Transitional Justice and the Rule of Law in Post-Conflict Societies: Critical Reflections on and Lessons Learned from the Western Balkans

Venue: Professorboligen, The Faculty of Law, Karl Johans gate 47, Oslo

Time: 2 December 2016, 09:30 – 15:30

Draft Program

09:00-09:20 Registration with coffee and tea

09:30-09:40 Opening remarks
*Inga Bostad, Director of the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights*

Panel 1 Transitional justice in the former Yugoslavia with a focus on Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo

*Moderator: Kristin Bergtora Sandvik*

09:40-09:55 ‘Transitional justice in the former Yugoslavia: challenges and prospects’
*Gentian Zyberi, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo*

9:55-10:10 ‘Transitional justice, reconciliation, human rights, and international administration (UNMIK, ICO, EULEX, in Kosovo’
*Remziye Istrefi, Faculty of Law, University of Prishtina*

10:10-10:25 ‘Transitional justice in the country of injustice Bosnia twenty years later’
*Zarije Seizović, Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Sarajevo*

10:25 – 10:45 Questions and comments

10:45-11.00 Coffee Break

Panel 2 Rule of law, democratic institutions, and EU integration

*Moderator: Gentian Zyberi*

11:00-11:15 ‘A plethora of human rights issues in post-war property restitution in Kosovo’
*Gjylbehare Bella Murati, European School of Law and Governance*
11:15-11:30 ‘Transition and building a new national identities’
Jasna Jozelić, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo

11:30-11:45 ‘Challenges concerning the rule of law in Kosovo and the EU integration process’
Qerim Qerimi, Faculty of Law, University of Prishtina

11:45 – 12:00 Questions and comments

12:00-13:00 Lunch

Panel 3 Education and remembrance

Moderator: Jasna Jozelić

13:00-13:15 ‘Cultural memory in post-conflict transition’
Gorana Ognjenović, philosopher and guest researcher, NCHR, UiO

13:15-13:30 ‘We raise generations of haters’
Goran Šimić, International University of Sarajevo

13:30-13:45 ‘Teaching values in Bosnia and Herzegovina’
Dženana Husremović, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo

13:45 – 14:15 Questions and comments

14:15-14:30 Coffee Break

Way forward and a potential program on Western Balkans

14.30-15.00 Joint presentation by Gentian Zyberi and Jasna Jozelić

15:00 – 15:20 Questions and comments

15:20-15:30 Closing remarks
Jasna Jozelić, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo
Gentian Zyberi, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo
Short bio of the speakers/moderators

**Gentian Zyberi:** Gentian has a bachelor’s degree in law (LL.B, 2000) from Tirana University School of Law, Albania. He obtained a Master’s degree (LL.M, 2002) and a PhD degree (2008) in International Law from Utrecht University School of Law, the Netherlands. Currently he is a Professor and head of education at the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo. Professor Zyberi’s research agenda focuses on the role of international courts and tribunals in developing international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and international criminal law; the protection of community interests in international law; responsibility to protect; and transitional justice in the Balkans.

**Jasna Jozelić:** Jasna is an advisor at the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights. She holds a Master degree in Religious Studies, University of Bergen, and is a Dr. Philos. candidate in Religious Studies. Jasna Jozelic’s research agenda focuses on politicization of religion and history, human rights and religion, interreligious dialogue, transitional justice in the Balkans, nationalism and identity, political theory, and violence and religion. She has participated in and has managed several international multidisciplinary and transnational projects with focus on Balkans. She is the co-editor of several edited volumes focusing on the Western Balkans and author of articles published in prestigious international publishing houses.

**Kristin Bergtora Sandvik:** Kristin graduated from the University of Oslo with a Masters in Women’s Law in 2002. She obtained an LL.M (waived) from Harvard Law School in 2003, and a doctorate in Juridical Sciences (S.J.D) from Harvard Law School in 2008. Sandvik has been an associate professor at the Department of Criminology and Sociology of Law. Kristin Bergtora Sandvik’s research agenda focuses on the development of a political and legal sociology of humanitarianism.

**Remzije Istrefi:** Remzije is a Professor at the Faculty of Law and the Department of Political Science of the University of Prishtina. She holds a PhD in Political Science with a specialization in International Human Rights Law and International Organizations. Professor Istrefi has worked as a Human Rights Advisor with the OSCE Mission in Kosovo for 10 years and has served as a consultant for different international and national institutions including UNDP, ECMI, KJI and KIPA. Since 2010 she has been Executive Project Manager of the biggest multi-ethnic project ever implemented in the ethnically divided town of Mitrovica ‘Bridging the Divide’, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands. Professor Istrefi has published several academic articles in the field of human rights and has contributed to numerous edited books.
Zarije Seizović: Zarije graduated from the Sarajevo Law School and holds a Master’s of Science and Doctorate in Political Sciences. Currently, he works as Professor of International Humanitarian Law and the Law of Defence and Security at the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of Sarajevo. Professor Seizović teaches at the bachelor, master, and doctoral level at the University of Sarajevo. He worked as a lawyer in the War Crimes Chamber of the BiH State Court, and served as legal adviser to a number of international organizations, such as OSCE and UN Missions to BiH, as well as International Crisis Group (ICG). Professor Seizović also worked as an Attorney-at-Law, Criminal Court Judge and Registrar of the Constitutional Court of the Federation of BiH, and as spokesperson of the Border Police of BiH. As consultant he was involved in a number of judicial and public administration reform projects in BiH and Balkans. Professor Seizović is the author of 10 books in English and national language/s, as well as around 100 articles published in BiH and abroad. He is a member of the Political Sciences Board of the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Gjylbehare Bella Murati: Bella holds a PhD degree in Law from Ghent University, Belgium, an LL.M. degree from Essex University in United Kingdom, and an LL.B. in Law from the Universities of Prishtina, Kosovo, and Utrecht University, the Netherlands. Dr. Murati currently teaches Public International Law at two law schools in Prishtina, Kosovo, at the Law School of the University of Business and Technology and at the European School of Law and Governance. She is also an associate postdoctoral research fellow at the Human Rights Centre in Ghent University, Belgium. In 2015, she was a visiting lecturer at European inter-university Centre for Human Rights and Democratization in Venice Lido, Italy.

Gorana Ognjenović: Gorana is a philosopher, a guest researcher at the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, and earlier Fulbright Fellow at the New School for Social Research. She specialises in social philosophy, political philosophy, and ethics. Ms. Ognjenović has published in Croatian, Norwegian, Swedish, and English on a wide spectrum of themes, focusing on the politicization of religion and of history in the former Yugoslavia. She has led several international multidisciplinary research projects, resulting in well-received edited book volumes. Her current research interests include societies in transition, history of religion, politicization of history, education and politics.

Qerim Qerimi: Qerim holds a PhD in Law (J.S.D.) in Intercultural Human Rights (2010) and LL.M. (2005), St. Thomas University School of Law, Miami, Florida; B.A. and J.D., Universities of Prishtina, Kosovo, and Utrecht University, The Netherlands. He is a Professor of Law at the University of Prishtina and a former Visiting Research Scholar at Harvard. Widely published, Professor Qerimi has served as a legal advisor to the European Union, USAID and the World Bank on issues related to development and international law.
**Goran Šimić:** Goran is a Professor of Criminal Law and Transitional Justice at the International University of Sarajevo. His research interests include comparative criminal law, international criminal law and transitional justice. He has lectured at different universities, including the University of Cambridge, University of Louisville, Istanbul Commerce University and Ruhr-Universität Bochum. Professor Šimić has worked as a legal advisor for different international and national institutions, including the Ministry of Justice of BiH, the Ministry of Defence of BiH, the Transitional Justice Association in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the OSCE.

**Dženana Husremović:** Dženana is an Associate Professor at the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo. For the last ten years, Dženana Husremović has been an active researcher in the area of education policies. Her contributions in this area include research commissioned by the Open Society Institute BiH, entitled ‘Monitoring private tutoring in Bosnia and Herzegovina’ and ‘What do we teach our children: content analysis of the textbooks for national group of subjects’. For the last four years she has been involved in research concerning predictors of academic achievement of students in primary schools. Currently, she is a member of two national working groups - the first one on preparing new common curricula for pre-university education and the second one for designing the strategy for development of career guidance in Bosnia and Herzegovina. She believes that high quality education is the main pillar for the development of a society. Her work focuses on quality and equity in education and work, and employability of students.