

**Summary Report regarding Local, Regional  
and International Documentation of War  
Crimes and Human Rights Violations in the  
former Yugoslavia**

**April 2002**

**Prepared by Djordje Djordjević**

**Commissioned by:**



## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>I. NATIONAL AGENCIES</b>	
1. Governmental Commissions and Related Bodies	6
2. Local Non-Governmental Organizations	12
<b>II. INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES</b>	<b>20</b>
1. International Courts	20
2. International and Transnational Organizations	23
3. International Non-Governmental Organizations	26
4. Archives	29
<b>III. REGIONAL NETWORKS</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>APPENDIX I: DOCUMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST WOMEN</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>APPENDIX II: IZVRŠNI PREGLED</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>CHART OF DATA COLLECTING AGENCIES FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA</b>	<b>43</b>

**OVERVIEW<sup>1</sup>**

Following the gradual and violent breakdown of the SFR Yugoslavia in the 1990s, each subsequent independent authority established its own governmental body to investigate and compile documentation of war crimes and violations of international humanitarian law. In some cases, their mandate included investigating the causes that led to the conflicts, conducting geopolitical analysis, and collecting data on damages to historical and cultural monuments. Local human rights activists and NGOs were concerned about local governments' ability to collect unbiased evidence and documentation while engaged in ethnic warfare. So in a parallel effort, NGOs started collecting documentation independently, hoping to reach a more balanced account of the crimes. In addition, international institutions and organizations starting with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), which gained limited access to governmental resources, collaborated with local NGOs and conducted investigations of its own. Only in a limited number of cases were documents shared between NGOs, nationally and regionally, and rarely between governmental and non-governmental agencies. This survey examines the existing networks of exchange of information between all three actors – governmental, non-governmental and international - and prospects for creating new local and regional forms of cooperation between them.

---

<sup>1</sup> This study is limited to documentation of the 1991-1999 wars in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and FR Yugoslavia (FRY), including Kosovo. It does not include discussion of any war crimes or human rights violations that occurred during the brief conflict in Slovenia in 1991 or the recent conflict in the FYR Macedonia.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The objective of this study is to identify a broad range of agencies in and outside the region of the former Yugoslavia that collect documentation on war crimes and other human rights violations committed in the 1991-1999 wars. The agencies, that are of primary interest to this survey, investigate crimes and abuses, compile and archive relevant documentation, offer expert knowledge and training in the region, or have projects for local documentation centers and regional networking. This study also considers potential benefits for other interested parties and prospective users of war crime documentation including international and domestic courts, truth commissions, historians, social researchers, political and legal analysts, and local media promoting truth telling and reconciliation.

There are several factors that point to the need for an overview of data-collecting agencies in the region; numerous local and international agencies lack sufficient knowledge about the work and resources of other agencies. The lack of coordination and limited exchange of information between these agencies mandates such an overview. Local resources include documentation by various levels of government, NGOs, media houses and independent researchers in each country affected by the conflict. Governmental agencies that hold documentation may include commissions on war crimes, commissions for missing persons, domestic courts, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and liaison offices for cooperation with the ICTY. Though significant and essential, the work of local NGOs is usually limited in its scope to designated regions and localities, specific events and incidents, or specific types of human rights violations. As for international organizations, they are dispersed between international courts (ICTY and ICJ), international and transnational organizations through their expert teams of monitors and investigators (UN, OSCE, ICMP), NGO reports (ICRC, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, etc.), and war documentation archives (Balkan Archive, OSI Archive, etc.). Significant materials and evidence in video and audio recordings are also held by many media agencies around the world and compiled locally (Radio B92) and internationally (IMI, IWPR).

The intensity and scope of the conflicts, the gradual spread of war over different localities, the division into four different areas of local jurisdiction, the lack of cooperation, and limited access to crime sites and eye-witnesses all contribute to the atomized nature of collected evidence. In addition, the full use of documentation is hampered by lack of access to the documentation of many agencies, limited information about resources in general, and the use of different methodologies in archiving of evidence. As a consequence, prosecutions of war crimes, attempts to establish comprehensive historical records, and initial truth and reconciliation efforts suffer from a lack of an integrated database. Fortunately, there appears to be a consensus on the part of many NGOs in the region and other actors that a systematic collaboration should be initiated so as to establish a regional network based on local documentation centers.

In light of the foregoing, this report recommends that a broad-based regional meeting on the NGO level be convened. The purpose of this meeting would be to discuss the possible adoption of a formal plan for consolidation, integration, and coordination of existing documentation resources in order to facilitate efforts towards truth, justice, reconciliation, and public awareness about the past events in the former Yugoslavia. The framework for the meeting should be previously established by a steering committee comprised of local (and possibly international) experts. The committee would prepare a detailed agenda and vision for participants in advance of the meeting. In preparing the agenda and any proposals, the committee would consider how to build on lessons learned from past and current regional networks. The agenda for the meeting would include discussion of the following issues: the structure of any network to be established, its composition, its objectives and activities, its methodology, and technological issues. Finally, it is recommended that this study be followed by a more detailed analysis (ideally prior to the proposed regional meeting) that will focus on the documentation of a limited number of the more significant agencies identified in this report.

## I. NATIONAL AGENCIES

### *1. Governmental Commissions and Other Related Bodies*

With some exceptions, governmental agencies are generally seen by many participants in the region as important vehicles for collecting documentation and evidence. This is largely because of their resources in terms of financial support and access to information, sites of crimes, and mass graves, etc. Following the gradual and violent breakdown of the SFR Yugoslavia in the 1990s, each subsequent independent authority established its own governmental body in some form of commission on war crimes to investigate and gather documentation of war crimes and violations of international humanitarian law. In some cases, their mandates included investigating the causes that led to the conflicts, conducting geopolitical analysis, and collecting data on damages to historical and cultural monuments. Among other bodies that generate and compile documentation the most significant are domestic courts prosecuting war crimes and commissions for missing persons. Given the context of ethnic war, individual governmental commissions for war crimes in many cases did not compile comprehensive documentation for the locality under their jurisdiction nor did they adequately represent crimes and victims of all ethnic communities. Most of the commissions, following their governments' policies, documented exclusively or for the most part only crimes and violations against the members of the majority ethnic group under the particular state authority. For this reason, NGOs have been appropriately reluctant to rely on government services. This documentation is in most cases not available to independent researchers other than through a series of public reports; and therefore, it is difficult to verify the authenticity of individual testimonies and other evidence. The other problem is the lack of coordination between different government bodies. A number of different bodies may hold potentially significant information and the full account of all resources is not always considered. Finally, there is much reluctance among many governmental actors to give partial or full public disclosure of the documentation of war crimes or to engage in an exchange of resources with other non-governmental organizations.

In Bosnia, governments of each of the two entities, Federation of BiH and the Republic of Srpska, have their own independent bodies investigating war crimes. There are also three different commissions in charge of searches for the missing and detained, based in Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Mostar. The Commission for Data Collection on War Crimes was founded in 1992 by the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is headed by an experienced investigator, Mirsad Tokača. After the Dayton Peace Agreement was reached in 1995, it changed its name to **State Commission for Investigation of War Crimes (SCIWC)** and became an institution of the **Federation of BiH**. The task of the Commission is to investigate and collect information on genocide, war crimes, and human rights violations committed against innocent civilians and other persons protected by

the norms of international humanitarian law and related conventions. The Commission insists that war crimes were gathered, registered, and filed irrespective of the ethnic, social, or racial group. In the last ten years, SCIWC collected more than 500,000 pages of different documents, mostly testimonies of witnesses. It also registered more than 300,000 names of victims, out of which 45,000 were killed and 26,000 missing. In addition, SCIWC registered the existence of more than 440 locations of prisons and detention camps, 320 mass graves, and 900 incidents of mass killing. A special investigation is under way to survey the destruction of cultural and religious monuments and other protected civil objects. The archive of SCIWC contains 20,000 photographs and approximately 1,500 hours of video recordings documenting war crimes. All documents of the commission are made available to the ICTY, domestic courts, NGOs, research institutions, and the media. In the former Yugoslavia, SCIWC collaborated with the Humanitarian Law Center and the Helsinki Committee in Belgrade, and Biser Internacional in Sarajevo. Internationally, it worked with the UN Commission of Experts for the former Yugoslavia, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the U.S. Institute for Peace, the Institute for War Documentation in the Netherlands, and the Center for Investigation of Holocaust and Genocide in Denmark. The work of SCIWC's counterpart, the Federation's **State Commission for Search of Missing Persons (SCSMP)** receives a lot of publicity in Bosnia. Headed by Amor Mašović, one of the SDA party political leaders, SCSMP exhumed more than 12,000 victims in collaboration with a team from the ICTY following the Dayton Peace Agreement.

The government of the **Republic of Srpska** has established a **Documentation Center (DC)** that deals exclusively with war crimes and abuses against the Serb population committed in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Center cooperated in the past with government agencies in Serbia. Its mandate includes researching the causes of the war in Bosnia and its material consequences, gathering data on national heritage, and conducting geopolitical analysis. Two divisions of the Center politically analyze past events and estimate material consequences of the war for potential reparations. The RS Ministry of Justice created a **Bureau for Cooperation with the ICTY** in May 2001. According to the Ministry of Justice press release, the Bureau is composed of "legal, military and other scientific experts, who in the first phase are tasked to collect all relevant information for the defense of the indicted persons for war crimes from the Serb population before the ICTY, in the context of published indictments." The Office of the High Representative in BiH reports that there is confusion and rivalry between different governmental bodies including DC, the Bureau for Cooperation with the ICTY, the RS Liaison Officer to the ICTY, and other RS Ministries on mandate and representation in collecting evidence of war crimes.

Government information on war crimes and human rights violations in **Croatia** is dispersed between different agencies. This may be partly due to the fact that the Commission for War Crimes designated by the government never took office.

After the war of 1991, Croatian authorities made it their priority to estimate war damages, which resulted in a report from the commission of the Ministry of Finance.<sup>2</sup> In addition to this report, a comprehensive picture of wartime destruction can be gathered from the offices of the Ministries of Justice and Internal Affairs. Specific information on war crimes documentation in Croatia can be obtained from Orsad Miljenić, the Head of the **Office for Cooperation with the International Court of Justice and International Criminal Tribunals**. There is a plan to use the staff of this Office to create an independent Office on War Crimes. One of the tasks of this new office will be to gather all the government's resources in one place. Documentation known to be with the Ministry of Justice is connected to seven ongoing criminal trials related to events that occurred in Gospić, Karlovac, Virovitica, and Bjelovar. Documents from these legal proceedings will become available upon the completion of the trials. The Office for Detained and Missing, as a part of the investigation into the fate of missing persons, has conducted a number of exhumations in collaboration with observers from international organizations and the FRY government in the case of Serb citizens of Croatia. There is also a Section for War Crimes and Terrorism at the Ministry of Internal Affairs that holds some documentation, but its exact nature cannot be made public.

The **Committee for Data Collection on Crimes against Humanity and International Law (CDCCHIL)** was founded in Belgrade in 1991 as a federal institution of the former (SFR) Yugoslavia and is now under the federal authorities of the **FR Yugoslavia**. It interprets its mandate to include war crimes committed in all republics of the former Yugoslavia. Accordingly, it has compiled evidence on all the conflicts since 1991, including wars in Croatia, Bosnia, and FRY/Kosovo. Most of the Committee members and staff have been with the Committee since 1993. The Committee was closely linked to the previous government and had access to the files of the Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Internal Affairs, but within the structure of the new federal authorities it has lower visibility. The mandate includes researching the causes and the character of the Yugoslav wars and the material consequences of the war. The CDCCHIL so far has issued ten reports grouped in categories such as collective murder, ethnic cleansing, the intentional destruction of cultural and historical monuments, and thematic units concentrating on events and localities such as Čelebići, Dretelj, Bosansko Orašje, etc. For the most part, the latter reports document the detention camps for Serb prisoners run under Bosnian authority.<sup>3</sup> The Yugoslav **Truth and Reconciliation Commission (FRY TRC)** was established in March 2001 by president Kostunica to investigate all the conflicts in the territory of the former Yugoslavia. The Commission – an independent body – is made up of 15 members. Its task is to construct a comprehensive account of the 1990-1999 wars, publicize its findings, and “influence the writing of history.” The work is set

---

<sup>2</sup> See [www.vlada.hr/bulletin/1999/sep-oct/document-full.html](http://www.vlada.hr/bulletin/1999/sep-oct/document-full.html)

<sup>3</sup> Reports are available in electronic form, and some in English, but the website of the Committee has been out of service for some time.



to start by collecting testimonies and conducting public hearings of all those involved in some of the most tragic episodes of the war, such as those that took place in Vukovar, Srebrenica, Štrpci and during the “Storm” operation in Croatia. The Commission does not have its own documentation database and will therefore have to make use of documents collected by other agencies. Most of the allocated funds will go towards the processing of this massive documentation on the events in the region in the last fifteen years. Following its completion, the entire document will be made available to the public.

In spite of initial commitments to deal with past abuses, the new government of the Republic of Serbia did not designate independent bodies to investigate war crimes. Recently, it established a **Bureau for Missing Persons** within the **Center for Kosovo and Metohija**, headed by the deputy-prime minister, Nebojša Čović. The investigation of war crimes is not a part of the Bureau’s mandate, but in the course of its work, any relevant evidence of criminal offences will be passed on to the Serbian Ministry of Justice. The local authorities in Kosovo – operating under the UNMIK administration – have not yet set up any specific commission to investigate crimes committed before, during or after the conflict of 1999. The bulk of work on documenting crimes has been taken up by various international agencies, most notably the ICTY, and those that are closely involved in rebuilding the new government in Kosovo, such as the expert team from the Organization for Security and Cooperation of Europe (OSCE). In contrast, UNMIK established a **Victims Recovery and Identification Commission** in April 2000 to take the lead in identifying those who died and examine the 529 known mass-grave sites in Kosovo.

It is worth emphasizing that perhaps some of the most important information and evidence about war crimes is gathered in the process of investigating the fate of missing persons. Commissions for missing persons were always one of the key priorities of the new governments due to mounting pressure of civic associations and individuals requesting information about the fate of their relatives and friends. Therefore, these commissions are generally well funded and often the first to have access to the mass-grave sites. And their work is usually well publicized. Information about war crimes following exhumations and other forms of investigation is usually archived by the commission, or passed on to agencies that are specialized in investigating war crimes and to the Ministry of Justice. This is also one of the areas where agencies across the region have collaborated the most. (See below under “Regional Networks”). Domestic war crimes trials also generate significant evidence and other information about the abuses, but for practical reasons are not considered individually in this survey. The number of prosecutions is still limited, but is expected to rise with the projected closing of the list of ICTY indictments in 2004 and the completion of its work by the year 2008.

**Contacts:**

Mirsad Tokača

**State Commission for Investigation of War Crimes** [Državna komisija za pretraživanje ratnih zločina]

Musala 9

71000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Tel: (+387 33) 663 863

E-mail: [dkprz@bih.net.ba](mailto:dkprz@bih.net.ba)

Amor Mašović

**State Commission for Search of the Missing** [Državna komisija za traženje nestalih]

Musala 9

71000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Tel: (+387 33) 664 951

Fax: (+387 33) 218 495

Dr. Pejo Djurasinović

**Documentation Center of the Republic of Srpska** [Dokumentacioni centar Republike Srpske]

Jevrejska bb

78000 Banja Luka, Republika Srpska, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Website: [www.dcrs.org](http://www.dcrs.org)

E-mail: [office@dcrs.org](mailto:office@dcrs.org)

Orsadić Miljenić

**Office of the Republic of Croatia for Cooperation with the International Court of Justice and International Criminal Tribunals**

[Ured za suradnju sa Međunarodnim sudom pravde i Međunarodnim kaznenim sudom]

Mesnička 23

41000 Zagreb, **Croatia**

Tel: (+385 1) 630 3044

Fax: (+385 1) 630 3862

Branko Turić

**Department for War Crimes and Terrorism, Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs** [Odjel za ratne zločine i terorizam, Hrvatsko ministarstvo unutrašnjih poslova]

Savska 39

41000 Zagreb, **Croatia**

Tel: (+385 1) 378 8103

Ivan Grujić

**Office of the Republic of Croatia for Detained and Missing** [Ured vlade Hrvatske za zarobljene i nestale]

Mesnička 23  
41000 Zagreb, **Croatia**  
Tel: (+385 1) 619 6486/616 9179

Dušan Kadić  
**Federal Committee for Data Collection on Crimes against Humanity and International Law** [Savezni Komitet za prikupljanje podataka o izvršenim zločinima protiv čovečnosti i međunarodnog prava]  
Vlakovićeva 10  
11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**  
Tel: (+381 11) 324 1107/323 0369  
Fax: (+381 11) 323 4133  
Website: [www.gov.yu/cwc](http://www.gov.yu/cwc)  
E-mail: [komitet@beotel.yu](mailto:komitet@beotel.yu) and [cowcr@gov.yu](mailto:cowcr@gov.yu)

Maksim Korać  
**Commission for Humanitarian Questions and Missing Persons**  
[Komisija za humanitarna pitanja i nestala lica]  
Palata federacije, zapadni ulaz, V sprat  
11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**  
Tel: (+381 11) 137-059  
Tel/Fax: (+381 11) 311-76-26

Aleksandar Lojpur  
**Truth and Reconciliation Commission** [Komisija istine i pomirenja]  
Resavska 24  
11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**  
Tel: (+381 11) 324 9603  
Fax: (+381 11) 324 9604  
Website: [www.komisija.org](http://www.komisija.org)  
E-mail: [a.lojpur@eunet.yu](mailto:a.lojpur@eunet.yu)

## ***2. Local Non-Governmental Organizations***

Within all the republics of the former Yugoslavia there are a large number of NGOs involved in different aspects of human rights activism, though only a few systematically investigate and document war crimes. The most common form of registering crimes and abuses are the notes taken from interviews with the victims and witnesses of abuse. On the basis of these notes - sometimes statistically and systematically processed and often including quotes from the interviewees - NGOs publish regular reports, newsletters or other publications documenting human rights violations. In FRY alone, over 1,500 new NGOs appeared in less than a decade, more than 150 of which are specialized in human rights. This overview is thus limited to some of the most prominent NGOs who systematically collected data and publicized their findings. Some NGOs are better acquainted with the work of their counterparts regionally than about NGO documentation resources in their own country. A number of NGOs that have relevant documentation in the region have kept in regular contact with their counterparts in other republics and in some cases had limited exchanges of documentation. There is generally an expectation that these links can be further strengthened and possibly result in full collaboration on a centralized data bank and cooperation between local documentation centers. NGO actors acknowledge the significance of state commissions, the importance of their resources, and in some cases praise their use of methodology. However, there are many reservations about state commissions' willingness and ability to document crimes in which their own state was implicated, as well as crimes committed by paramilitary troops belonging to the dominant group in the government's constituency. There is also concern that the number of victims in their own communities may be inflated and the severity of crimes magnified. There have been a few informal meetings to mutually review sample documentation of state commissions and NGOs and to discuss the use of methodology. But generally, the contacts between governmental and non-governmental organizations are usually minimal and there are no known working projects to integrate documentation between them. On the other hand, NGOs have worked extensively with international organizations that supported them through funding as well as through volunteering their expert knowledge and training. In turn, documentation from local NGOs helped direct the initial investigations of the ICTY when it started its work in 1994.

For numerous reasons, the task of documenting war crimes in **Bosnia** is more complicated than it is in other parts of the former Yugoslavia. First of all, the magnitude of the conflict and abuses is so vast. There is a lack of access to crime scenes and grave sites. Adding to the complexity, quasi-independent military parties were involved in the conflict. Their interrelations and complicities with the local authorities, as well as the involvement of political and military actors from neighboring FRY and Croatia, further complicate the assignment. Considering this complexity and the related financial burden of assuming large

systematic projects in Bosnia, the task has been taken up mostly by state commissions and international organizations. There are some NGOs that have done work in particular regions, focusing on specific crimes. The **Association of Citizens “Women of Srebrenica”** is an organization that collects information on the fate and circumstances of the victims of the Srebrenica massacre. A database was created in order to facilitate the search for the missing and commemorate their loss, but it is not intended to be a comprehensive documentation of crime. **Medica Zenica** was set up in 1992 to provide medical and mental health care to women in the region of Zenica, a gathering place for thousands of refugees. In addition to providing medical services to women, it also documented individual instances of abuse against women and children. The cases that were individually documented contain reports from a medical and a psychological team, and some of them were used as evidence in the ICTY trials (See Appendix I). The efforts to establish a Truth and Reconciliation Commission on the state level in BiH are promoted by the **Association of Citizens “Truth and Reconciliation” (ACTR)**. The Association raises awareness of the need for reconciliation efforts and has opened up a public debate on the constitution and character of the prospective BiH commission. In addition to the legal process, ACTR insists that there is a need to establish a broader historical analysis of the events that adequately account for all groups involved. Collecting and documenting instances of war crimes is not, however, a part of ACTR’s task.

In **Croatia**, the only large NGO that is doing a comprehensive documentation of war crimes is the **Croatian Helsinki Committee (CHO)**. CHO’s efforts are concentrated on covering the abuses committed during the “Storm” and “Flash” Croatian Army offensives in 1995 in the so-called Republic of Srpska Krajina and in Serb-held territories in western Croatia, respectively. So far, CHO has completed documenting individual cases of murder and human rights abuses, limited to sectors North and South of the “Storm” military campaign. At the moment, it is working on the sector West of the “Storm” operation and the “Flash” operation. There is a plan to produce a comprehensive report of all significant events during these two operations and, along with the International Committee of the Red Cross, account for the missing persons. Considering the large amount of resources needed for this project, its completion will depend on available funding. The **Center for Women Victims of War (CWVW)** in Zagreb is a women’s NGO that has existed since 1992. One of the main tasks of CWVW is compiling evidence of abuses against women into a systematized database that can be used for legal purposes or research (See Appendix I).

A long-standing local NGO collecting data on human rights violations in **Kosovo** is the **Council for Defense of Human Rights and Freedom in Pristina (CDHRF)**. The Council has been active since 1989. Between 1991 and 1999 it was headed by Adem Demaci, a long-term political prisoner and veteran political activist. Since the early days of the apartheid-style regime in Kosovo in the 1990s, CDHRF has collected a large number of reports on human rights abuses against

Albanians. It continued its work after the 1999 conflict, including issuing a limited number of reports on human rights violations committed against the non-Albanian population in the postwar period. CDHRF receives a large number of reports which are not always authentic. However, the council stresses its high standards of verification, including its practice of seeking three independent sources – court documents (if released), medical certificates, and eyewitnesses. Two active members of the Women’s Section of CDHRF, Vjosa Dobruna and Sevije Ahmeti, have founded the **Center for Protection of Women and Children (CPWC)**. This organization offers support to abused women and collects documentation on their abuse. Documents collected by the CPWC have been passed on to the ICTY (See Appendix I). There has also been an initiative on the part of the historian, Enver Hoxhaj from University of Pristina, to create the **Kosovo Documentation Institute (KODI)** which will focus on the recent past of Kosovo. The plan is to place under one roof a research institute and a documentation center that will investigate all aspects of political life and the history of human rights abuses in Kosovo in the 1990s. KODI’s work will thus include interviewing victims and eyewitnesses and recording the histories of individuals, families and localities affected by war. Additionally, the institution will analyze political party programs and government statements, and compile material from international legal and media sources. The realization of this elaborate project for the Institute will require securing necessary funding, setting up an adequate institutional structure, and gradually gathering and archiving the materials.

The **Humanitarian Law Center (HLC)** in Belgrade is one of the most significant NGOs in the former Yugoslavia that documents war crimes. Established in 1992 by Nataša Kandić, the HLC’s primary task is to document crimes committed in Bosnia, Croatia, and later in FRY/Kosovo. It has instigated a number of investigations, conducted a wide range of interviews with victims and witnesses, compiled information on detainees, observed the exhumations of victims, and issued yearly reports on human rights abuses based on collected documentation. HLC also keeps a database of all reported abuses and has a plan to create its own documentation center. Documentation is generally grouped thematically, linked to events and locations. Since August 1994, it has collaborated with the ICTY, and its findings helped direct the first ICTY investigations in Bosnia. When the Croatian Helsinki Committee conducted an investigation of abuses during the Croatian Army “Storm” offensive, HLC supplied its own materials based on interviews done with the refugees from the former Republic of Srpska Krajina. HLC has offices and staff in several towns in Kosovo, and was active in collecting evidence of human rights abuses before, during, and after the conflict of 1999.

Another large organization in Serbia, the **Center for Collecting Documents and Information “Veritas,”** specializes in documenting human rights abuses against the Serb population in Croatia. It was established in 1993 in Knin

to document the abuses in the region of Krajina, but when it moved to Belgrade in 1995, it extended its activity to cover the whole of Croatia. Even though “Veritas” is a non-governmental organization, it has worked closely with both the previous and present governments of FRY. Apart from documenting and publicizing the crimes, it also facilitates the exchange of prisoners of war, searches for missing persons, and assists with reparation claims via private lawsuits by Serbs against the state of Croatia.

In terms of documentation by media outlets, Radio B92 in Belgrade has a **Documentation Center “Wars 1991-1999”** headed by Drinka Gojković. The Center collects media and published documentation pertaining to the wars in the Balkans. The documentation includes a library of local and international books, documentary and feature films, public speeches of the former president Slobodan Milošević, and critiques of Serbian nationalism and the involvement in the war. A separate project collects oral histories from participants in the wars and from refugees, including those in Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo. The Center’s long-term project is to establish a complete list of names of the civilians killed in the wars, entitled the “Encyclopedia of the Dead.” Media organizations in the region that promote public awareness of the war atrocities and reconciliation include the television stations of **Radio B92** in Belgrade, and **Koha Ditore** in Priština, and **Feral Tribune** magazine in Split. **SaGA** film production company from Sarajevo has made more than 60 documentary films about the siege of Sarajevo and the destruction of historical and cultural monuments in Bosnia.

There are a number of other NGOs in the region whose primary task is not a systematic compilation of databases on abuses, but who could supply evidence of crimes and have projects for documentation centers. These include: the **Civic Council for Human Rights**, the **Center for Peace Studies**, and the **Croatian Law Center** in Zagreb; the **Center for Peace, Nonviolence and Human Rights** in Osijek; the **Human Rights Offices** in Bjeljina and Tuzla; the **Kosovo Helsinki Committee** in Pristina; and the **Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (YUCOM)**, the **Belgrade Center for Human Rights**, and the **Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia** in Belgrade. The Civic Council in Zagreb and the Belgrade Center for Human Rights are two prominent organizations that are active in monitoring and publicizing human rights abuses. They both have conducted interviews with victims of war crimes in an effort to provide legal assistance or help search for the missing. The Lawyers Committee in Belgrade, on the other hand, has no documentation of its own but offers expert advice and an assessment of indictments for war crimes based on the analysis of documentation relevant to cases. The alleged war crimes vary from those brought before domestic courts to earlier and more recent indictments against the former president Slobodan Milošević at the ICTY.

**Contacts:**

**Association of Citizens “Women of Srebrenica”** [Udruženje građana “Žene Srebrenice”]

Filipa Kljajića 38  
75000 Tuzla, **Bosna i Hercegovina**  
Tel/Fax: (+387 35) 251 498  
Website: [www.srebrenica.org](http://www.srebrenica.org)  
E-mail: [office@srebrenica.org](mailto:office@srebrenica.org)

Jakob Finci

**Association of Citizens “Truth and Reconciliation”** [Udruženje građana “Istina i pomirenje”]

Ante Fiaminga 14b  
71000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Tel: (+387 33) 663 473  
Fax: (+387 33) 454 230  
E-mail: [kip@bosnia.ba](mailto:kip@bosnia.ba)

Pantelija Lakić

**Human Rights Office Bjeljina** [Kancelarija za ljudska prava u Bjeljini]

Miloša Obrenovića 4/1  
76300 Bjeljina, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Tel/Fax: (+387 55) 401 465

Elizabeta Lukačević

**Human Rights Office Tuzla** [Kancelarija za ljudska prava u Tuzli]

Filipa Kljajića 38  
75000 Tuzla, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Tel: (+387 35) 280 765  
Fax: (+387 35) 250 504

Ismet Arnautalić

**SaGA Film Production Company**

Hakije Kulenovića 7  
71000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Tel/Fax: (+387 71) 666 811/471 145  
Website: [www.sagafilm.com](http://www.sagafilm.com)

Ranko Helebrant

**Croatian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights** [Hrvatski helsinški komitet za ljudska prava]

Ilica 15 / III  
1000 Zagreb, **Croatia**  
Tel: (+385 1) 481 23 22/ 481 23 21  
Fax: (+385 1) 481 23 24  
Website: [www.ihf-hr.org/crohcn.htm](http://www.ihf-hr.org/crohcn.htm) and [www.open.hr/com/hho/](http://www.open.hr/com/hho/)



E-mail: [hho@zg.tel.hr](mailto:hho@zg.tel.hr)

Vesna Teršelić

**Center for Peace Studies** [Centar za mirovne studije]

Medulićeva 17

1000 Zagreb, **Croatia**

Tel/Fax: (+385 1) 484 8720

E-mail: [cms@zamir.net](mailto:cms@zamir.net)

Zoran Pusić

**Civic Council for Human Rights** [Gradjanski odbor za ljudska prava]

Ul. Grada Vukovara 35/IV

10000 Zagreb, **Croatia**

Tel/Fax: (+385 1) 6171530

E-mail: [zpusic@zamir.net](mailto:zpusic@zamir.net)

Biserka Milošević

**Centre for Peace, Nonviolence and Human Rights**

Kersovanijeva 4

31000 Osijek, **Croatia**

Tel: +385-31-206886

E-mail: [czmos@zamir.net](mailto:czmos@zamir.net)

Website: [www.zamir.net/~csmos](http://www.zamir.net/~csmos)

Behxhet Shala

**Council for Defense of Human Rights and Freedoms of Prishtina**

[Keshilli per Mbrojtjen e te Drejtave dhe Lirive te Njeriut ne Prishtine]

Ylfete Humolli 5

38000 Pristina, **Kosovo**, FRY

Tel: (+381 38) 549 006

Fax: (+381 38) 549 007

Website: [www.cdhrf.org](http://www.cdhrf.org)

E-mail: [office@cdhrf.org](mailto:office@cdhrf.org)

Enver Hoxhaj,

**Kosovo Documentation Center** [Instituti per Dokumentim i Kosoves]

Department of History, University of Pristina

38000 Pristina, **Kosovo**, FRY

Tel/Fax: (+381 38) 501 472; Cell (+377 44) 165 642

E-mail: [enverhoxhaj@yahoo.com](mailto:enverhoxhaj@yahoo.com)

Gazmend Pulja

**Kosovo Helsinki Committee** [Komiteti Kosovar i Helsinkit]

Taslixhe I 36a

38000 Prishtina, **Kosovo**, FRY

Tel/Fax: (+381 38) 27 293 / 535 010

E-mail: [hels-kos@eunet.yu](mailto:hels-kos@eunet.yu)

Nataša Kandić

**Humanitarian Law Center** [Fond za humanitarno pravo]

Avalska 9

11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**

Tel/Fax: (+381 11) 444 3944/444 1487; Cell (+381 63) 210 536

Website: [www.hlc.org.yu](http://www.hlc.org.yu)

E-mail: [natasakandic@hlc.org.yu](mailto:natasakandic@hlc.org.yu)

Savo Štrbac

**Center for Collecting Documents and Information “Veritas”** [Centar za prikupljanje dokumenata i informacija “Veritas”]

Dečanska 8/4

11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**

Tel/Fax: (+381 11) 323 6486

Website: [www.veritas.org.yu](http://www.veritas.org.yu)

E-mail: [mailto:veritas@yubc.net](mailto:mailto:veritas@yubc.net)

Drinka Gojković

**Documentation Center “Wars 1991-1999”** [Dokumentacioni centar “Ratovi 1991-1999”]

Narodnog fronta 66

11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**

Tel: (+381 11) 361 2835

E-mail: [Drinka@b92.net](mailto:Drinka@b92.net)

Biljana Kovačević-Vučo

**Lawyers Committee for Human Rights** [Komitet pravnika za ljudska prava]

Krunska 22/6

11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**

Tel:(+381 11) 324-45-40/ 334-44-25

Fax: (+ 381 11) 334-42-35

Website: [www.yucom.org.yu](http://www.yucom.org.yu)

E-mail: [yulaw@eunet.yu](mailto:yulaw@eunet.yu)

Vojin Dimitrijević

**Belgrade Center for Human Rights** [Beogradski centar za ljudska prava]

Mlatišumina 26/1

11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**

Tel/Fax: (+381 11) 432 572/ 308 5328

Website: [www.bgcentar.org.yu](http://www.bgcentar.org.yu)

E-mail: [bgcentar@bgcentar.org.yu](mailto:bgcentar@bgcentar.org.yu)

Sonja Biserko

**Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia** [Helsinki komitet za ljudska prava u Srbiji]

Zmaj Jovina 7

11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**

Tel: (+381 11) 637 542/ 637 116/ 637 294

Fax: (+381 11) 636 429

Website: [www.helsinki.org.yu](http://www.helsinki.org.yu)

E-mail: [biserkos@eunet.yu](mailto:biserkos@eunet.yu)

## II. INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES

The international community has been actively involved in the Yugoslav conflicts since the massive outbreak of violence in Croatia in 1991 and in Bosnia in the spring of 1992. In addition to diplomatic and military efforts, the international community has monitored the violence, documented and publicized crimes, and prosecuted the perpetrators as means of both prevention and remedy. The documentation resources of the international community include: comprehensive databases compiled for international trials at the ICTY and the ICJ; special and expert reports done by teams from international and transnational organizations such as the UN, OSCE and ICMP and their overseeing bodies in the region including the Office of the High Representative in Bosnia and the UNMIK and the OSCE Missions in Kosovo; a large number of NGO reports documenting particular instances of crime; video and audio material collections from media agencies; and war crimes documentation archives.

### *1. International Courts*

The **International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY)** was established by UN Security Council resolution 287 in 1993. Its mandate is to prosecute natural persons responsible for violations of international humanitarian law, genocide, and crimes against humanity since 1991 in the territory of the former Yugoslavia. The Office of the Prosecutor of the ICTY has so far made 80 public indictments, 49 of which are now in proceedings, with another 31 indictees remaining at large. In compiling evidence, the ICTY works with states, international organizations, and local NGOs. The Tribunal also conducts its own investigations on the territory of the former Yugoslavia. ICTY has outreach offices in the major cities in the region, including Zagreb, Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Belgrade, and Pristina that coordinate efforts with local agencies and publicize the Tribunal's work. The ICTY's Rules of the Road Unit, in collaboration with the Coalition for International Justice, the American Bar Association/Central, and East European Law Initiative, conducts training of local judges, advocates, prosecutors, and investigative police officers in data-gathering on war crimes. The evidence gathered from both public and sealed Tribunal indictments will be made available upon the completion of the trials. There are indications from the ICTY that the list of indictments will reach its completion possibly by 2004. Considering the scale of violations, and the limitations of ICTY prosecutions solely to the listed crimes, the indictments represent a small, but significant, fraction of the total of all crimes committed on the territory of the former Yugoslavia. All of the evidence used in the trials at the ICTY is published on a case-by-case basis and only upon the completion of the trials. Some of the physical evidence is already on display at the ICTY headquarters in The Hague. Since the Tribunal's primary task is the prosecution of crimes and not the establishment of a historical record, evidence collected by the Prosecutor's office that is not part of any particular case will not be published. The annual ICTY

reports contain brief accounts of the completed trials. The key records of the trials are the judgments, which reflect a rigorous examination of the events under scrutiny.

There are also several pending cases pertaining to the 1991-1999 wars in Yugoslavia brought before the **International Court of Justice (ICJ)** in The Hague. In 1993, Bosnia and Herzegovina filed applications against FR Yugoslavia at the ICJ for violating the Genocide Convention. In 1999, Croatia did the same. Both BiH and Croatia supplied evidence towards establishing the breaches of the Convention. They argue that Yugoslavia must pay reparations for damages to persons and property, as well as to the economy and environment. In April 1999 during the NATO bombing campaign in Serbia and Kosovo, FR Yugoslavia filed an application at the ICJ against member states of the NATO coalition involved in the campaign. There are ten separate cases against the United States of America, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Canada, Portugal, and Spain. The FRY alleges that NATO states were in violation of several international obligations. These violations include: the use of force against other states, the failure to protect the civilian population and civilian objects in wartime, the use prohibited weapons, and the failure to protect the environment. A large body of documentation of crimes was submitted to the ICJ by all of these state parties to support their respective cases.

### **Contacts:**

#### **ICTY Outreach Programme**

Churchilpein 1  
2517 JW The Hague, **Netherlands**  
Tel: (+31 70) 512 5493  
Fax: (+31 70) 512 8953

#### **ICTY Outreach Programme in Croatia**

Ilica 207  
10001 Zagreb, **Croatia**  
Tel: (+385 1) 371 2618  
Fax: (+385 1) 371 2690

#### **ICTY Outreach Programme in BiH**

UN Building  
Aleja Bosne Srebrenice  
71000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Tel: (+387 33) 325 960  
Fax: (+387 33) 326 210

**ICTY Outreach Programme in the Republic of Srpska, BiH**  
UNMIBH RHQ  
Branka Popovića 43  
78000 Banja Luka, Republika Srpska, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Tel: (+387 78) 371 503  
Fax: (+387 33) 378 070

**International Court of Justice**  
Peace Palace  
2517 KJ The Hague, **The Netherlands**  
Tel: (+31 70) 302 23 23  
Fax (+31 70) 364 99 28  
E-mail: [mail@icj-cij.org](mailto:mail@icj-cij.org)  
Website: [www.icj-cij.org](http://www.icj-cij.org)

## ***2. International and Transnational Organizations***

Apart from setting up the ICTY, two **United Nations** expert groups issued independent reports on the crisis in the Balkans. Prior to the establishment of the ICTY, the UN Secretary General set up a Commission of Experts in 1992 to investigate possible breaches of the Geneva Conventions and other violations of international humanitarian law. Upon the completion of its mandate in 1994, the Commission (led by Cherif Bassiouni) came to the conclusion that there were large scale violations of international humanitarian law on the territory of former Yugoslavia. The Commission established a database designed to provide a comprehensive record of all reported violations, forwarded all gathered information to the Office of the Prosecutor of the ICTY, and published approximately 3,000 pages of annexes to their report. In 1998, after the failure of the UN to deter the attacks on Srebrenica and five other safe havens in Bosnia, General Assembly Resolution 53/35 requested a comprehensive report on the events. Issued in 1999, the “The Fall of Srebrenica” report analyzes the background to the massacre, the UN “safe haven” policy in Bosnia, and the actions taken by all significant actors involved in the atrocities.

The **Office of the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (OHR)** and the **United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)** are two international administrations established by the UN to facilitate the transition to democracy and integrate the rebuilding efforts of local authorities, NGOs, and international organizations. The **OHR** closely monitors domestic war crimes trials to ensure that legal procedures are in compliance with the 1996 Rome Agreement (“Rules of the Road”). It also facilitates links with the ICTY, including: coordinating between the ICTY and the prospective Truth and Reconciliation Commission in BiH; assessing cooperation of the local authorities with ICTY; making recommendations on the draft law on cooperation with the ICTY; and ensuring political and logistic support for three BiH Liaison Officers to the ICTY from the Bosniak, Croat and Serb communities. The Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina monitors the human rights cases in local courts (most of which pertain to the previous conflict) and may give recommendations to governments as to how to remedy the violations.

Although performing a similar function to OHR in Bosnia, the **UNMIK Interim Administration in Kosovo** has a broader mandate regarding human rights offences. The tasks of UNMIK include the appointment and removal of local and international judges and prosecutors, the establishment of the Administrative Department of Justice and the Kosovo Judicial and Prosecutorial Council, and the making of decisions on the scope of legal procedures. One of the actions taken by the UNMIK administration was to place a prohibition of trials in absentia for serious violations of international humanitarian law. The **OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission** first gained official access to the province to monitor

human rights violations in late 1998 through an agreement with the FRY government. Documentation of violations prior to the 1999 conflict is collected and stored at the OSCE Warsaw Center. The OSCE has also produced two human rights reports, entitled "Human Rights in Kosovo: As Seen As Told," that extensively document the human rights violations in Kosovo reported by OSCE field officers. The first report covers the period October 1998 to June 9, 1999, and the second the period from June 14 to October 31, 1999.

The **International Commission for Missing Persons (ICMP)** was created in 1996 at a G-7 Summit. Its mandate is to clarify the fate of persons unaccounted for as a result of the conflict in the territory of the former Yugoslavia. It is the first structure of its kind to be created in a post-conflict situation. The Commission was headed by several prominent politicians including US senator Bob Dole and the late and former US Secretary General Cyrus Vance. The seat of the ICMP is in Sarajevo, but it has offices in all regional capitals. In 2000, it established the Missing Persons Institute which initially started its operations in Bosnia with the idea of becoming a regional institution. The ICMP helped coordinate between local and international authorities and technical experts to recover and identify human remains. On the regional level, it has also facilitated cooperation between local commissions for missing persons. In addition, the ICMP has trained local staff in recovery and identification techniques and DNA technology.

### **Contacts:**

#### **Office of the High Representative (OHP) in BiH- Sarajevo**

Emerika Bluma 1  
71000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Tel: (+387 33) 283 500  
Fax: (+387 33) 283 501

#### **Human Rights Ombudsman in BiH – Office in Sarajevo**

Maršala Tita 7  
71000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Tel: (+387 33) 666 005  
Fax: (+387 33) 666 004  
E-mail: [info@ohro.ba](mailto:info@ohro.ba)

#### **Human Rights Ombudsman in BiH – Office in Banja Luka**

Jovana Dučića 41  
78000 Banja Luka, Republic of Srpska, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Tel/Fax: (+387 78) 303 992  
E-mail: [ombudsman@ohro.inecco.net](mailto:ombudsman@ohro.inecco.net)



Office of the Ombudsperson in Kosovo  
**United Nations Mission in Kosovo**  
UNMIK HQ Building  
38000 Priština, **Kosovo**  
Tel/Fax: (+381 38) 501 401

**OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights Public Affairs**

Al. Ujazdowskie 19  
00-557 Warsaw, **Poland**  
Tel: (+48 22) 520 0600  
Fax: (+48 22) 520 0605  
Website: [www.osce.org/odihr](http://www.osce.org/odihr)  
E-mail: [office@odihr.osce.waw.pl](mailto:office@odihr.osce.waw.pl)

**OSCE Mission in Kosovo**

Press and Public Information  
38000 Priština, **Kosovo**  
Tel: (+381 38) 500 162  
Fax: (+381 38) 500 188  
Website: [www.osce.org/kosovo/](http://www.osce.org/kosovo/)  
E-mail: [press@omik.org](mailto:press@omik.org)

**ICMP/MPI Main Office**

Ali Pašina 45/A  
71000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
Tel: (+387 33) 218 660  
Fax: (+387 33) 203 297  
Website: [www.ic-mp.org](http://www.ic-mp.org)  
E-mail: [icmp@ic-mp.org](mailto:icmp@ic-mp.org)

**ICMP Office in FRY**

Studentski trg 10  
11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**  
Tel/Fax: +381 11 18 61 38

**ICMP Office in Kosovo**

Dragodan II/93  
38000 Priština, **Kosovo**  
Tel/Fax: ++ 381 38 54 93 63

### ***3. International Non-Governmental Organizations***

A large number of international non-governmental organizations have done various work on human rights reporting in the region during and after the conflicts. This study lists only some of the more prominent organizations whose work is well publicized in the region.

The **International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)** has various programs in the region to assist the families of missing persons and refugees. There are ICRC delegations in all parts of the region working with governmental and non-governmental organizations. The ICRC systematically recorded an extensive number of testimonies of witnesses and refugees throughout the region and facilitated their settlement locally and abroad on the basis of these interviews. However, as a humanitarian organization the ICRC is not mandated to share this extensive database for prosecutorial purposes. The ICRC has also initiated projects like the “Book of Missing Persons” in Kosovo containing 3,525 names, and a photo book campaign for the victims of Srebrenica, both of which are available on-line.

Large international NGOs such as **Amnesty International (AI)**, **Human Rights Watch (HRW)** and the **Helsinki Committee** have no systematic database on war crimes collected for the former Yugoslavia, but have monitored the situation since the beginning of the hostilities. In addition to conducting field research on particular cases that involved war crimes and human rights abuses, these organizations have published numerous reports on the crises. Most of the AI material on the Balkan conflicts is contained in their extensive annual reports. The Helsinki Committee was one of the first organizations to attempt a comprehensive account of the violations of international law in Bosnia and call for international war crime trials on the basis of this evidence. HRW has done a number of individual investigations on war crimes in Bosanski Šamac, Sarajevo, Srebrenica, Prijedor and Foča in Bosnia, and Glogovac municipality in Kosovo, and reports on special forms of abuses including rape as a weapon of ethnic-cleansing in Kosovo, use of illegal weapons, alleged use of chemical weapons in the Srebrenica massacre and use of cluster munitions during the NATO air campaign.

International organizations are most active in Kosovo and Bosnia and Herzegovina for several reasons including the scale of abuse, the presence of international administrators and peacekeeping forces, and timely media attention to the conflict. The **International Crisis Group (ICG)** has been active in Kosovo since late 1997, when it started following up advance warnings of impending crisis. As the conflict unfolded in the province, the ICG issued a series of reports cataloguing events and also provided a detailed assessment of the

NATO air campaign against Yugoslavia. The report, "Reality Demands," issued in 2000 is a product of seven months of field research conducted by 123 local and 46 international personnel operating in Albania and Kosovo. The research attempted to reconstruct the events from March to June 1999 during the Yugoslav offensive in seven municipalities in south-western Kosovo. The ICG's Humanitarian Law Documentation Project collected some 4,700 witness statements on a CD ROM database and forwarded it to the ICTY in Pristina and The Hague. The specific purpose of the project was to identify serious violations of international humanitarian law committed between January and June of 1999, and to record direct evidence of these violations by taking statements from victims and witnesses. **Physicians for Human Rights (PHR)** issued a report, "War Crimes in Kosovo," in June 1999 based on field research in Kosovo, Albania and Macedonia. Using the methodology of population and migration assessment, the report documents human rights violations of Kosovo Albanians by Serb forces.

There is also a massive amount of potentially relevant evidence of human rights abuses reported by the international and local media over the years. The material can range from interviews with victims, eyewitnesses, combatants, commanders and civilian leaders, to incidents captured on film. The **Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR)** works with local independent media and has covered the conflict in the Balkans extensively. IWPR also issues an award-winning bi-weekly Balkan Crisis Report, monitors and reports on the work of local media on human rights issues, and publishes an investigative report every month on topics relevant to the region. IWPR has offices in all parts of the region as well as in The Hague.

### **Contacts:**

#### **ICRC Delegation in FRY**

Bulevar Crvene Armije 144  
11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**  
E-mail : [icrcbel@eunet.yu](mailto:icrcbel@eunet.yu)

#### **ICRC Delegation in BiH**

Zmaja od Bosne 136  
71000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
E-mail: [sarajevo.sar@icrc.org](mailto:sarajevo.sar@icrc.org) and [icrcsarba@sarba.lsinter.net](mailto:icrcsarba@sarba.lsinter.net)

#### **Amnesty International USA**

322 8th Avenue  
New York, NY 10001, USA  
Tel: (+1 212) 807 8400  
Fax: (+1 212) 463 9193/627 1451  
Website: [www.aiusa.org](http://www.aiusa.org)

E-mail: [admin-us@aiusa.org](mailto:admin-us@aiusa.org)

**Human Rights Watch**

350 Fifth Avenue, 34th floor  
New York, NY 10118-3299 USA  
Tel: (1 212) 290-4700  
Fax: (1 212) 736-1300  
Website: [www.hrw.org](http://www.hrw.org)  
E-mail: [hrwnyc@hrw.org](mailto:hrwnyc@hrw.org)

**International Crisis Group**

1522 K Street, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20005 USA  
Tel: (+1 202) 408 8012  
Fax: +1 202) 408 8258  
Website: [www.intl-crisis-group.org](http://www.intl-crisis-group.org)  
Email: [icgashington@crisisweb.org](mailto:icgashington@crisisweb.org)

**Physicians for Human Rights**

100 Boylston Street, Suite 702  
Boston, MA 02116 USA  
Tel: (+1 617) 695 0041  
Fax: (+1 617) 695 0307  
Website: [www.phrusa.org](http://www.phrusa.org)  
E-mail: [phrusa@phrusa.org](mailto:phrusa@phrusa.org)

**Institute for War & Peace Reporting**

Lancaster House, 33 Islington High Street  
London N1 9LH, UK  
Tel: (+44 20) 7713 7130  
Fax: (+44 20) 7713 7140  
Website: [www.iwpr.net](http://www.iwpr.net)  
E-mail: [goca@iwpr.net](mailto:goca@iwpr.net)

#### **4. Archives**

There are two major archives that contain substantial materials pertaining to the Yugoslav wars. The **Open Society Archive (OSA)** was founded by the Soros Foundation network in order to facilitate research of the former communist countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the former USSR. OSA is located on the premises of the Central European University in Budapest. A substantial number of documents are available online. The OSA website contains a comprehensive catalogue of resources with detailed summaries of their content. Documents can be requested from the Reference Service for the purpose of distant research. Materials related to the wars in the former Yugoslavia include a collection of video recordings of television newsreels from Yugoslavia, Bosnia, and Croatia during the war. Relevant documentation and audio-video recordings include records of the International Human Rights Law Institute, Human Rights Watch publications, local Helsinki Committee records, press reports, interviews with major actors and political analysts, and documentary films. OSA has also created an archival bridge with a number of local archives in order to encourage cooperation between institutions and the exchange of information and ideas.

The U.S.-based **Balkan Archive** acquires visual and audio evidence of human rights violations and war crimes from “the most photographed and videographed conflict in history.” It was created in 1993 by the United Nations Commission of Experts out of the need to review a large quantity of film and video material. On their request, Linden Productions, a documentary production company from Los Angeles developed a method to organize, synopsis, and index a massive amount of material for research purposes. This initial collection grew into the Balkan Archive and was eventually expanded into the **International Monitoring Institute (IMI)**, which gathers video and other multimedia content about abuses around the world. Through the use of a specialized database detailing all of the videos stored, the Balkan Archive serves as a resource for the ICTY, human rights investigators, news organizations, independent journalists, documentarians, academics, and students. The IMI website features sample clips of its video holdings in REALvideo.

The **Netherlands Institute for War Documentation (NIWD)** is currently investigating the fall of Srebrenica at the request of the Dutch government. One of the reasons for the investigation of crimes in Srebrenica by a national institution like NIWD is the direct involvement of Dutch contingents of the UN peacekeeping force in these events. The “Dossier Srebrenica” project started in 1996 with the listing and classifying of relevant factual material. The Institute hopes to obtain materials from Dutch government sources, NATO and UN documents, and local governments and to conduct interviews with witnesses and participants. The aim of the investigation is to increase the understanding of the

causes and events that led to the fall of the city and the dramatic developments that ensued.

**Contacts:**

**Open Society Archives**

Oktober 6. utca 12.

H-1051 Budapest, Hungary

Tel: (+36 1) 327-3250

Fax: (+36 1) 327-3260

Website: <http://www.osa.ceu.hu>

E-mail: [archives@ceu.hu](mailto:archives@ceu.hu)

**International Monitoring Institute**

10850 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 250

Los Angeles, CA 90024

Tel: (310) 474 2111

Fax: (310) 474 8773

Website: [www.imisite.org](http://www.imisite.org)

E-mail: [imi@intmon.org](mailto:imi@intmon.org)

**Netherlands Institute for War Documentation** [Nederlands Instituut voor Orlogsdocumentatie]

Herengracht 380

1016 CJ Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Tel: (+31 20) 523 3800

Fax: (+31 20) 523 3888

Website: [www.riod.nl](http://www.riod.nl)

E-mail: [info@oorlogsdoc.knaw.nl](mailto:info@oorlogsdoc.knaw.nl)

### III. REGIONAL NETWORKS

With the gradual increase in regional antagonism and violence in the 1990s, most of the institutional ties between the republics of the former Yugoslavia were severed. Nevertheless, individual contacts persisted even during the fiercest fighting, especially within the human rights and NGO communities. In the post-conflict context, new links and networks were created, some through independent regional NGO initiatives and others through the efforts of international organizations.

In June 2001, a group of independent intellectuals set up a steering committee for regional cooperation under the banner of **Responsibility, Causes and Consequences of the Events**. At the founding meeting, participants from the FRY, Kosovo, Croatia, BiH, and Macedonia met to discuss working together to establish a comprehensive and systematic account of the interrelated conflicts, including a possibility of creating a shared database on human rights violations. It was argued that the initiative was needed because only a regional effort could provide a full account of war crimes and human rights violations and negotiate an unbiased assessment of events that led to the conflicts. At the meeting there was an agreement that all actors should first secure and consolidate relevant documentation on the local level. At that point, they could begin the work on regional standards of processing documentation and modes of exchange and collaboration. So far, there has been no follow up to the initial meeting and no projects have been generated. The coordinator of the board, Nataša Kandić, recommended that future cooperation take two consecutive steps. First, there should be an initial meeting of experts in the region to discuss: standards of processing and verification, the institutional structure of the regional documentation network, and the need to identify local agencies that have a capacity to gather documentation and investigate war crimes. This should then be followed up by a second meeting that will bring together a broad range of local data-collecting agencies willing to cooperate regionally and a study detailing the documentation resources of the prospective members of the regional center. Ultimately, Kandić suggests that an “Independent Regional Center for War Documentation, Research and Truth 1991-99” will be established as a network of local documentation centers that will provide a unified database through standardized modes of exchange. Free access to information will be secured through a collective program and standards that will facilitate a unified database.

On the governmental level, cooperation, including negotiations and the exchange of relevant information, is most extensive between various commissions for missing persons. This mostly occurs under the auspices of the **International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)**. For example, the Office of the Republic of Croatia for Detained and Missing and the Commission of the Federal Government of FR Yugoslavia for Humanitarian Questions and Missing Persons

negotiated an exchange of war prisoners between Croatia and FRY. This served as one of the first contacts between the new governments. Since then they have been working on other projects, including assisting each other with information relevant to exhumations and tracking the missing and detained. The ICMP has sponsored six regional conferences where members of different governmental commissions meet to discuss the progress of their work and problems they encounter. The last conference in November 2001 included representatives from commissions in the FRY, Croatia, BiH's State Commission and Federal Commissions (section Mostar), and the Republic of Srpska Commission for Searches of Detained and Missing.

The largest existing regional NGO network is the **Balkan Human Rights Network (BHRN)** with close to 40 local NGO members from the FRY, Kosovo, Croatia, BiH, Macedonia, and Albania. Thus far, regional collaboration has mostly focused on educational projects concerning the recent past. However, since one of the aims of BHRN is to contribute to peace-making and reconciliation processes in the region, collaboration may be extended to include the exchange of information on human rights violations. Most of the local branches of the international network of Helsinki Committees are also members of the BHRN. Apart from the Helsinki Committee branches that monitor and report on human rights violations, other significant members of BHRN are the Humanitarian Law Center in Belgrade, the Council for the Defense of Human Rights and Freedoms in Pristina, the Croatian Law Center, the Center for Democracy and Human Rights in Podgorica, the Human Rights Centers at the universities in Banja Luka, Mostar, Podgorica, Pristina and Sarajevo, and the Human Rights Offices in Tuzla and Bjeljina (BiH).

The **"Igman Initiative,"** is another recent attempt to integrate regional resources between the FRY, Croatia and BiH. The initiative is co-sponsored by the East/West Institute in Prague, the Forum of Democratic Alternative of B&H in Sarajevo, the Civic Council for Human Rights in Zagreb, and the Center for Regionalism in Novi Sad. Three strategic goals of the Igman Initiative are to establish a Free Trade Zone, unified visa regimes, and dual citizenships between the countries of the "Dayton triangle." Apart from the presence of the NGO sector, the Igman Initiative has also managed to engage governmental actors. At the meeting of the Council and Expert Teams in March 2001, FRY Minister of Foreign Affairs, Goran Svilanovic, and Croatian Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Josip Paro, delivered the welcoming addresses. The coordinator of the "Igman Initiative," Aleksandar Lojpur, is also a member of the FRY Truth and Reconciliation Commission.



**Contacts:**

Nataša Kandić, Coordinator of the Board

**Regional Initiative for Responsibility, Causes and Consequences of the Events**

Humanitarian Law Center [Fond za humanitarno pravo]

Avalska 9

11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**

Tel/Fax: (+381 11) 444 3944/444 1487; Cell (+381 63) 210 536

Website: [www.hlc.org.yu](http://www.hlc.org.yu)

E-mail: [natasakandic@hlc.org.yu](mailto:natasakandic@hlc.org.yu)

**ICMP/MPI Main Office**

Ali Pasina 45/A

71000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Tel: (+387 33) 218 660

Fax: (+387 33) 203 297

Website: [www.ic-mp.org](http://www.ic-mp.org)

E-mail: [icmp@ic-mp.org](mailto:icmp@ic-mp.org)

Snjezana Ivandic, Network Coordinator

**Balkan Human Rights Network** [Balkanska mreza ljudskih prava]

Zmaja od Bosne 8

71 000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Tel/Fax: (+387 33) 668 251

Website: [www.balkan-rights.net](http://www.balkan-rights.net)

E-mail: [snjezana@blakan-rights.net](mailto:snjezana@blakan-rights.net)

Aleksandar Lojpur, Coordinator

**“Igman Initiative”** [“Igmanska inicijativa”]

EastWest Institute, Prague Centre,

Rašínovo Nabřeží 78

Prague 120 00, **Czech Republic**

Tel: (+420 22) 198 4216 /Cell: (+420 60) 282 4 010

Fax: (+420 22) 491 7854

Website: [www.iews.cz/frytf/ca8.html](http://www.iews.cz/frytf/ca8.html)

E-mail: [alojpur@iews.cz](mailto:alojpur@iews.cz)

#### **IV. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Significant documentation of war crimes and human rights violations about the wars in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s can be found in possession of governmental agencies, international and local NGOs, and international institutions such as the ICTY and the OSCE. Documents vary from: materials archived by specialized and non-specialized governmental agencies, such as commissions on war crimes, commissions on missing persons and ministries of justice; testimonies of witnesses and other investigative materials collected by NGOs; information gathered through exhumations; reports of international observers and investigators; and video and audio materials recorded by the local and international media. This vast array of documentation has been compiled by a variety of sources making it difficult to get a comprehensive view of all available documents on any specific case. An efficient use of the materials is hindered by a lack of systematic and regional coordination, and in some cases from a limited access to these documents. The exchange of information is especially limited on the inter-governmental level and also between governments and NGOs. The existing collaboration is predominantly between international agencies and local NGOs and within the NGO community, locally and in the region. The methodology used in processing materials may also vary from one agency to another, making it more difficult to create an overall evaluation of all the available material.

In addition, international and local efforts to prosecute war crimes and to establish a complete historical record of the Balkan conflicts are hampered by the lack of comprehensive and systematized documentation. To the extent there are any gaps in the ICTY indictments of the former president of FRY and Serbia Slobodan Milosevic, some analysts say that these might be attributed to the fact that evidence had to be compiled from a large number of different and uneven sources. If this situation persists, other cases in domestic courts, whose number is expected to rise in the near future, may also suffer from a lack of awareness about existing sources of reliable evidence. Furthermore, many local researchers also point out that due to a limited access to documentation, a relatively small number of historical studies about the recent wars have been published and that their ability to fully document and stimulate honest public debate about past events is limited.

So far, there are no national or regional documentation centers that compile all available resources. Opinions vary on whether national and regional centers should be created and operated by the government or NGOs. Disagreement also exists over whether these centers will best serve as a part of research institutes or as independent bodies. At a minimum however, local NGO actors and some governmental and international actors agree that the establishment of such institutions and their regional cooperation will be crucial to the domestic

prosecutions of war crimes, establishment of the truth, heightened public awareness, and reconciliation.

In light of the foregoing, the following recommendations are offered regarding the possible modalities for achieving systematic regional cooperation on the documentation of war crimes and human rights violations:

- 1) There is a need to convene a *broad-based regional meeting* on the NGO level to discuss the possible adoption of a formal plan for consolidation, integration, and coordination of existing documentation resources in order to facilitate efforts towards truth, justice, reconciliation, and public awareness about the past events in the former Yugoslavia.
- 2) The framework for discussion should be previously established by a *steering committee* comprised of local (and possibly international) experts. The committee would prepare a detailed agenda and vision for participants in advance of the meeting. In preparing the agenda and any proposals, the committee should consider how to build on lessons learned from past and current regional networks.
- 3) The *agenda for the meeting* should include, at a minimum, discussion of the following issues:
  - (a) Structure. Participants should discuss a broad range of possible modalities for operationalizing regional sharing of information and networking. There are several possible models, ranging from a centralized model (in which a single regional center would be established and staffed) to a highly decentralized model (in which no new center is created, and all coordination takes place between existing agencies) to a mixed model (in which new national centers are established that will coordinate activities at the intra-state and inter-state level). Without prejudging the outcome of any future meeting, it should be noted that all of those interviewed over the course of this study expressed a clear preference for a mixed model.
  - (b) Composition: Participants should discuss who should be part of any network that is established. Although there are strong reasons for having local NGOs take the lead on establishing the model for a regional documentation network, consideration should also be given to some form of direct involvement by or coordination with governmental commissions and related bodies, as well as with international bodies and archival projects. Otherwise, the problem of uneven documentation would simply persist. On a separate note, it is recommended that representatives from FYR Macedonia be included in any network that is established, since the

2001 conflict is in many ways linked to the previous conflicts and to present tensions in Kosovo and southern Serbia.

- (c) Objectives and Activities. Participants should discuss what the activities of any network or coordinated system of documentation exchange ought to be, since the exercise is not one of documentation for documentation's sake. Thus, participants will need to decide: (i.) to what degree the objectives will include contributing to the domestic prosecutions of war crimes, the establishment of the truth, the stimulation of public debate, the encouragement of reconciliation, and so forth; and (ii.) what activities will be needed to achieve such objectives.
- (d) Methodology. Participants should discuss how to work towards a framework agreement on standards for data processing and verification, and methods of archiving materials. These standards will need to be applied to future projects and will be critical in facilitating the creation of a unified database.
- (e) Technology. Participants should consider various means of exchange of information and dissemination of materials that can reach a broader public, including: creating websites with updates on their work; documentation and audio-video archives available online, and other facilities for distant researchers; and identifying other media channels that can publicize their work and findings.

4) This study examines a wide range of available resources. It should, however, be succeeded by a more detailed analysis (ideally prior to the proposed regional meeting) that will focus on the documentation of a limited number of the more significant agencies identified in this report. The *follow up study* should determine the exact scope and type of obtainable documentation, and should also look at the methodological standards in use. This will further help to ensure effective local and regional integration of documentation and collaborative work on establishing and publicizing the full truth about past events.

## **APPENDIX I: DOCUMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST WOMEN**

The 1991-99 wars in the former Yugoslavia drew international attention to deliberate human rights abuses targeting women as a means of waging war. The instances of collective rape and torture of women led to new strategies of relief and intervention designed specifically to assist women and children, and projects of research and documentation of this particular form of crime. A precedent was set when the ICTY passed the ruling in the Foča trial, for the first time convicting perpetrators on a charge related exclusively to sexual violence.

Throughout the region there is a large network of women's NGOs that is generally better established than other regional forms of human rights networking. There are also a number of organizations that specialize in interventions for different forms of sexual abuse related to war, including rape, torture, and enslavement. Most of the NGOs are structured as support programs for women and children, but some of them also keep documentation of crimes and abuses.

A German medical doctor, Monika Hauser, who visited Zenica when tens of thousands of refugees gathered there, started **Medica Zenica** in 1992. As there was no special aid intended for women in the town, Hauser created a center for the psychological and gynecological care of women through support from the international network of Medica Mondiale. Medica has a medical and psychosociological team comprised of various specialists including gynecologists, general practitioners, nurses, psychologists, sociologists, a neurologist, a psychiatrist, and a theologian. Their clients are mostly refugees from throughout Bosnia and to lesser extent local women. Medica has a complete record of reports from the medical team filed together with the testimonies of women treated by the psychological team. Some of the documentation from Medica has reached the Office of the Prosecutor at the ICTY and played an important role in the prosecutions.

**The Center for Women Victims of War (CWVW)** specializes in documenting crimes against women and providing psycho-social support for those who have suffered abuse since 1992. Fourteen members work regularly in the Center to provide legal and psychological help. The assistance is mostly given to internally displaced women in Croatia and refugees from Bosnia, but CWVW also conducts research in collaboration with women's NGOs throughout the Balkans.

Another women's NGO that played an important role in compiling evidence of abuse against women and children in Kosovo is the **Center for Protection of**

**Women and Children in Pristina (CPWC).** The Center was founded in 1993 and has nine branches throughout Kosovo. Two women, Sevdije Ahmeti and Vjosa Dobruna, became prominent through their work at the Center. They were also active in the Women's Section of Pristina's CDHRFP and both received appointments to the UNMIK interim government. Ahmeti was herself detained in the camp for women during the Kosovo conflict, where women were systematically tortured by the Serb forces. Some of the CPWC documentation was given to ICTY and will be used for indictments for crimes against women. Medica Zenica and CPWC worked on making the case that sexual abuse was used in the Yugoslav conflicts as a deliberate weapon of war. Both documented instances of individual and collective violence against women to support it. **Medica Kosovo** was started in Gjakova/Djakovica in August 1999 with support from the Medica Mondiale network, and technical assistance and training from Medica Zenica in particular. Medica Kosovo operates as a trauma center for women and children. It does not have a systematized database of abuses.

Women's centers in other parts of the former Yugoslavia also recorded war-related sexual abuse and violence against women. Their materials largely consist of testimonies from the victims and witnesses, but they are generally not always systematically compiled and processed to form a researchable database. Some of the most prominent organizations are "**Women to Women**" in Sarajevo, **United Association of Women (UAW)** in Banja Luka, **B.a.B.e. Human Right Group** in Zagreb, and "**Women in Black**" and the **Autonomous Women's Center (AWC)** in Belgrade.

Across the region, women's NGOs provide care and compile documentation on abuses against women and children of all ethnic groups living in the areas in which the NGOs are active. There are long-standing contacts and collaborative projects between most of the listed NGOs and with many others in the region and international arena. International organizations made contributions in terms of financial support and networking efforts. Active work on linking women's NGOs in Eastern Europe, and especially in the Balkans, with women's centers and other institutions in the western countries has been done by the **Network of East-West Women (NEWW)** based in Washington, DC. Since the early 1990s, NEWW has organized conferences and forums where women's activists meet to discuss ways of supporting each others efforts. It also provides training in electronic communications, NGO management, fundraising, advocacy, and networking with other NGOs. **Urgent Action Fund** has dispersed a number of small grants for emergency situations and projects concerning women's rights violations in the region. **Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children** in collaboration with the International Rescue Committee works on a number of projects to document women's conditions in Kosovo.

**Contacts:**

Mirha Poljskić,  
**Medica Zenica**  
 Mokušnice 10  
 72000 Zenica, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
 Tel: (+387 32) 401 380/287 104  
 Website: [www.students.haverford.edu/elukovic](http://www.students.haverford.edu/elukovic)  
 E-mail: [medicaze@miz.ba](mailto:medicaze@miz.ba)

Association of Citizens “Women to Women” [**Udruženje gradjanki “Žene ženama”**]  
 Hamdije Čemerlića 25  
 710000 Sarajevo, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
 Tel/Fax: (+387 33) 524 353  
 E-mail: [zenezenama\\_sa@zamir-sa.stn.apc.org](mailto:zenezenama_sa@zamir-sa.stn.apc.org)

Nada Golubović,  
**United Women Association** [Udružene žene]  
 Novice Cerovića 28  
 51000 Banja Luka, Republika Srpska, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
 Tel/Fax: (+387 51) 341 845  
 Website: [www.geocities.com/udruzenezene/](http://www.geocities.com/udruzenezene/)  
 E-mail: [natasap@inecco.net](mailto:natasap@inecco.net)

Nela Pamuković  
**Center for Women Victims of War** [Centar za žene žrtve rata]  
 Radnički dol 20  
 10000 Zagreb, **Croatia**  
 Tel/Fax: (+385 1) 482 3258/482 3188  
 E-mail: [cenzena@zamir.net](mailto:cenzena@zamir.net)

Vesna Kesić  
**B.a.B.e. Human Right Group**  
 Vlaška 79/II  
 10000 Zagreb, **Croatia**  
 Tel: (+385 1) 461 1686  
 Website: [www.babe.hr](http://www.babe.hr)  
 E-mail: [vesnaka@zamir.net](mailto:vesnaka@zamir.net)

Sevdije Ahmeti  
**Center for Protection of Women and Children**  
 Rr. Robert Gajdiku 62  
 38000 Pristina, Kosovo  
 Tel/Fax: (+385 38) 21 923  
 E-mail: [sevdie.a@zana-pr.ztn.apc.org](mailto:sevdie.a@zana-pr.ztn.apc.org)

Staša Zajović

**Women in Black** [Žene u crnom]

Jug Bogdanova 18

11000 Belgrade, **Yugoslavia**

Tel/Fax: (+381 11) 623 225

E-mail: [stasazen@eunet.yu](mailto:stasazen@eunet.yu)

Lepa Mladjenović

**Autonomous Women's Center** [Autonomni ženski centar]

Tiršova 5a

11000 Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Tel/Fax: (+381 11) 645 798/645 328

Website: [www.womenngo.org.yu](http://www.womenngo.org.yu)

E-mail: [awcasv@eunet.yu](mailto:awcasv@eunet.yu)

**Medica Mondiale e.V.**

Hülchrather Straße 4

D- 50670 Köln, Germany

Tel: (+ 49 0) 221-9318980

Fax: (+ 49 0) 221-9318981

Website: [www.medicamondiale.org](http://www.medicamondiale.org)

E-mail: [info@medicamondiale.org](mailto:info@medicamondiale.org)

Erin Barclay

**Network of East West Women**

1601 Connecticut Ave., NW#603

Washington, D.C. 20009 USA

Tel: (+1 202) 265-3585

Fax: (+1 202) 265-3508

Website: [www.neww.org](http://www.neww.org)

Email: [eastwest@neww.org](mailto:eastwest@neww.org)

Julie Shaw

**Urgent Action Fund**

PO Box 1138

Fairfax, CA 94978-1138, USA

Tel: (415) 460-0571

Fax: (415) 460-6667

E-mail: [urgentact@aol.com](mailto:urgentact@aol.com)

Mary Diaz

**Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children**

122 East 42<sup>nd</sup> Street

New York, NY 10168-1289 USA

Tel/Fax: (+1 212) 551 3088/3111

Website: [www.womenscommission.org](http://www.womenscommission.org)

E-mail: [wcrwc@theIRC.org](mailto:wcrwc@theIRC.org)



## APPENDIX II: IZVRŠNI PREGLED

Svrha ove studije je da identifikuje široki raspon agencija unutar i izvan regiona bivše Jugoslavije koje sakupljaju dokumentaciju o ratnim zločinima i drugim povredama ljudskih prava počinjenim u ratu 1991-1999. Agencije koje su od primarnog interesa za ovoj pregled istražuju zločine i povrede ljudskih prava, sakupljaju i arhiviraju relevantnu dokumentaciju, nude ekspertno znanje i podučavanje u regionu ili imaju projekte za lokalne dokumentacione centre i pravljenje regionalnih mreža. Ova studija takodje razmatra moguće dobrobiti za druge zainteresovane strane i buduće korisnike dokumentacije za ratne zločine uključujući međunarodne i domaće sudove, komisije istine, istoričare, društvene istraživače, političke i pravne analitičare, i lokalne medije koji promovišu govor istine i pomirenja.

Postoji više faktora koji ukazuju na potrebu da se napravi pregled agencija koje sakupljaju podatke u regionu; brojne lokalne i međunarodne agencija ne znaju dovoljno o radu i resursima drugih agencija. Nedostatak koordinacije i ograničena razmena informacija među ovim agencijama ukazuju na potrebu da se napravi jedan opsežni pregled. Lokalni resursi uključuju dokumentaciju na raznim nivoima vlade, NVO-a, medijski kuća i nezavisnih istraživača u svakoj od zemalja zahvaćenih sukobom. Među vladinim agencijama koje imaju dokumentaciju nalazimo komisije za ratne zločine, komisije za nestala lica, domaće sudove, ministarstvo pravde, ministarstvo unutrašnjih poslova i kancelarije za saradnju sa Međunarodnim krivičnim tribunalom za bivšu Jugoslaviju (MKTJ). Iako značajan i suštinski, rad lokalnih NVO-a je obično ograničen po opsegu na pojedinačne regione i lokalitete, određene događaje i incidente, ili određenu vrstu povreda ljudskih prava. Što se tiče međunarodnih organizacija, njihovi kapaciteti su razdeljeni između međunarodnih sudova (MKTJ, MSP), internacionalnih i transnacionalnih organizacija preko svojih stručnih timova posmatrača i istraživača (UN, OEBS, MKNL), izveštaja NVO-a (MKCK, Amnesti internešnal, Hjuman rajts voč, itd.) i arhiva ratne dokumentacije (Balkanski arhiv, Arhiv IOD). Značajni materijali i evidencija u video i audio zapisima je u posedu mnogih medijskih agencija širom sveta i sakuplja se na lokalnom (Radio B92) i međunarodnom nivou (MIM, IRMI).\*

Intenzitet i razmere sukoba, postepeno proširivanje rata na nove lokalitete, podela na četiri različite oblasti lokalne jurisdikcije, nedostatak saradnje i ograničeni pristup mestima zločina i svedocima; sve ove činjenice pridonose atomiziranoj prirodi sakupljene evidencije. Pored toga potpuno korišćenje

---

\* Skraćenice: MSP Međunarodni Sud Pravde (ICJ), MKNL Međunarodni komitet za nestala lica (ICMP), MKCK Međunarodni komitet crvenog krsta (ICRC), IOD Institut za otvoreno društvo (OSI), MIM Međunarodni institut za monitoring (IMI), IRMI Institut za ratno i mirnodobsko izveštavanje (IWPR).

dokumenata je dodatno ograničena nedostupnosti dokumentacije mnogih agencija, ograničenim informacijama o resursima uopšte i korišćenjem različitih metodologija za sakupljanje i arhivisanje dokaza. Kao posledica, sudjenja za ratne zločine, pokušaji da se ustanove kompletni istorijski zapisi, i inicijalni naponi za uspostavljanje istine i pomirenja su zakinuti zbog nedostatka integrisane baze podataka. Na sreću, čini se da postoji koncenzus medju mnogim NVO-ima u regionu i nekim drugim akterima da treba uspostaviti sistematsku saradnju da bi se napravila regionalna mreža zasnovana na lokalnim dokumentacionim centrima.

U svetlu gorepomenutog, ovaj izveštaj preporučuje da se sazove široko zasnovani regionalni sastanak na nivou ne-vladinih organizacija. Svrha ovog sastanka bi bila rasprava o mogućem usvajanju formalnog plana za konsolidaciju, integraciju i koordinaciju postojećih dokumentacionih resursa kako bi se pomogli naponi ka istini, pravdi, pomirenju i javnom prihvatanju događaja iz prošlosti u bivšoj Jugoslaviji. Okvir rasprave na ovom sastanku treba da bude unapred utvrđen od strane pokretačkog odbora koji bi činili lokalni (i moguće međunarodni) stručnjaci. Odbor bi unapred pripremio detaljna pitanja i viziju za učesnike u raspravi. U pripremi pitanja za raspravu i predloga, komitet bi razmotrio načine na koje može da se nauči iz prethodnih i trenutnih iskustava sa regionalnim mrežama. Dnevni red sastanka bi uključio raspravu sledećih pitanja: struktura mreže koja treba da bude uspostavljena, ko bi je sačinjavao, njeni ciljevi i aktivnosti, njena metodologija, kao i tehnička pitanja. Na kraju, preporučuje se da ova studija bude praćena jednom detaljnijom analizom (idealno pre predloženog regionalnog sastanka) koja bi se usmerila na dokumentaciju ograničenog broja značajnijih agencija identifikovanih u ovom izveštaju.

Data Collecting Agencies on War Crimes and Human Rights Violations for the former Yugoslavia

	Governmental	Non-Governmental	International
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<p>State Commission for Investigation of War Crimes (Federation of BiH)</p> <p>State Commission for Search of Missing Persons (Federation of BiH)</p> <p>Documentation Center (Republic of Srpska)</p>	<p>Medica Zenica</p> <p>Association of Citizens "Mothers of Srebrenica "</p>	<p>Office of the High Representative</p> <p>ICMP Missing Persons Institute</p> <p>ICTY/ICMP/ICRC/AI/HRW/IWPR*</p> <p>Netherlands Institute for War Documentation</p>
Croatia	<p>Office for Cooperation with the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Tribunals</p> <p>Office for Detained and Missing</p>	<p>Croatian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights</p> <p>Center for Women Victims of War</p> <p>Civic Council for Human Rights</p>	<p>ICTY/ICMP/ICRC/AI/HRW/IWPR*</p>
Kosovo	<p>UNMIK Victims Recovery and Identification Mission</p>	<p>Council for Defense of Human Rights and Freedom in Prishtina</p> <p>Center for Protection of Women and Children</p> <p>Kosovo Documentation Institute Project</p>	<p>OSCE Mission in Kosovo</p> <p>International Crisis Group</p> <p>Physicians for Human Rights</p> <p>ICTY/ICMP/ICRC/AI/HRW/IWPR*</p>
Serbia/FRY	<p>Committee for Data Collection on Crimes against Humanity and International Law (FRY)</p> <p>Commission for Humanitarian Questions and Missing Persons (FRY)</p> <p>Truth and Reconciliation Commission (FRY) (independent, though established by government)</p>	<p>Humanitarian Law Center</p> <p>Center for Collecting Documents and Information "Veritas"</p> <p>Documentation Center "Wars 1991-1999"</p>	<p>ICTY/ICMP/ICRC/AI/HRW/IWPR*</p>

\*International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia / International Commission on Missing Persons / International Committee of the Red Cross / Amnesty International / Human Rights Watch / Institute for War and Peace Reporting.