

# Liquid reconciliation: Global perspectives, Glocal realities.

Global Campus  
of Human Rights  
International  
Conference 2017

4–6 April 2017

Sarajevo,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organised by

This project is co-funded by the European Union  
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*Ministero degli Affari Esteri*

# Liquid reconciliation: Global perspectives, Glocal realities.

## Description

The Global Campus of Human Rights International Conference 2017 is focused on the nexus between human rights protection and the perspective of reconciliation in divided societies. The conditions under which reconciliation and the defense of human rights are treated depend on a variety of aspects, according to the historical events and individual tragedies experienced in each country/region. Therefore, the comparative approach is the mark for each proposed panel of the conference. The key concepts the conference will tackle are memory, justice and the role of the truth and reconciliation commissions, dealing with the past as well as empathy, forgiveness and the social cleavages.

The Conference is organized by the University of Sarajevo, with the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies, and the University of Bologna, with the Institute for Central-Eastern and Balkan Europe, through their joint activity "European Regional Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe (ERMA)"

This conference is realized within the framework of the Global Campus of Master's Programmes and Diplomas in Human Rights and Democratisation, coordinated by the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratization, funded by the European Union. The Global Campus of Human Rights is a unique network of more than one hundred participating universities around the world, seeking to advance human rights and democracy through regional and global cooperation for education and research. This global network is promoted through seven Regional Programmes which are based in Venice for Europe, in Sarajevo/Bologna for South East Europe, in Yerevan for the Caucasus, in Pretoria for Africa, in Bangkok for Asia-Pacific, in Buenos Aires for Latin America and the Caribbean, and in Beirut for the Arab World.

## International Conference

## Programme

Tuesday, 4 April

### Opening ceremony

*Venue:* Conference Hall of the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sq. Bosnia and Herzegovina 1, Sarajevo

[12:30-13:00 Registration](#)

[13:00 – 15:00 Opening Ceremony](#)

*Chair:*

**Stefano Bianchini**, Vice-rector delegate for the Relations with East European Countries, University of Bologna (Italy)

*Opening note:*

**Semih Borovac**, Minister for Human Rights and Refugees (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

*Welcoming addresses:*

**Rifat Škrijelj**, Rector of the University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

**Jan Snidauf**, Head of Political and Press Section

**H.E. Nicola Minasi**, Ambassador of the Republic of Italy in Bosnia and Herzegovina

*Keynote speeches:*

**Nataša Kandić**, Humanitarian Law Center Belgrade (Serbia)  
"The Right to the Truth - Achievements and Limitations"

**Manfred Nowak**, Secretary General, EIU - European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation (Italy)  
"Truth, Justice and Reconciliation in Post-Conflict Societies"

[14:50 – 15:00 Group photo](#)

[15:00 – 16:00 Cocktail](#)

### Visit to the National Museum of BiH

[16:30-17:30](#)

*Introduction by:*

**Ines Tanović-Sijerčić** (ERMA alumna)

The visit will shed a light on the story of civic courage and engagement which unfolds behind the existence of the museum. Due to lack of funding caused by an enduring legal vacuum, in 2012 the Museum closed the doors to the public. Despite that, for three years its employees volunteered to take care of its heritage, alimentering a vivid

citizen's awareness. The museum re-opened its doors to the public in 2015.

Wednesday, 5 April

### Conference day

*Venue:* Rectorate of the University of Sarajevo, Celebrations Hall - Obala Kulina Bana 7/II, Sarajevo

[09:00 – 10:45 PANEL 1](#)

[Memory, Empathy and Forgiveness](#)

The first panel refers to historical memories. The issue is very controversial, not only because memories are often mutually in conflict, but also because politics (states, ideologies and so on) is encouraging opposite and/or irreconcilable memories. Textbooks are also treating the past events according to narratives that are mutually incompatible. On the contrary, we would like to understand whether a reconciliation of memories is achievable, to what extent a revision of textbooks is realistically possible (and how), if empathy can be helpful for re-establishing broken bonds, and creating the conditions for crimes recognition and forgiveness. Participants in this panel are therefore invited to express their views in relation to the experience of their own region/country.

[9:00 – 10:45 PANEL 1](#)

[Memory, Empathy and Forgiveness](#)

*Chair:*

**George Ulrich**, EIU - European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation (Italy). EMA Director

*Speakers:*

**Vesna Teršelić**, Documenta, Zagreb (Croatia)  
"Transgenerational transfer of memories, trauma and trust building"

**Christina Koulouri**, Panteion University, Athens (Greece)  
"To forget or to Remember? History Teaching as a Mean of Reconciliation in Post-Conflict Balkans"

**Grandits Marijana**, University of Wien (Austria)  
"Arts in Memory and Empathy and Forgiveness in Post Conflict Situations"

*Discussant:*

**Arevik Anapioşyan**, Yerevan State University (Armenia)

[10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break](#)

[11:00 – 12:45 PANEL 2](#)

[Morality of the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions](#)

The second panel discusses the legal (and political) tools that have been, or might be established in order to create the conditions for overcoming tensions in deeply divided societies. The truth commission was experienced in South Africa while similar attempts took place in other regions with different outcomes. The ICTY was also supposed to play a similar role in the Yugoslav successor states, nonetheless failed to achieve this result. Instead, in other countries alternative tools might have been identified and/or employed in order to reinforce a morality of truth and a shared truth against crimes, violations of human rights, conflicts that persecuted a peaceful civil life. The speakers

of this panel are called to have their say about these issues, in relation to the cultural, legal, and political experiences/tools (both effective and ineffective) in order to achieve the pacification of societies.

*Chair:*

**Arevik Anapioşyan**, Yerevan State University (Armenia)

*Speakers:*

**Joseph Marko**, University of Graz (Austria)  
"Power-Sharing Without Reconciliation? Lessons from Bosnia-Herzegovina and Cyprus"

**Jasna Dragović Soso**, Goldsmith University of London (United Kingdom)  
"Truth and Reconciliation Commissions as Nation-Building Projects: Lessons from the Post-Conflict Balkans"

**Marouane Laouina**, University of Grenoble (France)  
"Reconciling with what? Truth, Justice, and Forgiveness in the Case of the Moroccan Equity and Reconciliation Commission"

*Discussant:*

**Jorge Taiana**, San Martin University, Buenos Aires (Argentina)

[12:45 – 14:00 Lunch break](#)

[14:00 – 15:45 PANEL 3](#)

[Justice and Social Cleavages](#)

The third panel refers to the social cleavages, as the number of deep social dichotomies that affect a country. They may concern the role of the media, the economic polarisation, the cultural access to knowledge and information, the role of bias and prejudices like racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism etc. The participants in the panel will present some of the pressing cleavages in the respective regional contexts, and elaborate further about the conditions which can allow to bridge the gaps.

*Chair:*

**Wasantha Seneviratne**, University of Colombo (Sri Lanka)

*Speakers:*

**tbc**  
Dividing lines in Balkan Media

**George Andreopoulos**, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York (USA)  
"Establishing the Truth about Human Rights Violations: Issues and Challenges"

**Jorge Taiana**, San Martin University, Buenos Aires (Argentina)  
"The Road to Justice for Serious Human Rights Violations and State Terrorism in Latin America: Cleavages and Bridges"

*Discussant:*

**Carole Rizkallah Alsharabati**, Saint Joseph University, Beirut (Lebanon)

[15:45 – 16:00 Coffee break](#)

[16:00 – 17:00 Closing Addresses](#)

*Keynote speeches:*

**Mary Kaldor,**

London School of Economics (United Kingdom)

"The Post-Trump Global Context: is Liguid Reconciliation Possible?"

**Wasantha Seneviratne,**

University of Colombo (Sri Lanka)

"Fostering Transitional Justice to War Affected Societies: Challenges and Prospects with Special Reference to Sri Lanka"

*Closing note:*

**Asim Mujkić,**

ERMA Co-Director, University of Sarajevo  
(Bosnia and Herzegovina)

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Thursday, 6 April

### **Round Table: "The Role of Education in Achieving Justice, Truth and Reconciliation"**

*Venue:* Rectorate of the University of Sarajevo,  
Celebrations Hall - Obala Kulina Bana 7/II, Sarajevo

The final round table will see the participation of the directors/ coordinators of the all the regional master programs of the Global Campus of Human Rights. The discussion will focus on the role of education (especially higher) in contributing to reconciliation by training young generations of activists and leaders, who will be able to instill into the consciousness of their societies the values of tolerance, respect of human dignity, diversity and coexistence in plural contexts. The roundtable will be opened by a short presentation of each regional master focusing on their main features, targets, the impact on the regional dimension and the major achievements.

*Opening Note:*

**Aida Hodžić,** Pro-rector for Education  
of the University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

### **09:05 – 10:30 Presentation of the Seven Regional Masters of the Global Campus of Human Rights**

*Participants:*

Regional Programmes Directors  
and Coordinators

**Veronica Gomez,**

San Martin University

(Buenos Aires, Argentina)

LATMA - Latin America Caribbean

**Carole R. Alsharabati,**

Saint Joseph University Beirut (Lebanon)

ARMA - Arab World

**Asim Mujkić,**

University of Sarajevo

(Bosnia and Herzegovina)

ERMA - South East Europe

**George Ulrich,**

Inter-University Centre

for Human Rights and Democratisation

EMA – Europe

**Wasantha Seneviratne,**

University of Colombo (Sri Lanka)

APMA - Asia-Pacific

**Kristine Gevorgyan,**

University of Yerevan (Armenia)

CES – Caucasus

**Ashwane Budoo,**

University of Pretoria (South Africa)

HRDA - Africa

**Annabel Boud,**

GCA - Global Campus Alumni

**10:30 – 10:45 Coffee break**

**10:45 – 12:30 Discussion**

*Moderator:*

**Manfred Nowak,**

Secretary General

EIUC, European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights  
and Democratisation (Italy)

**12:30 Lunch**

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### **Social Event**

**16:00-18:00**

*Venue:* Kino Meeting Point, Ulica Hamdije Kreševljakovića, 13

"The Choice" is a documentary film based on true stories of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, inspired by the interviews included in the book "Good People in an Evil Time" authored by Svetlana Broz, the granddaughter of Josip Broz "Tito". The movie was sponsored by the European Regional Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe (ERMA) and the Master in Interdisciplinary Research and Studies on Eastern Europe (Mirees). The movie is subtitled in English. The event will be followed by a cocktail.

*Introduced by:*

**Alina Trkulja,**

University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

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*Hosting Institutions:*

U. of Sarajevo, with the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies and the U. of Bologna, with the Institute for Central-Eastern and Balkan Europe in the framework of their double degree "European Regional Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe" (ERMA).

*Conveners:*

**Stefano Bianchini,** U. of Bologna

**Asim Mujkić,** U. of Sarajevo

*Scientific committee:*

**Stefano Bianchini,** U. of Bologna

**Asim Mujkić,** U. of Sarajevo

**Gvozden Flego,** U. of Zagreb

**Francesco Privitera,** U. of Bologna

**Anna Krasteva,** New Bulgarian U.

**Milan Podunavac,** U. of Belgrade

**Wolfgang Benedek,** U. of Graz

**Panagiotis Liargovas,** U. of Peloponnese

**Nikolas Tzifakis,** U. of Peloponnese

**Hans-Joachim Heintze,** Bochum U.

**Nina Belyaeva,** Moscow National Research U.

**Federico Sicurella,** U. of Tor Vergata

**Adriano Remiddi,** IECOB - U. of Bologna

*Conference organiser:*

**Adriano Remiddi,** IECOB - U. of Bologna

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Valentina Abita, Elisa Aquino, Giacomo Ottonello,

Isotta Esposito, Alina Trkulja, Marjan Icoski, Mariana

Hadzijusufović, Ilcho Cvetanoski, Zerina Zahirović, Zana

Muminović, Jelena Vukobrat.

*More info at:*

**[www.pecob.eu/GCconference2017](http://www.pecob.eu/GCconference2017)**