

*Tangled affairs.*

*The Morlachs and the negotiations for the border of Šibenik and Trogir  
(mid. 16th century)*

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Aspects which might define a Morlach from the Venetian perspective, during the 16th century:

- he must arrive from beyond the flexible border;
- he must not have a good social condition (must be rather poor);
- he must practice sheep breeding, caravan commerce or he has to be involved in paid military activities;
- if none of those mentioned above applies, and he is not identified as Ukoks, then a Morlach might be the most feared teft, robber or killer.

\* During the 16th century, the Morlach presence is significantly felt in the local economy, agriculture, defensive system, demography and in the development of the region. Even though, the Morlachs presence is perceived by the local Venetian authorities for the most of the cases like something **that must be fixed**.

”**The Morlach issue**” – the main inconveniencies produced in the Venetian Dalmatia at the mid. 16th century:

**a. the transhumat practice of the sheep breeders** – the Morlachs descent from the mountains for the winter in the pasturelands of the Dalmatian cities and feed their herds in the cultivated lands of the locals;

**b. military attackers as members of the Ottoman irregular troopes** – affects the life in the region and prepares the territory for the Ottoman offensiv;

**c. the practice of a traditional caravan commerce** – which affects the local markets and the Venetian monopoly in the exploitation of the regional resources; allows an backgroud solution for the Ottoman offensive since the Morlachs are ”the subjects of the Turk”;

**d. the large number of the immigrants in search for a better life** – arrive in a province reduced by the territorial losses and settle without knowing the rules and causing even more disorder on the border;

**e. the outlaw practice of the Morlachs** - which makes them known for robberies, murders and kidnapping

*Resta a dire del territorio coltivato da Traurini, ch'è in levante et mezzodì, il quale tutto è lungo miglia venti incirca, ma la maggior parte sassoso, montuoso et sterile, et è largo dal canal fin alla somità di monti cinque in sie miglia. Passata la cima della montagna, la giurisdizione di Traù si estende ancora tre in quattro miglia, ma Murlachi abitano quella parte.*

*Itinerario di Giovanni Battista Giustiniano sindaco in Dalmazia ed Albania 1553, in*  
**Comissiones et relationes venetae**, tom II, Zagreb, 1877, p. 210

## Some of the documents issued in the matter of the border of Trogir

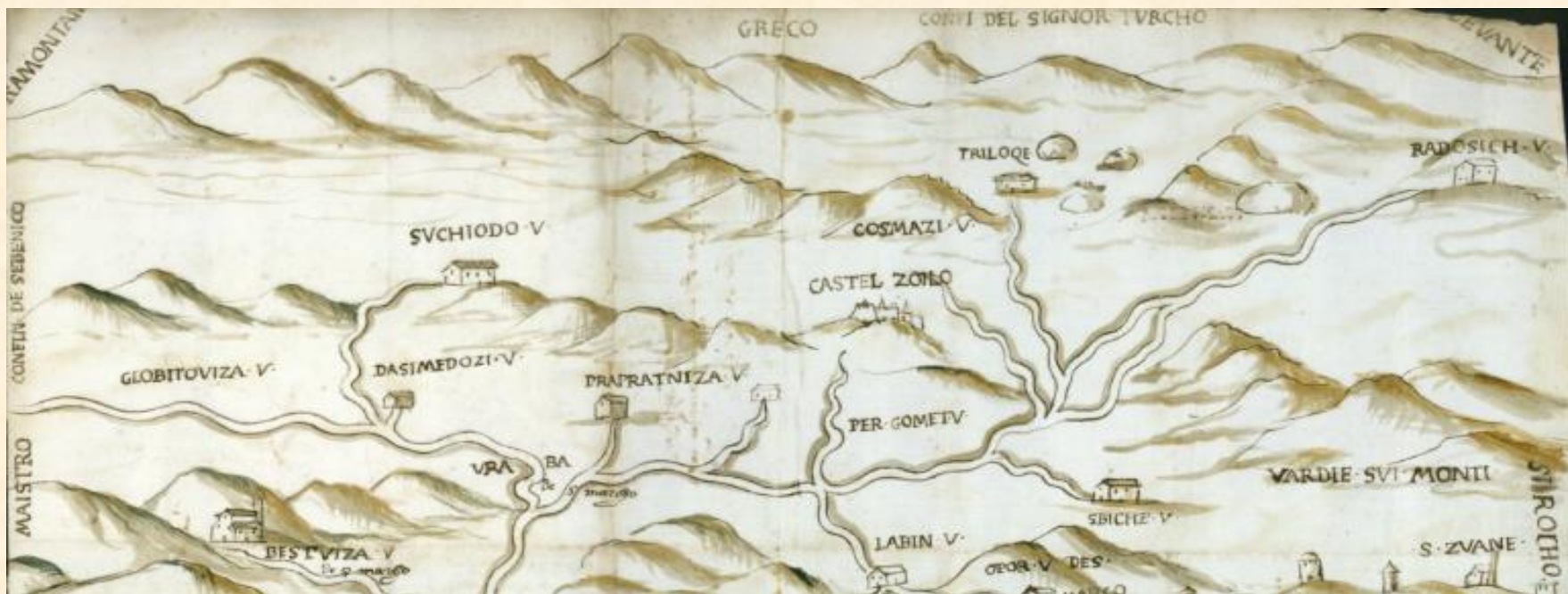
<b>year</b>	<b>archive</b>	<b>recipient</b>	<b>observatiom</b>
<b>1549, March</b>	ASV, Bailo a Constantinopoli	the Sultan to the sanjak of Klis	
<b>1551</b>	ASV, Bailo a Constantinopoli	to the sanjak of Klis	
<b>1553, February</b>	ASV, Bailo a Constantinopoli	Malcos beg, sanjak of Klis	
<b>1554</b>	ASV, Bailo a Constantinopoli	to the sanjak of Klis	
<b>1558, May</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Secreti, registri	the Venetian Senat to the count and captain of Trogir	
<b>1559, February</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constantinopoli, registri	to the Sultan	
<b>1559, February</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Secreti, registri	the Venetian Senate to the count and captain of Trogir	Concerning the actions of the count and captain of the Šibenik in this matter.
<b>1559, 26 February</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constantinopoli, filze	to the bailo.	
<b>1559, 7 September</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constantinopoli, registri	to the bailo.	
<b>1562, May</b>	ASV, Bailo a Constantinopoli	the count and captain of Trogir to the Venetian Senate	
<b>1562, May</b>	ASV, Bailo a Constantinopoli	the count and captain of Trogir to the Venetian Senate	
<b>1562</b>	ASV, Bailo a Constantinopoli	to the bailo.	

<b>1562, September</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constantinopoli, filze	the Venetian Senate to the count and captain of Trogir	
<b>1563, December</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constantinopoli, filze	to the bailo.	
<b>1565, September</b>	ASV, Miscellanea materie miste e notabile	the Sultan to the sanjak of Klis	
<b>1566</b>	ASV, Miscellanea materie miste e notabile	the count and captain of Trogir to the Senate	
<b>1566, November</b>	ASV, Miscellanea materie miste e notabile	the council of nobles from Trogir to the Venetian Senate	



*Ha quel territorio gran carestia d'uomini, che lavorano, di maniera che una bona parte resta inculta, et l'altra verso tramontana e habitata, anzi già molti anni coltivata da Murlachi sudditi Turcheschi.*

*Relatione del sindacato di Dalmatia et Albania nell' eccellentissimo Senati per il magnifico meser Antonio Diedo, in Commissiones et relationes venetae, tom III, Zagreb, p. 13*



The map of the hinterland of Trogir around the year 1566  
ASV, Miscellanea materie miste e notabili

*Al sexto principiante ch'alcun volta: respondendo dico che magnifici rettori et io anco non tanto per la miseria de alcune poche (...) quanto che a persuasione de lor proprii gentilhomini che diciano essi Murlachi essendo come guardie del suo territorio et che li perservavano dalle depredationi del Martolossi habbia permesso che depasceno li soui animali su questo territorio ma molto luntan dalla citta. Non nego tamen esser vero che qualche volta essi Morlachi indiscretamente usanno questa commodita vengono piu e dentro di ditti confini. Il mio che e necessario mandar li stratoti ad sentirli per non lassar ch'entrino nelle pascolli reservati per gl'animali della citta per ho dico che (...) la Serenita Vostra non inovasse. Altro per che ad ogni modo essi pascolli come luntani non si useriano da gl'animali suoi dando solamente ordini ad non lassar che li Morlachi venghino dentro delle confini soliti, per che ce mancho talche reconoschino comme fanno questa commodita cha che la se..... comme propria alla turchescha con maggior prejuditio.*

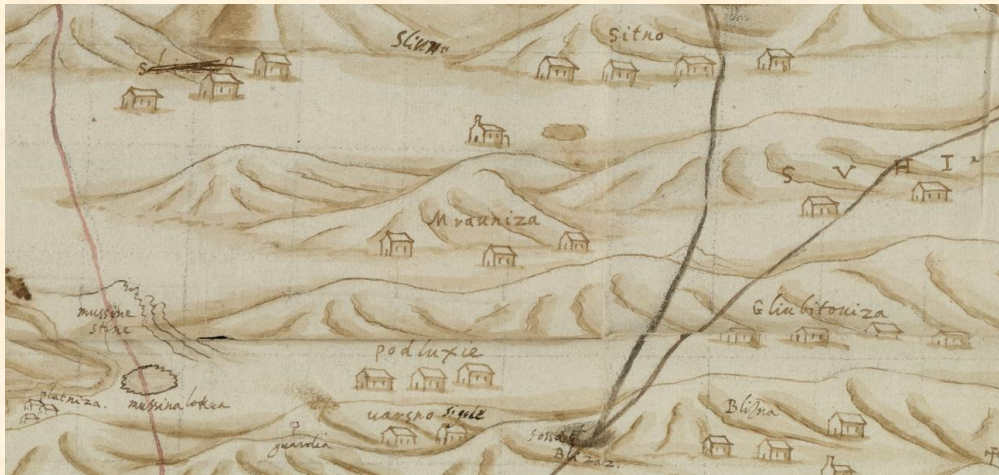
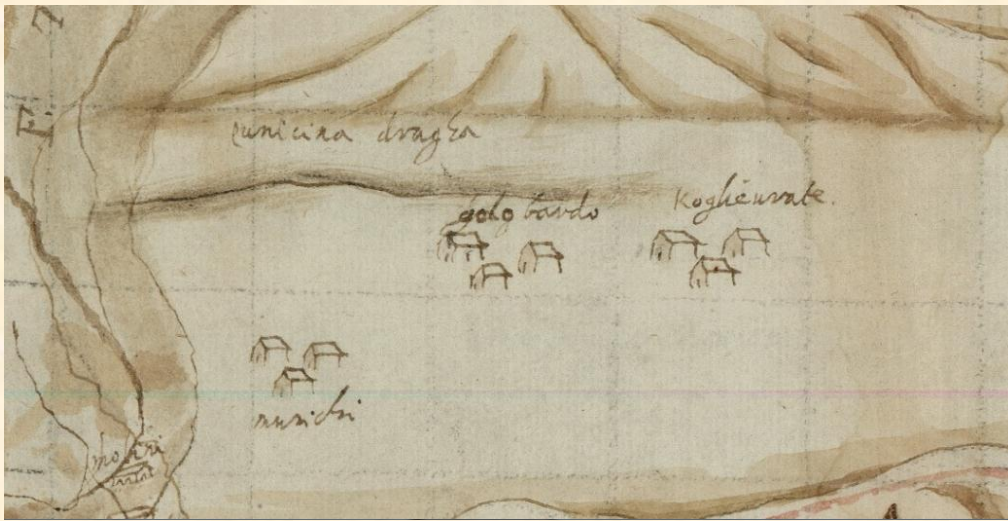
*ASV, Senato Deliberazioni Mar, 1550, 23rd of January*



# Some of the documents issued in the matter of the border of Šibenik

year	archive	recipient	Observation
1549	ASV, Bailo a Constantinopoli	from Constantinople to the sanjak of Klis and cadi of Cliuno	
1551, December	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Secrete, registri	the Venetian Senate to the count and captain of Šibenik.	
1551	ASV, Bailo a Constantinopoli	from Constantinople to the sanjak of Klis and cadi of Cliuno	
1553, February	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Mar, filze	count of Šibenik	
1553, March	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Mar, filze	the Venetian Senate	
1553, March	ASV, Bailo a Constantinopoli	from Constantinople to Busdogan cadi	
1556, September	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constatinopoli	count of Šibenik	
1554, June	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Secrete, registri	count of Šibenik	
1557, July	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Secrete, registri	the Venetian Senate	
1557	Commissiones et relationes venetae, III	Joannis de Quarzonibus	
1557	ASV, Capi dei Consiglio dei X	Fillipo Bragadin, former Venetian official in Šibenik	
1558, August	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constatinopoli, filze	the Venetian Senate to the count and captain of Šibenik	Three other letters with indications are sent in Šibenik in order to organize the visit at the Ottoman officials
1558	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constatinopoli, registri		List with goods to be offered to the Ottoman
1558, August	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constatinopoli, registri	to Marino Cavalli	

<b>1559, August</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constaninopoli, registri	to the count and captain of Šibenik	
<b>1560, May</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constaninopoli, registri	the Venetian Senat to the bailo in Constantinople	
<b>1560, June</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constaninopoli, filze	the Venetian Senat to the bailo in Constantinople	
<b>1561, May</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constaninopoli, registri	to the bailo in Constantinople	
<b>1562, May</b>	ASV, Senato Deliberationi Constaninopoli, filze	Letter to the Sultan	
<b>aprox. 1566 - 1568</b>	Commissiones et relationes venetae, III	probably Francesco Difnic	



The map of the hinterland of Šibenik around the year 1566  
 ASV, Miscellanea materie miste e notabili, fragments.

## The 33 villages from the border of Šibenik

The name of the village	Identification (cf. Kristian Juran, <i>Doseljavanje Morlaka u opustjela sela šibenske Zagore u 16. stoljeću</i> )	Morlachs (cf. <i>Ibidem.</i> )
Pachleniza (Paklenica)	Paklenica	(1550 ) Ivanko, the son of Radkov, (1559) Vukašin Radovanović, etc.
Golo bardo (Golo Brdo)	Gola Brda	
Murichi (Murići)	-	
Dragha (Draga)	Slana Draga (?)	
Cogliefrate (Konjevrate)	-	
Goriss (Goriš)	Goriš	
Barniza (Brnjica)	Brjnica	Ivanič Pipunić, <i>cneaz</i> , Pere Ivanović, Pere Pavlović and Vukić Vukić (1535)
Xitnichi (Žitnići)	Žitnić	(1548) Petar Holuja, Piroško si Cvitko Vukićević, (1555 ) <i>Rado Rachovich de chatona Sholuni di Zitnichi, etc.</i>
Dobarcini (Dobričići)	Dolnji Dobručići	(1558) Anica, the widow of Rade Radonića, Vukman Radonjić de Dobarcichi, etc.
Pochrovich (Pokrovnik)	Porkrovnik	
Zamelliza (Zamelica)	Zastinica (Žabnica) (?)	
Luchofnich (Lukovnik)	Lokve (?)	
Pachoschiane (Pakoščane)	Pakoštani	<i>Michaeli condam Uiti Vlaisevich cathunario ... Nomine tocius cathone sue (1533)</i>
Chossevichi (Kočevići)	Košević	Iohannes Branilovich cathunarius ville Chossevichi districtus Sibenici (1535)
Cremich (Kremik)	Premetno	
Glubostinichi (Ljubostinić)	Ljubošina	<i>Radoslavo Radosno Radasinpvich et Ioanni Raoyo et Radovano Bulchovich Vucdrago Uranich et Paulo Mathievich de Radosnichi murlacis, (1533)</i>



Nevest	Nevest	<i>Thome Draghici Radatovich de Hrcegovina ... Nomine tocius sue cathone (1533)</i>
Ugnessichi (Unešić)	-	
Choparno (Koprno)	Koprino	Tome Radoslavić, Morlak de ville Choperno (1532)
Partimisi (Prtmiši)	Pretisnica (?)	
Sitniza (Slitnica)	Stinica	<i>Bosidario Gelofci Raodgnich de Mostaro ... Nomine tocius cathone sue (1533)</i>
Zvonicaz (Zvoničac)	Zvončani	Ivan Brajmilović (1534)
Zaplane (Zaplanje)	Zablatje (?)	<i>Nacolao Vuci Obradovich de Cercegovina ... Nomine Vuci eius patris et tocius cathone sue (1533)</i>
Billichi (Bilići)	Bilići	Radich Hsuoya cathunario ..nomine suo ac tocius cathoe sue (1534)
Mrauniza (Mravnica)	Mravnice	Paul Milassevich de Mrauniza murlachus
Podluxie (Podlužje)	Podlužje	Pavao Voihnić and Martin Plavčić, Morlaci (1540)
Lepenice (Lepenice)	Lepenica Dol	
Varsniza (Vrsnica)	Vršnica	Pavao Voihnić and Martin Plavčić, Morlaci (1540)
Podborai (Podboraj)	Podboranja	
Mitlo (Mitlo)	Mitlo	
Boxac (Božac)	-	
Slischie Difnichia (Selišće Divnića)	-	
Kruševo		Pere Mikovića



**Thank you for your attention!**