



INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

CHALLENGES OF MONITORING IN THE EUROPEAN MULTICULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

6-8 December 2023

Institute of Social Sciences,
Kraljice Natalije 45, Belgrade, Serbia



Academic Network
for Cooperation in
South East Europe



FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
FOR THE PROTECTION
OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

CONVENTION-CADRE
POUR LA PROTECTION
DES MINORITÉS NATIONALES

CHALLENGES OF MONITORING IN THE EUROPEAN MULTICULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 25th ANNIVERSARY
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

CHALLENGES OF MONITORING IN THE EUROPEAN MULTICULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

PROGRAMME, PEOPLE, IDEAS ...

Guide to the Conference



Academic Network
for Cooperation in
South East Europe



FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
FOR THE PROTECTION
OF NATIONAL MINORITIES

CONVENTION-CADRE
POUR LA PROTECTION
DES MINORITÉS NATIONALES

AGENDA

December 6

- 19:00 **Welcome Cocktail**
Human Rights House, Kneza Miloša 4
Organised by the European Centre for Minority Issues

December 7

○ 09.45 **OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE**

Moderator: Ognjen Pribičević, Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade
Goran BAŠIĆ, Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade
Elise CORNU, Division for National Minorities and Minority Languages,
Council of Europe
Brankica JANKOVIĆ, Commissioner for the Protection of Equality of
the Republic of Serbia
Tomislav ŽIGMANOV, Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and
Social Dialogue of the Government of the Republic of Serbia

○ 10:30 **NATIONALISM, POPULISM AND ETHNICITY: CHALLENGES OF CONTEMPORARY EUROPE**

Moderator: Dušan Janjić, Forum for Ethnic Relations, Belgrade
Siniša MALEŠEVIĆ, School of Sociology, University College Dublin
Dejan JOVIĆ, Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb
Aleksandra ĐURIĆ MILOVANOVIĆ, Institute for Balkan Studies SASA,
Belgrade
Vello PETTAI, European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg

● 13:30 **Lunch**

○ 15:00 **NATIONAL MINORITIES IN EUROPEAN POLICIES OF MULTICULTURALISM**

Moderator: Sonja Novak Lukanović, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana
Goran BAŠIĆ, Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade
David J. SMITH, University of Glasgow & Member of the Advisory
Committee, Council of Europe
Tove H. MALLOY, European University, Flensburg and Roskilde
University
Andreea UDREA, School of Law and Social Sciences Royal Holloway,
University of London

- 20:00 **Dinner**
Restaurant Dvorište, Svetogorska 46

○ 10.00

FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES: 25 YEARS OF MAKING DIVERSITY MATTER

Moderator: Ružica Jakešević, Faculty of Political Science, Zagreb

Petra Roter, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana & President of the Advisory Committee, Council of Europe

Rainer Hofmann, Faculty of Law, Goethe University & Former President of the Advisory Committee, Council of Europe

Marie B. Hagsgård, Member of the Swedish Truth Commission for the Sami People, Stockholm & Former President of the Advisory Committee, Council of Europe

○ 12:00

CHALLENGES OF MULTICULTURALISM IN SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE AND THE ROLE OF MONITORING

Moderator: Marko Jovanović, Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade

Emma Lantschner, Centre for Southeast European Studies, University of Graz & Member of the Advisory Committee, Council of Europe

Patrick Simon, National Institute for Demographic Studies, Paris

Antonija Petričušić, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb

Marta Sjeničić, Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade

● 14.00

Lunch

○ 15:30

DISCUSSION ON THE THEMATIC MONOGRAPH: EFFECTS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF FRAMEWORK CONVENTION IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE POST-YUGOSLAV AREA

Moderator: Ksenija Marković, Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade

Melina Grizo, Faculty of Law „Iustinianus Primus“, University Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje

Siniša Tatalović, Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb

Mitja Žagar, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana

Ljubica Đorđević, European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg

The authors of the papers also participate in the discussion: Danijela Vuković Čalasan (Faculty of Political Sciences, Podgorica); Sonja Novak Lukanović & Miran Komac (Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana); Nermina Mujagić & Samir Forić (Faculty of Political Sciences, Sarajevo); Ružica Jakešević & Siniša Tatalović (Faculty of Political Science, Zagreb); Milica Joković Pantelić & Ivana Stjelja (Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade); Ruben Zemon (Centre for Advanced Researches, Skopje); Petar Antić (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Belgrade)

○ 18.00

CONCLUSIONS

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Goran Bašić

Alan Phillips

Petra Roter

Rainer Hofmann

Dejan Jović

Sonja Novak Lukanović

Marie B. Hagsgård

Rubin Zemon

Evis Alimehmeti

Nermina Mujagić

Patrick Simon

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Milica Joković Pantelić

Ivana Stjelja

Nataša Jevtić

Petar Antić

The international scientific conference titled Challenges of Monitoring in the European Multicultural Environment is dedicated to mark 25 years since the entry into force of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities of the Council of Europe. The conference was initiated by Goran Bašić, the Director of the Institute of Social Sciences and a former member of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention. It was supported by Elise Cornu, Head of the Division for National Minorities and Minority Languages of the Council of Europe and Petra Roter, President of the Advisory Committee to the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (ACFC).

The idea and the concept of the conference were welcomed by colleagues [Alan Phillips, Rainer Hofmann, Dejan Jović, Sonja Novak Lukanović, Marie B. Hagsgård, Rubin Zemon, Evis Alimehmeti, Nermina Mujagić, Patrick Simon, who together with Petra Roter and Goran Bašić formed the Programme Committee. Milica Joković Pantelić, Ivana Stjelja, Nataša Jevtić and Petar Antić provided the assistance in preparing of the conference.

The primary objective of the conference is to revisit the monitoring process under the Framework Convention and to stimulate new ideas in academic discourse on diversity management that contribute to a fairer, safer and more harmonious European society. Numerous challenges stand in the way of achieving these objectives. The multicultural paradigm, which is indeed a European reality, faces increasing obstacles. In this regard, the system for monitoring the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, protection of minority or regional languages, and anti-discrimination policies developed by the Council of Europe provide a strong foundation for protection and enhancing of the multicultural reality in Europe. The 25th anniversary of the entry into force of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities presents a very suitable occasion to reflect on the challenges to multiculturalism (nationalism, populism, stabilitocracy and many others), to assess perspectives and the current state of affairs,

and to offer ideas for a happier, fairer and more stable society where cultural differences are not a cause of misunderstandings, divisions and conflict.

In an effort to contribute to this idea, the collaborators of the Academic Network for Cooperation in Southeastern Europe (ANCSEE) have prepared a thematic monograph dedicated to the practices of multicultural policies in the post-Yugoslav region based on the monitoring of the Framework Convention. The idea for this monograph has been to serve as an additional tool for the members of the ACFC in the process of monitoring the protection of national minorities in this region. A careful reading of these texts suggests that despite good intentions and solutions, multicultural policies do not necessarily lead to societal integration and mutual understanding in diverse environments.

Jovan Jovic

IDEAS

I SESSION

**NATIONALISM, POPULISM
AND ETHNICITY:
CHALLENGES OF
CONTEMPORARY EUROPE**

Siniša MALEŠEVIĆ

School of Sociology
University College Dublin

In this presentation I will focus on the relationship between nationalism and cultural diversity in the European context. Nationalism is often perceived as a deviant belief system that runs counter to the prevailing globalist and cosmopolitan ethos of the contemporary world. In journalistic and some academic accounts, nationalism is regularly labelled as a relic of the nineteenth century. The recent nativist and far-right populist attacks on cultural diversity in Europe are often seen as an attempt to reverse the course of history. In this presentation, however, I challenge such views. I argue that nationalism is not a radical anomaly, but underpins the organisational, ideological and micro-interactional foundations of modernity. Therefore, the current incarnation of nationalist ideas and practises across Europe can only be properly understood when analysed through the historical prism of the *longue durée*. Such a historically rooted analysis shows that nationalism has not experienced a sudden rise but has been continually expanding over the last two centuries. The intensity and strength of nationalism in the modern era stems from the organisational and ideological dominance of the specific form of policy that maintains a hegemonic position in the contemporary world – the nation-state.

Dejan JOVIĆ

Faculty of Political Science
University of Zagreb

This presentation will address two challenges to European security and the stability of the European order – both of which are related to nationalism but not identical. These challenges are sovereigntism and ethno-nationalism. I shall provide a brief overview of both concepts and the resulting policies and then discuss them in the context of the political idea of European integration and the challenges it poses. Sovereigntism and ethno-nationalism pose challenges not only to the EU in today's Europe, but also to the current international order in Europe, which we can call EU integrationism. These challenges are supported by „external actors” who have an interest in disrupting the current international order in Europe. It is important to note that the two challenges we are discussing here are not limited to specific geographical regions such as „Europe outside the EU”. Rather, they are ideological and political concepts that are present throughout Europe (and at the global level).

Aleksandra ĐURIĆ MILOVANOVIC

Institute for Balkan Studies SASA, Belgrade

Minority communities are very often viewed through the lens of a single type of minority identity, especially an ethnic one. This view often poses a challenge to a more inclusive politics of multiculturalism. One important reason for this is the insufficient consideration of ethnic minority religious identity and the complex relationship between ethnic and religious identities in public discourse. Ethnic minorities are perceived as mono-confessional groups with an already “pre-defined” religious identity (Romanians as Orthodox, Hungarians as Catholics, Slovaks as Lutherans, Roma as Muslims, etc.). In the course of the 20th century, however, religious diversity has increased in various forms throughout Europe, leading to a more heterogeneous religious identity even within ethnic groups. Religious and ethnic minorities or dual minorities are examples of more complex forms of minority identities that are often overlooked in multicultural policies. This presentation will therefore contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the evolving forms of religious diversity among ethnic minorities in Europe and the place of ethno-religious minorities in multicultural politics.

Vello PETTAI

European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg

The challenge of nationalism for minority rights has been greatly compounded by the rise of populism in contemporary Europe. Not only have populist politicians taken hold of large swaths of political rhetoric and policy, they have also succeeded in putting together extensive political organizations that have achieved sustained electoral success and in some countries established durable power structures or even seized control of government and the state. All of this has added an extra layer of (di-)stress to minority protection since it means that populist nationalism will remain a powerful force continually stoking mistrust and uncertainty vis-a-vis minorities. To be sure, much of this populist focus is on immigrant minorities and refugees. However, the general tone of intolerance will grow, and this can not help but stymie further progress on minority protection even if it were possible to separate out national minorities. It will be difficult to combat the overall rise in populist nationalism because populism is also rooted in broader phenomena than simply diversity management and multiculturalism. But in addition to other tenets of democracy that are challenged by populism (rule of law, judicial independence, media freedom, gender equality, anti-corruption), minority rights will also inevitably be weakened by the populist surge. An unequivocal commitment to minority protection and equality remains essential in this difficult period.

II SESSION

**NATIONAL MINORITIES
IN EUROPEAN POLICIES
OF MULTICULTURALISM**

Goran BAŠIĆ

Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade

Against the backdrop of a multidisciplinary debate on the recognition of the identity, status and protection of the rights of national minorities, tensions between monoculturalists and multiculturalists continue to arise. In a liberal ideological environment, public space is supposed to be open to all, with ideas being the driving force of progress. However, monoculturalists' visions of progress differ significantly from those of multiculturalists, creating an open field for debate on the organisation of contemporary multicultural societies. While this debate is being conducted on a global scale, we will focus on its implications within European and Western political theory and social experience. Despite the multicultural theories that have been developed (e.g. by Kimlicka, Parekh and others), the monocultural ideal of understanding cultural differences does not seem to have been overcome in political life as well as in academic and social perspectives. Understanding the viewpoints of both multiculturalists and monoculturalists and finding ways to overcome the theories and practises of impenetrable cultural boundaries is one of the most subtle challenges of contemporary science and political practise.

David J. SMITH

University of Glasgow

Member of the Advisory Committee, Council of Europe

One key challenge raised by authors on multiculturalism relates to addressing what has been called the ‘dilemma of ethnocultural diversity’ or the ‘integrationist versus segregationist dichotomy’ – namely, how to build cohesive political communities that guarantee the right of full and effective equality between persons belonging to a national minority and those belonging to the majority whilst simultaneously promoting the conditions necessary for persons belonging to national minorities to maintain and develop their culture, and to preserve the essential elements of their identity. This challenge has been an especially salient feature of debates surrounding the theory and practice of cultural autonomy and minority self-government, modalities that have become an established feature of arrangements for diversity accommodation in many state parties to the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM). With this presentation, I seek to situate the concepts of cultural autonomy and minority self-government (as variously defined in different contexts) in relation to the FCNM and consider how different articles of the Convention (as well as other relevant international instruments) can serve as benchmarks for assessing the effectiveness of existing arrangements that are typically described using these labels.

Tove H. MALLOY

European University, Flensburg
Germany and Roskilde University, Denmark

Bilateral diplomatic action in multilateral minority rights monitoring can jeopardize both the legitimacy and the efficacy of such systems. Legitimacy is at risk when the tenets and values of an international agreement are overtly or covertly disrespected. Efficacy will decline when processes are laden with obstacles not authorized by the procedures of the agreement. The aim of multilateral monitoring is precisely to avoid that inter-state disputes on kin-minority issues escalate into conflicts. Experience from 19th and 20th century European history has shown that inter-state relations, especially with regard to national minorities and ethnic minorities in border regions, have given rise to broken promises of peace and resulting in violent military conflicts under the pretext of wishing to protect kin-minorities. Of course, bilateral diplomatic action is useful and necessary when it respects the tenets and values of international agreements. However, this is not always the case in the European system of minority rights monitoring. A key question to answer is, therefore, whether bilateral interventions in multilateral minority rights monitoring have positive or negative effects on the legitimacy and efficacy of multilateral monitoring.

To begin understanding these aspects, this paper will first explain how multilateralism became a vital tool in minority protection as a result of the many conflicts in the 19th and 20th centuries that involved minority persecution and violence against innocent ethnic groups. Next, a short discussion will provide insight into why states agree to co-operate in multilateral settings and how they balance bilateralism with multilateralism. The main part of the paper is based on the starting premise that there has been a surge in bilateral (counter)-interventions in multilateral minority rights monitoring since the beginning of monitoring in the late 1990s. On this basis, an overview of the approaches to monitoring by the Council of Europe and the European Union will be in focus. This will be confined to an examination of the ACFC's monitoring of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM) and the European Commission's monitoring of candidate countries in the latest enlargement processes.

Andreea UDREA

School of Law and Social Sciences, Royal Holloway
University of London

The proliferation and diversification of kin-state engagement in Europe in recent years has led to a growing divergence between the international norms and standards and political practice. In my presentation, I question the role of kin-state engagement for promoting liberal multiculturalism in the home-state. Focusing on varied kin-state practices, I am asking: 1) Has kin-state engagement helped to improve the living conditions of the ethnic kin in their respective home-states? and 2) Does kin-state engagement now remain consistent with the international norms and standards?

III SESSION

**FRAMEWORK
CONVENTION FOR
THE PROTECTION OF
NATIONAL MINORITIES:
25 YEARS OF MAKING
DIVERSITY MATTER**

Petra RÖTER

Faculty of Social Sciences, Ljubljana

President of the Advisory Committee, Council of Europe

The presentation will provide an overview of the context in which the FCNM, together with its Advisory Committee, has been implemented over the past 25 years. It will particularly address the current challenges related to the protection of minorities and dealing with ethnic diversity through minority rights. The presentation will cover the (geo)political, economic and social challenges and their impact on the conception of minorities, minority rights and their practical implementation.

Rainer HOFMANN

Faculty of Law, Goethe University
Former President of the Advisory Committee,
Council of Europe

The presentation will provide a critical analysis of some of the major problems in getting the monitoring machinery of the FCNM in place during 1998–2004. It will also compare the impact of the FCNM during the Wirst EU Eastern enlargement phase with the ongoing process; it will look more closely into the question to what extent the FCNM as applied by its monitoring organs has been and is used as an instrument for standard-setting in the context of identifying the contents of the Copenhagen criteria as regards issues of national minorities protection. Finally, it will explore the extent to which minority issues continue to impact on the overall security situation in Europe.

Marie B. HAGSGÅRD

Member of the Swedish Truth Commission for the Sami People,
Stockholm

Former President of the Advisory Committee,
Council of Europe

My presentation will provide an example of how follow-up meetings can be used in order to assist states and representatives of national minorities to find practical measures to implement the recommendations of the resolution of the Committee of Ministers. The focus of such follow-up meetings is to find practical measures that are both important to persons belonging to national minorities and feasible from the point of view of the authorities. If carefully prepared with the participation of states and representatives of national minorities, follow-up meetings can contribute to a more comprehensive implementation of FCNM rights in the respective state. Based on experience from 2018–2022 some ideas of how a member of the AC and a member from the secretariate can take part in the preparation of-and in the follow-up meeting to achieve this, will be presented.

IV SESSION

**CHALLENGES OF
MULTICULTURALISM
IN SEE AND THE ROLE
OF MONITORING**

Emma LANTSCHNER

Centre for Southeast European Studies, University of Graz
Member of the Advisory Committee, Council of Europe

The implementation of the FCNM's education provisions was an important part of the FCNM's monitoring. The objectives of education policy under the FCNM and the soft law jurisdiction of the ACFC are to ensure effective equality and access to quality education, to protect minority languages and cultures through education, and to promote intercultural contact and dialogue, thereby fostering an integrated society. European countries have taken different approaches to achieving these goals through education. Some South-Eastern European countries struggle with education systems that tend to allow majority and minority communities to drift further apart linguistically. This makes it difficult not only to implement various other language rights, but also to perceive educational institutions as a common social space. The problem of school segregation is still widespread and curricula and teaching materials still do not adequately reflect the social diversity and contribution of persons belonging to national minorities. The presentation will essentially outline how the ACFC has interpreted the education-related provisions of the FCNM and highlight the main challenges in the education systems of the SEE countries from this perspective.

Patrick SIMON

National Institute for Demographic Studies, Paris

Data for minorities: The challenge of statistics. There is an increasing pressure to collect data on ethnic minorities for different purposes: representing the ethnic diversity of populations; implementing equality policies; providing access to rights and empowerment of national minorities. The communication will put in perspectives the need for ethnic data expressed in the context of the Framework Convention and address legal, political and methodological challenges that hinder data collection and use in Europe.

Antonija PETRIČUŠIĆ

Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb

Gender equality in national minority communities has only recently become a topic of interest to the academic and professional public (Rubio-Marín and Will Kymlicka, 2018), despite the fact that women and men, including persons belonging to national minorities, have different living conditions and circumstances. In terms of access to opportunities, resources and positions of power, women and girls are the least advantaged group among persons belonging to national minorities in many societies. These intertwined patterns of inequality based on gender and ethnicity therefore further increase the risk of social exclusion and marginalisation of women and girls belonging to national minorities. Moreover, women belonging to national minorities are often excluded from participating in public life due to their multiple marginalised identities (Leibbrand, 2020). This presentation will examine the extent to which the Advisory Committee addresses issues of equality for persons belonging to national minorities in South Eastern European countries in its opinions from the fifth monitoring cycle.

Marta SJENIČIĆ

Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade

The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities establishes the obligation of the “parties to undertake to adopt, where necessary, adequate measures in order to promote, in all areas of economic, social, political and cultural life, full and effective equality between persons belonging to a national minority and those belonging to the majority. In this respect, they shall take due account of the specific conditions of the persons belonging to national minorities”. In order to be able to take due account of the specific conditions, relevant data on minorities should be collected. Currently, there is a notable lack of data on the social inclusion of the Roma population and of data collection methodologies rooted in a human rights approach. The experience of Serbia in 2022 and before has shown how this data gap has hindered the implementation of Roma inclusion strategies. For instance, the ‘Strategy for Social Inclusion of Roma Men and Women in the Republic of Serbia’ for the period 2022-2030 followed two previous strategies addressing the status of the Roma community in the RS, dating from 2009 and 2016. In 2021, the Institute of Social Sciences developed a monitoring methodology to track strategic actions on a daily basis, from local communities across Serbia to higher levels of government. This methodology has been digitised and provides human rights-based indicators and verifiable evidence for each activity and action. It is structured around the actions outlined in the strategy, identifies responsible bodies, asks key questions and sets indicators for implementation. For example, the implementation of the social rights measures outlined in the Strategy and its monitoring tool involves a wide range of responsible bodies, including local municipalities, social work centres, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Local Government, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and the Republic Institute for Social Protection. A similar diversity of responsible bodies exists for all other sectors, e.g. health, education, etc. As the methodology has been successfully digitised, there are no longer any professional or technical barriers to its introduction and implementation. This paves the way for a solid foundation for further measures aimed at the social inclusion of the Roma population.

V SESSION

**DISCUSSION ON THE
THEMATIC MONOGRAPH:
EFFECTS OF
IMPLEMENTATION
OF FCNM IN THE
COUNTRIES OF THE
POST-YUGOSLAV AREA**

Melina GRIZO

Faculty of Law „Iustinianus Primus“
University Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje

This presentation aims to share the findings of a paper included in the Collection of Works Resulting from the 'Conference on the 25th Anniversary of the FCNM', which occurred in Ulcinj, Montenegro in June 2023. The paper examines various sources of international law on the protection of minority rights, including those within the UN and OSCE frameworks, with a focus on the FCNM of the Council of Europe. The analysis focuses primarily on the interpretation of the principles on the protection of minority rights in the practise of the Advisory Committee. In addition, it examines specific aspects of minority rights regulated in the FCNM that are of particular relevance to the Western Balkans. The presentation also outlines possible directions for the future development of minority protection in this region, which could become more important in the future.

Siniša TATALOVIĆ & Ružica JAKEŠEVIĆ

Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb

The ratification of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (1997) in Croatia marked the beginning of a profusion of models for the protection of national minorities based on the principles of identity and integration. According to these principles, persons belonging to national minorities were expected to integrate into Croatian society as equal citizens while also having the opportunity to preserve and develop their minority identities. The Convention served as the foundation for the subsequent adoption of the Constitutional Law on National Minorities' Rights (2002) and the Laws on the Official Use of the Language and Script of National Minorities, as well as the Law on Education in the Language and Script of National Minorities. The establishment of a normative framework for the protection of national minorities was an essential prerequisite for Croatia's European and Euro-Atlantic integration processes. The Framework Convention played a significant role as an international instrument for monitoring the realization of minority rights. National reports on the implementation of the Framework Convention played a crucial role in providing in-depth insights into the exercise of minority rights and facilitating public discussion on this subject. Both the Framework Convention and national legislation in Croatia enabled a high level of participation of national minorities in decision-making processes at all levels of government and the establishment of minority institutions dedicated to the preservation and development of their identities. In this regard, the representatives of national minorities in the Croatian Parliament, councils, and the representatives of national minorities, as well as the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Croatia, played important roles.

Mitja ŽAGAR

Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana

The effective regulation and management of relevant social differences, including ethnic diversity, is critical to maintaining long-term peace and stability in competitive pluralistic and internally diverse societies. The protection of the rights of various social minorities is a crucial component and an important tool for the successful regulation and management of this diversity. In the traditionally ethnically diverse societies of the Balkans, the regulation and practise of the rights and protection of ethnic and national minorities is of particular importance. The Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM) provides the framework and international standards for minority protection in Europe and sets out the monitoring process. This regulatory framework and standards have significantly influenced the constitutional and legal regulation of minority rights and protection in the Balkans. Originally, this legally binding international instrument was intended primarily for the traditional national minorities in the member states, as can be seen from the title and the states' declarations and reservations during the ratification process. Nevertheless, the Advisory Committee, with the support of some non-governmental organisations and scholars, has attempted to broaden the scope through its practise, interpretations, comments and opinions (by including other minorities/diverse communities), despite the reservations of some states. This practise, considered radical by some, has brought both progress and challenges to minority protection. It therefore deserves critical review and evaluation.

Ljubica ĐORĐEVIĆ

European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg

The impact of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM) on the quality of minority protection in the States parties largely results from the monitoring activities of the Advisory Committee. While the overall impact of the FCNM and monitoring can be considered positive, a closer look also reveals some dynamics that are flawed. In some cases, states only formally address issues without really committing to practical implementation. Moreover, some issues remain stubbornly unresolved, either because of their 'sensitive' nature in the specific national context or because of diverging positions of the State and the Advisory Committee. This contributes to the impression of 'monitoring fatigue' and diminishes the image of the FCNM as an effective instrument of minority protection.

The aim of the presentation is to scrutinise the monitoring by the Advisory Committee and to highlight some general trends and tendencies in the implementation of the FCNM in the post-Yugoslav space. In this sense, the presentation will shed light on the impact of the FCNM on the quality of minority protection in the region.

PARTICIPANTS

ALIMEHMETI Evis

Faculty of Law, University of Tirana, Albania

Evis Alimehmeti is a professor of law and researcher at the Faculty of Law, University of Tirana. Her academic and research profiles include public law and international human rights law. Her research extends to both civil law and common law systems. She holds a Doctorate degree in the law from the University of Tirana in the field of the law of the European Convention on Human Rights, a Master of Laws (LLM) degree from Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada and a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) degree from Open University, London UK, a joint degree with Central European University, Hungary in human rights studies. During 2009–2016, she also served as the Head of the Public Law Department of the Faculty of Law, University of Tirana. In addition to the academic background, she has a long counselling experience on issues related to human rights and rule of law with several international organizations and foreign assistance programs; she has provided expertise for many years to the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), USAID Rule of Law Program for Albania, United Nation Development Program in Albania (UNDP), International Organisation for Migration (IOM), etc. From 2018 to 2022 she was a member of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities of the Council of Europe and served also as a Gender Equality Rapporteur of the Committee.

(Source: EU Agency for Fundamental Rights)

ANTIĆ Petar

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ),
Belgrade, Serbia

Human Rights Expert with 24 years of experience in project management, civil society, government and international organizations, involved in various topics including minority rights, discrimination, torture, rights of suspects and accused, data protection, free legal aid and reporting on human rights violations. Specialized expertise in: project development and implementation, results based monitoring and evaluation, legislative review, capacity building of government and civil society sectors, donor relations skilled in government, humanitarian, international relations, fundraising, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Strong professional with a LL.M. focused in International Human Rights Law from University of Essex.

(Source: Personal)

BAŠIĆ Goran

Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia

Scientific Advisor and Director of the Institute of Social Sciences in Belgrade. He has devoted his academic career to the study of ethnicity and multiculturalism. He taught the courses Political Theory and Theories of Multiculturalism at the Faculty of European Law and Political Science, Singidunum University. For more than thirty years he was the Scientific Secretary of the Committee for National Minorities and Human Rights and the Committee for the Study of Roma Life and Customs at the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, and is the founder of the Ethnicity Research Centre (Belgrade) and the Academic Network for Cooperation in Southeast Europe. He was Deputy National Ombudsman and responsible for the rights of national minorities. He is a member of the General Assembly of European Sociological Research (ESS) and was a member of the Advisory Committee for the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities until 2022. He has published several books (Multikulturalizam i etnicitet, IDN, Belgrade, 2018; Multiculturalism in Public Policies, IDN Belgrade 2018; Political Action – Roma Movement, Čigoja, 2010; Iskušenja demokratije; ERC, 2006...) and about a hundred academic papers on multiculturalism and national minorities.

(Source: Institute of Social Sciences)

CORNU Elise

Division for National Minorities and Minority Languages,
Council of Europe

Elise Cornu is the Head of the Council of Europe Division of National Minorities and Minority Languages. She studied international law and holds a doctorate in law from the University of Strasbourg. She joined the Council of Europe in 2002 and worked in several departments before being nominated to her current position in May 2020.

(Source: Personal)

GRIZO Melina

Faculty of Law „Iustinianus Primus“, University Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje, North Macedonia

PhD, Faculty of Law, University of Strasbourg, France. Magister juris, Faculty of Law, University of Oxford, UK. Full-time Professor at the Faculty of Law “Justinianus Primus” University Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje. Professor Grizo works on EU law, minority rights and diplomatic history. In the past, she has served as a member of the Council of Europe’s Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

(Source: CoE)

HAGSGÅRD B. Marie

Swedish Truth Commission for the Sami People,
Stockholm, Sweden
Former President of the Advisory Committee,
Council of Europe

Member of the Swedish Truth Commission for the Sami People. Work as a consultant and expert of how the Swedish Minority Act should be applied by authorities in conformity with international rights of the Sami as an indigenous people and of the rights of national minorities. Secretary/Expert of five State Committees dealing with the rights of National minorities and the Sami People. The first one led to the Swedish ratification of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the beginning of a Swedish minority policy. Wrote the outline to the first Minority Act in Sweden. Former work as a judge.

(Source: Personal)

HOFMANN Rainer

University of Frankfurt, Germany
Former President of the Advisory Committee,
Council of Europe

Senior Professor for Public Law, Public International Law and European Law, Goethe University Frankfurt; President, German Association of International Law; Treasurer, International Law Association; former President of the Advisor Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (1998–2004, 2010–2012); former Member, Executive and Management Boards, EU Fundamental Rights Agency (2015–2020). Widely published on minority rights and possesses vast experience as an expert involved in domestic legislation on national minorities.

(Source: Personal)

JAKEŠEVIĆ Ružica

Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Ružica Jakešević, PhD, is Associate Professor at the Department of International Relations and Security Studies at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb. She is the author of the book “Croatia and UN Peacekeeping Operations” and a number of publications in the field of international relations, security studies, ethnic studies and minority rights. She actively participates in international academic conferences, schools and seminars, including those dealing with the rights of ethnic and national minorities. She is editor-in-chief of the academic yearbook Forum for Security Studies and Director of the Centre for International and Security Studies (Faculty of Political Science), which is the main organiser of the annual international academic conference “National Minorities, Migration and Security”. She has worked with many national and international institutions dealing with the rights of ethnic/national minorities, e.g. the Council of Europe, the OSCE, the EU, the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Croatia, the Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, as well as academic institutions and associations of national minorities. She is the coordinator (on behalf of the Faculty of Political Science) of the HORIZON EUROPE project LEGITIMULT (2022–2025), whose work package 4 focuses on legitimate crisis management in the context of human rights, minority rights and the principle of non-discrimination.

Her research focuses on security studies as a sub-discipline within international relations, theoretical approaches to security, traditional and contemporary security challenges, national security systems and policies, and their development in national and international contexts. She also explores the role of security mechanisms of global and regional international organisations and alliances in ensuring international security, as well as the security aspects of ethnic relations and migration processes.

(Source: Personal)

JANKOVIĆ Brankica

Commissioner for the Protection of Equality,
Belgrade, Serbia

Brankica Janković, master lawyer, was elected Commissioner for the Protection of a Equality of the Republic of Serbia for the first time in May 2015 and for the second time in November 2020 by the National Assembly. Prior to the election, she held the position of the State Secretary in the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Policy from 2012–2014 and was the Director of the Gerontology Centre Belgrade from 2006–2012. She was a secretary and teacher at the elementary and secondary school “Ruđer Bošković” in Belgrade and a producer and marketing director at RTV Politika and previously at RTV Yugoslavia. She graduated at the Faculty of Law of the University of Belgrade, completed her master studies at the Faculty of Law of the University of Novi Sad and is a doctoral student at the Faculty of Security in Belgrade. She speaks English and Russian.

Brankica Janković teaches in the Master’s program, subject Multicultural Social Work – Anti-discrimination Policies and Practices at the Faculty of Political Sciences in Belgrade, as well as at the Higher Security Studies of the School of National Defense of the Army of the Republic of Serbia, as a guest lecturer. She is a mentor with the Share Your Knowledge regional program organized by the European Movement in Serbia with the support of the OSCE Mission to the Republic of Serbia. She is a member of the editorial board of the professional journal “Social Thought”, chairperson of the editorial board of the magazine Current Affairs and deputy editor-in-chief of the professional journal Social Policy. She has been a member of the Gerontological Society of Serbia for the past 15 years, where she has been engaged in the protection of human rights of senior citizens; she is a volunteer with the Serbian Red Cross and honorary member of the Bel Hospice Club for Palliative Care. She was also a member of various professional and peer associations in the field of social protection, numerous humanitarian associations and foundations and the Ethics Committee of the Military Medical Academy. She was the initiator and member of several regional platforms for cooperation between women and human rights institutions. During her professional career, she participated in the

drafting of various national strategic and legal documents. She has published numerous professional papers and publications.

She was the national project director on a string of projects, especially specialized in the field of protection of women against violence – “Combating Sexual and Gender-Based Violence” and “Integrated Response to Violence against Women”; she was the national coordinator of the Working Group on Aging of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; the head of Chapter 19 negotiations team (Social Policy and Employment) in the EU accession negotiation process, chairperson of the Subcommittee on Implementation of the Stabilization and Association Agreement in the field of Research, Innovation, Information Society and Social Policy and member of the Political Council for the implementation of Resolution 1325 Women, Peace, Security. She chaired several Councils of the Government of the Republic of Serbia – for the aging of the population of persons with disabilities and rights of children, and she was also the National Focal Point for aging and head of several state delegations of the Republic of Serbia.

Brankica Janković was awarded several awards and recognition certificates, including “2018 Contribution of the Year to Europe” and the OSCE “2017 Person of the Year” award, the National Recognition for Contribution to the Development of Social Protection System awarded by the Social Protection Association of the Republic of Serbia, the “Petar Manojlović” award for contribution to the improvement of the position of the elderly and the “Golden Wheel” award for her efforts in the protection of human rights of the members of the Roma national minority, awarded by the National Council of Roma in Serbia.

(Source: Commission for the Protection of Equality web page)

JANJIĆ Dušan

Forum for Ethnic Relations, Belgrade, Serbia

Retired Scientific Advisor, formerly at the Institute of Social Sciences. He obtained his doctorate in 1987 with a thesis titled 'Determination of the Nation: Analysis of Constitutive Elements, Definition of the Nation, and an Attempt at a Synthetic Determination of the Nation' from the Faculty of Law at the University of Belgrade. His primary areas of scientific interest include the theory of ethnicity and the state, democratization and human security, and the management of ethnic conflicts and national minorities. He is the founder and director of the Forum for Ethnic Studies, one of the first civil society organizations in Serbia.

With over 150 publications, his works include books, articles, analyses, reports, such as 'Open Question of the Nation' (Belgrade, 1980), 'Dictionary of Nationalists' (Belgrade, 1986 and 1988), 'State and Nation' (Zagreb, 1988), 'Nation, What Is It?' (Belgrade, 1993), 'Serbia Between the Past and the Future' (Belgrade, 1995 and 1997), 'Ethnic Conflicts in a Multi-Ethnic Society' (Norrköping, 2002), 'Kosovo Between Conflict and Dialogue' (both Serbian and English editions, 2003 and 2004), and 'Essays on Kosovo' (Belgrade, 2007), among others.

(Source: Institute of Social Sciences)

JOKOVIĆ PANTELIĆ Milica

Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia

Milica Joković Pantelić is a Research Associate at the Institute of Social Sciences in Belgrade and Deputy Head of the Centre for Political Research and Public Opinion. She served as the co-editor of the scientific panel on multiculturalism at the Academic Network for Cooperation in South East Europe from November 2021 to January 2023. She worked at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade, as a teaching assistant and teaching associate in several courses in the field of political and sociological studies (Political Anthropology, Sociology, Media Ethics, Political Power, Institutions and Corruption, and Moral and Politics). At the Faculty of Political Sciences she defended her doctoral dissertation „Influence of Tradition on the Formation of Corruptive Behaviour Pattern in Serbia – Anthropological, Cultural and Political Approach“. Her main fields of research are: National Minorities, Corruption, Social Ethics, and Political Culture.

(Source: Personal)

JOVANOVIĆ Marko

Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia

He completed his basic academic studies at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philology, (Group for Arabic Language, Literature and Culture). He completed his doctoral academic studies at the same faculty on the topic of bilingualism of national minorities in educational policies in Serbia. In addition, he is currently enrolled in doctoral academic studies at the Faculty of Iranology at Shahid Baheshti University in Tehran. His interests include various areas of Orientalism, Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies. He has made scholarly contributions by presenting at numerous academic conferences in both domestic and international settings in the country and abroad at reputable universities and institutes, such as the University of Cambridge, the University of Chicago, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Yerevan. He published papers in Serbian, English and Persian.

(Source: Institute of Social Sciences)

JOVIĆ Dejan

Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Full-time professor at the Faculty of Political Science at the University of Zagreb. He completed his master studies at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia and the University of Manchester in England in 1994 and Ph.D. studies at the London School of Economics and Political Science in 1999. At the LSE Jović defended his doctoral thesis titled *The Breakdown of Elite Ideological Consensus: The Prelude to the Disintegration of Yugoslavia (1974–1990)*. Dejan Jović is a specialist in Yugoslav and post-Yugoslav politics as well as foreign policies and theories of international relations. On May 21, 2021, Jović was elected as a member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. From 2012 to 2020, Jović served as the editor-in-chief of the *Croatian Political Science Review*, one of the leading academic journals of political science and social science in Southeast Europe. He is also one of the founders and editor-in-chief of the peer reviewed journal *Tragovi: Journal for Serbian and Croatian Topics* published by the Serb National Council and the Archive of Serbs in Croatia. The most important publications: *Rat i mit: Politika identiteta u suvremenoj Hrvatskoj* (English: *War and Myth: The Politics of Identity in Contemporary Croatia*). Zaprešić: Fraktura. 2017; *Yugoslavia: A State that Withered Away*. West Lafayette, Indiana, United States: Purdue University Press. 2009; *Jugoslavija - država koja je odumrla* (English: *Yugoslavia: A State that Withered Away*). Zagreb & Belgrade: Prometej & Samizdat B92. 2003.

(Source: Wikipedia)

KOMAC Miran

Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Dr Miran Komac is a retired researcher at the Institute for Ethnic Studies in Ljubljana. He was its director in 1989–1992 and 2009–2010. He is also a retired professor at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences, and still active in the interdisciplinary PhD programme in Humanities and Social Sciences; course – Interethnic Relations. His research interests include the Slovenian minority in Italy (1945–55) and models for the protection of the rights of ethnic minorities in Slovenia, especially historical or autochthonous minorities. The results of his research projects have been published in numerous publications. See for example: KOMAC, Miran, *The Protection of Ethnic Communities in the Republic of Slovenia: Vademecum*. Ljubljana: Institute for Ethnic Studies, 1999.

Komac devoted special scientific interest to the protection of the Roma minority. He focused his research on problems of education, political representation of members of the Roma minority and increasing social capital. The tragic history of the Slovenian Roma community during the Second World War (*porajmos/samudaripen*) is also on his research agenda. In 2010–2013 he led a very important EU project entitled *The Increase in Social and Cultural Capital in Areas with a Roma Population*.

For more information, see his publications, including:

KOMAC, Miran, BARLE LAKOTA, Andreja. *Breaking the Glass Ceiling: the Case of the Roma Ethnic Minority in Slovenia*. Dve domovini : razprave o izseljenstvu. 2015.

KOMAC, Miran. *Mapping the Roma Ethnic Minority: a Path to a Roma Ghetto or a Development Opportunity? Teorija in praksa : revija za družbena vprašanja*. 2015.

(Source: Personal)

LANTSCHNER Emma

Centre for Southeast European Studies,
University of Graz, Austria
Member of the Advisory Committee, Council of Europe

Emma Lantschner is an Associate Professor at the Centre for Southeast European Studies at the University of Graz. Her research and teaching focuses on the protection of national minorities and the right to equality and non-discrimination. She co-edited and co-authored commentaries on the FCNM as well as on the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), published a monograph on EU equality law and numerous articles related to minority rights. Before coming to the University of Graz, she worked as a research assistant at the Institute for Minority Rights of EURAC Research in Bolzano/South Tyrol. She has worked as an expert on minority issues for the OSCE and the European Commission. She is currently the Italian member and Vice-President of the Advisory Committee of the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

(Source: Personal)

MALEŠEVIĆ Siniša

University College, Dublin, Ireland

Siniša Malešević is Full Professor and Chair of Sociology at the University of Dublin and Senior Fellow at CNAM in Paris, France. He is an elected member of the Royal Irish Academy and the Academia Europaea. His recent books include *Why Humans Fight: The Social Dynamics of Close-Range Violence* (Cambridge University Press, 2022), *Grounded Nationalisms: A Sociological Analysis* (Cambridge University Press, 2019, Second Place/Honourable Mention in the 2020 Stein Rokkan Book Prize 2020, The Rise of Organised Brutality: A Historical Sociology of Violence (Cambridge University Press, 2017, American Sociological Association PWSC outstanding book award 2018). He has also authored over 120 journal articles and book chapters and 9 edited volumes. His work has been translated into 13 languages.

(Source: Personal)

MALLOY Tove H.

European University, Flensburg, Germany
Germany and Roskilde University, Denmark

Tove H. Malloy is Professor of European Studies at the Europa-Universität Flensburg, Germany and External Lecturer at Roskilde University, Denmark. She formerly served as the Director of the European Centre for Minority Issues in Flensburg, Germany and has been a member of the Council of Europe's Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities for which she was elected Gender Equality Rapporteur (2011-2018). With a background in political theory, she specialises in the political and legal aspects of national and ethnic minority rights in international relations and international law, especially in the European context. She is the author of *National Minority Rights in Europe* (OUP, 2005) and has co-edited a number of volumes on minority rights protection and non-territorial autonomy as well as two textbooks. She serves as consultant with the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute. She holds a PhD in Government from Essex University, UK.

(Source: Personal)

MARKOVIĆ Ksenija

Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia

Research Associate at the Institute of Social Sciences in Belgrade. In her previous academic work, Ksenija Marković has shown great interest in the study of ethnically divided societies, interethnic relations, party systems, democratisation processes and state building. She has participated in international and national conferences dealing with multiculturalism, the rights and position of national minorities in post-conflict areas and has published several important articles in various collections. Some of the articles are: The influence of National Minority Political Parties on Cultural Autonomy in the Republic of Serbia. In: Forum za sigurnosne studije, 4/5. (2021). ISSN 2459-6639; Territorial or Cultural Autonomy for National Minorities? A Case Study of Serbia. In: The Rights of National Minorities in the Constitutional System of the Republic of Serbia: SANU, 2019. Kosovo and Metohija or the European Union – a Rhetorical Dilemma in Serbian Political Discourse. Serbian Political Thought, 66 (4), (2019) ISSN 1450-5460. She has also been a member of project teams and participated in the implementation of several empirical studies and research. Some of the most important of these are: Social Relations between Ethnic Communities in Serbia (2020), Opinion research “Serbia between EU and Russia (2018)”, Opinion Research “Populism – Causes and Consequences”. In addition to participating in various conferences, she has given several lectures on the topic of integration policy and the position of national minorities. She is a member of the Academic Network for Cooperation in South-Eastern Europe.

(Source: Personal)

MUJAGIĆ Nermina

Faculty of Political Sciences, Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina

She received her doctorate from the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of Sarajevo. She completed her postdoctoral studies at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Ljubljana, Department of Cultural Studies, researching the culture of conflicts, in connection with the conflict over the Gulf of Piran between Croatia and Slovenia. She was elected full professor in 2017. Notably, she was awarded a Fulbright scholarship, which she utilized during the 2019/2020 academic year for teaching positions at Wittenberg University and Antioch College in Ohio, USA. At both institutions, she taught the course 'Political Conflicts in the Balkans' and conducted research as part of her Fulbright project, titled 'The Understanding of Constitutional Narratives: A Comparison between the American and Bosnian-Herzegovinian Systems of Political Representation.' The fields of her research are: social and political conflicts, mythology, culture of human rights and civil society, civic virtues, media and democratization of the public sphere. She is the author of the following books: 'Pluralism: Analyses and New Theories on the Relationship Between State, Citizens, and Society' (Faculty of Political Sciences, Sarajevo, 2017), 'Politics as a Spectacle: Casting a Net in the Neighbor's Pond' (Heinrich Böll Stiftung BiH, Sarajevo, 2013), 'The Silent Speech of Bosnia' (Heinrich Böll Stiftung BiH, Sarajevo, 2010), and 'Beyond Politics' (Faculty of Political Sciences, Sarajevo, 2007), among others.

(Source: Faculty of Political Sciences, Sarajevo)

NOVAK LUKANOVIĆ Sonja

Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Degree from the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana (UL), Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures and Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. M.A. degree from the Department of Romance Languages, Faculty of Philosophy, UL, with the following thesis: Cultural Creativity of Members of the Italian Ethnic Group. PhD in Linguistics at the Faculty of Arts, UL, with the thesis: Language Accommodation in the Ethnically Mixed Regions of Slovenia. Since 2010, Director of the Institute for Ethnic Studies and Full Professor of Applied Linguistics at the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana.

The research area is ethnically mixed regions in Slovenia, including border regions. Research topics include applied linguistics with a special focus on sociolinguistic topics dealing with social and linguistic processes in areas of language contact. Within the framework of basic and applied projects, special attention is paid to language policy and language ideologies, the status of languages in multicultural contact areas, the relationship between minority and majority languages, language adaptation strategies, the links between language and individual identity, the importance of speakers' attitudes towards language/languages, bilingual education and the economic aspect of language. As part of the basic research project Language and the Economy (2008–2011) and the project Institutional Bilingualism in Ethnically Mixed Areas in Slovenia: Evaluation of Bilingualism Bonus Programme (2018–2022), which she led, she conducted pioneering research in Slovenia investigating the relationship between language and economic variables in various ethnically mixed and homogeneous areas.

(Source: Personal)

PETTAI Vello

European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg, Germany

Vello Pettai serves as the Director of ECMI. Before joining the Centre in March 2020, he was Professor of Comparative Politics at the University of Tartu, where he worked for over 20 years. From 1997 to 1999, he was Advisor to the Estonian President on minority issues. He has published widely on ethnic politics in the Baltic States, including language issues, citizenship, education and transitional justice. He received his MA and PhD in political science from Columbia University. He has studied or conducted research at Sciences Po Paris, the European University Institute in Florence, Friedrich Schiller University Jena and Leuphana University Lüneburg.

(Source: Personal)

PETRIČUŠIĆ Antonija

Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Antonija Petričušić is an Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia. She is also a Visiting Professor and member of the International Academic Council of the European Regional Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights in South East Europe. In the academic year 2022/23, she was honoured as a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the University of Minnesota Law School, where she taught on the international human rights of women. From 2018 to 2022, she was an expert on the Council of Europe Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities in relation to Croatia and a member of the Human Rights Council of the Croatian Ombudsperson.

(Source: Personal)

PHILLIPS Alan

Alan Phillips was elected to the Council of Europe's Advisory Committee (AC) on FCNM in 1998 as the UK's nominated expert, where he served from 1998 to 2002 and was re-elected from 2006 to 2010. During the first mandate, he was elected First Vice-President by the AC for two consecutive two-year terms. He was then elected Chair of the Advisory Committee in 2006 and 2008. His professional career began as a systems analyst. In 1970, he graduated in physics from the University of Warwick. In 1973 he was appointed Secretary General of the World University Service (UK), an international education development agency that administers major scholarship programmes for refugees both in the UK and worldwide. In 1982, he was appointed Deputy Director of the new British Refugee Council, where he managed major education, training and settlement programmes for refugees until 1989. In 1989, Alan Phillips moved into the field of minority rights when he was appointed Director of Minority Rights Group International (MRGI), an international human rights organisation based in London. In 1998, he was awarded the CMG in the Queen's Honours List for his services to human rights. In 2001, Alan Phillips retired from MRGI to work as an international human rights consultant advising intergovernmental bodies, governments and non-governmental organisations on minority policies and programmes, often focusing on the Balkans and Roma issues.

PRIBIĆEVIĆ Ognjen

Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia

Since 1992, he has been working at the Institute of Social Sciences. Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany from 2005 to 2009 and to Great Britain from 2013 to 2017. He held the position of Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2004 to 2005. He engaged in scientific research at the universities of Oxford in 1992, 1995 and 1998, in Pittsburgh in 1994, and at the Institute of Social Sciences, Vienna in 1996. With scientific contributions, he participated in numerous academic conferences and seminars both in his home country and abroad and held a large number of lectures at the world's most prestigious universities and institutes in Princeton, Pittsburgh, Colorado, Seattle, New York, Oxford, Geneva, Paris, Vienna, Heidelberg, Munich, etc. Co-author of fifteen books and collections. Published more than 40 scientific papers. In addition to Serbia, his scientific works were published in fourteen other countries, including the USA, the UK, Germany, Austria, Poland, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Hungary, Switzerland, Norway, etc. As a political analyst, Dr. Pribićević has given interviews or been quoted in a large number of print and electronic media including The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, The Washington Post, CNN, BBC, The Daily Telegraph, The Independent, Financial Times, La Repubblica, Le Mond, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, etc.

(Source: Institute of Social Sciences)

ROTER Petra

Faculty of Social Sciences, Ljubljana, Slovenia

President of the Advisory Committee, Council of Europe ACFC

Petra Roter is a Professor of International Relations at the University of Ljubljana and holds a Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge. She currently serves as the National Director for the European Master in Human Rights and Democratisation (Venice). In 2022, when she began her second term in the Advisory Committee, she was elected as the President of the Advisory Committee – the position she held also between 2016 and 2018, after serving as the Advisory Committee's First Vice President between 2014 and 2016.

(Source: Personal)

SIMON Patrick

National Institute for Demographic Studies, Paris, France

Patrick Simon currently serves as the Director of Research at INED (Institut National d'Études Démographiques –National demographic institute) (F), and is Fellow Researcher at the Centre de Recherche sur les Inégalités Sociales (CRIS) at Sciences Po. He is studying racism and ethno-racial and religious discrimination, anti-discrimination policies, ethnic classification and the integration of ethnic minorities in European countries and in North America. He is co-coordinating the survey Trajectories and Origins conducted in 2019–2020 by INED and ISEE. He is co-chairing the Standing Committee RACED (Race, Racism and Discrimination) within Imiscoe network and co-chairing the master program Migrations (Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne and EHESS) at the Institute for Migrations.

He has also edited several notable works, including 'Accounting for Ethnic and Racial Diversity: The Challenge of Enumeration' (2013), co-edited with Victor Piché, 'Trajectories and Origins: Survey on the Diversity of the Population in France' (2018), co-edited with C. Beauchemin and C. Hamel, and 'Migration and Discrimination' (2021), co-edited with R. Fibbi and A. Midtboen, which is part of the Imiscoe short reader series, published by Springer.

(Source: Personal)

SJENIČIĆ Marta

Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia

Principal Research Fellow and Head of the Centre for Legal Research at the Institute of Social Sciences, where she has been actively involved in medical law research for almost three decades. She is also President of the Association of Lawyers for Medical and Health Law in Serbia and a member of the European Association for Health Law. Throughout her career, she has been involved in numerous nationally and internationally funded projects in the field of health and social care. She has paid particular attention to projects targeting vulnerable groups such as: Roma population, patients, elderly people, migrants, people with disabilities, children, etc. For over a decade, Dr. Sjeničić has dedicated her work to social inclusion and deinstitutionalisation. Her recent projects include: "Supporting the Work of Roma Health Mediators-Monitoring and Training", "Inclusion of Roma and other Marginalized Groups: Support to the Establishment of an Efficient System for Monitoring the Implementation of the Roma Social Inclusion Strategy in the Republic of Serbia", "Third Health Programme: Improving Access to Health and Related Social Services to Those Left Behind", "Implementation of the WHO Project on Adults with Mental Disabilities Living in Institutions in the European Region", "Supporting Modernization and De-Institutionalization of Social Services", "Strategy of Deinstitutionalization and Development of Social Services in the Community 2021–2026", "Inclusion of Roma and Other Marginalized Groups': Training of Health and Social Professionals", etc. Dr Sjeničić is the author or co-author of several articles and books on the topic of vulnerable groups.

(Source: Institute of Social Sciences)

SMITH J. David

University of Glasgow, Scotland

Member of the Advisory Committee, Council of Europe

Professor – Alec Nove Chair in East European Studies and Editor of *Europe-Asia Studies* at the University of Glasgow. Since 2022, Member of the Advisory Committee on the Council of Europe Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities in respect of the UK. Has published extensively on nationalism, ethnic politics, and national minority issues in Central and Eastern Europe and the former USSR and led two large research projects on non-territorial autonomy. Core Management Group Member of ENTAN COST Action (2019–23). Head of Central and East European Studies at Glasgow (2009–12 & 2014–15) Co-Director of the Language-Based Area Studies Centre of Excellence in Russian and Central and East European Studies (2006–09). PhD at Department of European Studies, University of Bradford (1997). Previous posts at Bradford (1996–2002) and Uppsala University (IRES Visiting Fellow, 2012–14). Docent at the University of Turku since 2012.

(Source: Personal)

STJELJA Ivana

Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade, Serbia

Project Associate at the Institute of Social Sciences in Belgrade. She holds a BA degree in International Law and an MA degree in Administrative Law from the Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade. She defended her PhD thesis in 2023 at the Faculty of Law of the Union University and conducted part of her PhD research at the Free University of Berlin. Her main interests and research areas are human and minority rights, anti-discrimination law and environmental law, in particular the right to a healthy environment as a human right and environmental rights of vulnerable groups. She has coordinated the implementation of numerous research projects on human and minority rights and has published several articles in academic journals, such as I. Stjelja (2022) Environmental Justice for Minorities – a Comparative Perspective in: *Anthropology*, 22(3) and G. Basic, I. Stjelja (2021) Discrimination of Roma Identity in Serbia in: *Pravni zapisi*. Ivana has also participated in several national and international academic conferences on human and minority rights.

(Source: Personal)

TATALOVIĆ Siniša

Faculty of Political Science, Zagreb, Croatia

Siniša Tatalović, PhD, is a Full Professor at the Faculty of Political Science at the University of Zagreb, where he graduated in 1982, received his Master's degree in 1985 and his PhD in 1994. At the Faculty of Political Science, he was Associate Dean (1999–2002), Head of the MA programme in Political Science (2008–2012), Head of the Centre for International and Security Studies (2006–2016) and Head of the Department of International Relations and Security Studies (2016–2020). From 2005 to 2015, he was Advisor to the President of the Republic of Croatia, before that he was Vice-President of the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Croatia.

He is the author of numerous professional and scientific articles and several books, including "National and International Security" (2006); "Ethnic Conflicts and Global Security" (2010), "National Minorities in Croatia – Politics, Education and Culture" (2022). From 2001 to 2005, he was a visiting professor at the University of Ljubljana and since 2010, he has been a visiting professor at the University of Belgrade.

His research background is in international relations and security studies. In this context, he focuses in particular on security policies, security systems, contemporary migration, ethnic conflict resolution policies and the rights of national minorities. He is the founder and head of the international scientific advisory board of the annual international scientific conference "National Minorities, Migration and Security", which has been held since 1997.

(Source: Personal)

UDREA Andreea

School of Law and Social Sciences, Royal Holloway University of London, United Kingdom

Andreea Udrea is a Lecturer in Politics and IR at Royal Holloway, University of London. She also co-convenes with Professor David Smith the KINPOL Observatory on Kin-state Policies at the University of Glasgow. Her research and teaching reflect a joint interest in international politics and applied political theory focusing on kin-state – kin minorities relations, state responsibility, and identity in international politics. Recent publications include: (with Smith, D.) 'Minority Protection and Kin-state Engagement: *Karta Polaka* in a Comparative Perspective', 2021, *Ethnopolitics*; 'The Kin-state Policies of Hungary, Romania and Serbia in 2015: An Increasingly Centered Approach on Extraterritorial Citizenship', 2017, *European Yearbook of Minority Issues* 13; 'Kin-state Responsibility, Reparations, and Extraterritorial Citizenship: A Comparative Analysis of Romania's and Hungary's Legislation on Kin-minorities', 2015, in: T. Agarín & P. Karolewski (eds.) *Extraterritorial Citizenship in Postcommunist Europe*.

(Source: Personal)

VUKOVIĆ-ČALASAN Danijela

Faculty of Political Science, University of Montenegro,
Podgorica, Montenegro

Danijela Vuković-Čalasan is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Montenegro in Podgorica. She teaches courses on Political Theory, Political Culture, Globalization, Ethnicity and Ethnic Relations and Human Rights of Minority Groups. Her scientific field of interest includes minority rights, ethnic and national relations and identities, ethnocultural pluralism governing, antiromaism and globalization. Selected publications: *Ethnocultural Pluralism and Multiculturalism in Contemporary Montenegro – Lessons to Learn. Changing Societies & Personalities*; „Factors in National Self-Designation of Slavic Muslims in the Montenegrin Sandžak”. *East European Politics and Societies*; „Roma in the History of Montenegro: Displacement, Marginalization and Discrimination”. *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*; “Managing Ethnocultural Pluralism in Montenegro: Do We Need Interculturalism?”, *Revista de Științe Politice*; „Multiculturalism Policy in Montenegro”. In: Bašić, G., Žagar M., Tatalović, S. (eds.). *Multiculturalism in Public Policies*.

(Source: Personal)

ZEMON Rubin

Centre for Advanced Researches, Skopje, North Macedonia

Rubin Zemon Ph.D. is an ethnologist or socio-cultural anthropologist, Director of the Centre for Advanced Researches, born in Struga, Northern Macedonia. He received his PhD in 2005 from the Ethnographic Institute with Museum of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences in Sofia, Republic of Bulgaria. He worked as a Research Associate at the Institute for Social and Humanistic Research "Euro-Balkan" in Skopje and as a university professor at the University "St. Apostle Paul" in Ohrid. In 2016, he was appointed Director of the Institute for Social and Humanistic Research at the Euro-Balkan University in Skopje.

He has been repeatedly engaged as an expert and consultant by organisations such as the Council of Europe and OSCE/ODIHR, where he has worked on various missions, projects and issues related to national minorities and multiculturalism, especially in European countries with a focus on South-Eastern Europe. Since 2013, he has played a key role in organising the annual International Conference on Cultural Heritage, Tourism and Media as Chair of the Programme Committee. This event, traditionally held in Ohrid during Epiphany, attracts around 100 scholars and professionals from all over the world. In 2018, he assumed the role of Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia, focusing for the development of a multicultural society, interculturalism, and intercultural communications. In this capacity, he spearheaded the preparation of the government's National Strategy for the Development of the Concept of One Society and Interculturalism, making it the first such state strategy for interculturalism in Europe.

(Source: Personal)

ŽAGAR Mitja

Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Prof. Dr. Mitja Žagar is a Research Councillor at the Institute of Ethnic Studies (IES) and holds the position of Full Professor at the Universities of Ljubljana and Primorska/Littoral and at the New University. He is also a visiting professor and researcher at universities and research institutes in Europe, Africa, Australia and North America. He combines law, political science, diversity management, ethnology and minority studies, peace and conflict studies and works on human and minority rights, inclusion, integration, migration(s), ethnicity, multiculturalism/interculturalism, regulation and management of (social) diversity and conflict, governance, participation, democracy, transition(s), federalism, autonomy, citizenship, civic and lifelong learning, etc. He was Director of IES (1999–2007) and member of the Scientific Council of the Slovenian Research Agency (2015–2020). Prof. Dr. Žagar has provided his expertise as an expert, reviewer and evaluator for international organisations such as the United Nations, UNESCO, UNDP, Council of Europe, OSCE, Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, as well as for various agencies, institutions and non-governmental organisations in different countries, including the Balkans, Africa, Australia and North America. He has also worked with foundations, research institutions and evaluation agencies.

(Source: Personal)

ŽIGMANOV Tomislav

Ministry for Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue,
Government of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia

Minister for Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue in the Government of the Republic of Serbia. He graduated in philosophy from the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Novi Sad. Since 2015, he has been the President of the Democratic Union of Croats in Vojvodina. During the period from 2016 to 2020, he served as a Deputy in the National Assembly. He teaches the history of philosophy at the Theological and Catechetical Institute of the Diocese of Subotica. He has also served as a guest lecturer, delivering ten lectures at higher education institutions in both Serbia and Croatia. In the period from 1997 to 1998, he was the coordinator of education programs for civil society at the Open University in Subotica. He was responsible in the establishment of several key Croatian institutions in Subotica, serving as the first chief and responsible editor of the Croatian-language program of Radio Subotica from 1998 to 2000. He was one of the initiators and the first president of the Board of Directors of *Hrvatska riječ* from 2002 to 2004. Moreover, he held the position of the first director of the Institute for Culture of Vojvodina Croats from 2008 onward.

(Source: Government of Republic of Serbia)

ĐURIĆ-MILOVANOVIĆ Aleksandra

Institute for Balkan Studies SASA, Belgrade, Serbia

Aleksandra Djurić Milovanović, Ph.D., is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Balkan Studies of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Belgrade, Serbia and Project Coordinator of the Network for Dialogue in the KAICIID Europe Region Programme in Lisbon, Portugal. She is a working group leader of the EU-funded project COREnet COST action – Connecting Theory and Practical Issues of Migration and Religious Diversity (2021–2025). Her research interests include religious minorities, ethnicity, religion and migration, inter-religious dialogue and social integration of refugees and migrants. She recently co-edited the volumes *Orthodox Christian Renewal Movements in Eastern and Southeastern Europe* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2017) and *New Cultural and Political Perspectives on Serbian-Romanian Relations* (Peter Lang 2023).

(Source: Personal)

DORĐEVIĆ Ljubica

European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI),
Flensburg, Germany

Dr. Ljubica Djordjević is a Senior Researcher and Head of the Justice and Governance Cluster. As a constitutional lawyer, her research interests focus on the European and national legal framework, the implementation of minority rights, indicators and ethnic data, the institutional framework and minority language rights. Ljubica holds a PhD and an LL.M. Eur. Integration, both from the Faculty of Law at TU Dresden (Germany), and an LL.B. from the Faculty of Law at the University in Niš (Serbia). Prior to joining ECMI, she was Associate Professor of Public Law at the Faculty of European Legal and Political Studies (FEPPS) in Novi Sad (Serbia). At FEPPS, she was Associate Dean (2011–2017) and Chair of the Department of Public Law (2014–2017). Ljubica is a member of the Serbian Constitutional Law Association and a member of the National Minority Council of the Ombudsman of the Republic of Serbia. She has worked at the Ethnicity Research Centre based in Belgrade. Supported by the Slovak National Scholarship Programme, Ljubica conducted research on minority protection in Slovakia at the Faculty of Political Science and International Relations at Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica from January to March 2017. In the summer semester of 2017, Ljubica taught the course “Protection of Minorities” at the Faculty of Law of TU Dresden as Eleonore Trefftzt Visiting Professor.

(Source: ECMI)

RESOURCES

- **The Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities website**

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/minorities/home>

- **Text of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities**

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list?module=treaty-detail&treaty-num=157> (English)

<http://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=09000016800c131b> (Serbian, Cyrillic Script)

<http://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=09000016800c131c> (Serbian, Latin Script)

- **ACFC thematic commentaries**

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/minorities/thematic-commentaries-of-the-advisory-committee>

- **25th anniversary webpage**

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/minorities/25-years-of-making-diversity-matter>

INFORMATION

Working rules:

The working languages of the conference will be English, Serbian and the languages of the countries of the former Yugoslav region. Simultaneous translation will be provided.

The time for the presentation of papers is limited to 20 minutes. The time for comments and discussions is limited to 5 minutes.

Venue of the conference:

The conference will take place at the **Institute of Social Sciences** (<https://idn.org.rs/>) at Kraljice Natalije 45 Street, in the conference hall on the first floor. The distance between the Institute and the hotel "Mark" is about 500 metres.

Accommodation for the participants:

All conference participants will be accommodated in the hotel "MARK", which is located in Resavska 29 Street (<https://www.mark-hotelbelgrade.com/>) (+381113345400; +381113345010)

The hotel is located in the "heart" of Belgrade and is easily accessible via the central streets of the city. The hotel also offers parking facilities.

Cocktail information:

On the eve of the conference, on December 6 at 19:00, the European Centre for Minority Studies (ECMI – <https://www.ecmi.de/>) will host a cocktail reception for conference participants. The event will feature speeches by Vello Pettai, the Director of ECMI, Goran Bašić, the Director of the Institute of Social Sciences, and Katarina Golubović from the **Human Rights House** (<http://en.kucaljudskihprava.rs/>), the host organisation of the cocktail reception. The "Human Rights House" is located at Kneza Miloša 4 Street, about 500 metres from the MARK Hotel.

Meeting and dinner:

After the end of the first day of the conference on December 7, the Institute will organise a social gathering and dinner for the active participants in the **Dvorište restaurant** (<https://restorandvoriste.rs/en/>) at Svetogorska 46 Street. The meal will be prepared according to the wishes of the participants (information from the conference template). The distance between the restaurant and the MARK Hotel is about 1 kilometre.

Contact persons:

For information on technical details, you can contact Ms. Nataša Jevtić (njevtic@idn.org.rs; +381 63 8443780), and for matters concerning the conference proceedings, please contact Ms. Maja Anđelković (andjelkovicmaja8@gmail.com).

