

*“And That Good Fellow Was Writing”:
The Czech (Auto)Biography of Gavrilo Princip*

Summary

The paper offers a contextualization and analysis of a short autobiographical note, claimed to be written by Gavrilo Princip himself in German in January 1916 in Terezin. Shortly upon the end of the First World War, in the summer of 1919, the document was synchronously published in the Czech (*Mladé proudy, Probuzení*) and Yugoslav periodicals (*Riječ Srba-Hrvata-Slovenaca, Demokratija*) and afterwards was reprinted several times in the inter-war period. As Princip's testamentary statement and/or one of the earliest postwar notes on Princip, this text confirms the intensity of the Yugoslav-Czech connections and the bond between their youth movements, but is also exceptionally important for a metacritical analysis of the gradual historical (re)shaping of the discourses and narratives on the perpetrator of the Sarajevo Assassination.

Keywords: Gavrilo Princip, autobiography, Young Bosnia, Sarajevo Assassination, First World War, Terezin, Jan Vlastimil Chvojka, Karel Nový, Martin Pappenheim, Czech-Serbian cultural relations