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A welcome addition to the migration scholarship on this little-known, fragmented but globally important region. Taken together, the contributions offer a rich blend of history, politics, sociology and anthropology, alongside studies of memory, mobility and ethnolinguistic identity.

Russell King, University of Sussex and Malmö University

This well researched volume is a welcomed addition to our understanding of cross border migration over time in the southern Balkan region. The focus on the transformation of social identities is a testimony to the long term historical processes that underpin large scale population displacements which are far richer than mere 'migration crises'.

Efthia Voutira, Professor, Anthropology of Forced Migration, Department of Balkan Slavic and Oriental Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki

Migration is a ubiquitous phenomenon in the modern world. This thoughtful book studies migration patterns and intercultural exchanges within the transnational region of the Southern Balkans against a deep historical background, offering fresh and alternative readings of the past two centuries. From the final decades of the multicultural Ottoman Empire, through the homogenizing efforts of several nation states, to new forms of ethnic and cultural diversity imposed through globalized networks, this important collection of original essays successfully brings together two separate fields within migration studies, those of forced and voluntary migrations. A genuinely transnational volume, both in its scholarly approach and the makeup of its contributors.

Maria Todorova, Gutgsell Professor of History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Hans Vermeulen • Martin Baldwin-Edwards
Riki van Boeschoten
Editors

Migration in the Southern Balkans

From Ottoman Territory to Globalized Nation States
The idea for the current volume emerged in a working group on migration of the Via Egnatia Foundation (www.viaegnatiafoundation.eu). This working group was established during a conference the Foundation held in Bitola in February 2009. One of the purposes of the Foundation is to promote communication and understanding between the countries belonging to the ‘catchment area’ of the Via Egnatia—that is, Albania, the (former Yugoslav) Republic of Macedonia, Bulgaria, Greece, and Turkey. In this book the term ‘Southern Balkans’ refers to these five countries.

In the early nineteenth century the Southern Balkans was still part of the Ottoman Empire. This started to change when the small Greek state was founded in 1830. Almost 50 years later the region saw the birth of another new nation state—Bulgaria (1878). In the period up to the Balkan Wars both states gained new territory, but the Ottomans still controlled a broad corridor from the Albanian coast on the west to Istanbul in the east (Fig. 1). This corridor or belt—consisting mainly of Albania, Macedonia and Thrace—might be called the Via Egnatia region since the Via Egnatia runs straight through it from Dürres in the west to Istanbul in the east. The countries of the Via Egnatia region share a memory of a fairly recent Ottoman past involving at least part of their national territories. It can be considered a distinctive region especially in terms of the population movements during and following the Balkan Wars (1912–1913).

1 For the results of the conference see Via Egnatia Foundation (ed.) (2010), Via Egnatia Revisited: Common Past, Common Future. Skopje: Kolektiv.
As social scientists and others have remarked, the history of the region—both the narrower Via Egnatia region and the Southern Balkans as a whole—has resulted in conflicting interpretations of the past and the present which are often the product of narrow national(ist) frameworks. The linguistic diversity of the region also makes it difficult to widen one’s horizons and take other national perspectives into account. Researchers from outside the region confront these problems as well. Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, both communication and mutual understanding have slowly started to improve. The increasing internationalization of the social sciences and the associated increase in the use of English in scientific publications in past decades has also contributed to these positive developments.

This book contains three maps. The first two black-and-white maps were made by Vasilis Soliopoulos who did this with dedication and without remuneration. We thank him for his excellent contribution to this book. The third map is in colour and is placed at the end of the book. We have included this well-known map by Carl Sax to give the reader a strong impression of the ethnic complexity of the Southern Balkans—a complexity with tremendous consequences for the character and volume of intra-regional migration.

Fig. 1 The Ottoman Empire in the Balkans before the First Balkan War (1912)
Note on Transliteration

In transliterating Greek words and texts we have followed the system used by the *Journal of Modern Greek Studies* with one exception: we have left out the stress accents. For the transliteration of texts in Cyrillic script we use the ISO standard of transliteration, as used by the *Ethnologia Balkanica* journal. In the case of names of authors and institutions we have usually maintained the way these names are spelled in Latin script by these persons or institutions, so as to make it easier for the reader to find these in bibliographies.
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Contributors

Martin Baldwin-Edwards  Former Director, Mediterranean Migration Observatory, Athens, Greece

Riki van Boeschoten  Department I.A.K.A., University of Thessaly, Volos, Greece

Raymond Detrez  Slavistiek en Oost-Europakunde, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

Panos Hatziprokopiu  Department of Spatial Planning and Development, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

Petko Hristov  Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Moskovska, Bulgaria

Ahmet İçduygu  MiReKoç, Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey

Ifigeneia Kokkali  Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Florence, Florence, Italy

Eugenia Markova  The Faculty of Business and Law, London Metropolitan University, London, United Kingdom

Ayse Parla  European Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Turkey

Deniz Sert  Department of International Relations, Özyeğin University, Istanbul, Turkey

Riki van Boeschoten  University of Thessaly, Volos, Greece

Hans Vermeulen  University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Nikolai Vukov  Ethnographic Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria

Julie Vullnetari  Geography and Environment, University of Southampton, Southampton, United Kingdom