

# Slobodan Jovanović

Life  
Work  
Times



Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts





Slobodan 150  
Jovanović



SERBIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS

SLOBODAN JOVANOVIĆ: LIFE, WORK, TIMES  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

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*Academician Marko Anđelković*

Editors of publication

*Academician Kosta Čavoški*  
*Academician Aleksandar Kostić*

Cover design

*Dragana Lacmanović-Lekić*

Selection of pictorial contributions

*Boris Milosavljević*

English translation

*Jelena Mitrić*  
*Tatjana Čosović*  
*Tanja Ružin Ivanović*

Proofreading and editing

*Jelena Mitrić*

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LIFE, WORK, TIMES

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OF HIS BIRTH



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## EDITOR'S FOREWORD

The monograph on Slobodan Jovanović (1869–1958), published on the occasion of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth, represents a unique account of his life, scientific work, society and the times in which he lived. Jovanović's work and his personality have always attracted the attention of the general public. The work he left behind is remarkably voluminous and versatile. It should be noted that a great number of his works was not included in the volumes of his collected works that have been published to date. Slobodan Jovanović worked as a university professor at the Faculty of Law in Belgrade for over forty years. He performed the duties of the dean of the Faculty of Law and the rector of the University of Belgrade. He was the president of the Serbian Royal Academy, legal expert at the Paris Peace Conference, president of the Commission for drafting the Constitution of the new state in 1920, president of the Serbian Cultural Club, president and vice-president of the Ministerial Council of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. In view of the duties he performed, social and political activities represent an important part of the picture of this great scientist of ours. As the president of the Serbian Cultural Club and the pivotal personage of the Serbian people he was delegated to assume the responsibilities of the second vice-president of the Ministerial Council in the government of 27 March 1941. He was the president and vice-president of the government in the country and later in exile. He died in emigration in London in the late 1958, almost a hundred years since his father Vladimir Jovanović, one of the leading Serbian Liberals, had first arrived in the British capital as a political emigrant. Even though Slobodan Jovanović advocated parliamentary bicameral multiparty system, he had never participated in party politics. However, he took part in state politics, as Jovan Dučić wrote in 1942: "Slobodan Jovanović has never been a member of a party, a member of government, or a participant in any plot. He always kept himself at a distance from ruling politics, and yet for this very reason he stood close to its side, as its yardstick, its judge, and its state prosecutor. He used to be called 'the conscience of the Serbian people'. He was not a political person, but a statesman: always at the helm, and from there always taking in sweeping views that lie ahead of him." In the aftermath of the war, Slobodan Jovanović was convicted at the political trial organized by the new communist rule in Belgrade in 1946. His personality and work were expelled from the educational system and scientific circles and consigned to oblivion. He was rehabilitated in 2007.

This monograph first presents the biography of Slobodan Jovanović including the chronologically presented works that can be said to represent the milestones of his scientific develop-

ment, as well as his own theoretical viewpoints. Subsequently, the individual chapters trace the scientific areas he dealt with and scientific achievements he accomplished. The account starts with his theory of the state related to the subject he had taught, that is, General and Special Constitutional Law. It is followed by an account of the special legislation, that is, constitutional law, and an assessment of Slobodan Jovanović as a constitutional-legislative writer. The books in which he interpreted the constitutions of the Kingdom of Serbia and the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (Vidovdan Constitution) are analyzed and reviewed. The following part of the monograph is devoted to the historiography of Slobodan Jovanović, to the multi-volume political history of Serbia of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, which is often justifiably regarded as his best-known work. If his other works to do with national history are also taken into account, it can be seen that he encompassed a period from the late 18<sup>th</sup> to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The subsequent part of the monograph deals with Jovanović as a literary scholar and critic. Special praise is given to his sophisticated language and well-known Belgrade literary style. The final part of the monograph contains Jovanović's bibliography.

With a view to making the text of the monograph easier to read, all footnotes, that is, notes, are to be found at the back of the book.

We thank all the authors for the texts published in the monograph dedicated to the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of our renowned scientist Slobodan Jovanović.

Kosta Čavoški and Aleksandar Kostić

## CHARTERS, DECREES, DECORATIONS, MEDALS, DOCUMENTS

Boris MILOSAVLJEVIĆ

*SASA Institute for Balkan Studies*

The main credit goes to the Pavlović family for having preserved charters, decrees and diplomas that belonged to Slobodan Jovanović. Even though some charters and documents are missing, we may assume that they will eventually be recovered. They can be divided into three main groups. The first group encompasses royal decrees by which Slobodan Jovanović was appointed to the positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Faculty of Law of the Grand School and later of the University of Belgrade, as well as the decree by which he was appointed President of the Serbian Royal Academy. The second group of documents encompasses decrees conferring decorations. Since Slobodan Jovanović was a civilian, those were the Orders of St Sava that were gradually awarded (from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 1<sup>st</sup> Class) to him. For his meritorious service during the First World War, when he headed the War Press Bureau of the Supreme Command, he was awarded the Order of the White Eagle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class. The Order did not feature swords, since he served as a civilian in the army, that is, he was not an officer, and the Orders of the White Eagle with swords were only for officers. In time of his retirement and the celebration marking the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth, the Royal Regency, on behalf of underage King Petar II, awarded to him the Order of the Yugoslav Crown, 1<sup>st</sup> Class, in 1940. The third group of documents encompasses honors, that is, fellowships, as he was elected fellow of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Kraków (1924), Czech Academy of Sciences and Arts (1925), Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts in Zagreb (1927) and he also received an

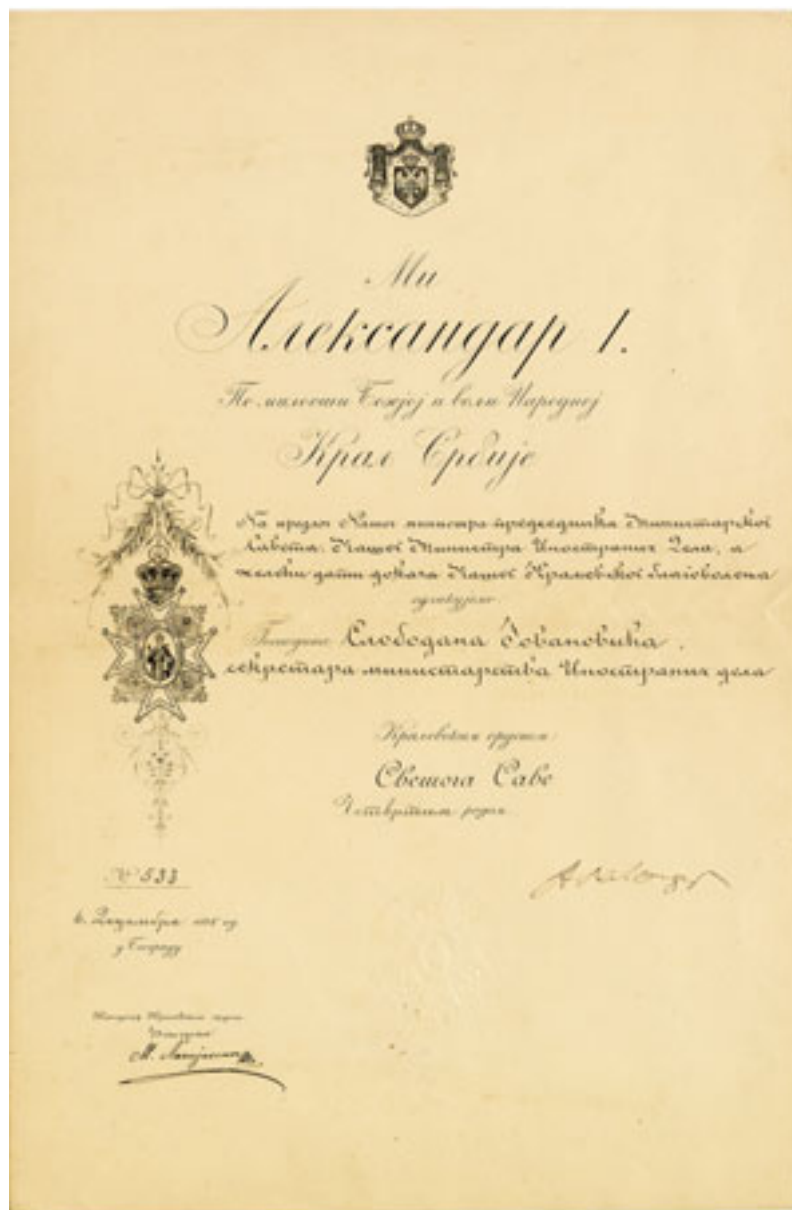


honorary doctorate degree in law from the University of Bratislava (1933). Slobodan Jovanović was elected a foreign (corresponding) member of the French Academy of Sciences (Institut de France) in 1950. We could not find the membership certificate, but we enclose Paul Bastid's letter in which he congratulated Slobodan Jovanović, a corresponding member, on his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday (the letter is included in the chapter dedicated to correspondence on page 400).



The royal decree issued by King Aleksandar I (Obrenović) by which Slobodan Jovanović was appointed as an attaché to the Serbian legation in Constantinople (1894) (ACCHPF)\*

\* The dates of the first seven diplomas are according to the Julian calendar.



The royal decree issued by King Aleksandar I (Obrenović) by which Slobodan Jovanović, Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was awarded the Order of St Sava 4<sup>th</sup> Class (6 December 1895) (ACCHPF)



The royal decree issued by King Aleksandar I (Obrenović) by which Slobodan Jovanović, 5<sup>th</sup> class secretary, was promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> class secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (31 December 1895; 2 January 1896) (ACCHPF)



The royal decree issued by King Aleksandar I (Obrenović) by which Slobodan Jovanović was given full professorship of Public International Law and Public Law (16 July 1900) (ACCHPF)





The royal decree issued by King Petar I (Karadorđević) by which Slobodan Jovanović, a full professor of the Grand School, was given full professorship of Public Law and Public International Law at the University of Belgrade Faculty of Law (3 March 1905) (ASASA, SJL, 14891/1)



Slobodan Jovanović's Serbian Royal Academy Full Member Election Certificate  
(15 December 1911; 31 December 1911)  
(ACCHPF)



The Charter on the Decree issued by Prince Regent Aleksandar (on behalf of King Petar I) by which Slobodan Jovanović, who served as the head of the Press Bureau of the Supreme Command Headquarters, was awarded the Order of the White Eagle, 4<sup>th</sup> Class, for his meritorious service during the war 1916. (Thessaloniki, 12 September 1917; Belgrade, 15 July 1928) (ACCHPF)



The Charter on the Decree issued by Prince Regent Aleksandar (on behalf of King Petar I) by which Slobodan Jovanović was awarded the Order of St Sava, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (27 January 1921; 11 October 1921) (ACCHPF)



The royal decree issued by King Aleksandar I (Karadorđević) by which Slobodan Jovanović, a full professor of the University of Belgrade, was awarded the Royal Order of St Sava, 1<sup>st</sup> Class (30 May 1923) (ACCHPF)

14891/3

POLSKA AKADEMJA UMIEJĘTNOŚCI

Br. 1185/23

Cracovie le 26 janvier 1924.

Monsieur,

Je m'empresse de Vous transmettre le diplôme de membre de l'Académie  
Polonaise des Sciences et des Lettres de Cracovie. Il nous est fort agré-  
able de pouvoir compter désormais parmi les membres de notre Institut  
un Savant de Votre mérite et célébrité.



Veuillez Monsieur, accepter mes hommages les plus sincères

*J. Wróblewski*

Secrétaire Général

Monsieur le Professeur

Slobodan Jovanović

Belgrad



Prague, 29 June 1925  
Czech Academy of Sciences and Arts Foreign Member Election Certificate  
(ACCHPF)



JUGOSLAVENSKA AKADEMIJA  
Znanosti i Umjetnosti u Zagrebu

JUGOSLAVENSKA AKADEMIJA Znanosti i Umjetnosti  
IZABRALA JE NA GLAVNOJ ODDIŠNJOJ SKUPŠTINI 27. MAJA 1927.  
GOSPODINA

D<sup>RA</sup> SLOBODANA JOVANOVIĆA  
PROFESORNA UNIVERZITETA U BEOGRADU

SVOJIM ČLANOM DOPISNIKOM U RAZREDU FILO-  
ZOFSKO-JURIDIČKOM.

O TOM IZHORI SVJEDOČI OVA ISPRAVA.

U ZAGREBU 27. MAJA 1927.

PREDSJEDNIK:



SKUPŠTINI TAJNIK:

Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts Corresponding Member Election Certificate (27 May 1927)  
(ACCHPF)



Br. 472/1927.

P. n. gospodina

D r u . SLOBODANU JOVANOVIĆU,  
profesoru Univerziteta

u  
BEOGRADU.

Jugoslavenska akademija znanosti i umjetnosti izabrala Vas je  
u svojoj glavnoj skupštini, držanoj dne 17. maja 1927., s obzirom na  
Vaše analize za nauku svojih

d o p i s n i a s l a n o s a  
u razredu filozofsko-juriškom.

U potvrdu ovoga izbora izdajemo Vam ispravu, a u prilogu pri-  
lašemo jedan primjerak Pravila i Poslovnika Akademije.

JUGOSLAVENSKA AKADEMIJA ZNANOSTI I UMJETNOSTI  
u B e o g r a d u , dne 5. jula 1927.

Predsjednik:

*D. Planinović*



Tajnik:

*M. Planinović*

Notification on the election of Slobodan Jovanović, a university professor, as a Corresponding Member of the Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts within its Department of Legal Sciences and Philosophy (Zagreb, 5 July 1927) (ACCHPF)



Мило Војводе  
Александар I  
по милости Царској и војвођиној  
Краљ Срба, Хрвата и Словенаца

На предлог Ђеђина Милића Председника  
Академије је упутио Љуба од универзитетске академије  
за предавача Српског Краљевског Лицеја у Београду Слободан  
Јовановића, право име Јовановић и дотадањег професора Правног Универзитета  
у Београду, а на период од три године дана.

у Београду 31. Јануара 1928 год.  
Г. Кр. 100.

По наређењу  
Краљевског Председника  
М. Јовановић

The royal decree issued by King Aleksandar I (Karadorđević) by which Slobodan Jovanović was appointed President of the Serbian Royal Academy for a period of three years (31 January 1928) (ACCHPF)



Belgrade, 7 November 1931

Charter of the Serbian Literary Cooperative awarded to Slobodan Jovanović, a university professor, its member benefactor



Honorary Doctorate Degree in Law from the University of Bratislava (8 September 1933)  
(ACCHPF)



RESPUBLICA BOHEMOSLAVICA.

UNIVERSITAS COMENIANA  
BRATISLAVENSIS

ANNO MCMXIX  
CONDITA.



RECTOR ET SENATUS UNIVERSITATIS  
COMENIANAE BRATISLAVENSIS  
ROGANT

*Illustrissimum Dominum Slesavianum Joannem,*

UT HANC MONETAM AD MEMORIAM UNI-  
VERSITATIS NOSTRAE CONDITAE CUSAM  
ACCIPERE VELIT.

DATUM BRATISLAVAE in 2<sup>o</sup> Sept. an. 1919.

*Kalenda*  
Præsidi Senatus Universitatis Comenianae  
a. 28. 1919-20.

*Ortel*  
Rectori Universitatis  
Comenianae a. 28. 1919-20.



OMNIBUS, quos nuntium gratum proceptorum esse dicit, cum ante haec CCCCIV  
anno eius desiderio veneret parisi, quos procul romanis atque calanaribus  
afflicto reliquerat, hanc vocationem ait. AT INEM EGO EBO PERM HABBO, COM  
PROCLAE ATQUE TRAE TRANSDIANT, FORI UT RIGMAN RERUM TUALUM  
AD TE REDBAT, O CRIS SCHMAU. Quod vaticinium felicitate prosperaque evenit  
anno MCCCCXVIII quo gens Bohemolavica libertate recuperata potestate ubi  
civitas restituit, in qua slerica quoque pars, olim avula, nova cum Bohemica constituta est.

¶ Cetera Bohemolavica libertatem studiorum hanc ignovit in caudis in transibus, quae nova  
rerum status et exploranda sunt, humanitatis studia praecipue esse colenda. Imprimis igitur operam de-  
dit, ut quae sagax Habiburgorum ratio per multum temporis sibi derogata esset, quam brevitate  
ipse pariter, in scholarum provincia generi novae aere libertatis recuperatae certam gratitudinem  
de nostris litterarum atque scientiarum studiis suscipiendum erat. Praeterea quidem nihil universitatis  
atque studiorum atque calanaribus, a Carolo IV. Imperatore olim condita, sed ex temporum laetitia  
atque ceterarum gentis et adeoque, anno demum MCCCCXXXI in potestatem nostram nullis. Hac  
universitate ad litteras colendas atque humanitatis studia hanc vitam sufficientem, aliam obferre rapti-  
bantur, ad haec facti posse externa iam doctrinae usque ad annos MCCCCXXXII primis sagabat.

¶ Itaque gens nostra, ubi primam libertatis diem et illud, non praecipuum habuit curam, ut sci-  
deretur ubi essent quae meritis libere ad omnia genera litterarum atque operum colenda per-  
sonae eius nulla hanc vita fieri apud nos doctrinae incerta et temeraria fore humanitatis.

¶ Suppletis quibus operi erat universitatis Praegressi, a Carolo illo Imperatore celebrantur conditae,  
anno libertatis nostrae octavo, qui fuit post Chr. n. MCCCCXXXII, in civitate Praegressi, quae copet  
ex Moravia, nova universitas esset sub nomine praesidis MARSATIS, cui praeside datus interpositis  
sentia universitatis BRATISLAVAE ILGNACIUM accessit atque nomen a COMENIO accepit.

¶ Cum civitas Bohemolavica insigne cum appellatione, d. V. Kal. Mai, anni post Christum natum  
MCCCCXXXIII leges de universitate Bratislavensi condenda ferret, hanc cogitabat, ut quae pars  
populi ab omni dominio sagrata faceret, et quoque facultas esset ad dandi et proprio sermone  
omnino sponsoque dandi et aere colere. Propter iniquitatem temporis, quae post istud novissimum  
bellum finitum, extiterat, factum est, ut volens anno, quo lex de universitate Comeniana Brati-  
slavensi condenda lata erat, non nisi una etia pars publica pariter fuit ante studium doctrinae  
facultas. Doctus ante operi erat, ut ad iuris atque litterarum studia aliam praesidem inclinata non  
hanc quoque studia ante MCCCCXXXIII.

¶ Aliter nulla ex parte labor atque operi darent, quibus omnia necessaria supplementum in eventis  
et novissimum anno, qui fuit MCCCCXXXIII, iam integrum atque studio solido abducenti velle uni-  
versitatem Comenianam Bratislavensem.

¶ Condendi opere facto dignum et humani esse videtur senatus academico universitati Comeni-  
anae Bratislavensi, ut omnia, quae sunt in orbis terrarum universitatibus, academiis, societatibus liter-  
ariis, ubi doctrinae, certiones de hoc proposito rerum omnia faciat. Una cum hanc libertate esset  
ad nos nostram, quae ad nostram universitatem Comenianam conditae salutandae curatio non  
ut omnia benigno accipiant, omnia atque regnum non, sine spe fieri, ut hoc et iudicium facultate  
una fragmentum inter universitatem Comenianam et doctrinam totius orbis terrarum civitatis  
interveniat.

¶ JOHANNES AMOS COMENIUS, qui non solum in patria, sed ubique summum in vobis doctrinam  
facere obtinuit, pariter hanc universitatem datus est, tandemque sponsoque factus, ubique et  
cognoscitur, quo studio atque aere vellet eo maxime et dandi non solum bonum emulandae,  
sed etiam universo humanitatis culti operi dant.

Datum BRATISLAVAE diebus JANUARIJ anni MCCCCXXXIII.



The royal decree issued by the Royal Regency, on behalf of King Petar II (Karadjordjević), by which Slobodan Jovanović, a full professor of the University of Belgrade Faculty of Law, was awarded the Order of the Yugoslav Crown, 1<sup>st</sup> Class (3 August 1940) (ACCHPF)