

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

SERBIA

General Information

- Population: 7,771,633
- Landlocked Balkan state. Serbia has two autonomous provinces, Vojvodina in the north and Kosovo in the south.
- Capital: Belgrade.
- Several Roman Emperors were born in the area of modern-day Serbia. The most famous of these was Constantine the Great, the first Christian Emperor, who issued an edict ordering religious tolerance throughout the Empire.
- Public schools allow religious teaching.

Challenges

- The Serbian Orthodox Church seeks to regain great influence over national life – it has suppressed other Orthodox churches serving ethnic minorities (Romanians, Macedonians and Montenegrins) and pushed for a harsh and self-serving religion (Operation World).
- Diversity, 21 different languages are used within this country.
- Serbia is in an acute demographic crisis since the beginning of the 1990s, as death rate has continuously exceeded its birth rate. It has one of the most negative population growth rates in the world, ranking 225th out of 233 countries and territories overall.
- Serbia is one of religiously diverse European countries, with an Eastern Orthodox majority, and a Catholic and Islamic minority, among other smaller confessions.

Prayer

- Protestants among Serbs are not large but are the only religious form besides Orthodoxy that are growing today widely spread among Serbs.
- Baptist groups ask for prayer for recent (June 2014) flooding.

Reference

- <http://www.operationworld.org/serb>
- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Serbia>
- <https://www.baptiststandard.com/news/baptist/16516-baptist-briefs-serbian-baptists-appeal-for-help-after-floods>