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#### WRITE US

Did our newsletter make you think? Or do you have a different opinion regarding some of the topics? We would be delighted to hear from you and would like to invite you to send us your comments, opinions and questions. We will publish a selection of the entries in the next issue.

Write us at [fokus.westbalkan@forumZFD.de](mailto:fokus.westbalkan@forumZFD.de)

## FOKUS

### The commemoration on the First World War in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Between mega-spectacle and folklore

**The public commemorations on the First World War in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2014 were mostly focused on the assassination in Sarajevo of 28 June 1914. In a society in which there are conflicting narratives of the assassination, this limited view on the beginning of the Great War brought about additional tensions and deepened the divide in the society.**

In the course of 2013 and in the first half of 2014, conflicts over the manner of commemorating this event were getting stronger and stronger, with different groups driven by political and financial reasons that tried to impose their concepts of commemoration. In this context, a foundation called Sarajevo, Heart of Europe was established, which received significant funds from the European Union for the organisation of numerous events. The European Commission's Delegation in Sarajevo, governments of Republic of Serbia and of the Republika Srpska (one of two state entities in Bosnia-Herzegovina, mainly inhabited by the ethnic Serb population) supported some initiatives as well, while others were organised by institutes without any financial support of the Foundation or of the European Union.

In 2014, the commemoration on World War I in Bosnia and Herzegovina had two aspects – scientific and manifestational. The scientific aspect was led mainly by the Institute for History of the University of Sarajevo. As of 2011, in cooperation with scientific institutions from eight European countries, the Institute began preparing a conference envisaged not as a commemoration on the assassination in Sarajevo, but as an opportunity to start a dialogue on all aspects of the outbreak of WWI. It was because of this that the Institute's idea got in the

way of other protagonists preparing the commemoration, particularly those from France and Serbia that made accusations that the conference in Sarajevo would be an exercise in revising the existing culprits for the outbreak of WWI. Although the Institute rejected these accusations, the preparations for this conference were interpreted in some political circles in Serbia and Republika Srpska as a threat that could lead to the removal of guilt for the Great War from Germany and the

Monarchy and transfer of blame to Serbia and France, and, indirectly, to Russia. In the course of preparations, the conference was particularly attacked by the former diplomat Slobodan Šoja, the scientific coordinator for the Embassy of France in



*„The Great War: Regional Approaches and Global Contexts“, international historians' conference in Sarajevo, 18th-21th June*

Sarajevo, who described it as “a conference that had invited only those countries that had lost the war”. Milorad Dodik, the President of Republika Srpska insisted on this definition, emphasising that the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Republika Srpska diagnosed that the conference had a pro-Habsburg and anti-Serb character. That is why the Sarajevo, Heart of Europe Foundation denied financial support for organizing this conference of historians in Sarajevo, and only thanks to its broad cooperation with institutes from seven European countries, the Institute of History of the University of Sarajevo succeeded in securing sufficient funds to organise the conference titled “The Great War: Regional Approaches and Global Contexts”. The keynote speaker at the conference held from 18 to 21 June was Professor Mark Mazower from Columbia University, while the closing paper was presented by Marie Janine Calic from Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich.

## Remembrance as a mega-spectacle

Another aspect of the commemoration were events much more promoted in public which can in fact be called 'mega-spectacles'. One was held in Sarajevo under the title "The Century of Peace

After the Century of Wars", directed by Haris Pašović. This music and drama spectacle that

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brought together about 300 participants from different European countries did not contain too much ideology, but its aesthetic achievements were very questionable: on the Latin Bridge, near the site of the 1914 Assassination, one could hear, inter alia, songs performed by Serbian folk singer Šaban Šaulić and Bosnian-Herzegovinian pop/rock singer Dino Merlin.

The other mega-spectacle was held in Višegrad, directed by film director Emir Kusturica. It was titled "The Rebel Angels" and arranged in three acts as a reconstruction of the assassination in Sarajevo. This event was charged with Serb nationalism, having brought together controversial individuals like Matija Bećković, who was accused before for his nationalistic statements; it symbolised all the existing divisions in Bosnia and Herzegovina and, from my point of view, did not have any significant artistic value. The event was used to officially inaugurate Andrićgrad, an urban development project dedicated to the Nobel prize winner Ivo Andrić, which is constructed by Emir Kusturica's own construction company. The project is strongly supported by Serbia and Republika Srpska. The President of Republika Srpska Milorad Dodik, and the Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vučić, by their very presence conveyed a clear political message from this event.

In addition to these two mega-spectacles, the realisation of which involved huge funds (the European Commission invested 250,000 Euros in "The Century of Peace After the Century of Wars", while the amount spent on the mega-spectacle directed by Kusturica will certainly remain unknown), a concert of the Vienna Philharmonic, held on 28 June 2014 in the recently rebuilt Sarajevo Vijećnica (National library), was particularly important. The official host of the concert was the President of Austria, Heinz Fischer, with some regional and local politicians, but without the politicians from Serbia. The Public Broadcasting Services of Germany, Austria and France

broadcast the concert directly. Numerous exhibitions in the museums and galleries of Sarajevo made a special mark on the entire commemoration. The Historical Museum organised an exhibition related to Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Europe in the period from 1914 to 1918, titled "And then in Sarajevo the Shot Was Fired...."; an exhibition of documents, focused on the assassination in Sarajevo was organised by the Archive of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the National Gallery of Bosnia and Herzegovina there was the exhibition "The Dignity of Man"- a joint project of three European cities: Vienna, Sarajevo and Brno.

## No vision for joined commemoration

However, the main feature of all these events was that they were organised on a local level, that there was not major involvement of the national institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina and that there was not a single pan-Bosnian event. Divided memory was further strengthened, political dimensions could not be avoided, while nationalistic rhetoric that was strongly expressed in Republika Srpska only deepened the differences and divisions in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Although it did not directly help the building of the surreally grandiose monument to Gavrilo Princip in Eastern Sarajevo, the European Union was evidently unprepared to respond to the nationalistic rhetoric

expressed at the inauguration

of that monument and thus made it clear that it was not sure of its own perception and vision of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is a paradox that, at the same time - commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Great War - the Vienna Philharmonic performed in Sarajevo, Eastern Sarajevo organised the event called "The 21st Assembly of Gusle Players of Republika Srpska". This indicates that there are deep divisions in the society and that there are some people who are trying to deepen them even further. And Europe is sitting and watching it!



*Inauguration of the Gavrilo Princip monument in East-Sarajevo*

## Bosnia and Herzegovina

### MONuMENTImotion premiere at the 2014 Peace Event in Sarajevo

On 6-9 June, 2,500 peace activists and experts from around the globe gathered in Sarajevo for the 2014 Peace Event co-organised by *forumZFD* under the slogan "Come, Participate, Create!". The Bosnian capital marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War, which was triggered by assassination of the Austro-Hungarian archduke Franz Ferdinand.

The primary aims of this event were to attempt to learn from this and other wars of the past hundred years, and to promote peace work. During countless workshops and round tables as well as a Youth Camp, the participants, which included Nobel Peace Prize winner Mairead Maguire, discussed difficult and controversial topics such as the "Alternatives to NATO militarism" and "Women during times of war".

The animated film *MONuMENTImotion* produced by *forumZFD* also celebrated its premiere at the Sarajevo Art Gallery of Bosnia and Herze-

govina during the Peace Event. A total of 18 young artists and activists from the region and Germany spend several weeks working on narration and visual realisation of the film with the support of artist Muhamed Kafedžić. The original idea for this project came from *forumZFD* and was inspired by the images from the *MONuMENTI* exhibition by photographer Marko Krojač. Both the film premiere and the round table entitled "The Art of Dealing with the Past in the Western Balkans" organised by *forumZFD* were well attended. Journalist Kristina Ljevak facilitated the discussion between *forumZFD*/BiH project manager Michele Parente, Nihad Kreševljaković (Director, Sarajevo War Theatre), Andrea Baotić (art historian), Marko Krojač, and Muhamed Kafedžić. The attempt in the film to show a new per-

spective to the younger generation and thus another side to history was emphasised in particular. One further important conclusion reached during the discussion was that a need exists for greater cooperation between regional artists and intellectuals from within the field of dealing with the past as well as for reforms in the education system.

Following the Peace Event, *forumZFD*/BiH office is now working on making the animated film an educational tool on the topic of dealing with the past for schools,

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Premiere of *MONuMENTImotion* in Sarajevo with some of the young artists, Marko Krojač (5.f.r.), Muhamed Kafedžić (1.f.I.) and *forumZFD* staff Michele Parente and Zlatko Tadić

universities and youth institutions. *forumZFD* was already able to report the first positive experiences in this respect immediately after the Peace Event: during the workshops on the topics of "Cross Continental – Interethnic Relations for Peace" and "Mlada Evropa: 1914-2014 – Hundred

Years, Lessons Learned?", project manager Michele Parente presented *forumZFD*'s work and discussed the significance of monuments in the culture of remembrance with young participants from all across Europe, North America and Africa after screening the film. The organiser of "Mlada Evropa" praised the film as "one of the most sophisticated projects in the work on dealing with the past". The latest positive development was selection of *MONuMENTImotion* for screening at the Sarajevo Film Festival due to take place on 15-23 August 2014. This is further proof that it makes sense to combine art and consideration of the topic of dealing with the past, and that a wide audience can be reached in this way.

## Kosovo

### Memory Mapping Kosovo - contested memories: Between materiality, textuality and performativity of the past

From 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2014, twelve local and international students (BA and MA) were brought together for the second atelier of the project "Memory Mapping Kosovo". The project counts four ateliers in total, focusing on studying and exploring public and private memorials and those representing different systems and regimes of remembrance in Kosovo.

"Memory Mapping Kosovo" aims at identifying, analyzing and scrutinizing alternative and official but contested memory sites in Kosovo. By contrasting them with



*Some of the participants at work*

established historical narratives and archive material, the project aims at producing a new multi-perspective understanding of memory and memorialization in Kosovo, which will contribute to a constructive debate on dealing with the past in Kosovo.

Memory Mapping Kosovo was launched in the first quarter of 2014, being led and managed by forumZFD

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in partnership with Alter Habitus and the Institute for Social Studies and Humanities of the University of

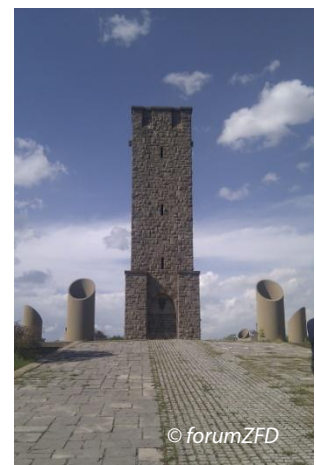
Pristina. The first atelier "Public and Private Memory: Between Archive and Participation" was implemented in March 2014.

Led by Nita Luci, PhD in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and lecturer at the

University of Pristina, and titled "Contested Memories: Between Materiality, Textuality and Performativity of the Past" the second project atelier comprised three main components:

- Field trips to: the memorial of Gazimestan (exploring/inspecting/analyzing the memorial), the Sultan Muradi Tomb (History of the tomb and the Kosovo Battle) and the Gračanica Monastery (History of the monastery and the Kosovo Battle)
- Group Readings, discussions, interpretation and visualization of theoretical text materials
- Exploring press and video archives in regard to the Gazimestan memorial, Vidovdan Manifestation, Slobodan Milošević's speech from 1989 as well as reading and analyzing history textbooks from Kosovo and Serbia.

Atelier#2 focused on the ways in which the memorial of Gazimestan is remembered today, how the memorial is being used by political discourse/actors and how they treat such a site, namely as a contested memory. It also focused on exploring the relationship between personal and public memories; how



*Memorial of Gazimestan*

wars, genocide and other forms of political violence were remembered and memorialized through monuments, museums, and other memory sites and practices; how they shaped individual and social processes of remembering and what were the intersections between national, cultural, religious, and other discourses, performing, surrounding, and enacting these sites.

## Serbia

### forumZFD - finally active again in Serbia

Although the need for dealing with the past (DwP) in Serbia remained unchanged, *forumZFD* did not have the opportunity to implement further activities in Serbia for the last couple of years after the end of the project in the south-west Serbian Sandžak region in 2011. Luckily, due to newly secured funding through the German ministry for economic development and cooperation (BMZ) *forumZFD* was able to expand the capacities of its Belgrade office and resumed to planning and implementing new project activities.

The team led by the newly appointed program manager Nataša Govedarica recognized that *forumZFD*'s contribution to dealing with the past processes would be most effective by following a 'soft' approach - through the cooperation with partners from the fields of art, culture and media. Next to the brave and important



*Speakers at the press conference for the Bekim-Fehmiu-Festival (f.l.t.r.): Miljenko Dereta (festival director), Kushtrim Koliqi (Integra), Maja Stojanović (Civic Initiative), Dragan Popović (PolicyCenter)*

achievements of Serbian NGOs in documenting and disclosing breaches of human rights and humanitarian law, artists, cultural workers and journalists have also paved the way for facing wrongdoings committed in the name of the Serbian people. It seems that their messages reach a broader audience, which is sometimes difficult for the traditional NGO activities. In addition, the resistance to such messages is lower, no matter how unpleasant or difficult the message might be. Therefore,

*forumZFD*'s contribution wants to strengthen such initiatives and find ways to capitalize their effects for the sake of building sustainable peace in the region. In the years to come, *forumZFD* will further diversify its 'soft' approach to DWP, while at the same time we will continue to reinforce *forumZFD*'s regional strategy. The projects that we are implementing in partnership with a variety of regional and local actors have a predominantly positive approach, which directly aims at deconstructing ethnocentric narratives about the wars and altering negative images of the *Others*, the *Enemies*. By doing this, we try to help the society to come to terms with its difficult past, accept its own responsibility and to start building new friendly relations with its regional neighbors.

A significant contribution in this direction is the project "Living Together", initiated by Vojvodina and Bosnian journalists' associations. Five documentaries and ten research articles present positive examples from the recent wars, whereas *forumZFD* contributes by introducing this topic regionally. To reinforce regional DWP initiatives, in cooperation with the *Coalition for RECOM* (a Regional Commission with the task of establishing the facts about all victims of war crimes and other serious human rights violations committed on the territory of former Yugoslavia in the period from 1991-2001), *forumZFD* will bring together key regional and European Union DWP stakeholders to the 2014 Annual International Forum for Transitional Justice. *forumZFD* will host a session titled Art deals with the past to present currents and potential of this practice. An exciting example of art that deals with past is the fact-based play "Princip" of Biljana Srbljanović, coproduced by *Heartefact Fund*. In partnership with them, we explore the legacy of Gavrilo Princip, which still heats up debates in the Balkans. Artistic exchange and art as a means of DWP is also supported throughout the presentation of the independent Dubrovnik art scene in Belgrade, first since the dissolution of Yugoslavia.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

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The first confirmation that we have chosen a good direction was the launching of the annual Festival of Kosovo art and culture in Belgrade – inspired by the fate and achievements of late Bekim Fehmiu - famous Yugoslav actor, Belgrade based and of Kosovo origin (1936 – 2010). Feedback and media reporting were highly positive, despite the topic's sensitivity. Together with the NGOs *Integra*, *Civic Initiatives* and *Policy Center*, we will

present the best Kosovo productions, openly discuss the difficult past, but also explore perspectives of cooperation. It is expected that the 'soft' approach to the challenges will continue to contribute to a decrease of traditionally high social distance between Serbs and Albanians, and help the relations to normalize. And this is just the beginning.

## Western Balkans - Regional

### “Balkan Perspectives” – a regional magazine on dealing with the past

**From December 2014, a new quarterly publication on dealing with the past will inform the population at large and offer relevant regional actors a public discussion and information platform.**

*forumZFD* has been active in the Western Balkans for over a decade now, and is committed to fostering constructive dialogue between the different conflicting parties and to promoting an empowered and active civil society. Within this, it has continually adapted its projects to the needs of the respective countries and actors, and developed these further. The new regional strategy for the Western Balkans represents a step towards reinforcing networking between the different projects on the topic of dealing with the past in Kosovo, Serbia, Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and enhancing the impact of this work.

The new magazine is the first regional project aimed at promoting a discourse on dealing with the past that extends beyond the state boundaries. In cooperation with local journalists, artists, academics and representatives from non-governmental organisations from the region, the most varied of aspects within this topic will be considered and explained to magazine readers. The overriding aim is to offer a common discussion platform to all actors involved in this topic on a practical, theoretical or academic level. “Balkan Perspectives” also strives to consider topics in an as appealing and realistic a manner as possible so that population groups (and particularly young people) who have not yet considered the topic in any depth are addressed and sensitised.

The idea for the magazine was conceived in *forumZFD*'s project office in Kosovo, which has successfully published its “Made in KS” publication since 2009. Different topics within the work on dealing with the past are considered and debated at length in a mixture of theoretical analyses, interviews and reports. The agreement was reached to extend the magazine to the Western Balkans within the scope of the regional project integration.

Given that the past conflicts have causes and impacts that extend beyond the state boundaries, the work on dealing with the

past must today also address these aspects. In the long term, the nationalistic discourse should be resolved to allow new, and inclusive perspectives on the past to develop that exceed the state and ethnic boundaries. The magazine thus supports regional dialogue and encourages networking between relevant actors involved in the work on dealing with the past.

To determine the concrete needs of the target groups as precisely as possible, interviews were conducted with local experts from Kosovo, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Macedonia whilst preparing “Balkan Perspectives.” It became increasingly clear during these interviews that interest in a reflection on personal fates in the different countries is extremely high. The interviewees generally stressed how important it was to address the younger gen-

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eration, as they continue to be shaped by nationalistic and one-sided narratives in their personal lives and in school.

To enhance the reach of "Balkan Perspectives", the magazine will be coupled with panel discussions, which will consider the title theme for the latest issue of the magazine every three months at the time of publication. A great many people can be reached through the combination of online media, the according events, and print versions. The inaugural issue of the magazine on

the topic of cultures of remembrance is currently being prepared.

Please e-mail "[Balkan Perspectives](mailto:info@balkanperspectives.org)" to subscribe.

## Outside the box

### CIVIL - A different organisation

**In 1999, the political situation in the Republic of Macedonia was complicated and tense, internally as well as regionally. The war in Kosovo was raging, 300,000 refugees found shelter in the country, augmenting the longstanding tensions between Macedonians and Albanians. Political power was held by nationalists and the deterioration of the human rights situation was evident. It was by that time that an initiative board started the organisational and programmatic preparation of Civil.**

The same group of people worked together several years earlier, more precisely, since 1995, in times of the Bosnian war, also sheltering refugees then. The founding session of the Civil assembly took place on November 25, 1999. Mainly journalists and artists are founders of Civil. The fact that thousands of organisations already

existed in the country was discussed at the first official gathering. Thus, a decision was made to create and uphold a different and close-to-the-people organisation. Hu-

man rights and freedom were and remain the main mandate of Civil since its very beginnings in the mid-90s.

The war in Macedonia in 2001 brought about new challenges. Despite the mayhem in the country, Civil reacted promptly and was the first to raise its voice against violence and killings, piloting tremendous public, media and artistic actions every day of the war, only hours after hostilities and military operations commenced. On the very first day after the war, Civil started a two-stranded action: the endorsement of the Ohrid Peace Accord and tackling arms proliferation and gun culture. This made Civil a leading organisation in the area of arms control.

Civil conducted over 100 projects since 1999 - projects that had an impact on a national level and influenced the society through nationwide awareness-raising campaigns on human rights, disarmament, conflict resolution, ethnic tolerance and dealing with the past. Thousands of children and youths participated in education-through-creativity projects. Laws, parliamentary actions and municipal decisions, policies and practices were influenced. Next to all that, Civil is in the first lines of defense of freedom of expression and freedom of the media, as well as advocating for the rights of vulnerable groups, LGBTI communities and ethnic minorities. Civil's website grew into a valuable resource of information for independent media in the country.



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*Civil press conference launching the report "Elections 2014: Democracy Disqualified" in Skopje*

Dealing with the past became a central topic for Civil in the past several years. This is important for a society which often lives in and suffers from the past, due to

## News & Events

### News in brief

#### Balkan 100 – a good start

Finally, from 31<sup>st</sup> of July to 3<sup>rd</sup> of August 2014 the first workshop of "Balkan 100" workshop took place. Originally planned for May it had to be postponed due to the flood in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. So thirteen participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia and Serbia gathered for the first time in Struga on the beautiful Lake Ohrid.

The "Balkan 100" – Project gives scholars and practitioners the opportunity to have a critical view on the existing narratives about the last century in the Western Balkans. From various perspectives - age, profession, origin, ethnic background, and gender – they explore the developments of the last century and the way they are handed down.

The event in Struga was the introduction of a three year project. Getting to know one another was the most important aim to begin with. The personal timeline of each of the participants was merged into a collective one, showing already how manifold the experiences in the Balkans can be. Site visits, understanding conflict dynamics and family histories were part of the program. Interesting discussions developed and all of us are looking forward to the next meeting.

misinterpretations, misuse and manipulations of history – a common trouble of all Balkan peoples.

Stalemate of democratic processes in general and current circumstances in the country have motivated the creators of strategies at Civil to seek for new approaches and methodologies in order to conduct actions and projects that will reflect the country's reality. This and the organisation's closeness to the citizens made Civil unique. The main daily task for a common member of Civil is thus to sustain the human face of the organisation. That is how Civil became one of the most trusted organisations in Macedonia.

#### Joined screening of film projects in Sarajevo

In cooperation with the *Anne Frank House* (the Netherlands) and the *Youth Initiative for Human Rights* (Bosnia and Herzegovina), *forumZFD*/BiH organised the public screening of the film clips of the projects "Memory Walk Munich" and *MONuMENTImotion* on August 17, 2014 in the Art Cinema Kriterion in Sarajevo.

[Memory Walk Munich](#) is the follow-up activity of the Memory Walk Sarajevo and Istočno Sarajevo project in 2013. During 5 days, 21 participants from Germany and Bosnia and Herzegovina created three short video clips based upon the critical reflection of the memorialisation of the Second World War in Munich.

The short animated movie [MONuMENTImotion](#), based upon photo exhibition "MONuMENTI - the changing face of remembrance" by Marko Krojač and produced by *forumZFD*, is a vision of creative dealing with the past directed by the independent visual artist Muhamed Kafedžić from Sarajevo together with 18 young participants from Germany, Macedonia, Kosovo, Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The two screenings were followed by a response of historian Dr. Nicolas Moll and a Q&A with the makers.

## MOnuMENTI in Germany and Serbia

This summer, the MOnuMENTI exhibition has been shown in two different locations in Serbia: in Subotica on 19-25 July as part of the Palić Film Festival, and in Novi Pazar on 13-31 August. During the exhibition held at the offices of the Danilo Kiš Foundation in Subotica, *forumZFD* Programme Manager Nataša Goverica discussed "The role of film in the process of dealing with the past" with the two Serbian directors, Stevan Filipović and Ognjen Glavonić. The exhibition was well attended and both the local and the national media covered the event.

*forumZFD* was also delighted to once again show the MOnuMENTI exhibition in Germany. The exhibition organised by Friedenskreis Halle e.V. was displayed in the Berufsgenossenschaftliche Kliniken, a teaching hospital in Halle, from 28 July for a total of three weeks. It was opened by Sven Reuter, *forumZFD* regional consultant for the Western Balkans and Southeast Asia.

## Mreža Mira nominated for the World Vision Peace Prize

*forumZFD* would like to congratulate the Mreža Mira peace network based in Banja Luka, BiH, of which *forumZFD* BiH is also a member for its nomination for the World Vision Peace Prize. The prize of 5,000 US dollars has been awarded every year since 2008, and recognises both individuals and organisations from around the globe demonstrating outstanding dedication to peace work. Announcement of the winner is eagerly anticipated on World Peace Day (21 September). We would like to wish Mreža Mira in particular – but naturally also all the other nominees from Pakistan, India, Yemen, Canada and Colombia – the very best of luck. For more information on the peace prize and the nominees, please see:

<http://wvipaceprize.ning.com>

## Upcoming Public Events

### Macedonia

#### 11. 09. 2014 | Historians' conference | Skopje

The conference taking place in Skopje on 11 September 2014 organised by the Institute of Spiritual and Cultural Heritage of the Albanians and the Institute of National

History in cooperation with *forumZFD*/Macedonia will consider the role and involvement of Albanians in the First World War. Minister for Education and Science Abdilaqim Ademi, American ambassador Paul D. Wohlers, and German ambassador Dr. Christine D. Althausen will attend the conference opening. Countless historians from Macedonia, Kosovo and Albania have been invited.

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### Kosovo

#### 19. + 20.09.2014 | Celebrating 15 years of German-Kosovar cooperation | Pristina

On 19-20 September 2014, Germany will celebrate 15 years of cooperation with Kosovo. A range of actors including the German embassy, GIZ and KfW will present their work in the country during the anniversary event. *forumZFD*/Kosovo has also been invited and will present its activities in Kosovo to the general public together with these three organisations and many others. Countless information stands will be set up along Mother Theresa Boulevard for this purpose at which *forumZFD*/Kosovo employees will be able to explain our work to interested visitors with information materials and during discussions.

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### Serbia

#### 27.09.2014 | Public debate | Belgrade

In cooperation with the [Heartefact Fund](#), *forumZFD* will host a public debate on the topic of "History and Art: A Contradictory Pair?" with several experts from Serbia and the region on Saturday, 27 September 2014 at 12-1:45 p.m.

The relationship between historic facts and art and culture, which tend to consider the human experiences, fears and hopes rather than the historic narratives will be discussed during this debate facilitated by Milica Jovanović. One central question covered during the debate will also be how art and culture can contribute to a debate on nationalistic narrative, war, death, culture of remembrance, and responsibility. The event is part of the [Belgrade International Theatre Festival \(BITEF\)](#) and will be held at Kuca Kulture, Terazije 34, Belgrade. Please e-mail

[filipk@heartefact.org](mailto:filipk@heartefact.org) to register for the event in advance.

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### Macedonia

#### 17.+18.10.2014 | Conference on Peace Education | Tetovo

On 17-18 October 2014, Tetovo State University will host a scientific conference in cooperation with *forumZFD/Macedonia* on the topic of "Facing the Past and Rethinking Peace in the Multicultural Balkans". The conference will focus on peace education, and the research papers presented reflect on the history of Albanian education, mediation and intercultural and inter-religious dialogue, and educational approaches to cultural, ethnic and linguistic diversity.

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### Macedonia

#### 05.11.2014 | Public debate | Skopje

In cooperation with our partner, Civil, *forumZFD* will host a public debate in Skopje on 5 November 2014 on the topic of "Remembrance Policy in the Western Balkans". The question of how history is instrumentalised for political purposes will be considered. We will discuss the implications of this for a constructive approach to dealing with the past with three guests from Kosovo, Macedonia and Serbia. The debate will be held at the GEM Klub in the old town at 5-9 p.m. We warmly invite all interested parties to attend, and look forward to an interesting event.

Contact: Johannes Ruger ([rueger@forumZFD.de](mailto:rueger@forumZFD.de))

### Germany and Austria

**09.11. - 18.11.2014 | MONUMENTI | Aachen**

**20.11. - 05.12.2014 | MONUMENTI | Graz**

The MONUMENTI exhibition will also be shown again in Germany this autumn – this time at [St. Nicholas church](#) in Aachen on 9-18 November.

We also look forward to having the opportunity to display the MONUMENTI exhibition in Austria for the first time. The photographs will be shown from 20 November to 5 December during the international conference on "Remembering and Forgetting the Great War: Public Memory" taking place at the Institute of Southeast European Studies of the University of Graz.

Further information on the conference and exhibition will be available soon at:

[www.suedosteuropa.uni-graz.at/de/upcoming-events](http://www.suedosteuropa.uni-graz.at/de/upcoming-events)

### Staff News

After three years as a project manager in Macedonia (first in Struga and later in Skopje), our colleague Kirsten Schoenefeld will be leaving us this September. We would like to thank her very much for the pleasant cooperation and wish Kirsten all the best in the future. We also look forward to welcoming a number of new colleagues to our other project locations: Korab Krasniqi began working in Pristina as a project manager back in May. In Belgrade, Milica Cimeša and Bert van der Linde join our team as new project managers this month. In Sarajevo, we welcome Sunita Dautbegović-Bosnjaković as a new project manager this September.

# Imprint

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#### Pax Christi im Bistum Aachen

The peace of Christ was a sign of hope for many people in the destroyed Europe at the end of the Second World War. Out of this hope people of formerly hostile nations, mainly Germans, French and Polish, reconciled with each other. This was the beginning of the pax christi movement which by now is active for peace and justice in more than 60 countries. pax christi in the diocese of Aachen is part of the world wide pax christi movement. As founding-member of Forum Ziviler Friedensdienst pax christi Aachen carries out projects of the Civil Peace Service in the Western Balkans in cooperation with *forumZFD*.



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