

*Jelena Kovačević*

*Jovan Dučić in Exile 1941–1943*

*Summary*

Jovan Dučić, diplomatic representative and a poet, with his authority and his name played an important role among the Serbs. He started abandoning the Yugoslav idea even before the Second World War. Later events and slaughters that he had witnessed that hurt him personally, strengthened his firm and uncompromised belief that mutual coexistence between Serbs and Croats is impossible. His role among Serbian emigration in the United States was important, in the first place as ideologist. His influence was unquestionable, although it was meant destructing and harmful and he was often offended by the members of the Serbian Government in Exile. Dučić's activity in the United State is best followed by both the magazine *Amerikanski Srbobran* which published his articles as well as the articles of others inspired by his ideas and through the activity of organization *Srpska Narodna Odbrana* that was against Yugoslav idea. His work during the period of 1941–1943 was to prove absurdness, lack of logic and harmfulness of the Yugoslav idea in terms of development of Serbian national interests. In time when Serbian national interest was at a stake in both the country and abroad by Croatian activity directed towards destruction of Serbian war credits and disputing Serbian victims, it was necessary to have those who would have encouraged people with their authority and words and remind them on great suffering and injustice done to them. The activity of Dučić in this matter was important and inevitable.