



Venetian Responsibility: National Minority Rights and Inter-State Relations in Europe

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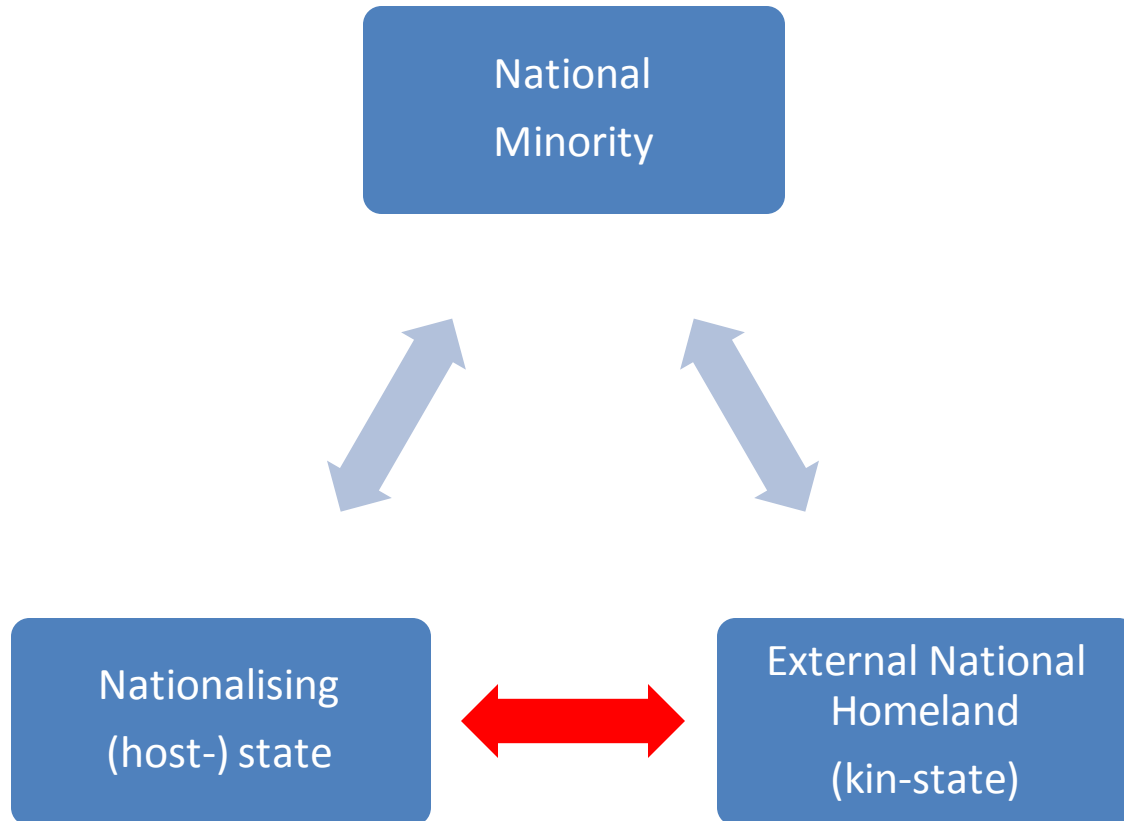
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Outline

- National minorities and homeland politics
- European framework response
- Minority language rights issues in Croatian-Serbian relations



Brubaker's triadic nexus (1996)





European Framework Response

Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (Council of Europe, 1995)

Article 2

The provisions of this framework Convention shall be applied in good faith, in a spirit of understanding and tolerance and in conformity with the principles of good neighbourliness, friendly relations and co-operation between States.



European Framework Response

Report on the Preferential Treatment of National Minorities by their Kin-State (Venice Commission, 2001), D.

a) The principle of territorial sovereignty

b) The principle of *pacta sunt servanda* (agreements must be kept)

c) The principle of friendly neighbourhood relations

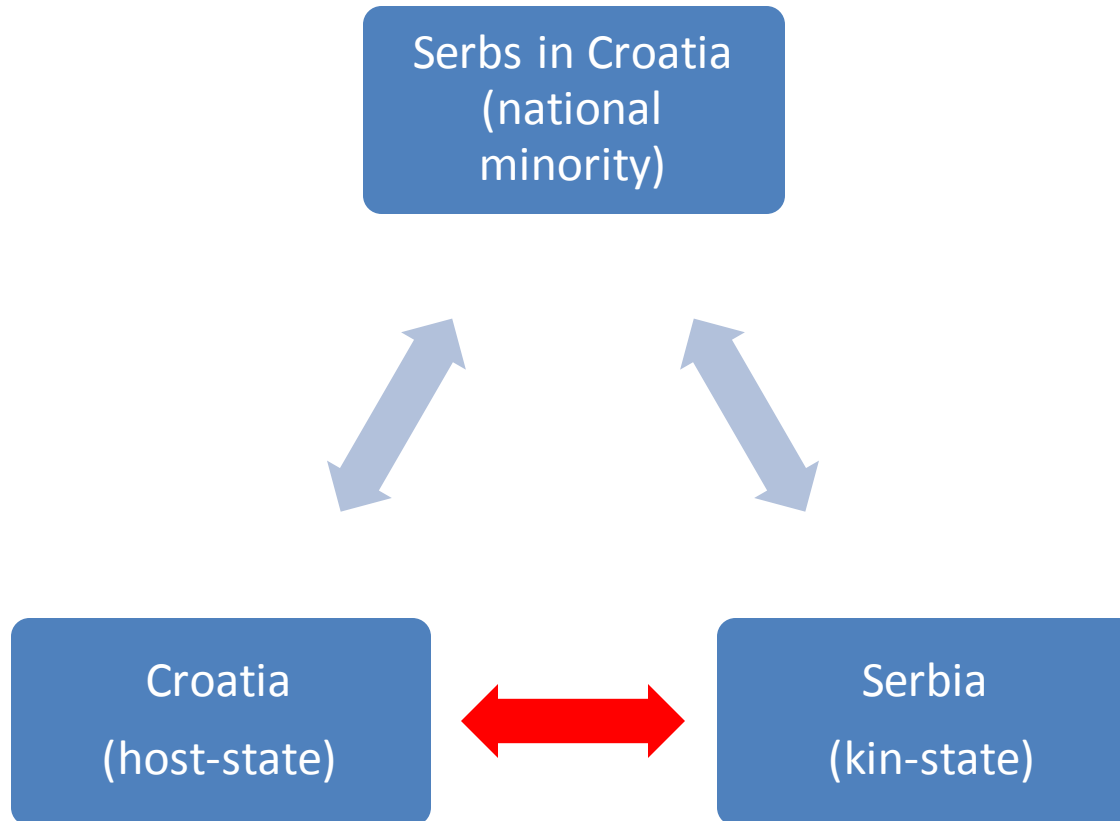
d) The respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the prohibition of discrimination.



Research Question

How do states negotiate responsibility for national minority rights through foreign policy bilateral relations?

Serbia-Croatia relations: a triadic nexus



Adapted from Brubaker (1996)

Minority language rights issues in Croatian-Serbian relations



- National Minorities
- Quadratic Nexus
- Dealing with the Past
- Diplomatic behavior





Conclusions

- Responsible homeland politics?
- Good neighbourly relations prioritised over ethnic ties
- Limited capture of foreign policy by national minority concerns

