

Supplement to Yugoslavia presentation

- with the outbreak of war in Bosnia approximately 1,2 million people fled the area
- “ethnic cleansing”, genocide and massacres as well as military attacks against civilians
- More than 100.000 people died during the conflict, 40.000 of them were civilians, 3.500 were children, some of them only a few months old
- Most refugees from the area fled towards western Europe:
 - 350.000 came to Germany
 - Austria, the Netherlands, Sweden, Italy, Switzerland, Turkey helped as well taking in about 7% of the refugees
 - Most others refused to take the refugees
- In Germany the refugees as a group were granted a status of “Duldung”: it guaranteed them the right to stay as long as the conflict went on.
- After the war 330.000 went back or moved on to other countries, seeking asylum

Integration

- In spite of the different culture and the foreign language, refugees from Bosnia managed to integrate well in Germany
- They were well educated and therefore welcomed as workers and craftsmen – especially since there was a lack of such workforce in Germany
- Bosnian women were used to work in their home country and because of that looked for work in Germany as well. This helped them learn the language and integrate faster than women/refugees from other areas.
- Looking for work made the Bosnian refugees move more actively around Germany and this helped reduce the building of “national ghettos”.