

**Elliot Short**  
**University of East Anglia**

**The military as a nation-builder? Forging "national" identities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1992-1995.**

The 1992-1995 war in Bosnia and Herzegovina polarised a once mixed and multi-cultural society into three largely homogenous ethnic blocs, each of which developed its own military. This paper will explore the ways in which ethnic elites utilised the armed forces at their disposal to create "national" identities, consolidate control over their respective ethnic groups, and establish structures of governance during the 1992-1995 War.