

## Use of Latin in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Over the centuries, Latin was used in a variety of ways in the territory of what is today Bosnia and Herzegovina. This depended on the users' needs and intentions, as well as their level of proficiency. Those who were in power also had the greatest influence on how much and how well Latin was used, and there can be said to be three broad periods: the time of national rule, the time of Ottoman rule, and the time of Austria-Hungary and the two Yugoslavias. In terms of users of Latin, these are most easily classified into the laity and the priests (Franciscans, Jesuits and Trappists), while the regular church hierarchy can be added in the third time period. The extent and quality of the use of Latin is also determined by the setting in which it was employed, and these include offices at the courts of the nobility (the ban and later the king), educational settings (most often found in monasteries), and scientific and literary use. The uninterrupted use of Latin in the territory of present-day Bosnia and Herzegovina can be followed from the beginning of the 10<sup>th</sup> century.

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