



University of Sarajevo
CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES



**INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL
IN REFUGEE LAW AND RIGHTS
Sarajevo, 13-23 of August, 2017**

SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS AND TEACHERS

I GENERAL PART

Refugee Convention 1951/1967 Protocol and EU Asylum Law

1. Steve Valdez-Symonds, Refugee and migrant rights programme director, Amnesty International UK
2. Nedin Kulenović, lawyer, European Court of Human Rights, Belgium
3. Dr. Selma Porobić, Researcher, Expert on international forced migration, BiH
4. Dr. Barbara Harrell-Bond, OBE, Emerita Professor and Associate, UK

II COUNTRY-SPECIFIC PART

Access to asylum in Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Macedonia

1. Radostina Pavlova, Legal Expert and Advocacy Officer at the Center for Legal Aid - Voice in Bulgaria (CLA), Bulgaria
2. Ljiljana Koktović, Associate Protection Officer UNHCR, Bosnia and Herzegovina
3. Viktor Koska, PhD Candidate at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia
4. Radoš Đurović, founder and of the Asylum Protection Center- APC, Belgrade, Serbia
5. Mersiha Smailović, human right lawyer and activist, General Secretary of Legis, Macedonia

INSTRUCTORS AND TEACHERS: SHORT BIOGRAPHIES



Steve Valdez-Symonds is the refugee and migrant rights programme director at Amnesty International UK. He has worked in the field of immigration and asylum law for two decades, including many years representing asylum-seekers in the UK's immigration and asylum appeals tribunal system. He has several years' experience supervising and training lawyers in refugee law and practice in the UK; and in policy advocacy and campaigning on UK immigration and asylum law, policy and practice.



Nedim Kulenović is a lawyer at the European Court of Human Rights, with expertise in comparative constitutional law and human rights, particularly of migrants and refugees. He is a doctoral candidate at the Faculty of Law of the University of Sarajevo and University of Zurich and was a member of several Bosnian professional non-governmental organisations, advocating legal reforms. As an employee of the Association "Vaša prava Bosnia and Herzegovina", a largest non-governmental free legal aid provider in Bosnia and Herzegovina, he represented asylum seekers before domestic and international courts and other bodies, including European Court of Human Rights and the UN Human

Rights Committee. He has written several articles, book chapters and case-notes for domestic and international publications. His current interests include: constitutional theory, comparative constitutional law, legal philosophy, human rights, migration law, and competition law. Latest publications include: "Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Adjudication of Power-Sharing Arrangements in Sub-State Constitutions", *Vienna Journal of International Constitutional Law*, 1/2016; "The Influences of Dayton Agreement on Institutions: Legislatures in Bosnia and Herzegovina", in L. Benedizione and V. Rita Scotti (eds.): *Twenty years after Dayton. The Constitutional Transition of Bosnia and Herzegovina* (Rome: Luiss University Press, 2016) (co-author with J. Hasic). In 2015 he lectured on international refugee law and asylum procedures at International summer school of refugee law and rights, organized by Center for refugee and IDP studies, University of Sarajevo.



Dr. Selma Porobić is an international forced migration researcher with two decades of experience in refugee studies, focusing rights and needs of forced migrants from and in the Western Balkans region. She has an interdisciplinary background in migration studies from Lund university, Sweden, American university in Cairo and Fordham university in New York. In 2006 she was a Visiting Fellow at Refugee Studies Centre in Oxford. From 2012-2015 she headed a first refugee and IDP studies center in the Balkans (CESI), established by UNHCR in cooperation with the Faculty of Political Sciences at University of Sarajevo, when she organized four International summer schools in refugee law with

professor emerita Barbara Harrell-Bond. She has authored, edited and coedited four books and published a number of articles and book chapters on range of forced migration issues, including access to asylum, refugee experiences and trauma, return and reintegration, and psychological well-being of forced migrants. More recently she implemented a two-year-long regional cross-country project, funded by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (RRPP/Fribourg University, 2014-2016), involving 28 researchers investigating long-term effect of displacement on psychological well-being of women forced migrants in BiH, Serbia and Kosovo. She teaches Introduction to Refugee Law at The European Regional Master's Programme in Democracy and Human Rights (ERMA) at the Centre for Interdisciplinary studies, University of Sarajevo, and is a Coordinator of CIS' 2017's International Summer School in Refugee Law and Rights – Western Balkans in focus.

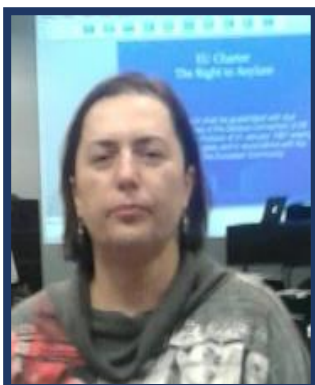


Dr. Barbara Harrell-Bond, OBE, Emerata Professor and Associate, is a legal anthropologist who founded/directed the Refugee Studies Centre (1982- 96). Previously she was conducting research in West Africa from 1967-1982, while employed by the Departments of Anthropology, University of Edinburgh and University of Illinois-Urbana,USA, the Afrika Studiecentrum, Leiden, Holland, and the Faculty of Law, University of Warwick. On retirement from the Refugee Studies Centre, she conducted research in Kenya and Uganda (1997-2000), and was Honorary Adjunct Professor, American University in Cairo (2000-2008). She was awarded an OBE in 2005 for “services to refugee and forced migration studies”.

She is an awardee of the Franz Boas Award for Exemplary Service to Anthropology awarded by the American Anthropologist Association, and, in 2014 was awarded the Lucy Mair medal for applied anthropology. She founded an information portal which is designed for lawyers representing refugees and which promotes legal assistance for refugees around the world – International Refugee Rights Initiative. From 2012 she has regularly helped develop Centre for refugee and IDP studies (CESI) at University of Sarajevo and co-organised, lectured and supervised all previous International summer school in Refugee law and rights with Dr. Selma Porobić.



Radostina Pavlova is a Legal Expert and Advocacy Officer at the Center for Legal Aid - Voice in Bulgaria (CLA). The CLA is a non-governmental organization based in Sofia, Bulgaria, founded in 2009 with the mission to promote the rights of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants, through *pro bono* legal consultations and court representation, as well as through advocacy and research. Prior to joining the CLA in 2014, Radostina has worked as a Policy Analyst and Programme Advisor in the areas of immigration, integration and multiculturalism for the Canadian federal government. She also has worked as a counselor at legal aid clinics in Toronto, Canada, in the areas of refugee and immigration law, criminal law and worker compensation rights. She holds Master's degrees in Immigration and Settlement Studies and Russian and East European Studies, and a Juris Doctor (J.D.) from the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto. Radostina has published a number of articles and research papers related to issues of migration and human rights, most recently: "*Who Gets Detained?*" *Final Report from the project "Increasing the transparency and accountability of Bulgaria's detention practices of asylum seekers and migrants"* (with B. Dimitrov and D. Radoslavova), "*Central and East European Countries as Transit or Final Destinations of Migrant and Refugee Flows in Europe – Trends, Causes and Social Impact from the Bulgarian Perspective*" (with D. Radoslavova), *Problems of Social Policy* 31(4) 2015, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, 2015; and "*The New Powers of the SAR to Detain Asylum Seekers Create Risks of Arbitrariness*", *Legal World*, 20.10.2015 (In Bulgarian).



Ljiljana Kokotović, Associate Protection Officer UNHCR, Bosnia and Hercegovina has been working with UNHCR in BiH for nineteen years (areas including internal displacement, asylum and statelessness). She has a law degree from the Faculty of Law and a MA degree from the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of Sarajevo. Her MA thesis focused on the compliance of the Law on Movement and Stay of Aliens and Asylum with the EU acquis. She conducted refugee status determination under the UNHCR's mandate from 2002-2006 and has provided trainings to governmental and nongovernmental actors in asylum procedure in BiH since 2003.



Mersiha Smailović is human right lawyer and activist. Since the 2009 she is active in the field of discrimination and human rights in Macedonia. As a General Secretary of Legis, in the last 3 years she represented the rights of the refugees and asylum seekers in the Macedonian society and beyond. In 2015 she introduced the new clause in the application procedure system in the Asylum law in Macedonia: "intention to seek asylum", for the Ministry of Interior and MP's, which marked the official beginning of the Balkan route. Mersiha has published several articles on the subject of the rights of refugees, and worked on several research projects, mainly those of monitoring refugee rights in Macedonia. Currently she is lead of

the project “Monitoring the human rights of the refugees and undocumented migrants in Macedonia”. Mersiha is part of the expert’s body together with the Ombudsman office working for the changes of the Law for foreigners (Asylum Law) in Macedonia.



Viktor Koska is a PhD Candidate at the Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, where he conducted extensive research on the role of ethnicity, policy measures and institutional provisions for the successful host countries integration of former refugees in the area of ex-Yugoslavia. He completed his MSc degree in Forced Migration as an OSI/FCO/Chevening scholar at Refugee Studies Center, University of Oxford, where he graduated with a thesis „Reality of Return and Reintegration of Minority Refugees: Serbian Returnees in Croatia “. As a part of his postgraduate studies, Viktor conducted field research on the minority refugees’ issues in Croatia and published several articles on contemporary Croatian politics, with focus on refugee, minority and citizenship policies. He is involved in the activities of the CITSEE project at the University of Edinburgh. In 2013 he founded the Center for the Study of Ethnicity, Citizenship and Migration (CEDIM) at the Faculty of Political sciences in Zagreb, Croatia and gathered a team of researchers working in the fields of citizenship, forced migration, ethnicity, gender and migration studies. He has previously taught refugee rights at 2014 International summer school of Centre for Refugee and IDP studies (CESI) at University of Sarajevo.



Radoš Đurović, is a founder and of the Asylum Protection Center- APC, Beograd, Serbia, with LL.M International Law, Belgrade University where he graduated from Faculty of Law, with master thesis from international law focusing Asylum Right in Serbia. From Od 2004. He is active in the civil sector through student associations and nongovernmental organizations protecting and promoting human rights in Serbia. He was awarded the President’s office award for the demonstrated leadership potential and socially engaging achievements. From 2007 he attended work seminars and internships for the asylum and refugee rights in Ljubljana/UNHCR and Legal-informative centre, Basics of the Asylum in Slovenia and right to asylum in EU, Law Faculty in Ljubljana, Slovenia, Country of origin research for asylum seekers, techniques of COI reporting, Austrian Red Cross, Vienna, Asylum right in EU and Greece, European Network of legal councilors in asylum, Athens, Introduction to asylum right and asylum politics-advancement for the administrative officers working within asylum sector in EU, EU asylum directive, Warsaw, Poland, Vulnerable categories seeking asylum, women, children, victims of violence and trafficking, protection, risks, relocation issues, Leuven, Belgium and many more.
