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We are pleased to invite you to apply for participation at the twelfth Master Class on Law, History, Politics and Society in the Context of Mass Atrocities run by the Geoffrey Nice foundation and being held at the Inter University Centre (IUC) in Dubrovnik 30th June to 7th July 2024, titled:

Genocide

Citizen, state, victims, accountability

case studies

WWII; Pakistan-Bangladesh 1971; Rwanda; Western Balkans 1993-1999; Ukraine-Russia; Israel-Gaza'

This Master Class is a joint venture between the Geoffrey Nice Foundation (GNF) and the Serbian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights.

Application deadline is 31 March 2024.

CRITERIA:

This Master Class is devised for MA, PhD and Post-PhD students in the fields of Law, History, Sociology, Politics, International Relations, Journalism, European Studies or related subjects.

Please send your application, consisting of a CV and a short motivation letter, to:

[geoffreynicefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:geoffreynicefoundation@gmail.com) and [kucher.na.vi@gmail.com](mailto:kucher.na.vi@gmail.com) (Please always use both addresses for all correspondence)

GENERAL OBJECTIVE: The interdisciplinary approach of the Master Class contributes to developing the skills needed for legal and non-legal professionals, who are interested in working in the fields of human rights, international humanitarian law and global justice.

FORMAT: The Master Class is a combination of lectures provided by academics, practitioners of law and NGO activists, together with exercises and group reviewing of a few relevant films.

METHOD/SPIRIT OF MASTER CLASS:

This is to be an intensive – immersive – course working largely what might be thought northern European working hours (not Mediterranean/Adriatic hours with late starts and siestas): 0900 to 1300; 1430 to 1900 (with breaks). Punctuality required at start, and will be respected at the end, of all sessions. Lunch is provided in short 90-minute midday breaks. It is expected that groups of students from different countries - into which the Master Class will be divided - may continue discussions and preparation of exercises over lunch.

There is no pre-reading list (pre-reading where required for courses like this is rarely if ever done). Instead, it will be assumed that all those attending have a basic outline knowledge (Wikipedia if no more) of WWII; Pakistan-Bangladesh 1971 genocide; Rwanda 1994 genocide; Western Balkans 1993-1999 wars; Rohingya 2016-2017 genocide; Ukraine-Russia 2022>war; Israel-Gaza 2023>conflict.

Each of the six days will concentrate on a different event and will have a different lead moderator for the day introducing the topic (30 minutes to add to the basic knowledge all will have) and then introducing (and moderating) other speakers, exercises, films etc.

THE FOCUS OF THIS YEAR’S MASTER CLASS:

The end of the Cold War may have left the world more secure and yet more unstable. Old states disintegrated and new states have been emerging leading to a time of increasing risk of real wars for us and our families, now and to come.

Wars are failures and disasters for all sides involved from the moment they start. Few people want wars. There have already been many wars around the globe since World War II.

It may be reasonable and accurate to say that most humans would prefer to live in peace and to see fellow humans around the world living in peace.

In several wars and internal conflicts - and in all the ‘case studies’ of the Master Class – it has been said that genocide has been committed. ‘Genocide’ is a term used widely these days, and in different ways by courts and by the general public. It needs to be properly understood if to be used constructively and will be discussed throughout the week of the Master Class.

Accountability for crimes committed in wars (war crimes trials, for example) and internal conflicts (and persecutions by states of their own people) has happened in some cases and is looked for in others. How different forms of accountability can work, and the consequence of different accountability processes, need to be understood and will be discussed.

In wars and civil wars all citizens on all sides tend to fall in line with their political leadership. Where any party to a war is clearly in the wrong should all citizens of that party be held to account as the only way to achieve general deterrence of the next would-be criminal warmonger of persecutor of their own people? The Master Class will consider this question and what, if anything, citizens as well as politicians might have done to prevent the conflicts happening.

COSTS AND FEES

GNF is a Dutch registered charity with limited funds from donations. All GNF officers and all visiting speakers – provided by GNF - as well as ‘permanent’ speakers are unpaid and give their time free for the benefit of the students of the Master Class.

GNF covers costs of being part of the IUC programme at University of Zagreb premises in Dubrovnik.

STUDENT FEES The tuition fee for Master Class, including IUC fees, reading material and accommodation fee is EUR 496 for seven night’s accommodation in shared rooms, lunch on the six days of the Master Class, individual IUC fee per student and local taxes (all actual costs of these elements). For a single occupancy room, *if* available, the cost is EUR 588

If you are to be selected as participant and will fund yourself or be funded by another (for example by a university) please ensure transfer of this amount is made to the GNF's account by Friday 7th June 2024.

A very limited number of scholarships/bursaries may be available including:

**Marija and Mirjan Damaška Scholarship Fund.** Beneficiaries can be from non-EU countries in Southeast Europe, and exceptionally from other countries if they are affected by conflict or instability, and if the courses relate to ways to overcome them.

[https://iuc.hr/scholarships/damaska-scholarship-fund](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fiuc.hr%2Fscholarships%2Fdamaska-scholarship-fund&data=05%7C02%7C%7C32a2c16f2c1147f173f308dc410231e6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638456724901956967%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=75IxdpImXOdQJZpzc91mmztYliUsspKZDCS4QmYCY%2Bg%3D&reserved=0)

**IUC SOUTH-EAST EUROPEAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Beneficiaries can be from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine.

[https://iuc.hr/scholarships/iuc-support](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fiuc.hr%2Fscholarships%2Fiuc-support&data=05%7C02%7C%7C32a2c16f2c1147f173f308dc410231e6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638456724901969209%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5hHVMZ09R9NqGdFx0JFT%2F0rZCi3g%2BTt684bIVHTvDS8%3D&reserved=0)

**CROATIAN MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND EDUCATION**

Four scholarships per course are available for participants from Croatian higher education and scientific institutions taking part in IUC courses (students, professors, scientists).

<https://iuc.hr/scholarships/croatian-ministry>

**(**the IUC website also has a link to a database with some scholarship options for those from *Austria and Germany*,

[https://iuc.hr/scholarships/other](https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fiuc.hr%2Fscholarships%2Fother&data=05%7C02%7C%7C32a2c16f2c1147f173f308dc410231e6%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638456724901983297%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=n5CE%2BEvydhy%2FxiMEmbUS6FX4Qb99PQQF%2F3aZw8%2BXpeM%3D&reserved=0))

**GNF** *may* be in a position from its own funds to support some individuals who have no funding from elsewhere.

**Anyone wishing to apply for a place on the Master Class seeking a scholarship is invited in the first instance to explain the position and the need for financial support to Anastasia Kucher** when sending in the application at the same time and always to two addresses: [kucher.na.vi@gmail.com](mailto:kucher.na.vi@gmail.com) and geoffreynicefoundation@gmail.com

ACCOMMODATION:

Shared accommodation covered by the student course fee from Sunday 30th June to Sunday 7th July (no later than 7 July) is in same-sex shared rooms at neighbouring, Ulica branitelja Dubrovnika 19, 20000, Dubrovnik, Croatia (a cloister run by an order of nuns)

Meals: 2-course lunches will be provided each day for all participants. Breakfast and evening meals are at participants’ own cost. Breakfast may be available at reasonable cost (about 7 Euros) at the IUC building where the Master Class is held, next to the Cloister. Accommodation has some cooking, microwave etc facilities within reach. There are modest supermarkets about 200 metres away, so it is possible to prepare breakfast and evening food at regular home-cooking prices.

ADDITIONAL EXPENSES:

Travel costs to and from Dubrovnik and costs of breakfast and evening meals are for students to meet. Dubrovnik generally is now expensive. For eating or drinking out in the evenings GNF will identify restaurants – and possibly bars – where significant discounts may be available for Master Class participants.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION:

All participants must arrive by Sunday 30 th June – informal lunch/supper gatherings in Dubrovnik Old Town to be arranged *ad hoc* for those arriving in time.

Dress code Monday-Friday: Smart casual (no shorts) – the teaching room is efficiently air-conditioned.

The timetable does not allow for tourist activities apart from an organised sightseeing trip of Dubrovnik on Monday evening. For those wanting to extend time in Dubrovnik for tourism, it will probably *not* be possible to stay on in the relatively inexpensive accommodation provided for the Master Class as it may all be required by other courses starting on Sunday 8th July.  Anyone wishing to extend for tourist purposes must make their own arrangements.

Several speakers/lecturers will visit and stay only for a couple of days. Others will be present throughout able to fill tutor/pastoral roles.

COURSE DIRECTORS:

* Sir Geoffrey Nice KC

Lead Prosecutor Slobodan Milošević for the UN; Emeritus Gresham Professor of Law; Chair China Tribunal; Chair Uyghur Tribunal, (UK)

* Sonja Biserko

Helsinki Committee of Human Rights of Serbia (Belgrade, Serbia)

* Prof. Dr. Sunčana Roksandić

Professor of Law, University of Zagreb (Croatia)

FACULTY MEMBERS in addition to Course Directors (a list of faculty will be amended on the website as further acceptances to invitations to contribute are received):

* Dr Payam Akavan LLM SJD (Harvard), Professor of International Law and Senior Fellow at Massey College, University of Toronto, Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, and former Legal Advisor, Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) (1994-2000).
* Lord Iain Bonomy former judge of the ICTY and court of Appeal of Scotland.
* Dr Aldo Zammit Borda associate professor in International Law at City, University of London; previously Director of the Centre for Access to Justice and Inclusion at Anglia Ruskin University
* Rodney Dixon KC Practitioner prosecuting and defending at ICTY and ICC; co-author Archbold International Criminal Courts
* Dr Robert Muharremi Assistant Professor at the Rochester Institute of Technology – Kosovo campus
* Hamid Sabi, International Lawyer, counsel to four people’s tribunals London, UK
* The Right Honourable Sir Konrad Schiemann, former judge of the [Court of Justice of the European Union and of the Court of Appeal of England and Wales](https://european-union.europa.eu/institutions-law-budget/institutions-and-bodies/search-all-eu-institutions-and-bodies/court-justice-european-union-cjeu_en)

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DRAFT TIMETABLE

**Monday 1 July**

General introduction and ‘housekeeping’ Sir Geoffrey Nice KC

GENOCIDE; WWII; FIRST WAR CRIMES TRIALS; ACCOUNTABILITY OF CITIZENS  
*Moderator:* Dr Robert Muharremi

- Rt Hon Sir Konrad Schiemann

Other speakers to be announced.

Time to be confirmed: organised sightseeing trip of Dubrovnik Old Town

**Tuesday 2 July**

Pakistan-Bangladesh genocide 1971; also covered will be aspects of the Rohingya genocide.  
*Moderator:* Dr Aldo Zammit Borda

- Rodney Dixon KC

**Wednesday 3rd July**

Rwanda genocide 1994

Moderator and other speakers to be announced.

**Thursday 4th July**

1990s wars of the Western Balkans, Croatia – Bosnia- Kosovo

Criminal accountability for large scale atrocities in this region. Has it worked. What might have been done for them never to have happened?

*Moderator:* Prof. Dr. Sunčana Roksandić (PhD Freiburg/Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law): Transitional justice

- Dr. Nevenka Tromp

**Friday 5th July**

UKRAINE: HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL.

A background of the war in Ukraine. What legal responses are available at present to deal with the crimes that have been committed in Ukraine since 2014 onward:

Moderator and other speakers to be announced.

**Saturday 6 July**

Israel-Gaza October 2023 and the century before

- Sir Geoffrey Niceand other speakers to be announced.

Five groups each to prepare (through week) written observations for plenary discussion with a view to publication on website.

Evening social event (subsidised financially if possible).

**Sunday 7 July**

All depart.