



**„Demography and society in historical Southeastern Europe“  
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In many European countries historical census lists are used to study families, but these countries are generally situated in Western and Northern Europe. These census lists include information for each person, so that they can be analysed according to your own research questions. If you use existing statistics, you will be bound by the choice of questions of the people making these statistics.

In Southeastern Europe this is still mostly missing, because the necessary databases of census lists have not been created yet. This project aims at creating the basis for such analyses, so that researchers can study differences between these countries and within these countries. Existing databases of census lists in Western and Northern Europe and of the 1918 Albanian population census will be used as examples for the new database.

The first step will be a search for existing census lists up to the First World War in the archives of the countries of Southeastern Europe. We shall then make a choice of a representative sample of these census lists, so that we shall be able to analyse urban and rural families and families of different regions within these countries. The chosen persons and families will be entered into a database and important characteristics of them (sex, marital status, relationship, occupation, religion) will be coded.

This project will create the largest European database of historical census lists outside of Western and Northern Europe. Research based on such an enhanced database will cast light on hitherto dark areas of Southeastern Europe in the fields of age at marriage, number of children, and household structures. The new data will be provided for free to the international scientific community so that additional possibilities for research will be created.

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