

THE STORY OF SLOVENIA

The word "Slovenia" first appeared in 1816 in an unpublished poem. In 1844 it first appeared in print. Slovenia is the world's youngest country.

It's been autonomous and independent since 1991. The ancestors of Slovenes, the Slavs, moved from the Carpathian area to the area of present Slovenia in 6th century. In 7th century they founded the oldest known Slavic country, the Principality Carantania. However, that did not keep for long.

Until 20th century the territory of Slovenia was ruled by foreigners, most of the time by the Habsburgs, the Austrian-Hungarian monarchy. During this period the Slovenes despite repression and persistent pressure from assimilation developed in the nation and shaped its identity. After World War I (ali First World War) Slovenia became part of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, after World War II the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. After more than seventy years of living in Yugoslavia shaped the consensus among Slovenes for an independent path.

In 1990 Slovenia carried out a plebiscite, in which was over 88 % of voters in favor of autonomy and independence of Slovenia. On 25th June 1991 we declared our independence. Very next day we were attacked by the Yugoslav Army. The war lasted for ten days. The soldiers of the Yugoslav Army left Slovenia in October 1991.

During this time, the independence of Slovenia had already been accepted by several countries. Most of them did it in 1992 when Slovenia became a member of the United Nations. Milan Kučan was our first president.