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Version



The Legal Professions and the Media: Worst Friends or Best Enemies?

Special Focus on the Western Balkan Region

21-22 October 2024, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Hotel Holiday Sarajevo, Ul. Zmaja od Bosne 4, 71000 Sarajevo, BIH



BOSNA I HERCEGOVINA – БОСНА И ХЕРЦЕГОВИНА – BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
FEDERACIJA BOSNE I HERCEGOVINE – ФЕДЕРАЦИЈА БОСНЕ И ХЕРЦЕГОВИНЕ –
FEDERATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

JAVNA USTANOVA CENTAR ZA EDUKACIJU SUDJIA I TUŽILACA
JAVNA USTANOVA CENTAR ZA EDUKACIJU SUDACA I TUŽITELJA
ЈАВНА УСТАНОВА ЦЕНТАР ЗА ЕДУКАЦИЈУ СУДИЈА И ТУЖИЛАЦА
PUBLIC INSTITUTION CENTRE FOR JUDICIAL AND PROSECUTORIAL TRAINING OF FBiH



About the conference

Description

The Academy of European Law (ERA) is a training institution in European law for legal professionals. Our institution, seated in Trier, Germany, has been active in the field of continuous legal training for more than 32 years now, and alongside the Member States of the EU who are all patrons of our foundation, we have recently focused more on the candidate countries, in particular the Western Balkan countries. In 2023, Albania acceded to the foundation and became a patron of ERA, followed by Serbia in 2024.

The Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is an independent public institution that is in charge of providing and organising continuous education for judges and prosecutors of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina's judicial bodies. The Centre collaborates with Bosnia and Herzegovina's judicial institutions, faculties, and other national and international organisations. The aim of the Centre's education is the continuous improvement of the domestic judiciary and the improvement of professionalism in the judicial system. We have set the aim to achieve standards that will empower the judiciary in Bosnia and Herzegovina to effectively address the challenges posed by the immediate application of EU law and changes in national legislation, all within the framework of the European Court of Human Rights' judicial practice.

Together with the Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the participation of the Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of the Republika Srpska, the Bar Association of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Bar Association of the Republika Srpska, ERA decided to organise an interprofessional conference in Sarajevo.

The topic of this conference was chosen based on the last annual conference of the European Forum of the Legal Professions, 'Trust in the Judiciary Requires Trust in the Media – Enhancing Cooperation between Two Pillars of Democratic States'.

The Friends of ERA Association www.era.int/foe is providing financial support for this event.

**EXCELLENCE IN
EUROPEAN LAW**

Key topics

- How to increase public confidence in justice and the legal professions?
- What are the best practices to improve the relationship between legal professionals and journalists?
- Responsible reporting from the courtroom and providing a fair trial
- How can legal professionals interact with the public at institutional and individual levels and what are the limitations?
- How can the media shape the public image of the legal professions? How to attract people to legal topics?
- Is there an effective alternative communication channel to protect journalists and the legal professions from political pressure?
- The common destiny of journalists and legal professionals in a rule of law crisis

Organised by

Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and

Academy of European Law (ERA)

With the financial support of



Friends of ERA Association - www.era.int/foe

Venue

Hotel Holiday Sarajevo

Ul. Zmaja od Bosne 4, 71000 Sarajevo, BIH

Languages

English and B/H/S
(simultaneous translation)

Register here:

<https://applications.european.law/en/Registrations/Register/024DV172>



Programme

21 October 2024

Chaired by **Berina-Ina Alispahić**, Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of the Federation of BiH

09:30 Welcoming the participants

Arben Murtezić, Director of the Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of the Federation of BiH

Jean-Philippe Rageade, Director of ERA

Slobodan Zec, Director of the Centre for Judicial and Prosecutorial Training of the Republic of Srpska

Jeko Čilić, Attorney from Ljubuški, Member of the Steering Board of the Bar Association of the Federation of BiH

Dalibor Mrša, President of the Bar Association of the Republic of Srpska

10:10 **Keynote speech**

Delivered by the Minister of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina **Davor Bunoza**

10:30 Coffee Break / Press Conference

11:00 **Setting the scene**

Chaired by **Jean-Philippe Rageade**

The role of the media in times of crisis

Reinhard Müller, Editor at the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

The media and public trust

Denis Džidić, Director of BIRN (Balkan Investigative Reporting Network)

12:00 **Roundtable discussion**

The image of justice in media reports

Chaired by **Arben Murtezić**

Panellists:

Admir Arnautović, Professional Advisor for public relations in the Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Tuzla Canton

Vladimir Beljanski, President of the Vojvodina Bar Association

Meliha Dugalija, Chief Prosecutor of the Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Sarajevo Canton

Machteld Geertsema, Press Prosecutor at the Functional Public Prosecutor's Office of Amsterdam

Presentations by the panellists

- The public institutional communication strategies of judiciaries
- The importance of accurate media reporting for both the lawyer and client
- Good practice in the collaboration with journalists

13:30 Lunch

15:00 **Presentation**

How can the media influence a fair trial

Andrea Moravčíková, judge, Vice-President of the Supreme Court of Slovakia

16:00 End of the first conference day – social programme

22 October 2024

09:30 **Recent Legislation in Europe**

Chaired by **Dragomir Yordanov**, Executive Director of the European School of Enforcement in Sofia

The European Media Freedom Act

Elda Brogi, part-time Professor at the European University Institute

Responsible press reporting, fake news

Aladin Abdagić, Editor-in-Chief at CIN (Center for Investigative Reporting)

The CCBE position on abusive litigations targeting journalists and right defenders

Roman Završek, Vice-President of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)

11:00 Coffee Break

11:20 **Keynote speech**

Necessary cooperation between the legal professions and the media? – The Polish experience

Bartłomiej Przymusiński, judge, Spokesperson of the Association of Judges IUSTITIA

11:40 **Roundtable discussion**

The common interests of journalists and legal professionals in a rule of law crisis

Chaired by **Viktor Vadász**, Director of Programmes at ERA

Panellists:

Vedran Alidžanović, Chief Prosecutor at the Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Tuzla Canton

Amelia Onisor, judge, Deputy Director of the Romanian National Institute of Magistracy

Bartłomiej Przymusiński

Elis Sultanić, judge, Cantonal Court of Mostar

Presentations by the panellists

- Rule of law backsliding, in particular: attacks against freedom of the press and independence of the judiciary
- How to raise the voice of legal professionals in a rule of law crisis
- Social media and how the new generation can shape a positive image of the legal professions

13:10 Closing words

13:15 End of the conference