

# 25th Anniversary of NATO Intervention in Kosovo

Democracy, Human Rights, and Peace  
Building International Conference



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS  
**Clinton School  
of Public Service**

**March 26-28, 2024**

## Organizers

University of Prishtina  
University of Arkansas Clinton  
School of Public Service

## Venue:

University of Prishtina,  
Republic of Kosovo



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## GENERAL OVERVIEW

This conference brings together practitioners, policy makers, and scholars to reflect on the lessons of the humanitarian intervention in Kosovo and the developments in the last 25 years that offer both challenges and opportunities for democracy, peace, and security not only in Southeastern Europe, but around the globe.

The aim of this conference is to discuss and debate bold actions for promoting human rights, building peace, and progressing democracy globally based on lessons from taking just and necessary stands, such as the one taken in Kosovo, against genocide and the violation of human rights.

The discussions will be organized in the form of panels, paper presentations, and roundtables with keynote speakers to open and close the conference. The keynotes will be open to the public.

Day 1	Day 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>State Building:</b> Why is ongoing state building important to ensuring the continued progression to EU membership? What measures are being taken to preserve and strengthen democratic practices throughout the legislative, legal, and municipal branches of government?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Security &amp; Peacebuilding:</b> How have security and peacebuilding efforts evolved since the NATO intervention in Kosovo in 1999? What roles have women played and continue to play in security and peacebuilding efforts? How does the current geopolitical landscape present challenges to security and peacebuilding not only in Kosovo but around the world and what measures are needed to secure peace?</li><li>• <b>Transitional Justice:</b> What is transitional justice? How can it be achieved? Why is it important to state building and lasting peace?</li></ul>



# AGENDA Day 1 Morning

<h2>Pre-Conference Arrival and Dinner: Tuesday, March 26, 2024</h2>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Day</li> </ul>	<p>Welcoming Dinner – 7:30 p.m.</p>
<h2>Day One: Wednesday, March 27, 2024</h2>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:00 – 9:30 a.m. <i>Prishtina University Faculty of Education, Council Room</i></li> <li>9:30 – 10:30 a.m. <i>Prishtina University Faculty of Education, Council Room</i></li> </ul>	<p>Arrival/Registration</p> <p>Welcoming Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Representative/s of the University of Prishtina</li> <li>Government Representatives: EU, US, Republic of Kosovo</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30 – 11:45 a.m.  <i>Prishtina University Faculty of Education, Council Room</i>  <i>In-Person Panel</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>War, Elections, and Democracy</b> <b>Chair/Moderator:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enver Hoxhaj, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kosovo; Professor Political Science, University of Prishtina</li> </ul> <p><b>Legacy and Challenges of Operation Allied Force: Yugoslav Generals' Memoirs and Contemporary Balkan Dynamics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christian Costamagna, Postdoc Fellow, Leibniz ScienceCampus Eastern Europe-Global Area, University of Leipzig, Germany; Non-residential fellow, Center for Advanced Studies Southeast Europe, University of Rijeka, Croatia</li> </ul> <p><b>The Legacy of NATO Humanitarian Intervention in Kosovo</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elvina Jusufaj, Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, University Aleksander Moisiu, Durres, Albania</li> </ul> <p><b>Coercive Diplomacy as Ultimate Non-Forceful Diplomacy or as an Ultimatum? American Diplomacy Toward Non-Democratic Adversaries, 1995-2001</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flamur Krasniqi, PhD Candidate Geopolitics and International Affairs, Cambridge University, UK</li> </ul> <p><b>Kosovo as a case study in international relations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mehdi Sejdiu, PhD Candidate Political Science, Heidelberg University, Germany</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noon – 1 p.m.</li> </ul>	<p>Lunch Break</p>

# AGENDA Day 1 Afternoon

## Day One: March 27, 2024 Continued

- 1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

*Prishtina University  
Faculty of Education,  
Council Room*

*Hybrid Panel  
(1 on-line presenter)*

### **Peace Building and Human Rights in a Post-Conflict State-Society Chair/Moderator:**

- Lirije Palushi, Teaching Assistant Political Science, University of Prishtina **(in person)**

### **From Kosovo to Kyiv: President Clinton’s Final Foreign Policy Sins?**

- Elis Vllasi, Senior Research Associate and Lecturer at the Center for National Security and Foreign Affairs, Baker School, University of Tennessee, Knoxville **(in person)**

### **Genocide halt and reconstructing Kosovo: President Clinton’s policy**

- Arbër Hadri, Fellow Research Professor, Institute of History “Ali Hadri” – Prishtina **(in person)**

### **Moving On from War to Elections: The Challenge of Building a Democratic Kosovo**

- Afrim Krasniqi, Executive Director of Albanian Institute for Political Studies & Professor, University of Tirana, Albania **(on-line)**

- 2:15 - 2:30 p.m.

Coffee Break

- 2:30 – 3:45 p.m.

*Prishtina University  
Faculty of Education,  
Council Room*

*Hybrid Panel  
(2 on-line presenters)*

### **War, Peace and Democracy: Local, Regional, and Global Perspectives Chair/Moderator:**

- Kaltrina Kelmendi, Associated Professor Psychology, University of Prishtina **(in person)**

### **NATO’s Intervention in Kosovo: A Turning Point in Global Security and Balkan History**

- Albulena Halili, Research Associate, South East European University, Skopje, North Macedonia **(in person)**

### **Post-Conflict State-Society Relations and the Embedding of International Missions: Micro-Level Evidence from Kosovo**

- Cameron Mailhot, Assistant Professor Political Science, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR **(on-line)**

### **“Bosnia” in Kosovo: The Use of Discourse by US Foreign Policymakers in Arguing for War**

- Amer Kurtović, Deputy Director, Social Sciences Research Center, International Burch University, Bosnia & Herzegovina **(in person)**

### **US Foreign Policy in the Western Balkans: From Stabilitocracy to the Chess Game**

- Gorana Grgic, Senior Researcher, Swiss and Euro-Atlantic Security team at the ETH Zürich – Center for Security Studies **(on-line)**

# AGENDA Day 1 Evening

## Day One: March 27, 2024 Continued

- 3:45 – 5 p.m.

*Prishtina University  
Faculty of Education,  
Council Room*

*On-line Roundtable  
with In Person  
Moderator*

*Roundtable Discussion:*

**Democratic Consolidation and Institutional Legitimacy in Times of Crisis and Change**

**Chair/Moderator:**

- Linda Gusia, Assistant Professor Sociology, University of Prishtina (in person)

**Discussants: (on-line)**

- Pëllumb Kelmendi, Assistant Professor Political Science, Auburn University, Auburn, AL
- Cameron Mailhot, Assistant Professor Political Science, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR
- Elton Skendaj, Director Democracy & Governance Program & Assistant Teaching Professor, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

- 5 – 6:00 p.m.

*Prishtina University  
Faculty of Education,  
Council Room*

*Online Discussion  
with In Person  
Moderator*

*Interactive Session:*

**What's New in the Clinton Presidential Archives? Documents Released in 2024 & Using the Historic Issue Guide Advising the President on the Crisis in Kosovo**

**Chair/Moderator:**

- Christina Standerfer, Professor Emerita, University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service, Little Rock, AR **(in person)**

**Discussants:**

- Jay Barth, Director, William J. Clinton Presidential Library & Museum, Little Rock, AR **(on-line)**
- Dana Simmons, Supervisory Archivist, William J. Clinton Presidential Library & Museum, Little Rock, AR **(on-line)**
- Kara Ellis, Archivist, William J. Clinton Presidential Library & Museum, Little Rock, AR **(on-line)**
- Malcolm Glover, Project Manager, NASA-Earth Science Division, Washington, DC **(on-line)**
- Kathleen Pate, Education Specialist, William J. Clinton Presidential Library & Museum, Little Rock, AR **(on-line)**

# AGENDA Day 2 Morning

Day Two: Thursday, March 28, 2024	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30 – 10:45 a.m.</li> </ul> <p>Prishtina University Faculty of Education, Council Room</p> <p><i>In-Person Panel</i></p>	<p><b>Women in Security and Peacebuilding</b> <b>Chair/Moderator:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drita Perezic, External Security Sector Advisor to the President of the Republic of Kosovo</li> </ul> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edita Tahiri, Chair, Regional Women’s Lobby in South East Europe</li> <li>Luljeta Mehmeti, Chief of Sector for Information, Analysis and Public Relation Kosovo Police</li> <li>Aferdita Mikullovc, Colonel/Director of Regional Directorate, Mitrovica South, Kosovo</li> <li>Irfete Spahiu, Major General, Kosovo Security Forces</li> <li>Elisabeth Schleicher, Staff Officer Gender Advisor GENAD Office, HQ KFOR, Prishtina, Kosovo</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:45 – Noon</li> </ul> <p>Prishtina University Faculty of Education, Council Room</p> <p><i>In-Person Panel</i></p>	<p><b>Transitional Justice: Reclaiming Identity and the Rule of Law</b> <b>Chair/Moderator:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gjylbehare Bella Murati, Assistant Professor International Law, Peja University</li> </ul> <p><b>The Role of the Albanian-American lobby group ‘Vatra’ in Constructing and Disseminating Albanian Geopolitical and National Identity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Atdhe Hetemi, Executive Director at the Institute for Crimes Committed During the War in Kosovo, Lecturer Political Science, University of Prishtina, Kosovo</li> <li>Uranela Demaj, Vice Rector Science &amp; Research, AAB University, Prishtina, Kosovo</li> </ul> <p><b>Transitional Justice and Constitutionalism as a means towards a common end: The case of Kosovo</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remzije Istrefi, Associate Professor of Law, University of Prishtina, Kosovo</li> </ul> <p><b>A Gender Perspective on Transitional Justice - Lessons from Kosovo 25 Years After the War</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jeta Loshaj, Consultant, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Prishtina, Kosovo</li> <li>Teuta Avdimetaj, Research Fellow at the Kosovar Center for Security Studies, Prishtina, Kosovo</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Noon – 1:15 p.m.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lunch Break</b></p>

# AGENDA Day 2 Afternoon

## Day Two: March 28, 2024 Continued

- 1:15 – 2:45 p.m.  
Presentations/Q&A

*Prishtina University  
Faculty of Education,  
Council Room*

*On-line Roundtable with  
In Person Moderator*

### Roundtable Discussion:

**The role of Media and Citizen Participation. Media Narratives of NATO's Intervention in Kosovo: Local vs. International Perspectives**

### Chair/Moderator:

- Remzie Shahini Hoxhaj, Assistant Professor Media Public Relations, and Journalism, University of Prishtina

### Discussants: (on-line)

- Eriona Hoti, Graduate Student, Communication & Advocacy, James Madison University, Washington, D.C.
- Leonita Morina, Graduate Student, Communication & Advocacy, James Madison University, Washington, D.C.
- Dardana Halimi, Graduate Student, Communication & Advocacy, James Madison University, Washington, D.C.
- Art Shala, Graduate Student, Communication & Advocacy, James Madison University, Washington, D.C.

- 2:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Coffee Break

- 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.  
Presentations/Q&A

*Prishtina University  
Faculty of Education,  
Council Room*

*On-line Panel with  
In Person Moderator*

### Ensuring Security and Building Peace: Politics, Cyber Challenges, and Media

#### Chair/Moderator:

- Adem Beha, Associated Professor Political Science, University of Prishtina (in person)

#### The U.S., Kosovo, and Vetëvendosje

- Victor Peskin, Associate Professor, School of Politics and Global Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- Mieczyslaw Boduszynski, Associate Professor Politics & International Relations, Pomona University, Claremont, California

#### Kosovo in the New Security Environment

- Chris J. Dolan, Professor and Director of M.S. in Intelligence and Security Studies, Lebanon Valley, College, Annville, Pennsylvania

#### Breaking Barriers: Assessing the Landscape of Women's Political Participation in Post-Conflict Kosovo

- Merita Limani, Teaching Assistant, Political Science and Sociology, University of Western Ontario, Canada

#### Propaganda against the NATO intervention in Kosovo: The repetition of false narratives time to time

- Dren Gërguri, Fulbright Research Fellow, University of Houston, Texas; Lecturer Journalism, University of Prishtina

# AGENDA Day 2 Evening

## Day Two: March 28, 2024, Continued

- 4:15 – 5:30 p.m.

*Prishtina University  
Faculty of Education,  
Council Room*

*In Person Keynote*

### Closing Keynote

**Balkan Wars in the 1990's and Consequences for the Idea of European Integration: The same mistakes again and again?**

#### Chair/Moderator:

- Arben Hajrullahu, Professor Political Science, University of Prishtina, Kosovo
- Joseph Marko, Professor, Graz University,

### Final remarks and conference follow-up, planned publication

- Remzie Shahini Hoxhaj, Assistant Professor, University of Prishtina
- Arben Hajrullahu, Professor, University of Prishtina
- Christina Standerfer, Professor Emerita, University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service

- 7:30 – 10:00 p.m.

Closing Dinner

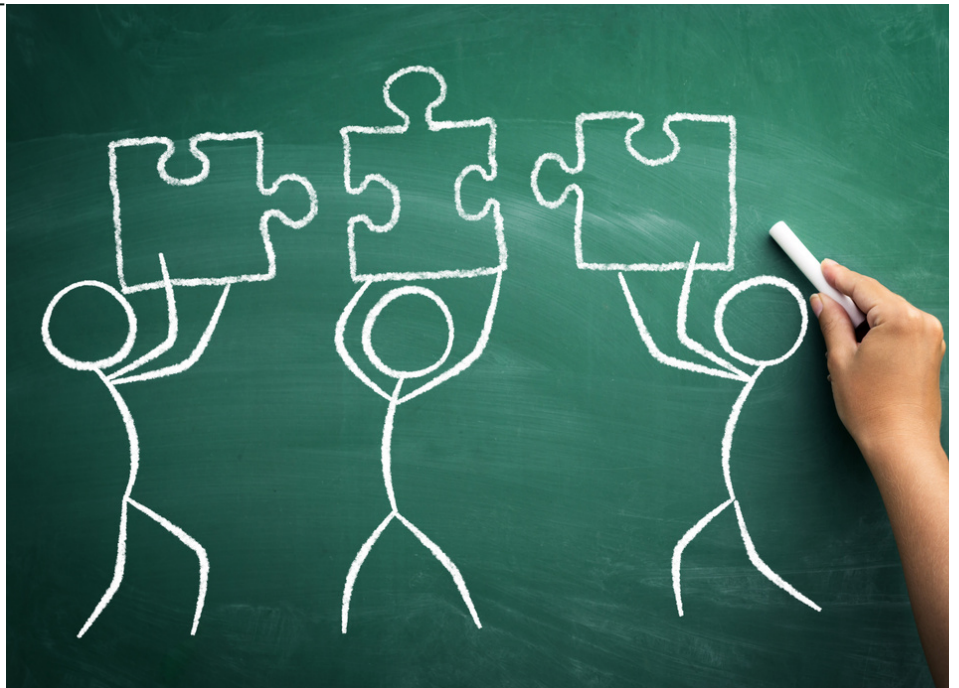
**\*\* Agenda may be amended depending on changes in availability of presenters.**



# Thank you to our supporters.



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Questions? Reach out to Dr. Christina Standerfer for more information:

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