Special classes of simplicial complexes (chessboard, ‘unavoidable’, threshold, ‘simple games’, etc.) frequently appear in applications of algebraic topology in discrete geometry and combinatorics. We outline some of these applications, including the proof of a new theorem of Van Kampen-Flores type (<a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/1502.05290">arXiv:1502.05290</a> [math.CO], Theorem 1.2), which confirms a conjecture of Blagojevic, Frick, and Ziegler (<a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/1401.0690">Tverberg plus constraints</a>). The lecture is based on a joint work with Dusko Jojic (University of Banja Luka) and Sinisa Vrecica (University of Belgrade).