


# The Improvised State: Sovereignty, Performance and Agency in Dayton Bosnia (RGS-IBG Book Series)

*By Alex Jeffrey*

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**The Improvised State: Sovereignty, Performance and Agency in Dayton Bosnia (RGS-IBG Book Series)** By Alex Jeffrey

*The Improvised State* provides a highly developed account of the nature and outcomes of Bosnian state practices since the Dayton Peace Agreement. Jeffrey presents new and significant theories, based on extensive fieldwork in Bosnia, which advance understanding of state building.

- Provides a major contribution to recent academic debates as to the nature of the state after violent conflict, and offers invaluable insights into state building
- Introduces the idea of state improvisation, where improvisation refers to a process of *both* performance and resourcefulness
- Uses the theoretical framework of Pierre Bourdieu to explore how powerful agencies have attempted to present a coherent vision of Bosnia and Herzegovina following the conflict 1992-5
- Advances our understanding of the Bosnian state by focusing on the practices of statecraft fostered in the post-Dayton era
- Research based on four periods of residential fieldwork in Bosnia, which allowed a detailed analysis of political practices in the country

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## Editorial Review

Review

“I really enjoyed the book. It provides an empirically-rich, methodology-cally-rigorous and conceptually-grounded account of the state ‘in action’. It should prove to be essential reading for all those social scientists interested in the state but will also provide inspiration for all those interested in political geography, understandings of power and notions of performance.” (*Cultural Geographies*, 27 December 2013)

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“It provides an empirically-rich, methodologically-rigorous and conceptually-grounded account of the state ‘in action’. It should prove to be essential reading for all those social scientists interested in the state but will also provide inspiration for all those interested in political geography, understandings of power and notions of performance.” *Professor Rhys Jones, Aberystwyth University, UK* (Cultural Geographies, January 2014, vol. 21 no. 1 165-166)

"Consistently strong throughout its sections and chapters, Jeffrey has cemented his arguments with a good conceptual understanding, impressive fieldwork and primary research. *The Improvised State* is an original contribution to both the theoretical and research fields of political geography and critical international relations scholarship." *David Campbell, Honorary Professor, Durham University and University of Queensland*

"In this persuasive book, Alex Jeffrey illuminates the central role of performance in the production of state power and demonstrates in fascinating detail why and how this is so — and with what effects. The argument is thoroughly researched, contextually sensitive, and crisply written. *The Improvised State* is a compelling study for scholars, students, and practitioners working on state power, international organizations, and post-conflict societies, in Europe and elsewhere." *Merje Kuus, University of British Columbia*

From the Back Cover

Over the past 15 years, Bosnia and Herzegovina has served as a laboratory of techniques to re-establish state sovereignty and promote democracy. The post-conflict intervention in Bosnia has justifiably received great interest from political theorists and scholars of international relations who have explored the limitations of the institutions and policies of international intervention. This book begins from an alternative premise: rather than examining institutions or charting limitations, Jeffrey argues for a focus on the performance of state sovereignty in Bosnia as it has been practiced by a range of actors both within and beyond the Bosnian state. In focusing on the state as a process, he argues that Bosnian sovereignty is best understood as a series of improvisations that have attempted to produce and reproduce a stable and unified state. Based on four periods of residential fieldwork in Bosnia, *The Improvised State* advances state theory through an illumination of the fragile and contingent nature of sovereignty in contemporary Bosnia and its grounding in the everyday lives of the Bosnian citizen.

## Users Review

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**Thomas Carlson:**

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**Ruth Williams:**

A lot of people always spent all their free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them household or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity that's look different you can read a book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent all day long to reading a guide. The book The Improvised State: Sovereignty, Performance and Agency in Dayton Bosnia (RGS-IBG Book Series) it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book features high quality.

**James Rutledge:**

In this era globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make a professional understand the condition of the world. The fitness of the world makes the information quicker to share. You can find a lot of referrals to get information example: internet, newspapers, book, and soon. You will see that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. The particular book that recommended for you is The Improvised State: Sovereignty, Performance and Agency in Dayton Bosnia (RGS-IBG Book Series) this reserve consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. This book was represented how does the world has grown up. The language styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some research when he makes this book. Honestly, that is why this book suitable all of you.

**Clyde Traynor:**

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