Yugoslavia

Self-management Socialism · Challenges of Development

Martin Schrenk Cyrus Ardalan Nawal A. El Tatawy

AWorld Bank Country Economic Report

Yugoslavia

Self-management Socialism and the Challenges of Development

Report of a mission sent to Yugoslavia by the World Bank

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Coordinating Authors

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Foreword

This is the eighteenth in the current series of World Bank country economic reports, all of which are listed on the following page. They are published, in response to a desire expressed by scholars and practitioners in the field of economic and social development, to facilitate research and the interchange of knowledge.

The Bank regularly prepares economic reports on borrowing countries in support of its own operations. These surveys provide a basis for discussion with governments and for decisions on Bank policy and operations. Many governments use the reports as an aid to their economic planning, as do consortia and consultative groups of governments and institutions providing assistance in development. All Bank country reports are published subject to the agreement of —and several have been published by—the governments concerned.

HOLLIS B. CHENERY
Vice President for Development Policy
The World Bank

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Acronyms and Initials

Boal Basic organization of associated labor

COAL Contractual organization of associated labor

CKD Completely knocked down

COMINFORM Communist Information Bureau European Economic Community

GDP Gross domestic product
GMP Gross material product
GNP Gross national product
GNS Gross national savings

ICOR Incremental capital-output ratio
IMF International Monetary Fund

International standard industrial classification

LCY League of Communists of Yugoslavia

LDC Less developed country

NBY National Bank of Yugoslavia

OECD Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

Standard international trade classification

Currency Equivalents

Before January 23, 1971

U.S.\$1.00 = Din12.5

Between January 23, 1971 and December 22, 1971

U.S.\$1.00 = Din15.0

Between December 22, 1971 and July 12, 1972

U.S.\$1.00 = Din17.0

Since July 12, 1972

The dinar has been floating.

On December 31, 1978

U.S.\$1.00 = Din18.6

All dollar figures in this report are current U.S. dollars.

Preface

This is the World Bank's second country economic report on Yugoslavia. The first, Yugoslavia: Development with Decentralization, published by The Johns Hopkins University Press in 1974, reviewed the institutional setting and economic performance under the decentralized system established after the economic reforms of 1965. Those reforms emphasized the autonomy of enterprises and embraced the competitive market as the moving force and regulator of economic development. The focus of this report is a new phase in Yugoslavia's development, a phase that gradually emerged in the 1970s in response to external economic challenges and the successes and failures of the 1965 reforms. The new phase was formally initiated by the constitutional amendments of 1971; its essence is defined in the constitution of 1974; its consolidation still is in progress.

Three sets of objectives were adopted in preparing this report. The first was to trace the institutional changes of the 1970s to underlying sociopolitical conditions and to sketch the main features of the present framework for economic management. The second was to review the economic goals of the five-year plan for 1976–80 and to assess the prospects of and the constraints on meeting those goals. The third was to analyze in some detail the six central issues of economic development that Yugoslavia has faced over the years.

The report is arranged in two parts. Part one introduces the main institutional features of Yugoslavia's system of economic management and analyzes the country's economic problems and prospects. Part two presents the more detailed analysis of fundamental issues of economic development; its principal conclusions are incorporated in part one. For readers interested only in a sweeping overview, we recommend chapters one, two, and five. For those interested only in gaining insights about the Yugoslav system, we recommend chapters one through four.

Chapters one and two sketch the social, political, and economic

trends up to 1975; they set the stage for the subsequent description and discussion of the basic elements of "the Yugoslav system" in the second half of the 1970s—the centerpiece of part one. Chapter three sets out the principal premises underlying self-management socialism and the translation of those premises into institutional arrangements and instruments for macroeconomic and microeconomic management. Chapter four presents and discusses the Yugoslav perception of the two central institutional issues of economic management: the role of the market and the role of planning, particularly the novel concept of "self-management planning." Because the transition from the old system to the new is still in progress, chapters three and four do not attempt to provide a definitive description of the present state of affairs. By necessity their focus is on the direction of the changes and on the promises and limitations of those changes for the efficient management of the economy. Consequently these chapters present, in addition to objective facts, the hypotheses derived by the authors from diverse evidence, which is in turn imbued with economic and noneconomic considerations. Chapter five summarizes the objectives of the five-year plan for 1976-80 and the mission's assessment of Yugoslavia's development prospects over that period. The six chapters constituting part two can be considered as selfcontained essays on the respective issues-stabilization, resource mobilization, resource allocation, the balance of payments, employment, and regional development. A technical note at the end of chapter eight describes the input-output model that was extensively used for the analysis.

This report is based on the findings of a mission that visited Yugoslavia in November 1976. Members of this mission were Martin Schrenk, chief; Cyrus Ardalan, general economist; Charles Chittle, foreign trade consultant; Kathleen Jordan, input-output specialist; Boris Blazic-Metzner, national accounts specialist; Nawal A. El Tatawy, general economist; and Kosara Gavrilovic, interpreter and translator. Yuji Kubo of the Bank's staff worked with the mission in preparing the input-output analysis. William Dunn, a faculty member of the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh, wrote the chapter on social and political development. Bruce Ross-Larson edited the manuscript for publication. Florence Robinson indexed the text, Harry Einhorn corrected proofs of the text and tables, the Graphics Unit of the World Bank's Art and Design Section prepared the charts, Larry A. Bowring prepared the map, Carol Crosby Black designed the

cover, and Brian J. Svikhart managed the design and production of the book.

We are grateful for the assistance provided to us by the Yugoslav government, particularly the Federal Secretariat for Finance and the Federal Institute for Planning. Without that assistance we would not have been able to piece together a composite interpretation of the new system of economic management. We naturally assume responsibility for any conceptual ambiguities and factual errors—ambiguities and errors that perhaps are unavoidable given the pace of institutional evolution in Yugoslavia.

MARTIN SCHRENK CYRUS ARDALAN NAWAL A. EL TATAWY

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