

problems. The beatification and canonization of Mandić was used by the Croatian (especially Ustasha) political emigration to promote their policy. It opardized the relations between the Holy See and Yugoslavia. The Montenegrin authorities undertook great activities to keep the church events within the legal framework and to prevent the abuse of religion for political and national purposes. This directly reflected in the activities of the Orthodox Church, which led to a rivalry between the two religions. At the time when Yugoslavia was sinking into a deep political crisis, these events contributed to the rise of nationalism, which led to the breakup of Yugoslavia in 1991. Thus, Leopold Bogdan Mandić, an almost anonymous Franciscan-Capuchin, who spent his entire life dedicated to confession and ecumenism, owing to the fact that he had been born in Herceg Novi, became a tool of the Catholic Church for spreading faith, the struggle against socialism and promoting Croatian nationalism. It was just a part of the general movement of cleric-nationalism which then overwhelmed Montenegro and Yugoslavia.

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