

Washington University School of Law
Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute

The Role of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in Understanding the War and Genocide in Bosnia-Herzegovina

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS



The Honorable Russ Carnahan
Former Representative for Missouri's 3rd District

The Honorable Russ Carnahan served as the U.S. Representative for Missouri's 3rd congressional district from 2005 to 2013. While in the Missouri House, Carnahan received the Missouri Bar Legislative Award for leadership in passing improvements to the Missouri Crime Victim's Compensation Fund and the Justice Integration Fund for better coordination of information between courts, prosecutors and law enforcement. Throughout his career, he has worked on various economic development project and issues directly related to the St. Louis Bosnian community. The Honorable Russ Carnahan chaired the Bosnian Caucus in the House of Representatives and also served as one of two members of the U.S. House of Representatives who visited the Sarajevo headquarters of the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP), which provided technology and expertise to help the families of the missing to find out the truth about their loved ones.



Mr. Akif Cogo
St. Louis Bosnians, Inc.

Akif Cogo is an Historian/Archivist for the St. Louis Bosnians, a non for profit organization he founded in 2011. The organization's goals are charity work, advocacy on local, state, national and international level, and cultural and educational programs for Bosnian-Americans, and other interested parties. The St. Louis Bosnian also has an online database (www.stlbosnian.com) that gathers, preserves, protects, and shares information about the Bosnian people in St. Louis for the purpose of acquiring insight into the ideas and realities that shaped the lives of men and women of Bosnian descent. In 2016, Cogo was recognized by *St. Louis Magazine* as one of the '40 under 40' as a community leader of distinction and a succesful "mover and shaker" in St. Louis. Mr. Cogo is also the Assistant Director of Facilities Services at St. Louis University.

Ms. Irma Dizdar
Former resident of Banja Luka



Professor Dermot Groome
Penn State's Dickinson Law

Dermot Groome is a Professor of Law at Penn State's Dickinson Law. He teaches International Criminal Law, Criminal Law, Human Rights, and oversees the International Justice Program. For over 11 years Professor Groome was a senior prosecutor in the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). There he led the investigation into crimes committed by Slobodan Milošević in Bosnia and played a leading role in the trial. He led the prosecutions against Ratko Mladić, Jovica Stanišić, Franko Simatović, Milan Lukić, Sredoje Lukić, and Mitar Vasiljević. Professor Groome began his legal career as a prosecutor in Manhattan. He is the author of the acclaimed book, *Handbook of Human Rights Investigation* (2nd ed. 2011) and has written several chapters in books published by Oxford and Cambridge university presses and several articles in U.S. law journals. Professor Groome has appeared as an expert before the Human Rights Council and co-authored an Expert Report examining the effectiveness of the International Criminal Court's work to date. He is currently working on a book examining the emerging human right of the right to truth.



Dr. Edina Karahodzic
Saint Louis University

Dr. Edina Karahodzic grew up in Prijedor, Bosnia and Herzegovina. She attended medical school in Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Edina and her family lived for a year in Prijedor during the war before fleeing to Croatia as refugees. They spent two years in Croatia before ultimately settling in the United States in 1995. Despite the difficulties of her life as a refugee, from coming to the United States with no grasp of the English language, no money, working difficult shifts in a factory, and attempting to raise a family, Edina managed to complete her medical licensing and family medicine residency at Forest Park Hospital in St. Louis. Edina currently works as a physician at Total Access Urgent Care and has her own private practice.



Dr. Ajlina Karamehic-Muratovic
Saint Louis University, Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Ajlina Karamehic-Muratovic, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Saint Louis University. She received her Ph.D. in Health Communication from the University of Kentucky. Her background is in Health Communication, and as relevant to minority populations and communities in particular. She has experience in evaluation on large and nationally funded grants, as well as in substance abuse prevention, cancer prevention, and culturally appropriate interventions. Her current projects focus on health interventions with refugee and immigrant populations.

Ms. Elmedina Kekic
Student at Maryville University



Mr. Zdenko Mandušić
Saint Louis University

Zdenko Mandušić is an Assistant Professor of Russian at Saint Louis University. He received a joint-Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures and Cinema and Media Studies from the University of Chicago. His research interests include cinemas from Russia and the former Yugoslavia, the articulation of nationalism and nationalist narratives in literature and films, as well as the intersection of language, power, and identity in Eastern Europe. His works has appeared in several academic journals, including *Studies in Eastern European Cinema*, *Kinokultura*, *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*, *The Moving Image*, *Slavonic and East European Review*, *Apparatus*, and *Studies in Russian and Soviet Cinema*.



Mr. Patrick McCarthy
Saint Louis University; the Bosnia Memory Project

Patrick McCarthy is Associate Dean of Libraries at Saint Louis University, where he directs the Medical Center Library, and an Advisor to the Bosnia Memory Project. He has worked with the Bosnian community for more than twenty-five years. In 1994, he traveled to wartime Bosnia-Herzegovina to deliver humanitarian aid and support. That same year, he founded the St. Louis Bosnian Student Project, which provided scholarships for Bosnian refugee students at area colleges and universities. Mr. McCarthy is the author of *After the Fall: Srebrenica Survivors in St. Louis*, a companion volume to a year-long exhibit at the Missouri History Museum, and is a co-author and general editor of *Ethnic St. Louis*. An honorary member of the Bosnian Herzegovinian American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Mr. McCarthy is a contributor to the traveling exhibit, “Prijedor: Lives from the Bosnian Genocide.”



Dr. Benjamin Moore
Fontbonne University; the Bosnia Memory Project

Dr. Benjamin Moore has taught at Fontbonne University in St. Louis since 1994, where he has also served as Department Chair and Interim Academic Vice President. He currently serves as Associate Professor of English and Director of the Bosnia Memory Project. In 2006, Dr. Moore co-founded, with Dr. Jack Luzkow, the Bosnia Memory Project, which is dedicated to fostering an understanding of St. Louis’ Bosnian refugee community and to preserving the memory of Bosnian genocide survivors by recording oral histories and collecting artifacts and documents. In 2013, the Bosnia Memory Project received a FOCUS St. Louis What’s Right with the Region Award for Improving Racial Equality & Social Justice. Dr. Moore, who speaks frequently about the Bosnian diaspora, helped to develop the traveling exhibit “Prijedor: Lives from the Bosnian Genocide”, which has been shown at twenty-one locations throughout the United States including Capitol Hill. In 2016, Dr. Moore’s work was recognized with a \$100,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, which has funded the development of courses about Bosnia-Herzegovina in high schools having large Bosnian immigrant populations.

Mr. Esed Mustafic
Student at Saint Louis University



Prof. Diane Orentlicher
American University Washington College of Law

Diane Orentlicher is Professor of International Law at American University Washington College of Law and former Deputy for War Crimes Issues in the U.S. Department of State. She is an internationally-renowned expert on transitional justice, international criminal tribunals and other areas of public international law and policy. Her 1991 article in the Yale Law Journal, *Settling Accounts*, is widely considered a seminal text in the field of transitional justice. As United Nations Independent Expert on Combating Impunity, Professor Orentlicher updated the *UN Set of Principles on Combating Impunity*, a key soft law instrument in the field of transitional justice. Professor Orentlicher also helped pioneer a body of scholarship exploring the local impact of international war crimes tribunals. Building on her earlier work in this area, Professor Orentlicher published her acclaimed book, *Some Kind of Justice: The ICTY's Impact in Bosnia and Serbia* (Oxford University Press), in 2018.



Mr. Elvedin Pasic
Mercy Hospital

Elvedin Pasic grew up in a village, Hrvacani, near Kotor Varos in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He lived with his parents worked the land they lived on and two older siblings who also participated in farming while also attending school. During the brutal war in early 1990's, his family, like many others in the region, went through hardship and turmoil, and at the age of 14 he lost his father in the war. His family immigrated to Zenica for four years before finally settling in Richmond, Virginia. There, he continued his education and finished high school and some college. While still in college, he started a career in grocery retail that lasted for almost 20 years. He got married in 2000 and moved to Saint Louis with his wife, where they now live with their two young sons. After his previous employer of 17 years went out of business, Mr. Pasic started working at Mercy Hospital where he currently serves a supervisor in the Central Services. Outside of work, he enjoys hiking, traveling, playing tennis, and soccer with family and friends. Mr. Pasic is very grateful for the life he has now and continues to live in a positive way.



Mr. Nedim Ramic
Bajric & Ramic Law Office

Nedim Ramic is a private practice attorney specializing in personal injury law. He was born in Bosnia and Herzegovina and lived as a child refugee in Germany for seven years. Mr. Ramic relocated to St. Louis in 1999. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Missouri-St. Louis and his law degree from Saint Louis University School of Law. In addition to his regular practice, he also serves as a community activist engaged in numerous activities and pro bono work in St. Louis community organizations. He is an avid soccer fan and is fluent in Bosnian, German, Croatian, and Serbian.



Prof. Leila Nadya Sadat

Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute, Washington University School of Law

Leila Nadya Sadat is the James Carr Professor of International Criminal Law and Director of the Whitney R. Harris World Law Institute at Washington University School of Law. She has served as Special Adviser on Crimes Against Humanity to the International Criminal Court Prosecutor since 2012. She is the Director of the *Crimes Against Humanity Initiative*, a ground-breaking project launched in 2008 to write the world's first global treaty on crimes against humanity. She also launched in 2018 the *Gun Violence and Human Rights* project examining the U.S. gun violence crisis from a human rights perspective. Professor Sadat is an internationally recognized authority and prolific scholar writing in the fields of public international law, international criminal law, human rights and foreign affairs, and has published more than 100 books and articles in leading journals, academic presses, and media outlets throughout the world. Professor Sadat is the President of the International Law Association (American Branch), a member of the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations and the American Law Institute, and a Counsellor of the American Society of International Law.



Prof. Kim Thuy Seelinger

Washington University Brown School of Social Work

Kim Thuy Seelinger is an expert on sexual violence related to armed conflict and forced displacement. Her research focuses on systems of legal accountability in conflict-affected settings, as well as sexual violence survivors' access to support and protection in humanitarian crises. Prof. Seelinger is currently working with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to improve understanding of the disclosure of sexual violence in rapid migration and the treatment of intimate partner violence in asylum procedures in the Americas. She is also working with Nobel Peace Prize laureate Denis Mukwege, Ph.D. to support reparations for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. Her research has been incorporated into global guidance of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and practice tools used by UNHCR and war crimes investigators. She also serves on the UN High Commissioner for Refugee's Advisory Group on Gender, Forced Displacement. She holds a joint appointment with the School of Law and will serve as the founding director of the Center for Human Rights, Gender and Migration within the Institute for Public Health in spring 2020.



Prof. Milena Sterio

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law

Milena Sterio, the Charles R. Emrick Jr. - Calfee Halter & Griswold Professor of Law at Cleveland State University's Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, is a leading expert on international law, and in particular, maritime piracy. Before joining the Cleveland-Marshall faculty, she was an Associate in the New York City firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton and an Adjunct Law Professor at Cornell, where she taught in the International War Crimes Clinic. Her research interests are in the field of international law, international criminal law, international human rights, law of the seas, and in particular maritime piracy, as well as private international law. She is a member of the Piracy Expert Group, an academic think tank functioning within the auspices of the Public International Law and Policy Group. In her capacity as expert on maritime piracy law, she has participated in the meetings of the United Nations Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia. Professor Sterio is one of six permanent editors of the prestigious IntLawGrrls blog. In spring 2013, she was a Fulbright Scholar in Baku, Azerbaijan, at Baku State University.



Mr. Adis Terzic
Washington University, BA '19

A St. Louis native, Adis Terzic' experience growing up in a Bosnian community informs the decisions he makes in his work inside and outside the classroom. He is a Civic Scholar with the Gephardt Institute, a lead tutor with City Faces in the Clinton-Peabody housing district, and the president of Design for America (DFA), a student-led service organization that works with St. Louis communities to co-create solutions to social problems with their residents. Through DFA, Mr. Terzic has worked to coordinate a gun violence workshop in the Clinton-Peabody housing district to give agency to the students to think critically about the violence they experience. He spent his past summer in Uganda with GlobeMed, working to provide safe access to contraception for young adults. Mr. Terzic is passionate about refugee rights, and for his Civic Scholars project this summer, he plans to create a collection of objects from Bosnian refugees in the St. Louis area as a way to commemorate their trauma and struggle. In all of his endeavors, Mr. Terzic prioritizes building and investing in relationships.