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**SAMDONALDSON@abcNEWS.com**

# A Beginner's Guide to the Balkans

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There are countless explanations for the volatility of the 'Balkan Powderkeg'. Historians variously blame disputes over resources, ancient hatreds or meddling by Great Powers intent on keeping the region unstable. But geography is also a powerful clue: Lying south of the Danube

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## The Ottoman Empire

1895: The Turkish army ranges north to besiege Vienna. Their Balkan subjects consider the regime oppressive and cruel.

RIGHT: Đurđević Stupovi Monastery built by Serbia's first royal family, the Nemanja Dynasty.



1830: A failed Serbian revolt prompts 70,000 Serbs to migrate from

Turkish-dominated Serbia to Hapsburg Croatia. Their descendants become the "Krajina" Serbs who remain in Croatia along the Bosnian border today, a situation that severely complicates relations between the two countries.

1743: Dimitrije Obradović, the man who would start Serbia's cultural revolution, is born.

After a brief stint in a monastery, he travels to Western Europe. Shocked that Serbs had no secular modern literature, he writes the grammars and dictionaries that will make a modern Serbian language possible.

RIGHT: Orthodox cross.

## The Ottoman Empire

1804: The Serbian population of the Belgrade region, with sporadic Russian support, starts an insurrection against their Turkish masters that lasts until 1816, the year

Napoleon is defeated at Waterloo. With Napoleon out of the way, the Turks worry that Russia might again intervene and make Serbia autonomous.



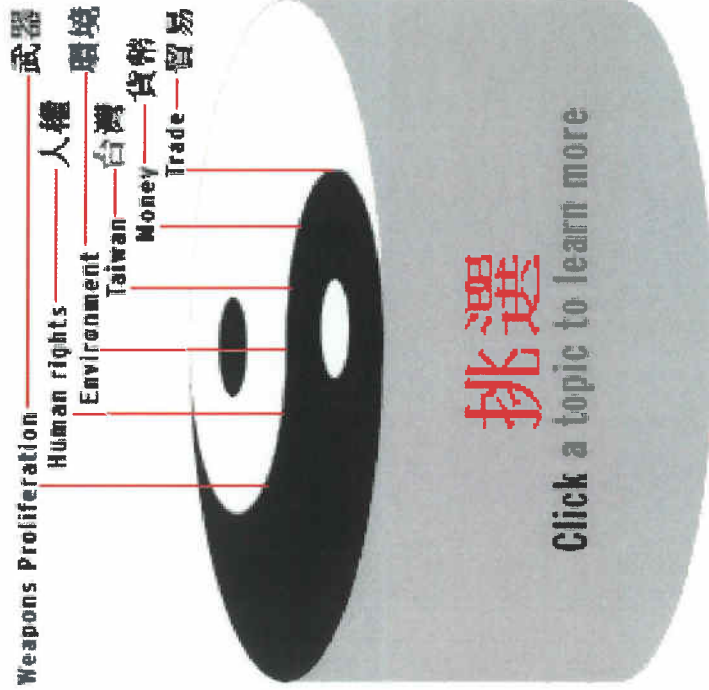
1817: George Petrović, a Serbian nationalist, is sent to

RIGHT

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Click a topic to learn more about the complexities of some of the key issues on the agenda during President Clinton's trip to China. (Graphic: Mark Bloch/ABCNEWS.com)

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Activists Hope He Acts Tough

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Dissidents: China still officially holds around 2,000 prisoners of conscience in jails and labor camps. Human rights groups believe 6,000 or more are now held, and

*By Jørgen Wouters*  
ABCNEWS.com

June 29 — President Clinton managed to save some face with critics of his China trip by bluntly criticizing his hosts in Beijing, but human-rights advocates are waiting to see whether

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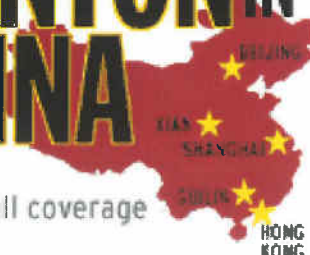
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Is Engagement Smart?

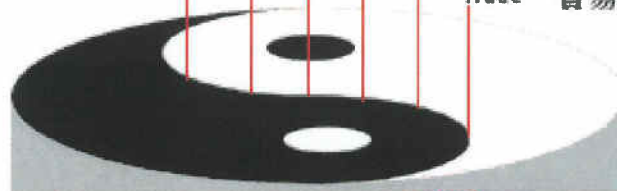
# The Yin and Yang of U.S. China Policy

# CLINTON IN CHINA

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Environment

環境

The Clinton administration is not under-estimating the danger. **China has paid little heed to air and water quality** and the cost in terms of public health, according to the World Bank, is approaching \$54 billion a year.

Click a topic to learn more about the complexities of some of the key issues on the agenda during President Clinton's trip to China. (Graphic: Mark Bloch/ ABCNEWS.com)

*By Terence Nelan*  
ABCNEWS.com

**June 25** —President Clinton wants to deal directly with China, claiming that reaching an understanding with the rising Asian power is integral to U.S. policy.

But as Clinton's historic visit to China begins today, critics of his

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