

Thinking the Balkans Out of the Box moves away from narrow and conventional, often state-centered, understandings of European integration and regional cooperation in relation to South East Europe. Based on case studies, common as well as specific features of integration and region-building are presented in the framework of “early”, “old”, “new” and “comparative regionalism” approaches seen as complementary rather than mutually exclusive.

Using a long-term time horizon, these four waves are contextualised respectively in the post Second World War, Cold War, post-Cold War, and current Hypertext or Multiplex World Order. In the latter, integration and regionalisation become significantly more intertwined, heterogeneous, open, inclusive, comprehensive and multidimensional.

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About the Author: Christophe Solioz was involved since the early 1990s in various citizens' initiative in former-Yugoslavia, notably in the framework of the Helsinki Citizens' Assembly. Initiator of the Association Bosnia and Herzegovina 2005 (2003–2005) and later on of the Centre for European Integration Strategies (2005–2014), he lives now in Geneva as philosophy professor at the Collège de Genève. He wrote extensively on transition and democratization, as well as on EU integration and regionalism in South East Europe.

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EU Integration and Regional Cooperation –
Challenges, Models, Lessons



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