



TPO Foundation
Vilsonovo šetalište, Sarajevo
Bosnia and Herzegovina



Faculty of Philosophy at
Zenica University
Fakultetska 3, Zenica
Bosnia and Herzegovina

are organising a Summer School 2016:

DEMYTHOLOGISING NATIONS AND IDENTITIES: BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA'S MEDIIEVAL PAST IN A EUROPEAN CONTEXT



TPO Foundation together with the Faculty of Philosophy at Zenica University are organising a Summer School [July 15-19, 2016] which will take place in Jajce, Bosnia-Herzegovina. The programme seeks to foster an understanding of how medieval myths of identity and belonging influence discourses of contemporary nation-building and national identity. Through presenting fresh archival material it seeks to demythologise aspects of Bosnia-Herzegovina historiography that present a problem for peacebuilding and for establishing a more inclusive educational system. This way, the programme challenges the ongoing revision of historiography in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the former Yugoslav space. The Summer School is broadly linked to the International conference *“Trauma, Memory and Healing”* which will be held in Sarajevo on July 12-14, 2016. The conference addresses directly the long-term legacy of violence and its impact upon establishing peace. In the same vein, the Summer School addresses the historical period which is of a vital importance for the country and the wider region, especially if we consider the importance that medieval period has played in the revival of national myths and national identities. As such it informed much of the political discourse in the recent wars of Yugoslav dissolution. We hope to develop this Summer School into an annual event. This year, we contemplate medieval Bosnia-Herzegovina as a part of the European medieval historical heritage in an effort to broaden the narrow local scope this age has been subjected to locally.

Since the end of the Bosnian war (1992-1995) which saw the introduction of a truncated education system which serves to channel the national ideologies of the ethnic groups, the Bosnian medieval period has become a source of various interpretations and a moving force for the fostering of nationalist projects within and outside the country. Even though much work has been published that illuminates the Bosnian medieval period better than ever before, the history textbooks do not reflect this knowledge. Instead, the Bosnian medieval period in the 21st century is used much in the same way as it was towards the end of the 19th century: as a road map for great nation-states projects.

In this Summer School we rely on the results of the contemporary historical and archival findings. We introduce a different and all-round approach that embraces the political, religious, economic, cultural aspects that reflect the results of contemporary academic research. The participants are established local professors and young scholars from Bosnia-Herzegovina. The School offers an opportunity to examine existing paradigms and by placing Bosnia within the wider European medieval age to open a new discussion on the role of myth in identity formation. The long term and wider framework, seek to move towards demythologising elements of historiography that have become problematic for peacebuilding.

Such an approach is vital if we are to understand the Bosnian space outside the entrenched stereotypes, which govern the whole Balkan Peninsula. This is why it is also important to separate the Bosnian cultural dispositions, ethnic structure, geopolitical space and historical heritage from ideological interpretations.

The participants will have the opportunity to learn about Bosnia-Herzegovina's culture, its traditions, society and history, and its modernity within wider Balkan and European contexts.

This Summer School offers an insight into texts and events that are not sufficiently or not at all, presented to the public, and yet are of crucial importance for our understanding of the Bosnia-Herzegovina complex reality. Thus, the aim of this Summer School is a bottom up approach, starting with the local and positioning it within the more global setting whereby the ongoing and intensive processes of social destruction, especially through the potent myths of the nation, can be clearly conceptualised, challenged and re-assessed.

The programme is aimed at students of humanistic sciences, graduates and postgraduates, and all those who may be interested or feel they may benefit from this. This year, we will explore history, language, literature, art, economy, archaeology of medieval Bosnia.

We ask how Bosnia-Herzegovina with its recent war which ended with the Dayton Peace Accords, setting a complex political system in a highly traumatic postwar context, regressed Bosnian society towards the age of ethno-national identity making. We try to do this by highlighting patterns and trends which obstruct our facing with the past and in this way prevent us from moving forward towards healthier future.

Key note speakers:

- Prof. Dubravko Lovrenović, Professor of History, Faculty of Philosophy Sarajevo

Other speakers:

Agata Jawoszek, Emir Filipović, Nenad Veličković, Enes Dedić, Jovana Jokanović, Dženan Dautović, Mehmed Kardaš, Srđan Šušnica, Adis Fejzić, Jovana Jokanović, Zlatan Delić

PROGRAMME

Medieval Bosnia as an Ideological Battlefield

The Politics of Identity in Bosnia and the Abuse of Medieval Symbols

Popular Myths and Narratives of Medieval Nation - Building

Emancipating Reconstructions of the Confiscatory Memories

Medieval Bosnia in Europe: an existing or non-existing concept

- Medieval Bosnia in recent discourses of Southeast and East and Central Europe
- Bosnia in the mosaic of South Slav states (c.12 century): ideological interpretations of national historiographies

The Political History of Bosnia: the Bosnian third (European) way

- The Bosnian banat as one of the knots of mythological interpretations
 - The Kingdom by the grace Bosnian church
 - Bosnia and her neighbours
 - Dubrovnik and Bosnia: the economy of history
 - The Holy Crown of Bosnia and the Holy Crown of Hungary
 - Bosnian and Roman curia: constructing the Bogomil myth
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- Bosnia in the Venetian transnational economy
 - Bosnia and the Ottoman Empire or the beginning of Turkophobia
 - Bosnia and the Despotate: facts and ideology of key mythologems in Serbian Medieval Bosnia

Religious and Cultural History of Bosnia

- Christianity in Medieval Bosnia in the mission of St. Cyril and Method: indicators of Christianisation
- The Bosnian Church – Neither Rome nor Constantinople
- Historiography on the Bosnian Church: from Bogomil to autocephalous church
- The Franciscans and the Diocese: an established and an unofficial Christianity.
- Medieval Bosnia's micro-Christianities as marginal Christianities of the acumen
- Identity and Conversion in Medieval Bosnia and the double religious identity
- Bosnian mediaeval literature
- Textology of the Bosnian church's gospels
- Bosnian Codes in context of religious teaching of Bosnian church
- The Language and graphics of the Petrograd Bosnian Gospel
- Nationalisations of medieval Bosnian texts
- Bosnian Medieval Tombstones: From Bogomilism to interconfession
- The culture of "death" in the Medieval Bosnian epigraphic
- The Historiography of the Bosnian Medieval Tombstones
- The Art of Carving the Medieval Tombstone

The Social and Economic History of Bosnia

- The Bosnian Nobility or "feudal democracy" al modo di Bosnia
- Cities: Urban life in Medieval Bosnia
- Trade and Mining in Medieval Bosnia

Transition of Medieval Bosnia into Ottoman Bosnia: The Bosnian Imaginary Turk

Medieval Bosnia as a Battlefield of the Ideological Struggle

- Women in Medieval Bosnia

The construction of femininity: from emancipators to medieval martyrs

Field Trips

1. Tour of the medieval catacombs
2. Trip to the Church of St. Mary
3. Trip to Jajce: Visit of the Museum of the Anti-Fascist Struggle (AVNOJ)

Other trips will seek to introduce participants to the consequences of politicising medieval myths

1. Prijedor and the war camp in Trnopolje
2. Tomasica mass graves in Prijedor
3. Banja Luka: a lecture on Banja Luka and on the events during the war, visit to Ferhadija – the building complex where the war was orchestrated and the genocide campaign was organised. Those comprised of the Yugoslav People Army building, the Municipal Offices, the National Theatre.

Location:

Jajce

Official language :

B/C/S language

Participation fee:

150 EUR for EU Students

50 BAM for Bosnian Students

Please submit your payment to TPO Fondacija

IBAN: BA391611000001608512

SWIFT CODE: RZBABA2S

The purpose: Summer School

Duration:

one week

Application deadline:

1. 04. 2016

Please note bank fees need to be paid separately from the participation fee amount. If you opt for online payment, please choose option OUR (you pay the transmission expenses). If you opt for payment in the bank (at the counter), you also pay bank fee separately from the participation fee amount.

Apply to:

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alisamahmut@gmail.com

edisa_gazetic@ymail.com

SUMMER SCHOOL BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA 2016

**Demythologising nations and identities:
Bosnia-Herzegovina's Medieval Past in a European Context**

Jajce, Bosnia and Herzegovina

TPO Foundation, Faculty of Philosophy Zenica

July 15 - 19, 2016

Name and Surname:

Date of birth:

Address:

Telephone number:

Email address:

University:
