

Original scientific article**HUMAN BEHAVIOUR IN THE TERRITORY AFFECTED BY WAR CONFLICT:
THEORETICAL-METODOLOGICAL NOTES AND EXAMPLES OF WAR AND
POST WAR LIFE COURSES**Ana UHER¹

Institute of Geography SAS, Štefánikova 49, 814 73 Bratislava, Slovakia

e-mail: geoguhher@savba.sk

ABSTRACT

The paper presents theoretical and methodological framework for research into spatial behaviour of individuals and groups in their everyday life based on the principles of behavioural geography applying the concept of time geography. This concept is recognised as an appropriate tool for systematic research of activities. The presented methods are meant to prove the legitimacy of their use in research. Examples showed that the time-spatial budgets are a reliable tool for acquisition of information about behaviour and decision-making in everyday life of the chosen individuals on the territory of former Yugoslavia before and during the war in the 1990s and at present. The obtained data were visualised in 3D graphs. Diary data were supplemented by interviews which helped to understand individual behaviour in the context of social, cultural, economical, and political structures and norms in the pre-war and post-war environment of the eastern part of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Here described methods and their application are concrete examples how to treat and interpret the complexity of time-spatial behaviour of people in the land stricken by war conflict.

KEY WORDS:

Behaviour geography; Time-space activity budgets; Semi-structural interviews; Life-paths; Former Yugoslavia.

¹ **ANA UHER:** PhD. student in Institute of Geography Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava. The subject of her research work is processes that affect the ethnic and religious situation in the former Yugoslavia. Individual approach to three different groups of respondents who lived in the territory of the former Yugoslavia and examine their life paths which were affected by their decision making based on their ethnic and religious affiliation. Being the part of the research team of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, I focus on the issue of the political, ethnic and religious dimension of the cultural landscape.