This work presents a documentary analysis on macro-factors that contributed to the emergence of ethnic conflicts at the Balkans. At least 8 regions can be described with self-identity wishes. Among them, Kosovo and Macedonia are still showing higher social instability with increasing tensions towards Albania and Greece, respectively, that has already caused 12,000 casualties since 1999 (Spiegel y Salama, 2000).

Geographical, historical, political, economical, sociological, anthropological, and psychosocial factors were considered in order to explain the process and nature of former Yugoslavian independent’s movements developed from 1992 to nowadays (PART I). We then have carefully thought on previous encounters among the Balkans (Bosnia War 1992-1995) using a theoretical and content analysis of Spanish recent newspaper columns to infer the potential of a continuing war between Albanian and Serbian parts at Kosovo conflict (PART II). Our reflections on the matter pointed out that power imbalance between primary parts, politics of autarchy, symbolic strategies around “ethnic cleansing”, sacred ideologies, and political pressures of outer countries are on the origin of this conflict. The definition of “nation” is then de-constructed inside a “regionalised” Europe.

THE CASE OF KOSOVO

KOSOVO: 10.8 Km², 2.2 mill/h. Since 1913 London Agreement, autonomous region inside present Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). Historical cultural area of Serbian Empire though representing its national identity. Nowadays, 90% of population is Albanian. Primary an agriculture region, Kosovo suffered the poorest economy of all Yugoslavia.

ALBANIA: 28.7 Km², 3.2 mill/h. Part of Serbian Empire time ago, mountainous country long submitted to the Turks. Its “creation” avoid Serbia from an access to the sea. The UCK army acts at Kosovo to liberate the region.

CONCLUSIONS:
Hydra’s Making Decision Process

Each “head” represents an important fact to be cut off to avoid Kosovo conflict maintenance. We play guessing the future at a glance.

• Head 1: Power imbalance. Serbia>Kosovo ➔ NATO/EU presence
• Head 2: Ethnic cleansing political ideology ➔ Serbian PM Kostunica moderated mind
• Head 3: Multiethnic life ➔ 75% Serbian population reduction in the region
• Head 4: Social discrimination ➔ Political, social and economical control from Belgrade
• Head 5: Standards of living ➔ Poorest, isolated region, primary agricultural
• Head 6: Past history ➔ Sacralised region for Serbs; European “Eastern cork”
• Head 7: Placement ➔ Surrounded by “enemies” (Montenegro, Albania, Greece,....)
• Head 8: Collective memory ➔ Great Serbia project still alive
• Head 9: Recent events ➔ Others’ regions independence; parts just “cooling their heels”.

Result= 6 out of 9 heads cut off; 67% risk of a (re)new encounter

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