Contents

List of Figures ix
Series Editors’ Preface x
Acknowledgements xi
Abbreviations xiii

1 Introduction 1
  1.1 States, Performance and Improvisation 4
  1.2 Towards a Political Anthropology of the Bosnian State 7
  1.3 Critical Geopolitics and Qualitative Research Strategy 13
  1.4 Structure of the Book 16

2 The Improvised State 20
  2.1 The State Idea 22
  2.2 Performance and Performativity 26
  2.3 Improvisation: Performed Resourcefulness 32
  2.4 Improvising the State 38

3 Producing Bosnia and Herzegovina 41
  3.1 Fault Line 44
  3.2 Barrier 50
  3.3 The Balkan Vortex 62
  3.4 The General Framework Agreement for Peace 67
  3.5 Conclusion 70

4 Performing Brčko District 72
  4.1 Brčko District and Arbitration 75
  4.2 Stability: Getting the Job Done 85