Don't Call Me a Colonizer

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My Caucasian face causes you fear and distrust

Yet you realize not that I am not racially advantaged
I am from Eastern Europe, first place to be colonized and ravaged
We are not enemies, cast away the hate, to do this you must

Don't Call Me a Colonizer

My people were oppressed long before your own

Though the sociological construct of my race is determined as white

It did not afford my people that which is accepted as a natural right

To not be enslaved, murdered, raped, condemned to forever mourn

Don't Call Me a Colonizer

My ancestors were not of yours an enemy
They bled and died in chains of imperialism
Crucified between a West-East European schism
Fighting against fellow whites, in order to be free

Don't Call Me a Colonizer

Have you never heard of the Ottoman Empire

Who kidnapped our boys to become their soldiers

Took our girls to their harems as sex slaves

Ruled over us with blood, iron, and fire

Don't Call Me a Colonizer

Have you never heard of Austro-Hungary

The Habsburg imperial yoke forbade even writers to write

Many patriots rotted in their dungeons, perished in the night

Working to unite our people, and free them from imperial slavery

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Bram Stoker's "Dracula" was a metaphor for my people
The struggle of rational West versus the mythical evil East
The Eastern Europeans, forever the <u>untermench</u> beast
Second rate white people, always treated as stupid and simple

Don't Call Me a Colonizer

Have you never heard of the pogroms and the genocides

Eastern Europe was the scene of the majority of Nazi crimes

Stalinism bled us all without mercy, for his own imperialist schemes

Hundreds of millions of us, cannon-fodder, victims of state-terror and homicides

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My Caucasian ancestors were impaled, butchered, exterminated Forbidden to live freely, divided by artificial ethnic divisions Pushed into hell, by their own white people and their decisions Damned to be never accepted as truly European, forever hated

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My people did not sail to the lands of your ancestors

We were colonized long before you

I am a living testament, for I was colonized too

Refugee at age 10, in a war imported by imperialists

Don't Call Me a Colonizer

Some don't consider me white even though I am Caucasian

To play the race card, you at least have the right

Few will take me seriously when I tell them of racial plight

Because I am neither black, Indian, Aboriginal, nor Asian

Don't Call Me a Colonizer

You think I am privileged because I am white

But everything changes when I speak or they hear my foreign name

No longer welcoming, old stock whites subject me to their manipulation and game

And according to your non-whites, to protest I have no right?

Don't Call Me a Colonizer

My resume is scrutinized as much as is yours

They don't see my university education when I apply for a job

Not part of the Canadian nation to the HR, of opportunity they rob

Aiming to reduce me to dust, to beg for employment, to crawl on all fours

Don't Call Me a Colonizer

You foster no dialogue by burning bridges with hate
Old-stock whites are not our collective enemy
We are all Canadian, so let us be of prejudice free
A colour-blind future, let us endeavour to create

So Do Not Call Me a Colonizer
For my people were the first to be colonized
I am second-rate white, second class just like your race
Do not let arrogance rule you when you see my white face
With imperialism and racism, my ancestors were first sodomized

They can't pronounce my name
When I speak my accent is to blame
My white skin is not a privilege
But an atonement to the sacrilege
Sacrilege caused by human hate

And by artificially created races Whose hateful speech is forsaken by God's good graces

Don't Call Me a Colonizer
I was colonized long before you
Without a right to protest
Those silent graves, whose suffering was true

Vedran Eminovic January 12, 2016