



International Programme 2010

Public Announcement

The Fifth International Conference on UNITY AND PLURALITY IN EUROPE

Public Lecture NATIONALISM AND FUTURE OF BALKAN COUNTRIES

Guest Speakers: Ivo Banac, Sonja Biserko i Rusmir Mahmutćehajić

The 1st of August, 2010, at 21:00
Mostar, Hotel Bristol

The fifth International Conference on Unity and Plurality in Europe will include a public lecture on "Nationalism and Future of Balkan Countries". The lecture will be held on the 1st of August, 2010, at the Hotel Bristol in Mostar, to start at 21:00. Guest Speakers will be Ivo Banac, Sonja Biserko and Rusmir Mahmutćehajić.

Current political conditions in the countries of South-eastern Europe cannot be explained without some understanding of the inception, development, and transformation of the various Balkan nationalisms. Current political life, with its unacceptable views, modes of behaviour, and social disorders and tensions, lacks the necessary understanding of the various nationalisms and the programmes they have informed ideologically. This lack of understanding includes a lack of insight into the irresponsibility of the elites both in terms of political organisations and of individuals. Many political phenomena exist which stand in the way of a better future.

Ivo Banac (Dubrovnik) is Emeritus Professor at the Department of History of Yale University (New Haven, Connecticut, USA). He is also Professor of History at Zagreb University's Faculty of Philosophy. He is the President of the Croatian Helsinki Committee on Human Rights. His publications include: *The National Question in Yugoslavia: Origins, History, Politics* (1984), *With Stalin against Tito: Cominformist Splits in Yugoslav Communism* (1989), and *Acta turcarum* (2006).

Sonja Biserko (Belgrade) is the head of the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia and a member of the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights. She has written and edited several books examining the collapse of Yugoslavia, war crimes, and the radicalization of Serbian society. Some of them are the following: *Radicalisation of the Serbian Society: collection of documents*, editor (1997), *Srebrenica: se souvenir pour l'avenir*, group of authors (2005), *Milošević vs Jugoslavija 1-2*, editor (2006), *Srebrenica - od poricanja do priznanja*, editor (2006).

Rusmir Mahmutćehajić (Sarajevo) is a professor of applied physics and Islamic phenomenology at the University of Sarajevo, and president of the International Forum Bosnae. His publications in English include: *Living Bosnia: Political Essays and Interviews* (Ljubljana: Oslobođenje International, 1995), *Bosnia the Good: Tolerance and Tradition* (Budapest/New York: Central European University Press, 2000), *The Denial of Bosnia* (Pennsylvania: The Pennsylvania State University Press, 2000), *Sarajevo Essays: Politics, Ideology and Tradition* (New York: State University of New York Press, 2003), *Learning from Bosnia: Approaching Tradition* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2005), *The Mosque: The Heart of Submission* (ibid., 2006), *On Love in the Muslim Tradition* (ibid., 2007).

The lecture is open to the public and will be in English with consecutive translation.

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