

Dura Hardi

Faculty of Philosophy,
University of Novi Sad
[djurahardi@ff.uns.ac.rs](mailto:djarahardi@ff.uns.ac.rs)

The Historiographical Development of the Ruthenian Community and its Specific Characteristics on the Map of Vojvodina's Multiculturalism

The national community of Ruthenians on the territory of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina was present from the middle of the XVIII century. Although relatively small in number, they have preserved their identity even in modern times. The paper explores the historical development of this community, as well as its specific features and shared cultural achievements with the national majorities with whom they coexist. The author presents a thesis stating that in the preservation of their identity, the Greek Catholic Church organization had a significant role, along with the associated confessional schooling, as well as the codification of the literary language in the year 1904/1923. During the time of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia and socialist Yugoslavia, the Ruthenians established their cultural, educational, and social organisations, which have been participating in the state system since 1918/1945. In the process of interaction and acculturation with others, the Ruthenians adopted the Pannonian way of life (cuisine, clothing, architecture, economy), along with bilingualism. Gradually, in their self-identification, they also developed a sense of regional identity.

Key words: Ruthenians in Vojvodina, historical development, distinct identity.