upon the demand by Yugoslavia. Although BSK had more than two thirds of players in the Uruguay delegation, the club asked for one third of money, to cover its expenses deriving from the endeavor. Besides, for the sake of reputation of Yugoslav football the BSK sacrificed its own, playing in the national championship with reserve team. Few months of quarrel in the top of Yugoslav football will end in a decision by the Assembly of the Yugoslav Football Association, in favor of BSK, on 14 December 1930. Meanwhile, due to the complaints from Zagreb football region that ‘it would all have been different if the HQ of the Association had remained in Zagreb’, the President of the YFA, Janko Safarik, resigned and withdrew from football for good.”

Petar M. Prokić, Montevideo 1930. - Prvi svetski kup u fudbalu, Beograd 1998., str. 94.-95.

Source 8

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Last night the Board of BSK held a session. The club president, Dr. Zivkovic, reported on the issue of money distribution and pointed that some members of the YFA verbally promised to allocate half of the profit from South America to the BSK. However, those members were not able to fulfil their promise, and since Zivkovic felt that he had, in a way, damaged the club, resigned from the position of president. Resignation was not accepted, and the club will deal with it in due course. It was also decided to file a lawsuit to the regular court against the YFA, pointing the YFA as a forum that is trying to keep the money illegally, for it belongs to a club.“

Hrvatski list, 20.9.1930

Q :

- Name some money problems incurred after the World Championship.
- In the end we will conclude together and fill the table: causes/incident/ consequences.

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|---|---|--|
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