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## Different Categories of Victims and Competition for Victimhood in the Stories after the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina

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**Fifth Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia**



***Victims' protection: International law, national legislations and practice***

**Book of abstracts**

**Belgrade, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**Fifth Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia**  
*Victims' protection: International law, national legislations and practice*  
Belgrade, Hotel Park , 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014

**PROGRAM**

**I day – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

09.00 – 09.30 Participants' registration

09.30 – 10.00 Opening of the Conference

- Prof. dr Slobodan Savić, President of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Prof. dr Marc Groenhuijsen, President of the World Society of Victimology and Director of the International Victimology Institute INTERVICT in Tilburg, The Netherlands
- Prof. dr Nevena Petrušić, Commissioner for Protection of Equality, Serbia
- Jasmina Ivanović, The Secretary of the Secretariat for Social Protection in Belgrade City Administration, Serbia
- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, Director of the Victimology Society of Serbia

10.00 – 10.30 Victimology Society of Serbia Awards

10.30 – 12.00 **Plenary session 1: Victims' protection: International and european law and policy and national legislation of Serbia**

*Moderator: Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović*

- Prof. dr Marc Groenhuijsen, director of the International Victimology Institute INTERVICT in Tilburg, professor at the Department for Criminal Law at the Law Faculty, University of Tilburg (The Netherlands) and president of the World Society of Victimology: *Protection of crime victims by legal means: international and European law and policy*
- Prof. dr Momčilo Grubač, Professor Emeritus at the Law Faculty and Faculty of Law and Business Studies "Dr Lazar Vrketic", Union University, Belgrade, Serbia: *Crime victim in the legislation and practice of the Republic of Serbia*

12.00 – 12.30 Break and poster presentations

12.30 – 14.00 **Plenary session 2: Victims of crime, gender-based violence and restorative justice: European policies, national legislations and practice**

*Moderator: dr Sanja Čopić*

- Dr Katrien Lauwaert, research-coordinator at the European Forum for Restorative Justice and a senior researcher at the Leuven Institute of Criminology, Belgium: *EU policies on victims of crime and restorative justice*
- Dr Pam Alldred, Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Health Sciences and Social Care, Brunel University, London and director of the Centre of the Youth Work Studies, UK: *Gender, gender-related violence, LGBT rights and hate crimes: the experience of four EU countries*
- Msc Sunčana Roksandić Vidlička, assistant at the Department of Criminal Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia, and PhD candidate at the Faculty of Law, Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg and the Department of Criminology at Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg, Germany: *Victims of sexual violence in war and restorative justice: the experience of Croatia*

14.00 – 15.00 Lunch break

15.00 – 16.30 **Thematic sessions**

**Thematic session 1: Gender-based violence and femicide**

Working language of the session: English

*Moderator: dr Uglješa Zvekić*

- Dr Michael Platzer, Academic Council on the United Nations System Vienna Liaison Office, Austria: *Killing of women due to accusation of witchcraft*
- Adnana Mulalić, Academic Council on the United Nations System Vienna Liaison Office, Austria: *Victims of sexual violence during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina*
- Milica Dimitrijević, Academic Council on the United Nations System Vienna Liaison Office, Austria: *FGM among immigrants in Austria- Tracking changes in prevalence and prevention policy since 2000*
- Dr Anna Alvazzi del Frate, Small Arms Survey, Geneva, Switzerland: *Uncounted Femicide*

**Thematic session 2: Assistance and support to victims**

*Moderator: dr Ivana Stevanović*

- Nikica Hamer Vidmar, Martina Bajto, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia, Republic of Croatia: *Experience in working with volunteers as providers of support to victims and witnesses in Victim and Witness Support Departments at courts*
- Dr Ivana Stevanović, Child Rights Centre, Serbia: *Towards a child-friendly justice in Serbia – protection of child victims in criminal proceedings from the perspective of practice*
- Maida Pamuković, Nikica Hamer Vidmar, Ana Ruševljan, Danijela Ivanović, Martina Bajto, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia, Republic of Croatia: *Informing victims about release of perpetrator from serving a prison sentence*
- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia: *Persons with cancer diagnosis as victims: patterns of victimization, needs and support*

**Thematic session 3: Crisis interventions: providing support to flood victims**

*Moderator: Jasmina Nikolić*

- Prof. dr Dragana Batić, Faculty of Security, Skopje, Republic of Macedonia: *Crisis intervention as a psychological help to victims of natural disasters*
- Jasmina Nikolić, Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia: *The role of victim support services in supporting victims of natural disaster*
- Jasmina Ivanović, The Secretary of the Secretariat for Social Protection in Belgrade City Administration, Serbia: *The importance of providing support to flood victims*
- Msc Ana Vlajković, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Media and Communications, University Singidunum, Serbia: *Psychological first aid in disasters - from theory to practice*

16.30 – 16.45 Break and poster presentations

16.45 – 18.30 **Thematic sessions**

**Thematic session 4: Victims and different forms of victimization**

*Moderator: prof. dr Oliver Bačanović*

- Prof. dr Oliver Bačanović, dr Nataša Jovanova, Faculty of Security, Skopje, Republic of Macedonia: *Victimization of the prison staff and difficulties in their work*

- Dr Hrvoje Mataković, Croatian Science Foundation; prof. dr Irena Cajner Mraović, University of Zagreb, Croatian Studies, Dražen Vitez, Ministry of Interior, Republic of Croatia: *Victimization by corruption crimes committed by police in Croatia, with special reference to the City of Zagreb*
- Doc. dr Danica Vasiljević- Prodanović, Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, Serbia: *Corruption in health care: victims of white coat crime*
- Prof. dr Zorica Mršević, Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia: *Victims of sport violence*
- Doc. dr Tatjana Gerginova, Faculty of Security, Skopje, Republic of Macedonia: *International and national understanding of the notion of victim*

### **Thematic session 5: Developing policies for protection of victims and combating various forms of crime**

*Moderator: prof. dr Mirjana Dokmanović*

- Prof. dr Nevena Petrušić, Faculty of Law, University of Niš; Prof. dr Slobodanka Konstantinović-Vilić, retired professor of the Faculty of Law, University of Niš, msc Natalija Žunić, Faculty of Law, University of Niš, Serbia: *Institutional sexism – an obstacle to efficient protection against domestic violence*
- Prof. dr Stojanka Mirčeva, Faculty of Security, University St. Kliment Ohridski – Bitola, prof. dr Violeta Čačeva, Institute of Social, Political and Juridical Research, St. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia: *Issues associated with the research on the scope of family violence in the Republic of Macedonia*
- Prof. dr Mirjana Dokmanović, Faculty for European Legal and Political Studies, Novi Sad, EDUCONS University, Serbia: *Development of the methodology of recording data on hate crimes as the basis of acknowledging victims' rights*
- Bejan Šaćiri, Milica Popović, Una Radovanović, Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia: *Domestic violence and behavioural disorders of children: knowledge and approaches of the pedagogical-psychological services experts in elementary and secondary schools*

### **Thematic session 6: Support and protection of victims of crime**

Working languages at the session: Serbian and English

*Moderator: prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović*

- Helga Ezendam, Ministry of Security and Justice, The Netherlands: *Protection of victims of crime in perspective: individual assessment*
- Erik Schreijen, Ministry of Security and Justice, The Netherlands: *Needs of victims of crime and protection measures*
- Bosiljka Janjusević, MA, PhD candidate, Alpen-Adria university, Klagenfurt-Wien-Graz; prof. dr Predrag Nikić, University Alfa, Belgrade, Serbia: *Proposal for implementation of yoga techniques in support to the violence survivors*

## II day – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014

### 09.30 – 11.30 **Plenary session 3: New perspectives in victimological theory and practice**

*Moderator: prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović*

- Prof. dr Natti Ronel, Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University, Israel: *Applied Victimology – a professional practice of victimology*
- Dr Moshe Bensimon, Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University, Israel: *Applied Victimology – a new profession for an old need*
- Dr Nadia Wager, Department of Psychology, University of Bedfordshire, UK: *Considering the application of restorative justice to cases of domestic violence from a positive victimological perspective*
- Fabio Amendolara, “La Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno”, Italy: *Victims TWICE: The relationship between victims of crimes and mass media in Italy*

11.30 – 12.00 Break and poster presentations

### 12.00 – 14.00 **Plenary session 4: Victims of organized crime and war and their protection**

*Moderator: dr Sanja Čopić*

- Dr Uglješa Zvekić, Former Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva, President of the General Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Chairman of the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) from 2011 to 2013, Research Fellow and Visiting Professor: *Geopolitics of Transnational Organized Crime and Victimization*
- Prof. dr Sam Garkawe, School of Law and Justice, Southern Cross University, New South Wales, Australia: *Victims and transitional justice*
- Dr Goran Bašić, Department of Sociology, Lund University, Sweden: *Different Categories of Victims and Competition for Victimhood in the Stories after the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina*
- Prof. dr Mally Shechory-Bitton, Criminology Department, Ariel University, Israel: *Evacuation following missile attacks, distress and behavioural problems among children in southern Israeli communities*

14.00 – 15.00 Lunch break

15.00 – 16.45 **Thematic sessions**

#### **Thematic session 7: Victimization, justice and protection of victims**

*Moderator: msc Ljiljana Stevković*

- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, dr Sanja Čopić, dr Nikola Petrović, Bejan Šaćiri, Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia: *Conflicts, victimisation and justice in the intercultural context of Serbia*
- Doc. dr Azra Adžajlić-Dedović, dr Alisabri Šabani, msc Selma Stočanin-Hrustemović, msc Tarik Humačkić, School of Criminology and Security Studies, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina: *Protection of victims of domestic violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina*
- Msc Ljiljana Stevković, Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia: *The cycle of violence: the experience of violent victimization in childhood as a path of violent criminalization of adulthood*
- Vesna Jarić, coordinator of the project “Integrated Response to Violence against Women in Serbia”, UNDP, Serbia: *Contribution of United Nations in Serbia to protection of women victims of violence in family and in intimate partner relationships: from international law to practice*

- Doc. dr Azra Adžajlić-Dedović, msc Željko Topić, msc Amila Taljanović, School of Criminology and Security Studies, University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina: *Legal protection and assistance to victims of human trafficking for sexual exploitation in Bosnia and Herzegovina*

### **Thematic session 8: Protection of child victims**

*Moderator: dr Dragan Obradović*

- Prof. dr Branislava Popović-Ćitić; Marija Marković, MA; Lidija Bukvić; Mario Stanojević, Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, Serbia: *Victims of bullying: perception of primary- school students*
- Dr Siniša Dostić, Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia, Directorate for Professional Education, Training, Development and Science; Saša Gosić, Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia, Border Police Directorate, Serbia: *GRETA questionnaires as an element of the mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings*
- Prof. dr Slađana Đurić, Faculty of Security, University of Belgrade; prof. dr Branislava Popović-Ćitić, Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, Serbia: *Peer ecology: the role of the social context in the explanation of victimization*
- Dr Dragan Obradović, High Court in Valjevo, Serbia: *Minors as the traffic participants - victims of irresponsibility of their families*
- Vesna Stevanović, Court of Appeal, Niš, Serbia: *Protection of minors as victims of peer violence from secondary victimization through media*

### **Thematic session 9: Developing anti-discrimination policies and protection of equality**

*Moderator: Jasmina Nikolić*

- Msc. Tatjana Višacki, dr Jovanka Šaranović, lieutenant msc Svetlana Janković, Strategic Research Institute, Serbia: *Prevention of gender based violence through the lenses of established institutional bodies and mechanisms in the system of defence*
- Dr Filip Mirić, Faculty of Law, University of Niš, Serbia: *Language of disability as a factor of victimization of persons with disabilities*
- Biljana Puškar, Centre for Basic Police Training; Emilija Glamočanin, Centre for Specialized Training and Professional Development of the Police, Serbia: *Improving the education of the police officers in the field of implementation of anti-discrimination policies*
- Fejzi Bećiri, Faculty of Law, Public University “Kadri Zeka“ in Gnjilane, Serbia: *Children with special needs in the municipality of Bujanovac - victims of discrimination*
- Nikola Vuković, PhD student at the Faculty of Law, University of Novi Sad, Serbia: *Proving of the extortion in light of the victim protection*

16.45 – 17.00 Closing of the Conference

### **Program Committee of the Conference**

- Prof. dr Alenka Šelih, professor emeritus at the Law School, University of Ljubljana and a member of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (Slovenia)
- Prof. dr Gerd Kirchhoff, professor at the International Victimology Institute, Graduate School of Victimology, Tokiwa University (Japan), and the College of Applied International Studies (Germany) and honorary member of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Prof. dr Jaishankar Karuppanan, professor at the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University (India)
- Prof. dr Oliver Bačanović, Faculty of security, Skopje, Republic of Macedonia
- Prof. dr Janice Joseph, professor at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey (USA)
- Prof. dr Robert Peacock, professor at the Department of Criminology, Howard College, Durban (South Africa)
- Prof. dr Slobodan Savić, full professor at the School of Medicine, University of Belgrade and president of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, full professor at the Faculty for Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade and director of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Prof. dr Slobodanka Konstantinović-Vilić, full professor at the Law School, University of Niš
- Prof. dr Mirjana Dokmanović, Faculty for European Legal and Political Studies, Novi Sad, EDUCONS University
- Dr Ivana Stevanović, research associate at the Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research in Belgrade, president of the Child Right's Center and a member of the Council of the Government for child rights

### **Organizing Committee of the Conference**

- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, full professor at the Faculty for Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade and director of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Dr Sanja Čopić, research associate at the Institute for Criminological and Sociological Research in Belgrade and president of the Executive Board of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Jasmina Nikolić, manager of the victim support service VDS info and victim support in the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Milica Popović, volunteer in the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Una Radovanović, volunteer in the Victimology Society of Serbia



# PLENARY SESSIONS

## **Plenary Session 1: Victims' protection: international and European law and policy and national legislation of Serbia**

### **Protection of crime victims by legal means: international and European law and policy**

***Prof. dr Marc Groenhuijsen***

*Director of the International Victimology Institute INTERVICT in Tilburg*

*President of the World Society of Victimology*

*Professor at the Law Faculty, University of Tilburg, the Netherlands*

The presentation addresses the development of international and European policy in relation to victims of crime. It starts with an outline of the 1985 United Nations (UN) Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power. It demonstrates that compliance by Member States with the provisions of the Declaration is still unsatisfactory, despite serious efforts by the UN to promote its standards and norms. A similar trend is described on a regional level in Europe. In 2001, the European Union adopted a Framework Decision (a legally binding instrument) on minimum rights for crime victims in the criminal justice system. This document brought some improvement to victims and their position compared to the UN Declaration, particularly in terms of limit repeated questioning, advanced informational rights, reimbursement of expenses and construction of court facilities. Nevertheless, evaluations undertaken in 2004 and 2009 have proved that none of the Member States fully complied with its content. This document was replaced with the new one – the EU Directive on establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime. It is stronger instrument than the Framework Decision and it includes more demanding standards. But, its implementation needs to be monitored. Therefore, in the presentation it is argued that a lack of compliance is usually followed by the adoption of an even stronger legal instrument, containing even more ambitious rights for victims of crime. It is questioned whether this is the most productive approach. It is doubted that 'hard law' is always more effective than 'soft law'. The most recent generation of more elevated rights run the risk of leading to 'victim fatigue' on the part of the officials responsible for the operation of the criminal justice system.

### **Crime victim in the legislation and practice of the Republic of Serbia**

***Prof. dr Momčilo Grubač***

*Professor Emeritus at the Law Faculty and Faculty of Law and Business Studies "Dr Lazar Vrketic", Union University, Belgrade, Serbia*

A criminal proceeding cannot fulfil all legitimate expectations of an injured party. Besides criminal proceedings, satisfaction can be provided to the injured party in other ways, as well. Three different highways have to be accessible to the injured party, only one, and not the most important one, leading through criminal proceedings. Another path is through the adhesive, i.e. civil proceedings and the third, access to a fund for compensation of victims of criminal acts. Only by opening all three roads can the injured party acquire full satisfaction. Many misunderstandings originate from the very belief that all that belongs to the injured party should be realised in one place, and that place being the criminal proceedings.

Position of the injured party in criminal proceedings is relatively satisfactory in the normative sense. The Serbian Criminal Procedure Code took over a very good definition of the injured party from the former Yugoslav legislation: the injured party is a person whose personal or property right are injured or endangered by a criminal offense. During criminal proceeding the injured party has the right to: propose evidence, inspect case files, attend examination of evidence during the investigation etc. Among those rights two are particularly important: the right to submit a restitution claim and the right to become a subsidiary prosecutor if a public prosecutor discontinues prosecution.

A problem lies in the fact that restitution is seldom awarded in criminal proceedings. By calling upon a provision that the claim shall be considered only if it does not significantly prolong criminal proceedings, criminal courts usually refer the injured party to realise its claim in civil proceedings. By doing that the court protects the efficiency of criminal proceedings, contrary to the interests of the injured party whose claim would be realised easier and faster in criminal proceedings. A compromise should be found: so that the efficiency of criminal procedure is not jeopardised but that compensation claims are nevertheless awarded more often. The second of the two rights has been significantly narrowed by the Code: the injured party cannot become a subsidiary prosecutor if the public prosecutor discontinues prosecution before the indictment has been confirmed. In that case the injured party only has the right of objection to the immediately higher public prosecutor, which is incomparably less useful than the former right to become a subsidiary prosecutor in those cases.

Even when they stay within reasonable deadlines, court proceedings require a lot of time, so the aggrieved party remains without compensation in the time it needs it the most and in the case of an insolvent defendant the awarded compensation is of no use to it. For those reasons compensation to the injured party, at least for some criminal offences, should be awarded from a public fund immediately after the damage suffered, without waiting for the end of the criminal proceedings and regardless of its outcome. Serbia still does not have such a fund and it has not ratified the Council of Europe's Convention (1983) on the compensation of victims of violent crimes. Change of affairs in this area should be a priority task.

## **Plenary Session 2: Victims of crime, gender-based violence and restorative justice: European policies, national legislations and practice**

### **EU policies on victims of crime and restorative justice**

***Dr Katrien Lauwaert***

*research-coordinator at the European Forum for Restorative Justice and a senior researcher at the Leuven Institute of Criminology, Belgium*

Restorative justice practices have grown gradually and significantly over the past 20 years all over Europe. This development has been supported by policy initiatives at the European level, first by the Council of Europe and more recently by the European Union. Parallel to this development, the attention for victims of crime has grown spectacularly and has become a priority on the criminal justice agenda of the EU. The most tangible output of this development is the adoption of the EU 2012 Victims Directive. In my paper I will examine what we can learn from these developments on the specific question of 'victims in restorative justice'. How does particular attention for victims appear in European policy documents on restorative justice? How do European policy documents on victims of crime look at restorative justice? What should we take from this analysis for the future development of both the fields of restorative justice and victim support? Extensive attention will be given to how restorative justice appears in art. 12 of the 2012 Victims Directive. This article focuses exclusively on the right to safeguards in the context of restorative justice. Other, evenly crucial elements, such as an increased availability and accessibility of restorative justice services for victims of crime, are not addressed as a priority in the Victims Directive.

## **Gender, gender-related violence, LGBT rights and hate crimes: the experience of four EU countries**

***Dr Pam Alldred***

*Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Health Sciences and Social Care, Brunel University, London  
Director of the Centre of the Youth Work Studies, UK*

The UK has recent findings about peer violence against women and girls in the context of schools, gangs and universities. Violence and abuse continues to target those young people who are viewed as lesbian, gay, bisexual or who are gender non conforming.

The GAP WORK Project has delivered training for professionals who work with general populations of young people to challenge gender-related violence in four European countries during 2014 with support from the EU's Daphne-III Programme. Training in each country has sought to improve awareness and problematisation of violence, improve referral into support services and to help practitioners challenge violence and the values that sustain it. It has adopted a broad definition of 'gender-related violence' that unites violence against women and girls (VAWG) and homophobic or transphobic violence, and views gender inequality and the gender binary system as at the core of each of these types of violence, although they affect different people in different ways.

This paper will outline the four training programmes that have been developed in Ireland, Italy, Spain and the UK, present initial findings from the training pilots using the qualitative data from participants immediately after completing the training, and present quantitative evidence on the success of training programmes from the cross-national survey.

It will then consider this intervention in the specific legal contexts. Drawing on a socio-legal analysis of the four countries' policy framework, it will contextualize these interventions, and highlight some common themes. A more specific legal contextualization will only be attempted for the UK where a specific aspect that will be explored is that of hate crime. The legislation on hate crime was designed with race and religion in mind and has been used in relation to discrimination against LGBT groups and those with learning difficulties. There is a current debate amongst lawyers and activists in the UK about whether violence against women would be better considered within the hate crime legislation. This conference is an ideal place to exchange expert views about this to inform future research and activism around the law and violence and educational interventions. Thus two questions animate this discussion: can violence against women and girls, and macho violence between men be addressed simultaneously? And would it help to frame violence against women as hate crime?

## **Victims of sexual violence in war and restorative justice: the experience of Croatia**

***Msc Sunčana Roksanđić Vidlička***

*Department of Criminal Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia*

*PhD candidate at the Faculty of Law, Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg and the Department of Criminology at Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg, Germany*

Croatia is a post-conflict, transitional society which is still dealing with the 1991-1995 war legacy. Since the end of the war and peaceful reintegration, Croatia and its institutions have addressed many of post-transitional narratives, including rights of war veterans as well as the rights of civil war victims with disabilities, etc. However, voices of victims of wartime sexual violence have largely remained unheard. Most of these victims have not yet received any form of assistance, support or reparation and a great majority has not even been officially recorded as victims of war crime sexual violence. Therefore, one could state that the needs of these victims, mostly women, have been neglected in comparison to other war victims. This is contrary to internationally recognized right to reparations, principle of non-discrimination and the right to equal access to justice. Recently, the Croatian government has recognized that resolving this serious problem, stemming from the worst crimes known to humanity,

is necessary in order to achieve the goals of transitional justice in a post-conflict society. Accordingly, in the last year, the discussion was open between scholars, experts and non-governmental sector in order to draft legislation that will address victims of wartime sexual violence. The lapse of time, non-existence of criminal reports, lack of evidence and insufficient funds are only some of the obstacles that had to be tackled when drafting Law provisions. Based on the proposal of experts, Croatian Ministry of War veterans has drafted the law proposal that is currently open for public debate. This presentation will focus on analyzing proposed Draft Law in order to compare the Proposal of Experts and official Draft Law proposal of ministry of War veterans. All in order to determine the most appropriate mechanisms of recognition of victim status and for securing adequate and efficient reparation regime for victims of sexual violence in war. Presentation will be based not just on analysis of comparative models and international standards, but also on an empirical research which aimed to identify actual victims and their needs in Croatian society. Moreover, most important proposed articles from Draft Law will be analyzed in depth in order to see if they fulfil requests and needs of victims and if they follow restorative justice discourse.

### **Plenary session 3: New perspectives in victimological theory and practice**

#### **Applied Victimology – a professional practice of victimology**

***Prof. dr Natti Ronel***

*Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University, Israel*

The concept of Applied Victimology is an innovation in victimology, first time to be presented in an academic conference. While victimology has emerged from practical fields (practicing lawyers) it was readily adopted by academicians who established its theoretical and research basis to become a mostly theoretical science. As a theoretical field of study, victimology is many times identified with criminology and is widely been presented as a sub-field of criminology, however its interdisciplinary nature is acknowledged as well. Coming of age, victimology is developed to become a substantive field of knowledge that is both interdisciplinary in nature and also stands as a whole that is greater than its different parts. As an independent field of knowledge, victimology gained unique insights about various related practices aimed at assisting, easing, improving and healing of victims in different cycles of harm. The growth of victimology as a field of human science created a growing gap between the pure academic study and theorizing in victimology, and various field interventions that are related to victims in any given circle, victims' services, victim's advocacy and so forth. Victimologists are those academics who study, teach or write about victimology. The practitioners who actually work within the domain of victimology belong to different professions, e.g., criminologists, psychologists, lawyers, nurses and alike. While those different professions provide these practices, they have to acquire the unique knowledge of victimology by experience and field work. Different professions do teach aspects of victimology but they are limited in their extent and applicability. This is especially upsetting since acquiring the knowledge by field work of the various professionals is done with a population that has experienced harm and mostly deserves a human professional practice which applies the valid insight of victimology. Based on this, the creation of Applied Victimology is but a natural development of victimology that will help to bring victimology into the front of human professions. With its strong theoretical basis and with the new applied direction, victimology becomes a greater whole that can better improve the services for those who suffered harm and abuse of power.

## **Applied Victimology – a new profession for an old need**

***Dr Moshe Bensimon***

*Department of Criminology, Bar-Ilan University, Israel*

Although different professions apply their practice with victims of abuse, violence, terror, neglect etc., typically, the unique knowledge required for proper intervention is usually acquired only after years of experience and practice. Sometimes this situation leads to inevitable mistakes, perhaps stemming from lack of knowledge, over-protection or patronizing behaviour. In Israel, experience with beginners psychologists, social workers and other caregivers indicates inadequate training in treating victims of various circumstances: intimate partner violence, victims of sexual assault, terror victims etc. Following Ronel's paper which calls for the establishment of a new field of practice, named *Applied Victimology*, and which stresses the need for the creation of a university course with supervised field practice, this paper details an M.A. program for Applied Victimology. This program while linked to diverse fields such as criminology, law, psychology, sociology and restorative justice, will have its own specialty. This university course will include a supervised field practice that will provide the tools and skills with which the new generation will be enabled to assist numerous categories of victims. The certified Applied Victimologist will thus have access to skills appropriate for the treatment, rehabilitation and recovery of victim, an extensive knowledge of psychological treatment, an ability to offer advice on legal aspects, and on obtaining restorative justice and criminal mediation as well as apposite theoretical knowledge. Finally, the paper presents a short description of the various courses included in this program.

### **Considering the Application of Restorative Justice to Cases of Domestic Violence from a Positive Victimological Perspective**

***Dr Nadia Wager***

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The aim of this paper is to consider the potential application of family group conferencing, which is a form of restorative justice, to cases of domestic violence. The discussion will draw on a positive victimological perspective. The discussion is restricted to cases of (ex)intimate partner violence perpetrated by a male which targets a female. The rationale for adopting a positive victimological approach comes from the dissatisfaction with existing conceptualisations of victimhood which emerge from both traditional victimology and clinical psychology. Such perspectives in their discussions of victims of gendered-violence often serve to pathologise, infantilise and stigmatise women in the aftermath of their victimisation experiences. Ultimately, this has resulted in the medicalization and psychiatrisation of women who have been victimised, which then functions to discredit and dismiss their self-expressed healing and justice needs and desires. Alternatively, positive victimology has the potential to not only permit the voices of victims to be heard, but also to present a more balanced portrayal of survivorship. In particular, adopting a strengths-based restorative approach means that qualities, such as commitment to the relationship, can be seen as assets that have potential to promote positive change rather than as psychological aberrations which arise out of a sense of entrapment and hopelessness.

This paper will begin by outlining the principles of positive victimology and discuss the possible synergies with restorative justice, before moving on to question whether the current domestic violence policy initiatives are really fit for purpose and to consider whether it is time for a radical change in thinking. Currently, most of the initiatives in the UK focus on assisting women to exit violent relationships and to prosecute their perpetrators. Thus we will explore the extent to which such policy and practice matches the wishes and needs of women who experience domestic violence, before moving on to investigate the veracity of the assumptions that exiting a violent relationship and prosecuting of the offender will inevitably enhance the victim's safety and deter the offender from committing similar crimes in the future; and the evident desire to remain in a relationship which had experienced episodes of

violence is necessarily detrimental to the woman's well-being. Finally, this paper will explore the potential that restorative justice might have for enabling couples who have experienced or perpetrated violence in their relationship to move forward together into a fulfilling and violence free relationship.

### **Victims TWICE: The relationship between victims of crimes and mass media in Italy**

***Fabio Amendolara***

*"La Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno", Italy*

This paper will discuss ways in which the Italian press addresses cases of violence against women and the impact of such reporting on the creation of public image and, consequently, secondary victimization of women. Too often women victims of violence must undergo another type of abuse: the way in which the press reports about the crime they have suffered. A certain types of press, in fact, tend to describe the woman victim of violence recounting the details of her private and intimate life that adds nothing to the true story but affects the privacy of the woman. Information influence the opinion of people so woman becomes a victim twice: during the criminal act and also due to the people's opinion. Very often women become victims twice because stereotypes and cultural legacies of the past put the woman in a position of subordination.

The aim of this paper is to highlight the need for appropriate training that journalists have to pass in order to be able to report about cases of violence against women adequately. Italian journalists have adopted ethical cards to adequately address sensitive issues related to children and vulnerable people. I believe that the time has come to define an ethical paper, a kind of handbook that explains to the reporter how to deal with women victims of violence.

Main topics that will be covered by this presentation are: how stereotypes affect the way journalists write; how stories of the investigators influence the press articles; tips on how to prepare a deontological paper to guide the work of journalists in cases of violence against woman: the proper terminology, which details to tell and which to omit, which precautions to be taken to protect victims; cases in Italian history and modern examples of how the press has influenced the opinion of people in the cases of violence against women.

### **Plenary session 4: Victims of organized crime and war and their protection**

#### **Geopolitics of Transnational Organized Crime and Victimization**

***Dr Uglješa Zvekić***

*Former Ambassador of the Republic of Serbia to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva, President of the General Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the Chairman of the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) from 2011 to 2013, Research Fellow and Visiting Professor*

The flows of illicit goods and service by the transnational organized crime go from Africa, Latin America and Asia towards the criminal markets of Europe and North America. Victimization by transnational organized crime shows the same pattern although it is much restricted to the trafficking of drugs, human beings and smuggling of migrants. Victims of extortion are limited to the territorial control such as is the case with Italian Mafias and within ethnic migrant communities in Europe (e.g. by the Albanian Mafia). International response through the UNTOC, UNCAC and the Drug Conventions are focused mainly on the offenders and only to a limited degree on the victims. Recent legalization of prostitution and drug use in some countries is posing a question of the legitimization of transnational organized crime which is the main strategy of the modern organized crime.

## **Victims and transitional justice**

***Prof. dr Sam Garkawe***

*School of Law and Justice, Southern Cross University, New South Wales, Australia*

Transitional justice is a relatively new discipline that is still particularly relevant to the people of the Balkans in the ongoing aftermath of the recent conflicts in the former Yugoslavia. The main aims of this paper are to provide an overview of transitional justice, as well as assess how victim orientated this discipline is. In order to achieve this, the paper will start by defining 'transitional justice', and will then examine the traditional aims of transitional justice with a view to analysing what its aims *should* be from a victims' perspective. The paper will next discuss the main forms of transitional justice, including criminal trials, truth commissions, reparation measures, institutional reforms and peace building initiatives. Throughout this discussion suggestions for how victims have been and could be better treated during these transitional justice processes will be provided. The paper's overall conclusion is that no one particular mechanism is necessarily better for transitional societies or for victims; mechanisms could and often are used together. They should rather be regarded as a 'tool box' of options and utilised according to the needs of the particular transitional society and the victims.

### **Different Categories of Victims and Competition for Victimhood in the Stories after the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

***Dr Goran Bašić***

*Department of Sociology, Lund University, Sweden*

My goal with this article is to analyse the retold experiences of 27 survivors of the 1990s war in north-western Bosnia. I focus on describing the informants' portrayal of "victimhood" as a social phenomenon as well as analysing those discursive patterns which contributed in constructing the category "victim" and "perpetrator". When, after the war, different actors claim this "victim" status, it sparks a competition for victimhood. All informants are eager to present themselves as victims while at the same time the other categories' victim status is downplayed. Different categories appear and they are: "the remainders" those who lived in north-western Bosnia before, during and after the war; "the fugitives" those who driven into north-western Bosnia during the war; "the returnees" those who returned after the war and "the diaspora" those who were driven out from north-western Bosnia and remained in their new country. The competition between these categories seems to take place on a symbolic level. All interviewees want to portray themselves as "ideal victims" but they are all about to lose that status. The returnees and the diaspora are losing status by receiving recognition from the surrounding community and because they have a higher economic status, the remainders are losing status since they are constantly being haunted by war events and the refugees are losing status by being presented as strangers and thus fitting the role of ideal perpetrators. In this reproduction of competition for the victim role, all demarcations that were played out so successfully during the war live on.

### **Evacuation following missile attacks, distress and behavioural problems among children in southern Israeli communities**

***Prof. dr Mally Shechory-Bitton***

*Criminology Department, Ariel University, Ariel, Israel*

Numerous studies point to the pathogenic impact of exposure to terrorist incidents and war on children and youth. However, most of them have focused on isolated traumatic events, while the impact of continuous ongoing exposure to terrorism on mental health has only rarely been examined. The outbreak of the Second Intifada (al-Aqsa Intifada, October 2000) in Israel, as well as the spate of



subsequent terrorist attacks on Israeli civilians and continued mortar attacks from Gaza on communities in the Western Negev, following the disengagement from Gaza (a unilateral decision made by the Israeli government in 2005 to remove all Jewish settlements and the Israel Defense Forces from the Gaza Strip) afforded an opportunity to narrow this knowledge gap. The present study examined the connection between place of residence, distress and evacuation following rocket attacks among children (average age: 11.53, SD: 1.04) in Sderot and surrounding communities along the Gaza border (n=152). The findings indicate sense of fear and exposure level as the main factors related to children's distress level, and that the children of Sderot feel more exposed and suffer higher fear levels than those in the communities along the Gaza border. However regression analyses showed that one needs to distinguish between reports of posttraumatic distress among children and the examination of other variables, including anxiety, aggressiveness and social problems. While posttraumatic symptoms were found to have a high and significant connection to fear resulting from rocket attacks, a negative connection was found during periods of respite. This was not found to be the case with regard to anxiety, aggressiveness and social problems. In fact these three variables were not explained by exposure to rocket attacks. The implications of the study findings are discussed in theoretical and practical contexts.

# THEMATIC SESSIONS

## **Thematic session 1: Victims and penitentiary system**

### **Killing of women due to accusation of witchcraft**

***Dr Michael Platzer***

*Academic Council on the United Nations System Vienna Liaison Office, Austria*

Killing of women accused of sorcery/witchcraft has been reported as a significant phenomenon in countries in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific Islands. The pattern includes violent murders, being stripping naked, physical mutilation, expulsion, but also exorcism ceremonies involving public beatings and abuse by shamans or village elders. As in the Middle Ages in Europe, the women chosen are elderly women, widows, destitute women, mentally disturbed, and women of low caste who are often targeted to gain their property or to settle a personal vendetta. In Papua New Guinea, suspected witches have been thrown from cliffs, tortured, dragged behind cars, burned or buried alive. Women born out of wedlock, who have no standing in a family or relatives to protect them, are often the victims. Witchcraft killings have been reported in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Malawi, Senegal, South Africa, and Tanzania. In Ghana, “witches” are violently driven from their communities (it is enough for a husband to declare his wife and children “witches”), who then seek refuge in “witch camps” (there are six such camps in Northern Ghana: Gambaga, Kuku, Gnani, Boyase, Nabuli, and Kpatinga). In India, based on accusations of being a “dayan” (witch) or practicing banamathi (witchcraft), physical violence is sometimes employed against Dalit women as a mechanism to take possession of their family lands and to keep them under economic subjugation. In Nepal, particularly in the southern Terai region, poor women are victimized with these accusations. The belief in persons who can cause harm to others by supernatural means, of course, is much wider including in the Americas and Europe. In fact, there are few effective laws to prevent the practice of witchcraft - as proof of harm is very difficult. Nonetheless, women who are forced into prostitution and child soldiers who are forced into battle through a “voodoo” ritual, can suffer lifelong traumatic effects. Although some countries have laws against witchcraft, these “witches” can be convicted without demonstrating harm to anyone (Senegal). Most cases of femicide are extrajudicial and include an element of mob violence. In such cases, what is being done not very different than what was done in Europe and the Americas only a few hundred years ago.

### **Victims of sexual violence during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

***Adnana Mulalić***

*Academic Council on the United Nations System Vienna Liaison Office, Austria*

During the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina women were subject to rape, sexual slavery, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced detention and other crimes under domestic and international law. Almost two decades after the end of the war, hundreds of women are still not able or not willing to return to their homes in Republika Srpska. They are suffering from serious psychological and physical problems, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, lost of confidence, insomnia, sexual transmitted diseases, hypertension etc. Many of them do not have health insurance, and that limits victim’s access to health service which they seriously need. Bosnia and Herzegovina government does not have program at national level which will support women victims of sexual violence in war.

This paper provides brief overview about women who were victims of this horrible crime. First aim is to raise awareness about the life long trauma these women suffer, fight impunity, return dignity to victims and introduce methods to help them recover. Second aim is to introduce crime victim compensation.

## **FGM among immigrants in Austria- Tracking changes in prevalence and prevention policy since 2000**

***Milica Dimitrijević***

*Academic Council on the United Nations System Vienna Liaison Office, Austria*

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a harmful traditional practice which involves procedures that intentionally harm women and girls for non-medical reasons. This dangerous tradition is common in North-Eastern, Eastern and Western Africa in particular, but it is, however, spread among migrants and refugees in many European countries. FGM is internationally recognized as a violation of human rights of girls and women, as well as it is considered as a criminal act in all of the EU Member States.

This paper provides a brief overview of the changes in FGM prevalence and prevention policy in Austria since 2000. It focuses on tracking the emergence of various means of tools that foster prevention and combating of this painful practice. It aims to provide a chronological view on the policy changes and improvements in raising awareness among policy makers, institutions, bureaucrats and civil society about the prevalence of this violating tradition among immigrants in Austria. The paper begins by sketching out the background of FGM through providing more detailed information about the nature of and the incentive for its practice. Furthermore, it aims to advocate for abandonment of this harmful tradition by encouraging and raising awareness among policy makers, as well as civil society, to recognize their crucial roles in changing of values, norms and behaviours that stand in the way towards ending its practice, through information, education and communication. Finally, since there is an absence of statistical evidence needed to advance the existing tools and policies which address this particular vulnerability, this paper proposes improvements in gathering more systematic qualitative and quantitative data on asylum claims and seekers relating to FGM countries of origin.

### **Uncounted Femicide**

***Dr Anna Alvazzi del Frate***

*Small Arms Survey, Geneva, Switzerland*

In many jurisdictions, sex-disaggregated crime statistics are still hard to obtain. Counting female victims of homicide is a practice that helps in giving victims recognition, understanding circumstances and context, and preventing further killings. Due to poor recording practices, absence of consensus over concepts, lack of institutional capacity or political will, data on femicide at the international level are still vague and largely based on estimates. This presentation is based on the Global Burden of Armed Violence, a comprehensive database which records sex-disaggregated information on lethal violence worldwide, in an effort to elucidate national, regional and global trends. This new database collects sex-disaggregated data for the period 2007-2012 for all countries / territories for which such information is available (only about 100 in the world). The paper discusses the 'gender' barriers to collecting data on lethal violence, touching on issues related to social norms, ethics as well as specific counting rules that affect the availability of relevant information. Findings relate to a number of issues surrounding the relationship between women and guns, including the role that firearms play in different aspects of victimization (stalking, firearm injuries, gender-based killings - femicide), self-harm (suicide), and makes recommendations on increasing knowledge of the extent of the problem and availability of data, towards better evidence-based policy making.

## **Thematic session 2: Help and support to victims**

### **Experience in working with volunteers as providers of support to victims and witnesses in Victim and Witness Support Departments at courts**

*Nikica Hamer Vidmar*

*Martina Bajto*

*Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia, Republic of Croatia*

The aim of this article is to present experience of engaging volunteers as providers of support to victims and witnesses in Victim and Witness Support Departments at courts. Results of the survey conducted by the Ministry of Justice among volunteers as a target group, in order to determine their motivation, assessment of required volunteers qualities, educational needs and emotional impact arising from working with victims and witnesses will be presented.

Victim and Witness Support Departments are established at seven county courts in Croatia. From their establishment in 2008, Departments engage volunteers as providers of support for victims and witnesses. The possibility of engaging volunteers is regulated by the Law on Volunteering and Court Rules. Independent Sector for Victim and Witness Support in Ministry of Justice is in charge of development of victim and witness support system in Croatia; it coordinates the work of Victim and Witness Support Departments and develops and provides training programs and supervision for support officers and volunteers. Volunteers undergo a detailed selection process. After attending basic training and practical preparation for volunteering, those volunteers who achieve the required criteria can sign agreements on volunteering.

From 2008 till 30th June 2014, 366 volunteers have been engaged in Victim and Witness Support Departments, and 115 of them are currently active. Volunteers have done a total of 11,706 hours (or 13,337 hours including practical preparation). In Support Departments, mainly students (4th and 5th year of study) of social sciences (students of psychology, law, social work, sociology, education and rehabilitation studies) are engaged, and in a smaller number elderly people.

In the survey that was conducted in 2010 and 2014, 105 volunteers participated, of which 20% were men and 80% women. Data were analysed by statistical software SPSS 8.0, and results are presented by descriptive statistics.

Thanks to the experience achieved by working with volunteers and according to the results of conducted survey, selection and educational processes for volunteers have been improved, in order to protect volunteers and the organization itself. Engaging volunteers in the judicial system is a huge step in the field of co-operation between judiciary and community. Providing the opportunity for young people to help other citizens with their knowledge, empathy and solidarity leads to multiple benefits. Young people/volunteers, thanks to the experience and knowledge that they have gained through volunteering, become better qualified professionals with developed communicational skills and better understanding of the needs of others.

### **Towards a Child-friendly Justice in Serbia – protection of child victims in criminal proceedings from the perspective of practice**

*Dr Ivana Stevanović*

*Child Rights Centre, Serbia*

In partnership with UNICEF, the Judicial Academy and Republic Institute of Social Protection, in the period from July 2013 to October 2014, the Child Rights Centre implemented the project “Towards Child-friendly Justice.” In order to contribute to the development of child-friendly justice as an important step towards the achievement, improving and protecting the child rights in the Republic of Serbia, a

comprehensive research of respect and implementation of the child rights to participation and best interests in civil and criminal court proceedings was conducted. In this regard recommendations were formulated for improving court practice with the intention to provide decision-making in the best interests of the child, and with full respect for the rights of the child to participate in these legal proceedings.

The subject of this paper is to present the results of the part of this comprehensive research related to the realization and protection of child rights to participation and respect of their best interests in criminal proceedings when a child appears as a victim (injured party) or they are heard as witnesses to a criminal act from the perspective of prosecutors and judges who apply particularly created criminal procedure norms. In order to ensure a more comprehensive review of current judicial practice, particularly having in mind the implementation of certain provisions of the new *Criminal Procedure Code*, questionnaires designed for judges and prosecutors who handle these cases (basic and higher) were created in order to assess the situation in practice in this field and pointing to the possible steps towards its improvement.

The paper specifically analyses the results of research relating to respect of the principle of urgency, the ways in which prosecutors and judges determine whether the minor injured party is able to testify and give evidence, place (space) where the hearing of a child is conducted when he/she is a witness-victim in the process, who is the person that explains a procedure to a minor injured party and how he/she can protect their rights, that is, how the prosecutors and judges in practice apply provisions on setting up a proxy to a minor injured party and how to act in relation to a set-up of a claim for compensation if the injured party is a minor.

### **Informing victims about release of perpetrator from serving a prison sentence**

***Maida Pamuković***

***Nikica Hamer Vidmar***

***Ana Ruševljan***

***Danijela Ivanović***

***Martina Bajto***

***Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia, Republic of Croatia***

The purpose is to present the procedure of informing victims about the release of offenders that are serving their sentence because of criminal acts committed against sexual freedom, against life and body or criminal acts with elements of violence based on the Law on the Enforcement on Prison Sentence. Also, the results of the research that is being carried out through a questionnaire, which should register the range of psychosocial support that is available to victims of criminal acts, reactions of victims on the information of offender's release as well as victims needs for additional psychosocial support will be presented.

The Independent Service for Victim and Witness Support at the Ministry of Justice conducts activities of strategic development and improvement of the support system, coordinates and supervises the work of the Departments for Victim and Witness Support at courts, ensures information about rights and psychological support to witnesses summoned to testify in courts via international legal help, equalizes practice and develops the system of financial compensation to victims of criminal acts as well as reimbursements for unfounded arrest and unjustified convictions. From February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 the Service informs victims about the release of offender in the way that prisons by a standardized form inform the Independent Service about the release day in order to inform victims, injured party or their family members. Victims are being contacted and informed via telephone two weeks before the prisoner is released. While talking to the victims they are provided with basic information about the perpetrator, the release day and are provided with emotional support as well as with information about their rights. Child victims are informed in cooperation with the Social services.

Present research results show (what is in accordance with the type of criminal offences for which the informing of victims process is carried out) that among the informed victims the most represented are

victims of the following criminal acts – robbery, causing of traffic accidents, manslaughter and threats. The survey showed that only 25.5% of victims have received psychosocial support after criminal act being committed, mostly by a psychiatrist, psychologist or by the social services. Despite the fact that informing of victims about prisoner release can be considered as a recall on the traumatic event, in most cases victims react positively to the fact that the Service for Victim Support at the Ministry of Justice level exists. While informing victims about prisoner's release, as implemented analysis has showed, the victim's need for different additional psychosocial support become obvious as well as the importance of adequate support for victims from the very moment the criminal act has been reported. In accordance with all mentioned, victims are referred to non-governmental institutions and institutions that offer psychosocial and legal help or assistance. The Independent Service is aware of the importance for further development of inter-institutional cooperation with the goal to accomplish on time and comprehend support for victims of criminal offences.

### **Persons with cancer diagnosis as victims: patterns of victimization needs and support**

***Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović***

*Faculty of special education and rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, Victimology society of Serbia, Serbia*

The paper deals with the analyses of primary and secondary victimization patterns to which cancer diagnosed persons are exposed, as well with the analyses of their needs and the adequacy of the support they receive from persons from their close surrounding, from professionals as well as from state institutions and non-governmental organizations. The main aim of the paper is to examine basic victimological concepts such as primary victimization, secondary victimization, victim needs, agency v. passivity, self-help, social support, posttraumatic disorder/growth, from the perspective of persons with cancer diagnosis. In addition, experiences of persons with cancer diagnosis will be compared with experiences of persons suffering from other victimizing events such as crime, war and natural disasters. On the basis of the entire analyses, recommendations regarding possible unification and exchange of experiences of different types of victims and those offering support to them, as well as regarding improvement of existing and development of new mechanisms of self-help and social support, based on this exchange, will be presented.

In the first part of the paper the findings of rare up to date research will be presented. After that, the author presents findings of her own research of experiences from Serbia carried out using ethnographic multi method. This includes the qualitative analyses of data collected from different sources: reports and other publications of state institutions and non-governmental organizations, victim experiences that are published or in other ways made available to the public, media sources, informal communication with victims, as well as personal insights of the author her self based on direct observation (with participation).

## **Thematic session 3: Crisis interventions: providing support to flood victims**

### **Crisis intervention as a psychological help to victims of natural disasters**

***Prof. dr Dragana Batić***

*Faculty of security, Skopje, Republic of Macedonia*

Disasters are traumatic events which are dangerous, overwhelming, and usually sudden. They can cause serious consequences such as loss of health, loss the loved ones or loss of property which often leads to psychological crisis. A psychological crisis comes about when a traumatic event overloads a person's capacity to cope in his or her usual fashion resulting in a temporary state of anxiety and disorganization. Although most of the victims of disasters recover on their own, a sizable amount of these victims develops a need for temporary or long-term psychological help.

The aim of this paper is to provide an overview of psychological first aid after natural disasters that occur suddenly and affect a large number of people at the same time, which usually leads to a psychological crisis. In a crisis situation, people's reactions are generally assessed as a normal reaction to an abnormal situation. Thus, if you know how people normally react to a crisis situation, you will know how to intervene when they are in crisis. It is important to consider psychological first aid when talking about crisis management for natural disasters. Such people can include rescue workers, police officers, firemen, humanitarian relief workers and any others who are in a position to help out during a natural disaster. This model includes key aspects such as education, providing support of peers, speedy recovery, mental health accessibility and a continuum of care. The goal of the crisis intervention is to reduce the intensity of the crisis, to protect a victim from additional stressors, to assist in the mobilization of internal psychological capacities, to help faster and easier establishment of the level of functioning that existed before the crisis and to prevent or mitigate future maladjusted behavioural and emotional breakdowns.

The paper will present models of crisis intervention, of which the most important are: PIE model ("Proximity, Immediacy, Expectancy," which refers to the proximity, urgency and expectation of the intervention), and KFIR, according to which the present crisis has three characteristics: lack of information, loneliness and the feeling that there is no alternative. Within these models we offer methods which can be used in contact with individuals in crisis, and that will contribute to the reduction of negative reaction to the crisis. The paper points to the importance of the implementation of crisis intervention after natural disasters in the prevention of future mental health disorders.

### **The role of victim support services in supporting victims of natural disaster**

***Jasmina Nikolić***

*Victimology society of Serbia, Serbia*

Victims of natural disasters have specific needs, but they also have needs that are same or similar to the needs of all other victims of crime and other unforeseen events. In the crisis situation in the aftermath of the natural disasters, there is a need of a comprehensive response of the local communities, NGOs, police, volunteers, citizens and other stakeholders. Taking this as a starting point, the presentation will be about the work of the *VDS info and support service*, and in particular about the work of this service immediately after the floods in Serbia. Also, specific needs of victims of natural disasters and needs of victims in general will be pointed out. An overview of the involvement of victim support services in Europe and worldwide after major natural disasters will be given. The paper will critically consider organization of victims' support immediately after the floods and guidelines for the organization of this kind of support in the future will be provided. Following questions will be posed to provoke discussion at the session: How did the local communities react during the May floods in Serbia?; What are the needs of victims of natural disasters?; What kind of help and support flood victims received?; Is



there still a need for support?; What are the lessons learned and how much we are prepared to respond to future similar situations?

### **Psychological first aid in disasters - from theory to practice**

*Msc Ana Vlajković*

*Department of Psychology, Faculty of media and communications, University Singidunum, Serbia*

The presentation will be about the specific process of psychological work with the direct victims of disasters (natural and man-made), as well as the rescuers and helpers. Besides theoretical concepts that underlie these types of interventions in crises, author will talk about the practical implications of psychological first aid, as well as the specific conditions in which this type of assistance was provided in Serbia during the May floods.

### **Thematic session 4: Victims and different forms of victimization**

#### **Victimization of the prison staff and difficulties in their work**

*Prof. dr Oliver Bačanović*

*Dr Nataša Jovanova*

*Faculty of Security, Skopje, Republic of Macedonia*

This paper aims at presenting a part of the results from the research “Position of prison staff in penal institutions in Macedonia”. The research was conducted by the project team from the Faculty of security-Skopje in 2012 in six penal institutions in the Republic of Macedonia. The sample involved 188 respondents from six sectors in penal institutions, mostly male persons (79.4%) and 31-50 years old (51.6%). The purpose of the research was to consider the attitudes of prison staff related to the tasks and situations in the penal institutions in the Republic of Macedonia. Special focus in the research (which is in the interest of this paper) was placed on the extent and forms of prison staff victimization by inmates.

The research used a questionnaire, which contains more sets of questions: stressors or problems arising from working in prisons, problems with working conditions, relationships with other persons working in the institution and with prison management, relationships with inmates, victimization by inmates (forms of victimization, place and time when this happens, consequences and necessary assistance), use of forcible means and the reasons for their use.

The research results related to victimization of prison staff, show that the prison staff most often appears as victims of verbal and non-verbal provocations, and rarely as victims of physical violence. Most often these verbal attacks and provocations are experienced in the halls or in the places for visits of convicted persons around 12-18 pm and mostly they experienced victimization by men aged around 31-40. Comparing the results of respondents from Security sector and Sector for re-socialization, it can be noted that the members of Security sector are more victimized in general, and particularly with the serious physical forms of victimization. Special part of the research was devoted to the problems or difficulties that prison staff are facing at their workplace. Apart the stress that they face with, according to the results, the most cited problems are: low personal income, overcrowding and lack of teamwork. When the age of prison staff was put in cross tabulation with the problems or difficulties that prison staff is facing with, it can be noticed that the younger respondents (to 30 years old) showed more stress and problems at work. This indicates that the younger generation of prison staff either is still not good enough adapted to the conditions in the penal institution or they have different expectations from their work.

## **Victimization by corruption crimes committed by police in Croatia, with special reference to the City of Zagreb**

***Dr Hrvoje Mataković***

*Croatian Science Foundation*

***Prof. dr Irena Cajner Mraović***

*University of Zagreb, Croatian Studies*

***Dražen Vitez***

*Ministry of interior, Republic of Croatia*

Very few studies analysed consequences of corruptive criminal offences committed by police officers in Croatia. Police corruption erodes the fundamental values of a democracy and also undermines citizens' readiness to cooperate with the police, thus reducing the efficiency of the police and the decreasing general trust in the police. This issue is particularly important in the context of rapid social changes that have occurred in all transitional countries, especially in large urban areas such as the City of Zagreb. The aim of this paper is to compare trends in police officers corruptive crime in the City of Zagreb on the basis of official police statistics, and to make a comparison of trends between the City of Zagreb and the Croatia as a whole. Starting from the usual methodological limits of police corruption research, this research will involve the application of quantitative and qualitative methods. The data on corruptive criminal offences committed by police officers during the period from 2004 to 2013 will be analysed with the use of descriptive statistical analysis. Due to the lack of understanding of police corruption as a product of the social context, the research results will highlight the broader context of committed corruptive offences and their effects on the wider community.

### **Corruption in health care: victims of white coat crime**

***Doc. dr Danica Vasiljević- Prodanović***

*Faculty of special education and rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, Serbia*

According to 2013 EHCI index, quality of health care in Serbia is again ranked in last place out of 34 European countries. One of the main problems of a "sick" health care in our country is corruption, which manifests itself at all levels of the health care system. According to the 2013 report of Transparency International, Serbia is one of six countries whose citizens perceive health care services to be the sector most affected by corruption. There are various forms of corrupt behaviour whose magnitude is very difficult to perceive. The subject of this paper is corruption in health care, focusing on some forms of corruption that occurs in direct interaction between doctor and patient. These forms of corruption, conditionally called petty corruption, are usually included within the criminal offenses of bribery and abuse of official duty. My assumption is that most health care professionals perform their duties in accordance with the ethical principles of the profession. However, there are those who abuse their knowledge and position in order to achieve personal gain. The doctor may require expensive analysis that are not necessary, or to prescribe any medication just because of his own financial benefit. The doctor himself (or mediator) may directly ask for money, or his actions may indicate patient to offer bribe in cash, gifts or some kind of service. The law stipulates that offering bribe is a criminal offense as well as accepting bribes. The question that arises is who are the victims of "white coat" crime? The aim of this paper is to consider the phenomenological characteristics of petty corruption in health care. For this purpose I conducted an exploratory study on a competent sample of health workers (who were willing to speak on this sensitive topic). The study was conducted using qualitative methodology, technique of semi-structured interview. Interviews were conducted with 12 health professionals from five medical institutions in Belgrade in July 2014. This paper will present the results of the research. The next research step, in order to create a clearer picture of the phenomena magnitude, would be the examination of the experiences of citizens, as well as their perceptions of corruption in the health sector.

## **Victims of sport violence**

***Prof. dr Zorica Mršević***

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The paper analyzes the mechanisms of origin, causes and types of victims of violence in sports, as well as identifying the responsible actors. The aim of this paper is to analyze the particular situation ritualized sport of violence point to the fact that victimization happens, not randomly and not due to individual acts of unpredictable outbreaks of aggression, and certainly not the exaggerated love of the sport and the supported club. Victims of violence in sports happen in the system of ritualized forms of relationships and behaviours related to sport and organized fan groups. The aim is therefore, to indicate the existence of a ritual nature of sport violence, because the rituals are kind of socially accepted behaviours that meet the interests of the many visible and invisible actors and as a desirable and useful, they are not only tolerated, but as such supported.

Presentation topics include various types of ritual violence in sports that result in victimization of certain individuals or groups. Victims of ritual mass fights of police and fans in the stands resulted in numerous injured fans and police, but also the general public, the viewers in the stands. Ritual confrontation of rival fan groups outside the stadium, agreed massive fights, organizing “hot hospitality” to visiting fans, ritually “proving” at the opponent’s territory by provoking incidents, may also result in many injured participants, vandalizing public and private property and endangering life and public safety. Rituals within the fan groups such as struggle for prestige and leadership, the initiation of new members, and the like, are of inherently violent nature and as such victimize the defeated, younger, poorer, newcomers. Ritual territoriality of fan groups inside and outside the sporting arena means the appropriation of parts of the city and parts of the home stands of the stadium that are considered as the controlled territory of certain fan groups. It means “territorial defence” by physical forces, punishment for attempt to erase “their” graffiti or other “violations” of air, asphalt or façade area within a block of buildings known as a territory of certain fan groups. To the ritual of uniting or otherwise confronted fan groups coming with intention to synergize joint forces for more efficient violent confrontation with fans from neighbouring countries or the pride parades. In the last couple of years to the unification of organized fan groups mostly comes on the occasion of the announcement of the Pride Parade in Belgrade in order to prevent the violent events and beating participants.

To corroborate the hypothesis of ritualism of sports violence as such, which systematically leads to the danger of victimization of more and more people, the author will use the scientific literature in this area, studies and articles, as well as media reports, web sites, online resources, laws and documents of social policy. These sources are of domestic, regional and international origin.

### **International and national understanding of the notion of victim**

***Doc. dr Tatjana Gerginova***

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Victimology is interdisciplinary science of all kinds of suffering, and thus, all victims, causes of victimization, circumstances under which the process of victimization takes place, consequences of victimization and rights and justice for victims. In this paper, the author will define the terms “victim”, “crime victim” and a “victim of abuse of power” (according to the international and national documents). Furthermore, the author will discuss risk factors for becoming a victim and types of victims. Type dictates the profile of a victim. For this reason, some of the classifications of the founders of victimology will be listed, such as: typology by Hans von Henting (1948); typology according to the degree of guilt of the victim by Mendelsohn (1956); typology by Ezzas Fattah (1967); victim’s classification according to Zvonimir Sheparovich; and categorization of victims according to conclusions of the Committee for prevention on crime and treatment of offenders. In the conclusion of the paper, proposal for a

comprehensive and inclusive term of victim, which would include all persons who were in any manner violated or threatened by crime, war or other forms of violations of human rights as well as natural disasters, will be presented.

## **Thematic session 5: Developing policies for protection of victims and combating various forms of crime**

### **Institutional sexism – an obstacle to efficient protection against domestic violence**

***Prof. dr Nevena Petrušić***

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The subject of this paper is an analysis of the social treatment of victims of domestic violence and their institutional treatment in the context of gender stereotypes, prejudices and discriminatory attitudes which are deeply rooted and widely spread among professionals involved in the prevention and prosecution of domestic violence. The significance of understanding the gender aspect of the phenomenon of violence against women and domestic violence has been underscored in many international documents, the most important of which is the Istanbul Convention (2011). *Inter alia*, this Convention sets out the legal standard of *due diligence* which should be exercised in preventing violence against women and domestic violence, protecting victims, prosecuting and sanctioning the offenders; moreover, it specifies the indicators which may be used as a point of reference in assessing whether this legal standard has been observed. Broadly speaking, the standard of *due diligence* implies the obligation of State parties to change the socio-cultural patterns of behaviour and exert their best efforts to eradicate the so-called *institutional sexism*. Sexism is both a paradigm and an ideological expression of gender-based social inequality. Based on the ideology of male dominance, sexism implies a deeply rooted system of beliefs, attitudes and conduct of professionals working in public institutions which rests on the assumption that the differences in intrinsic human values are based on one's gender and gender roles.

The aim of this paper is to point out how and in what form the manifested institutional sexism becomes an obstacle in the process of providing for the efficient prevention, prosecution and sanctioning of domestic violence. The explanation and understanding of this process may contribute to establishing the legal protection system which will provide a comprehensive, professional and gender-sensitive support and assistance to victims of domestic violence, which is a prerequisite for meeting the obligations arising from the standard of *due diligence*.

The main discussion topics include the explanation of the concept of *institutional sexism* and its correlation with the legal standard of *due diligence*, an overview of important UN documents comprising the *due diligence* standard, a summary of prior research on the attitudes of legal professionals towards domestic violence in Serbia, and an analysis of the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in *Eremia and others v Moldova* (2013), which is a landmark case in the Court jurisprudence as it was the first time that the Court held that institutional sexism was the main reason for the state authorities' failure to provide adequate legal protection against domestic violence. In particular, the ECtHR underscored the obligation of State parties to provide for an efficient and effective protection against domestic violence, which includes identifying, demystifying and eliminating the deeply rooted sexism from social institutions.

## **Issues Associated With the Research on the Scope of Family Violence in the Republic of Macedonia**

***Prof. dr Stojanka Mirčeva***

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Research of the phenomenon of family violence encompasses several issues and limitations that have direct impact on the quality and relevance of the research findings. The crime is enlisted among phenomena that are supposed to be complex and difficult for research. This situation is amongst all due to the main features of the behaviours that constitute such social phenomenon. However, there are certain types of crime, where the type and nature of individual behaviours, as well as the existence of certain limitations, determine the method of research and impacts the quality and relevance of the research findings. Family violence is amongst those crimes.

The scope of crime is usually understood as a total number of crimes and other offences committed in a given time and area. According to that definition, the scope of family violence consists of total number of crimes and other offences committed in a given time and area. It is irrelevant whether the behaviours are reported or not. The criminological theory applies this approach in defining the concept of a 'true' crime. Besides the concept of a 'true' crime, the theory recognizes the concept of incident data or 'illusory' crime, too. The concept of 'illusory' crime is defined as a total of all behaviours or incidents that are reported and recorded irrespective whether they are crimes in the formal sense or not.

The paper is concerned with the method of determining the scope of family violence, namely, the methodological issues and limitations associated with determining the incidence of family violence in the country. More precisely, the focus is on the basic elements of the scope of family violence - its official figure and the dark figure. The analysis deals with issues related to the method of determining the official as well the dark figure of family violence. The analysis presented in this paper encompasses only issues associated with the research of the scope of family violence. The only exception is a brief review of the family violence data from police-gathered statistics. Statistical data are predominantly presented for the purpose of illustration of differences resulting from different methodologies applied in collection of data on family violence by various state bodies.

## **Development of the Methodology of Recording Data on Hate Crimes as the Basis of Acknowledging Victims' Rights**

***Prof. dr Mirjana Dokmanović***

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By the amended Criminal Code („Official Gazette of RS“, no. 121/12), if a criminal act is motivated by hatred on the basis of race, religion belief, national or ethnical belonging, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity, a court should assess that circumstance as an aggravating in sentencing (Art. 54a). This aggravating circumstance has been introduced to as a response to increase of violence based on hatred and intolerance which victims are individuals belonging to minority and marginalized groups. With this respect, Republic of Serbia has been responded to the Recommendations of the European Commission against Racisms and Intolerance No. 1 which calls the Governments of the member states to ensure that national criminal law expressly and specifically counter racism, xenophobia and intolerance. This is also in accord with the Council of the European Union Conclusions on Combating Hate Crime in the European Union of December 2013.

Measuring the efficiency of the impact of introducing stricter sanctioning of hate crimes requires, amongst other, collecting and publishing comprehensive data on hate crimes, the bias motives behind these crimes and the punishments handed down to offenders. The subject of the paper is introducing the

recommendations of the Fundamental Rights Agency to the EU member states with respect to developing the methodology of recording data on hate crimes, and the best practices in the EU member states.

The aim of the paper is to contribute to developing comprehensive and harmonised methodology of data recording of hate crimes in the Republic of Serbia. Combating racism, xenophobia and intolerance demands regular and systematic recording data in this field, as well as informing the public on punishments handed down to offenders. The objective is to contribute to the State response to hate crimes and its message that crimes committed on the basis of hatred and prejudices will be not tolerated, while the offenders will be punished. Besides increasing visibility of this phenomenon, this will contribute to acknowledging victims of hate crimes and their right to be protected. Victims of hate crimes are victimized just due to their personal characteristic or an assumed personal characteristic, such as national or ethnical belonging and sexual identity; therefore, it is compulsory to have this fact recorded by the law enforcement agency and the criminal justice system. Otherwise, the real motives of the criminal acts would stay invisible. This practice contributes encouraging violence against vulnerable groups and their further victimisation. Therefore, the legislation should be supported by implementation of the adequate policies, including collecting, recording and publishing reliable data. This is also a prerequisite for measuring the effectiveness of the mechanisms for protection of victims of hate crimes, and the entire anti-discrimination policy, as well as for its regular revision on the basis of the noted needs.

### **Domestic violence and behavioural disorders of children: knowledge and approaches of the pedagogical-psychological services experts in elementary and secondary schools**

*Bejan Šaćiri*

*Milica Popović*

*Una Radovanović*

*Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia*

The family as “the basic unit of society” has an indispensable role in the socialization of children. One of the primary functions of the family is to create conditions for positive mental, physical and social development of children, as well as the transmission of moral norms, values and rules of conduct. Therefore, the fact that exposure of children to various forms of direct and indirect violence leaves many negative effects on their psychosocial development, including various forms of behavioural disorders that may be seen at a very early age, is inevitable. Despite the fact that numerous studies have confirmed a link between the exposure of children to direct and indirect forms of violence and the occurrence of behavioural disorders in children, there are few studies that have dealt with the ways in which professionals in elementary and secondary schools, as the first “links in the chain” which need to recognize and take appropriate measures in dealing with this category of children, deal with this problem.

Accordingly, the subject of this paper is knowledge of the professionals, who work in the pedagogical-psychological services in elementary and secondary schools, on domestic violence and behavioural disorders in general, as well as their approaches to working with children who are exposed to various forms of direct and/or indirect violence and which manifest behavioural disorders. The aim of this research is to collect the data on the knowledge and approaches of professionals from pedagogical-psychological services in elementary and secondary schools to this group of children. The main part of the research aims at testing the knowledge of experts on the prevalence, characteristics, forms and consequences of direct and indirect violence against children in the family and behavioural disorders in children. In the paper, we will present the results of research related to approaches that experts from such services are using in working with this particularly sensitive category of children.

The questionnaire designed for the purpose of this research contains following set of questions: about the characteristics of violence against children in the family; on the characteristics of children with behavioural disorders; the advisory techniques used by professionals working with children (and their parents) who are exposed to domestic violence and exhibit behavioural disorders; as well as issues relating to their current training in these areas and the needs and desires future education.

## **Thematic session 6: Support and protection of victims of crime**

### **Protection of victims of crime in perspective: individual assessment**

***Helga Ezendam***

*Ministry of Security and Justice, the Netherlands*

This paper will deal with the protection of victims of crime by focusing on the individual assessment for victims, as introduced by the EU Directive containing minimum standards for victims of crime. To implement the individual assessment a study has been carried out as to what are relevant risk factors when it comes to repeat victimization. The results of this study will be presented in relation to the development of the individual assessment instrument in the Netherlands. Besides an instrument to assess whether a victim is vulnerable for repeat victimization it is necessary to have measures available.

### **Needs of victims of crime and protection measures**

***Erik Serijen***

*Ministry of Security and Justice, the Netherlands*

This paper will be directly connected to the paper of Helga Ezendam on the individual assessment for victims in the context of their protection. In this respect, the paper will focus on several questions regarding the needs and necessary protection measures, such as what are the needs of victims of crime when it comes to protection? What do victims need to be protected from? What is the possible role of government in the protection of victims of crime, and what does the EU Directive say in this respect? In an interactive setting we will try to answer these questions from a theoretical perspective and also give an overview of the research done in this field. Furthermore, we will also provoke the discussion on the experience of the participants in their respective countries and give an overview of the Netherlands' policy in this respect. Therefore, this paper and the discussion based on it should enable answering the questions on what the protective needs of victims of crime are; what government can do to meet these needs and what the EU Directive wants governments to do, and how these theories and policy measures can be translated into concrete measures for the protection of victim's of crime.

### **Proposal for implementation of yoga techniques in support to the violence survivors**

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Bearing in mind that change in thoughts, behaviour and emotions is one of the side effects of yoga techniques application, researches show that yoga is efficient in the treatment of stress, anxiety and depression in persons who experienced violence. Disorders in emotions and behaviour that are not treated in order to resolve the difficulties are associated with negative outcomes in other fields of life, like poor grades and inefficiency at work, poor personal relationships, unemployment, incarceration, substance abuse and suicide. In this paper, we discuss implementation of the yoga techniques in support to the violence survivors. The scientific researches and practice show that yoga techniques (body postures, breathing techniques, relaxation and meditation) have positive outcomes in the treatment of stress, anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. During the experience of work with women victims of domestic violence, we observed improvement in their capacities to overcome trauma and achieving the skills to once again actively participate in the community. In this paper, we discuss possible

improvements in health, mood, attention, mental focus, readiness to take the initiative in solving everyday challenges and finding solutions in women who are in the process of recovering from the experience of domestic violence.

## **Thematic session 7: Victimization, justice and protection of victims**

### **Conflicts, victimisation and justice in the intercultural context of Serbia**

*Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović*

*Dr Sanja Čopić*

*Dr Nikola Petrović*

*Bejan Šaćiri*

*Victimology Society of Serbia, Serbia*

Victimology Society of Serbia-VDS is one of the partners in the four years research project ALTERNATIVE, which is coordinated by the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium), and funded by the European Union Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). The overall objective of the ALTERNATIVE project is to provide an alternative and deepened understanding of justice and security based on empirical evidence from four action research settings (Serbia, Austria, Hungary and Northern Ireland) of how to handle conflicts within intercultural contexts in democratic societies. Within the ALTERNATIVE, VDS is implementing a research *Fostering victim-oriented dialogue in a multiethnic society*, the aim of which is to develop alternative models of resolution of existing and prevention of future conflicts between members of different ethnic groups in Serbia, which may contribute to closing a circle of violence and the increase of overall security of the citizens. During 2013, VDS conducted an empirical research study with the aim to find out how people from three multiethnic communities in Serbia deal with interethnic conflicts in their everyday life and to identify both problems and positive experiences in solving them. It also analysed how victims are treated, how the security and justice are perceived by the citizens, and what is the place of restorative justice approaches in dealing with conflicts and security. The research was conducted in Bačka Palanka, Bač, Prijepolje and Medveđa. The research consisted of qualitative and quantitative part. Within the qualitative research, the data was collected through qualitative interviews with 17 persons from NGOs and state institutions in three multiethnic communities, who were of different ethnicity. The basis for the methodological approach in collecting data about victimisation and conflicts in the quantitative part of the research was a victimisation survey. The survey was conducted on the sample of 1423 persons. After a brief description of the research methodology, we will present main findings related to the conflicts that have been evolving since 1990 between members of different ethnic groups in three multiethnic communities in Serbia, focusing on the prevalence and characteristics of victimisation and respondents' notions of justice, i.e. mechanisms suitable to achieve justice in the concrete cases of victimisation they experienced. In the conclusion we will point out that respondents attribute high relevance to both formal and informal restorative approaches, suggesting the need of citizens in general, and victims in particular to actively participate in the process of conflict transformation and prevention of further victimisations.



## **Protection of victims of domestic violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

*Doc. dr Azra Adžajlić-Dedović*

*Dr Alisabri Šabani*

*Msc Selma Stočanin-Hrustemović*

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Among the societal factors that influence rates of violence are those that create an acceptable climate for violence. Zero tolerance campaigns, involving local organisations, community groups, academics, and a highly visible media campaign with the aim of challenging social attitudes towards violence against women by their intimate partners, are a good example of public education efforts to change the social climate of silence, tolerance and inhibition. This paper presents findings on the protection of victims of domestic violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The paper aims at addressing the following issues: how to provide safe, secure accommodation and support to women and children experiencing domestic violence regardless of race, age, sexuality, culture, spiritual beliefs, or circumstance; how to provide a safe and supportive atmosphere in a non-institutional and culturally sensitive environment; how to provide information, resources and options to all women and children and to work towards creating greater access to services for women and children; how to provide resources for the special needs of children; how to provide an appropriate ongoing support to women and children after they leave the accommodation service and to provide appropriate referrals to relevant community networks; how to promote a cooperation with other agencies within the community, and to improve the status of women and enable equal access to opportunities within society. Therefore, the overall purpose of this paper is to reflect on the deficiencies in the provision of assistance in the prevention, reduction and elimination of violence in the family.

### **The cycle of violence: the experience of violent victimization in childhood as a path of violent criminalization of adulthood**

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An experience of violent victimization in childhood in numerous international researches stands out as a significant predictor of later violent behaviour in adulthood. The subject of the paper is an analysis of the cycle of violence in terms of the impact of victimization in childhood on adult violent crime. Accordingly, the aim of this paper is to present the results of author's survey on the influence of direct and indirect violent victimization in family, and gender socialization on later violent behaviour, both, within the family and outside of it. The survey was conducted in 2010 using the quantitative methodology, on the sample of 252 male and female inmates of maximum security correctional institution for men and correctional institution for women in Požarevac.

Firstly, basic methodological characteristics of the survey will be presented. Then results of the survey that confirm general postulates of the so called theory of intergenerational transmission of violence will be presented. Namely, results indicate the influence of indicators of direct and indirect violent victimization and gender socialization on committing violent crime in adulthood. At the end, based on previous empirical findings and the results of her own survey, the author is going to give recommendations for the prevention and mitigation of family violent victimization at an early age, and consequently, the indirect effects of it on breaking the cycle of violence.

## **Contribution of United Nations in Serbia to protection of women victims of violence in family and in intimate partner relationships: from international law to practice**

***Vesna Jarić***

*Project "Integrated Response to Violence against Women in Serbia", UNDP, Serbia*

The paper presents engagement of the United Nations in Serbia in the field of prevention and establishment of protection system for women survivors of violence in family and in intimate partner relationships. The paper describes the context in which UN in Serbia has been operating over the past decade and its contribution to the establishment of the institutional approach that recognizes the inter-link between pervasive gender inequalities and violence against women as a form of gender discrimination. The focus is on the UN contribution to setting horizontal and vertical institutional exchange mechanisms among different sectors with mandate to provide services to survivors/victims, specifically on the multi-sector cooperation model for protection of victims and support to setting institutional premise for the recognition of specialist support services for women survivors of violence. Both aspects are framed within the obligations deriving from the Istanbul convention.

## **Legal protection and assistance to victims of human trafficking for sexual exploitation in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

***Doc. dr Azra Adžajlić-Dedović***

***Msc Željko Topić***

***Msc Amila Taljanović***

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This paper analyzes the international instruments and national legislation relating to the protection from secondary victimization of victims of trafficking in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and recommends changes of the existing regulations. In addition, this paper presents some efforts to combat human trafficking and the creation of sentencing policy that would constitute a step towards a successful fight against this criminal phenomenon. The paper explores the scope of its application and discusses the challenges in its practical implementation. It includes a number of practical examples and court cases which were made available by national agencies, NGOs and legal professionals who have been examining these issues extensively. The paper concludes with the provision of practical guidance, and the formulation of policy and legislative recommendations, towards the effective implementation. Therefore, the purpose of the paper is to work towards raising awareness and informing relevant authorities about how to prevent trafficking in human beings for domestic servitude in diplomatic households, how to detect abuses and how to react to exploitative situations while protecting the rights of the domestic worker. It will also provide examples of national practices which have proven to be effective.

## **Thematic session 8: Protection of child victims**

### **Victims of bullying: perception of primary-school students**

*Prof. dr Branislava Popović-Ćitić*

*Marija Marković, MA*

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Bullying, as a form of repeated and intentional aggressive behaviour toward peers with respect to disproportionate balance of power in peer relation, is a subject of intensive studying of scientists and experts over the last decade. For the purpose of drawing conclusions about possibilities of bullying prevention in the school environment and planning specific prevention programs, the subject of the paper is focused on the analysis of the perception on the bullying victims' characteristics from the students' perspective.

For the purpose of the qualitative study of students' perception of victims, as one of the categories of the social roles in bullying, a special guide was created for the focus group interviews, which was applied to a sample of 298 higher-grade students from 14 elementary schools in Belgrade. During the school year 2013/14, 28 gender-homogeneous participatory focus groups were held with an average of 11 students per group. The interviews were conducted through three exercises in which, after stating the forms of bullying, students were asked to give their opinion on a few aspects of behaviour of the bully and the victim. In this paper only statements concerning the characteristics of the victim were analyzed.

The data showed that students were, in most cases, aware of the existence of different forms of bullying, but they primarily recognize the behaviour of the physical and, to some extent, verbal violence in the school environment. Victims of bullying are, in almost all cases, especially among boys, perceived exclusively as males, usually younger than bullies, weak body constitution and with visible injuries as a result of the manifested violence by their peers. They are, according to the students' point of view, very dedicated to school, hardworking and responsible, with high academic achievement and have good relations with their teachers, and they spend their free time in learning and homework. In terms of relationships with peers, victims, according to the statements of students, are usually rejected from the peer group and have almost no friends. They are extremely quiet, withdrawn, and lonely, and often experience unpleasant emotions of sadness and fear of victimization.

It can be concluded that the perception of the victim by the students largely reflects the real image of passive victims of bullying, which was established in scientific research. Taking into account the available data on the prevalence of violence among peers, as well as findings about the significant role of the observer in preventing and responding to bullying, it would be justified, in terms of the school environment, to initiate programs of peer support where it is possible, with the active participation of the students themselves in counselling interventions, mediation or befriending, in order to reduce bullying victimization and to improve peer status of victimized students.

## **GRETA questionnaires as an element of the mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings**

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***Saša Gosić***

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The Group of experts on action against trafficking in human beings (GRETA) is one of the key international expert bodies in the domain of suppression of trafficking in human beings. At the same time, it is the main actor in the complex mechanism of monitoring the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, a distinguished act of international law in this area. This mechanism is based on GRETA questionnaires, developed to assess the implementation of the Convention in the so called “first“ and “second evaluation round“. The paper aims to analyze the content, place and the process significance of the GRETA questionnaires within the framework of the mechanism for assessment of implementation of the subject Convention, as well as the relations with the victims of trafficking in human beings.

### **Peer ecology: the role of a social context in the explanation of victimization**

***Prof. dr Slađana Đurić***

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***Prof. dr Branislava Popović-Čitić***

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The subject of the paper is the analysis of the influence of peer ecology on victimization in peer groups. Concept of peer ecology is based on the belief that established social structures in a large extent organize children behaviour. Basic unit of the horizontal structure is the peer group in which social relation occur and which are the most direct context of children’s perception and behaviour. Vertical structure of peer ecology is related to dimension of social power, and the differences in social status creates differences in affecting children’s determination of what will they appreciate, support, judge or depreciate.

Many researches tried to answer the question why some children have higher chance to be victimised in comparison to other children, and the supporters of the Peer Ecology Model argue that the answer lies in the area of individual characteristics and behaviour in the peer group. Based on a review of many research papers in this area, conclusions are made that could be significant for prevention programs planning, and also for providing support to victims of bullying.

By analyzing personal characteristics of victims, it is showed that children with low self-esteem, lack of pro-social features, physically weaker are more often victims of violent crime. Further on, findings of this model show that positive relations with peers reduce the probability for children to be victimized, or in other words, higher number of friends is negatively related to victimization. Although children that do not have best friends tend to more often become victims of violence, it is essential to also consider the quality of the friendship beside the number of friends, if we want to realistically assess the protective function of friends. However, in spite the fact that hostile relations increase chances for victimization, there is not enough empirical evidence to assume that many hostile relations create more victimization. Finally, there is a high congruence when it comes to findings from socio-metric research, which shows that victimized children are on the margins of peer ecology, and chances to be victimized are increased in those children that belong to lower social status groups.

From the summary of main research results, a significant explanatory potential of the model of peer ecology can be recognized when it comes to explanation of victimization. Supporters of this concept

recommend to teachers and experts that schools need to focus not only on direct forms of violent behaviour, but also on the social context and roles of different actors, and on wider social context that encourages violence. In practice, it is recommended to improve models of reciprocal friendships, and interventions focused on conflict resolution. An application of contemporary methods in studying relations between children (socio-metric method, examining social networks), which are, under the assumption of this model, the best way to discover real mechanisms of socialization in peer groups is also suggested.

### **Minors as the traffic participants - victims of irresponsibility of their families**

*Dr Dragan Obradović*

*High court in Valjevo, Serbia*

The Law on Traffic Safety contains many provisions relating to the protection and improvement of the safety of certain categories of road users. The paper focuses on the most important provisions relating to the duties and responsibilities of the family in relation to traffic education and guidance in order to reduce the number of child casualties in road accidents.

The aim of this paper is to point out the most important innovations in the legislation in this area and to highlight the need for further improvement of certain provisions in order to improve the current legislation. This is necessary because the official data indicate that these failures are rarely noticed in practice by the authorities responsible for the initiation and conduct of criminal proceedings. In addition, a need to point out to these failures also comes out from the official data on traffic accidents in the Republic of Serbia, which included children and juveniles either as drivers or victims. In this respect, as far as we know, there is a dark figure, because there has never been some specific research on this issue. Therefore, failures on the side of the family lead to an increase in the number of casualties in the traffic - their family members.

Basic topics covered in the presentation are the most important provisions of the criminal legislation of in the field of road safety in Serbia pertaining to this matter. It is important to establish the existence of contribution of the family to the occurrence of traffic accidents and victims of the accidents, which involved their underage members, primarily due to the failure of the traffic education and upbringing which essentially derives from the family. Therefore, it is important to determine the question whether there is a responsibility of the family for the occurrence of traffic accidents, and what constitutes a particular responsibility.

### **Protection of minors as victims of peer violence from secondary victimization through media**

*Vesna Stevanović*

*Court of Appeal, Niš, Serbia*

The Law on Juvenile Offenders and Criminal Protection of Minors that has been applying for almost nine years contains relevant provisions on the protection of both juvenile offenders and victims of crime. Special attention is paid to improving the situation of juvenile victims in criminal proceedings. The paper focuses on the most important provisions relating to the improvement of the status of minor victims in criminal proceedings, which provisions are incorporated in the Law on Juvenile Criminal Offenders and Criminal Protection of Juveniles. In addition, we will also point out to some provisions contained in other relevant legal acts and areas that relate to the position of minors in the media.

The aim of this paper is to highlight the novelties in legislation in this field, to give their assessment, indicate the need for further improvement of certain provisions in order to improve the current legislation. Attention will be paid to the specific practical aspects of media announcements pertaining to minors - victims of crimes by their peers, and how it reflects on them in the court proceedings. This is necessary because the data from the media, particularly the printed media, suggests

that not only the provisions on the presumption of innocence in the criminal proceedings are violated, but also that there is not enough care for minor victims in the criminal proceedings, resulting in their additional victimisation and secondary victimization, not only by the perpetrators, but also by the media.

The main topic covered in the presentation is the most important legal provisions of the Republic of Serbia in criminal and media law with respect to this issue. In particular, we will point out to the part of media announcements related to underage victims of bullying. It is important for the proper relationship of the media towards victims of criminal acts in general, and especially for the protection of minor victims, including victims of bullying, from secondary victimization through the media.

## **Thematic session 9: Developing anti-discrimination policies and protection of equality**

### **Prevention of gender based violence through the lenses of established institutional bodies and mechanisms in the System of Defence**

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Implementation of gender perspective in the System of Defence is obligatory not only to achieve more efficient system, but also for the legal framework which includes national laws and international standards. National Action Plan to implement United Nation Security Council Resolution 1325 – Women, Peace and Security in the Republic of Serbia (2010-1015) is the guideline for creating institutional bodies and mechanisms in order to promote, improve and provide equal opportunities for women participation in the System of Defence. One of the seven major goals of the National Action Plan is the development of a system for protection of women victims of violence and the system of prevention of violence against women. Established and fully functional institutional bodies and mechanisms are a prerequisite for the realization of the objective mentioned above.

After four years of implementation of the National Action Plan, the paper analysis planned and completed activities of establishing institutional bodies and mechanisms for gender equality in the System of Defence. In the Ministry of Defence and the Serbian Armed Forces, all institutional bodies provided by the National Action Plan (The Political Council, The Multi-Sectoral Coordinating Body, The Supervisory Body and Analytical Groups or Research Teams) are already operative as well as gender equality mechanisms ("trustworthy person", the Gender Equality Advisor to a Minister/Director, independent monitoring, gender analysis, gender-responsive budgeting), with the exception of the Gender Equality Advisor in the civil and military missions.

The paper concludes that there is a continuous trend of establishing and strengthening institutional capacity, which is, in addition to the normative and strategic prerequisite, one of the basic assumptions necessary for the full realization of gender equality. Special attention in the defence system is dedicated to the strengthening of mechanisms of "trustworthy person" and the Gender Equality Advisor to a Minister of Defence whose tasks are primarily focused on the prevention and protection of employees from sexual harassment, eliminating gender stereotypes and preventing discrimination based on sex.

Due to the fact that monitoring and analyzing the work of established bodies and mechanisms is essential for planning and careful implementation of activities directed towards their empowerment and efficient functioning, we believe that this work may present a unique contribution in understanding the potential need for redefining and broadening the definition of institutional bodies and mechanisms (when creating the next National Action Plan) and to serve as a systematic confirmation of a good practice implemented in the system of defence.

## **Language of disability as a factor of victimization of persons with disabilities**

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Language is the most powerful tool of communication. It is the fastest way for transmission of thoughts and feelings. Therefore, the manner in which a group of people is marked, affects its entire social status. Attitudes towards people with disabilities have been changing throughout the history. The language of disability in Serbia was topic of a few monographs. So, from “blind”, “deaf”, “tied to a wheelchair”, “invalids”, persons with disabilities became people with “impaired vision, hearing, and wheelchair users”. The language of disability is much more than a purely linguistic issue. It may be a factor of the victimization of people with disabilities, most in the media, but also in everyday speech. Wrong labelling of people with disabilities as people with special needs also constitutes a violation of equality as a special criminology and criminal justice phenomenon. There are no special needs, but there are just different ways to achieve them. The subject of this paper is the analysis of the impact of labelling persons with disabilities and the use of the language of disability on the process of victimization of people with disabilities in the criminal acts of violation of equality. The way of labelling people with disabilities throughout history, with citing examples of bad and good journalistic practice, will be also analyzed in this paper. Special attention will be paid to the “bonton of persons with disabilities”, according to the researches of the Association of Students with Disabilities in Belgrade and other non-governmental organizations. The main aim of this paper is to point the importance of the issue of labelling and its impact on the overall social situation of people with disabilities. Proper use of appropriate linguistic terms certainly contributes to the prevention of victimization of people with disabilities and their full inclusion in modern society.

## **Improving the education of the police officers in the field of implementation of anti-discrimination policies**

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This paper briefly mentions the activities of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia aimed at establishing a comprehensive education system, and consequently advancement of police officers performance in the field of implementation of anti-discrimination policies. Bearing in mind that the principle of gender equality and anti-discrimination is one of the fundamental principles of human rights, Ministry of Interior within education and training of police officers takes activities in order to improve the knowledge and skills of lecturers, as well as the work of community policing in the area of implementation of anti-discrimination policies. This paper presents the system of vocational education and further training of police officers, and within that, the activities aimed at achieving the goals set by the National Action Plan for the implementation of Resolution 1325 of the UN Security Council - Women, Peace and Security in the Republic of Serbia, including the training in the field of gender equality. The purpose of this part of the training is to improve the level of understanding of the subject concerning discrimination in general, with a special mention of gender discrimination, as well as the willingness to adequately resolve issues arising from these areas.

## **Children with special needs in the municipality of Bujanovac- victims of discrimination**

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In almost all countries in the world, regardless of its degree of economic, social, and technological development, children with special needs are facing many problems that complicate or completely prevent the everyday life in society. Despite numerous laws and regulations that guarantee the rights and freedoms of all citizens and prohibits any form of discrimination, the question of their practical application when it comes to this category of children remains problematic. Community, school, and even friends and families, often, in different ways, discriminate and stigmatize children with special needs. Numerous studies indicate a high degree of abuse and neglect of this category of children. A special form of discrimination is the lack of access to various facilities and services of importance for the quality of life, all of which lead to social exclusion and marginalization of children with special needs.

The subject of this paper is the analysis of the problems that children with special needs in the municipality of Bujanovac encounter in various fields of life (family, school and the wider social environment). The aim of this paper is to highlight various forms of discrimination that children with special needs in the municipality of Bujanovac face both in closer and wider social environment and in terms of ability to exercise basic rights, as well as to point out to the problems in the practical implementation of inclusive education. Therefore, the paper discusses various forms of discrimination that children with special needs in the municipality of Bujanovac face. Special attention will be given to the difficulties that this category of children in the municipality of Bujanovac encounter when it comes to the physical environment (lack of access to facilities, availability of social services and health care), inclusion in the educational system, as well as prejudices and stigmatization they face in their closer and broader social environment.

### **Proving of the extortion in light of the victim protection**

***Nikola Vuković***

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At the beginning the author would point out on a tendency of law maker who implements new solutions in criminal justice only through procedure law reconstruction, while neglecting the basic capacities of substantive law, in the field of logic. Therefore, the author will elaborate one question in which substantive law takes over the task of helping “younger brother“, proving the hidden procedural nature of some of its norms.

This paper gives a brief overview of the position of victim in collecting evidence for the criminal act of extortion (article 214. of CC). Proving extortion is often followed by difficulties, having in mind that the perpetrators are particularly careful. Thus, the question is how to prove it, and protect the victim that is threatened with serious evil (such as with killing family members), in case when the perpetrator commits an extortion in the absence of other people, in non-public places, without sending written/electronic messages or use of other means of communications. The quest for solution is additionally complicating when we realize that the special investigative actions cannot be of help either. In article 162 of CPC, there is a list of criminal acts for which special investigative measures can be used in general jurisdiction, and extortion is also among these, but only paragraph 4 of the mentioned article, that relates to the cases when this act is committed by a professional extortionist or by a group. In other words, when someone obtains an amount of money over 1.500.000 dinars or when it is committed by an organized criminal group, the use of mentioned techniques would not be possible. Further on, we will examine the effect of article 132a./4 of earlier CPC (2001), in which it was possible to use as evidence the audio/video recording that was made without the consent of the suspect, if other person that is on the recording gave directly/implicitly consent for it. In new CPC (2011), this article is deleted.



The goal of this paper is finding the solution for successful proving of extortion in situation of apparent insufficiency of evidence, and therefore efficient protection of the victim. The main problem that appears is the transformation of objectively existing knowledge of the offense and the perpetrator into evidence material that will be used in the following process. I believe that the solution is in the hidden procedural nature of article 143./1-CC(unauthorized recording and eavesdropping), that forbids a person to use special devices for unauthorized recording of conversations that are not intended for that person. The victim in our case can make audio recording that will be used as evidence in the procedure. It is not banned for one to record a conversation with a person if that conversation is held toward the person that records, and that especially applies when the person is in such conversation is threatened or when one is the victim of criminal act. Main topics the author points out include: the difficulties in proving extortion, frequency of this criminal act, position and problems of the victims, and their efficient protection.

# POSTER PRESENTATIONS

## **Victims of terrorism**

***Branislav Urošević***

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There is a wide variety of definitions of terrorism, but nearly all agree that its main characteristic is forcing a state or an international organization to do something or to restrain itself from doing something, throughout the use of violent acts. The overall objective of this poster presentation is to draw attention to the victims of terrorism who, unlike the perpetrators of these criminal acts, are rarely paid sufficient attention. Therefore, in the presentation I will try to enlist the general characteristics of the victims of terrorism as well as the most prominent victimogenic factors. This will be done on the basis of the literature review and some statistical data, which is available at the website of South Asia terrorism portal, USA State Department and UK State Department. These data show the distribution of victims of terrorism by states or regions by the seriousness of the consequences that are suffered, and according to whether the victims were civilians, members of terrorist organizations, or members of the police and military forces.

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