



Geoffrey Nice Foundation on
Law, History, Politics, and Society
in the context of Mass Atrocities

PROGRAMME

for

13th Master Class by Geoffrey Nice Foundation

to be held in

DUBROVNIK, 29 June - 4 July

at the Inter-University Centre

on the topic

**HOW CAN WE HUMANS STOP
[KILLING MILLIONS OF EACH OTHER IN]
WARS?**

Can we rely on International Humanitarian Law? If not, on what else?

The 13th Master Class organised by the Geoffrey Nice Foundation (GNF)

ORGANISER: Geoffrey Nice Foundation on Law, History, Politics and Society in the Context of Mass Atrocities (GNF)

SHORT HISTORY of the GNF MASTER CLASSES:

2014: “On Law, History, Politics and Society in the Context of Mass Atrocities”, held from 28 June to 11 July 2014 at the Inter University Centre (IUC) in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

2015: “Law and Politics of Genocide: 20 Years After Srebrenica”, held from 28 June to 09 July 2015 at the IUC Dubrovnik (Croatia) and from 10 to 12 July 2015 in Srebrenica.

2016: “Conflict Beyond the Reach of Law: Emerging World Order and the Search for Adequate Responses to Political Violence”, held from 03 to 14 July 2016 at the IUC in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

2017: “Law and Politics of Terrorism: In Search of Adequate Political, Military and Legal Responses to the Threat of Terrorism in the Post-Cold War Era”, held from 03 to 14 July 2017 at IUC in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

2018: “Political Expediency behind International Criminal Courts”, held from 01 to 12 July 2018 at IUC in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

2019: “Mapping, Documenting and Prosecuting Mass Atrocities”, held from 01 to 12 July 2019 at IUC in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

2020: “Transitional, Post-Transitional and Strategic Narratives of Genocide: commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Srebrenica Genocide”, 29 June to 10 July 2020 by authority of the Inter-University Centre in Dubrovnik, Croatia; online due to Covid lockdown.

2021: “Peace Without Justice: Mass Atrocities in the Post-Human Rights Age”, from 28 June to 11 July 2021 at IUC in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

2022: “International Criminal Law and Genocide: an interdisciplinary approach”, Sarajevo University in cooperation with ELSA/SELS, 10-17 July 2022.

2023: “Accountability for War Crimes in Ukraine – What Will work”, 1 July to 8 July at the IUC in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

2024: “Genocide. Citizen, state, victims, accountability, case studies. WWII; Pakistan-Bangladesh 1971; Rwanda; Western Balkans 1993-1999; Ukraine-Russia; Israel-Gaza”, 29 June to 6 July at the IUC in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

2025: “Why go to war; what law can stop us?”, 30 June to 5 July at the IUC in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

The Master Class project is an initiative of Geoffrey Nice Foundation on Law, History, Politics and Society in the Context of Mass Atrocities in cooperation with:

1. The Law Faculty, University of Zagreb, Croatia,
2. Inter-University Centre for Postgraduate Studies, Dubrovnik, Croatia
 - Marija and Mirjan Damaška fund
 - Scholarships of the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education
 - South-East European Scholarship Fund
3. Honourable Society of Inner Temple, London, UK

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)

Sir Geoffrey Nice has practised as a barrister since 1971. He worked at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia – the ICTY – between 1998 and 2006 and led the prosecution of Slobodan Milošević, former President of Serbia. Work since has included interlocutory work before the permanent International Criminal Court – Sudan, Kenya, Libya – or pro bono for victims groups – Iran, Burma, North Korea Yazidi women – whose cases cannot get to any international court. He works for several related NGOs and lectures and commentates in the media in various countries on international war crimes issues. He was a part-time judge in England from 1984 to 2018, sitting at the Old Bailey for some twenty years. He also sat as judge in other jurisdictions, tribunals and inquiries. Between 2009 and 2012 he was Vice-Chair of the Bar Standards Board, the body that regulates barristers. He was Gresham Professor of Law from 2012 to 2016. He is the co-founder and Executive Chair of the Geoffrey Nice Foundation on Law, History, Politics, and Society in the Context of Mass Atrocities, which supports and provides cross-national educational opportunities for students, researchers, and academics in the field of International Criminal Justice. His publications include the book “Justice for All and How to Achieve It,” (London, 2018). Sir Geoffrey has been Chair of two tribunals that investigated large-scale atrocities and human rights abuses in China: the China Tribunal (2018-2019); and the Uyghur Tribunal (2020-2021).

- **Dr Robert Muharremi**

Assistant Professor at RIT Kosovo and Dean of Faculty at RIT Tirana Albania (Kosova)

Dr Robert Muharremi is the 2026 Course Director and Member of the Board of Trustees of the Geoffrey Nice Foundation and an Assistant Professor at RIT Kosovo and Dean of Faculty at RIT Tirana (Albania). He lectures international law & organizations, international relations, human rights and law & society at RIT Kosovo and international criminal law and transitional justice at the Faculty of Law at the University of Prishtina. Dr. Muharremi has served as legal advisor for various international organizations and government institutions in Kosovo and has extensive experience as legal counsel in the private corporate and public-private partnership sector. He has served in the Kosovo Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, and in other government agencies as adviser on legal and policy issues, and he has actively participated in numerous policy and legislative activities. Dr. Muharremi is a member of the Albanian Branch of the International Law Association. He has published extensively on topics related to international law, international justice, and public policy. He holds a doctorate in law from the University of Saarland (Germany) and a Master of Science degree in public policy and management from SOAS/University of London (UK).

FILM MATERIALS:

Documentaries: (1) “Why did Srebrenica have to fall?”; (2) “Scorpions killing video”.

LECTURERS:

Abbara, Aula, Dr.* – Consultant in Infectious Diseases/ General Internal Medicine at Imperial College NHS Healthcare Trust, London and an Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer at Imperial College

Alston, Professor Philip* – John Norton Pomeroy Professor of Law at New York University School of Law

Ansari, Professor Ali* – Professor of Iranian History & Founding Director of the Institute for Iranian Studies at the University of St Andrews; Senior Associate Fellow, Royal United Services Institute and a Senior Policy Fellow at Policy Exchange and a leading international expert on human rights and international law

Biserko, Sonja* – Chairperson of the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, Serbia

Bonomy, Lord Iain – Judge of the ‘Mechanism’ for ICTR and ICTY (Rwanda and former Yugoslavia); former judge of the ICTY and Scotland’s appeal courts (High Court of Justiciary and Inner House of the Court of Session)

Borden, Anthony* – Executive director and founder of the Institute of War & Peace Reporting (IWPR), UK

Carlson, Matthew – Senior Legal Officer and Co-Chief of Chambers at the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

Crawford, Alex* – Journalist, special correspondent for Sky News, UK

DeHanas, Daniel Nilsson, Dr.* – Reader in Politics and Religion at King’s College London; expert on religion, politics, migration, and civic participation in contemporary societies

Freedman, Professor Rosa* – Inaugural Chair of Law, Conflict and Global Development at the University of Reading

Golovina, Olga* – Journalist, editor, communications professional and producer, Ukraine

Glasgow, Peter – Chair of the Peace Pledge Union (PPU), UK

Grant, Thomas, Dr.* – Senior Research Fellow (Wolfson College) University of Cambridge; Fellow (Lauterpacht Centre for International Law), UK

Jaspers, Huub – Journalist and filmmaker, the Netherlands

Junk, Horst – Retired civil servant, former political adviser for the Social Democrats in the Dutch Parliament and the European Parliament, the Netherlands

Kalaban, Yuliia* – Journalist covering justice issues, Ukraine

Kravets, Kostyantyn* – Frontline surgeon, Armed Forces of Ukraine

Kucher, Anastasia – War zone journalist and documentalist, co-founder of a front-line charity, Ukraine

Larsen, Maiken – Founder of the FreeSky charity organisation, Denmark

McKey, Darrell – Documentalist and volunteer, Canada

Muharremi, Robert, Dr. – Assistant Professor at RIT Kosovo and Dean of Faculty at RIT Tirana (Albania), Kosovo

Njemčević, Lejla* – Professional cyclist, winner of a Mountain Bike Marathon World Cup

Nice, Sir Geoffrey, KC – Emeritus Gresham Professor of Law; Chair, China and Uyghur Tribunals, UK

Nyirenda, Kondwani* – Lawyer at the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, where he specialises in domestic and international environmental law, UK

Parker, General Sir Nick, KCB, CBE – Former British Army officer; Commander Land Forces; UK's advisor on reform to the Ukrainian Minister of Defence (2016–2019), UK

Pašović, Haris – Internationally acclaimed theatre and film director from Bosnia and Herzegovina

Portuondo, Maria* – Practicing attorney and GNF alumna 2025

Prost, Kim, Judge – Canadian jurist serving as a Judge of the International Criminal Court in The Hague

Purohit, Akriti* – American international student with academic expertise in Public International Law, International Criminal Law, and International Humanitarian Law. GNF alumna 2024

Rajić, Boris – Lawyer, foreign policy and diplomacy postgraduate student, alumnus of the GNF Master Class 2023

Rogers, Harry* – Future pupil criminal barrister at Mountford Chambers, London; aspiring international criminal barrister; former alumnus of the GNF Master Class 2024, UK

Rojas, Germán* – Chilean Poet, Chair of the Writers for Peace Committee of PEN International and Vice-President of PEN Chile

Roksandić, Sunčana, Ass.Prof.dr.sc.Dr.h.c. – Head of Criminal Law Department, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Rosella, Kristin* – lawyer with domestic and international litigation experience, executive director of LexCollective, U.S.

Sabi, Hamid – International lawyer and Human Rights activist, UK

Semanyshyn, Mariia – Co-founder of Swallows charity organisation, Ukraine

Schiemann, Sir Konrad* – Former judge of the Court of Justice of the European Communities (2004–2012) and England and Wales Court of Appeal (1995–2004), UK

Sinclair, Vita, Dr.* – Medical doctor and future pupil barrister at Outer Temple Chambers. GNF alumnus, 2025 UK

Sinclair, Jill* – Canada's representative to the Ukraine Defence Reform Advisory Board, Canada

Smith, Professor Rhona – Professor of International Human Rights at Newcastle University Law School, and former Head of School

Vujošević, Tereza* – Political scientist and lawyer with a multidisciplinary academic background in international relations, journalism and gender studies, University of Trnava, Faculty of Law. GNF alumna 2024

Zammit-Borda, Aldo – Professor of Law at City St George's, University of London, UK

***Present online**

DAY TO DAY PROGRAM:

Sunday, 28 June

Arrival (informal gathering of students if they meet)

Monday, 29 June

09:00-9:30 - General introduction by Sir Geoffrey Nice

TOPIC: Law and Accountability mechanisms for war crimes; where we are now

Moderators: Robert Muharremi & Sunčana Roksandić & Iain Bonomy

9:30-10:30 - Lecture I 'From Atrocity to Accountability: An Introduction to International Criminal Justice' by Matthew Carlson

10:30-10:45 - Break

10:45-11:45 - Lecture II 'Before and After Nuremberg: The Making of International Criminal Justice' by Iain Bonomy and Tereza Vujošević

11:45-12:45 - Lecture III 'Promises and Reality in International Criminal Justice: ICTY, ICTR, and ICC' by Judge Kim Prost

12:45-13:00 - Group Discussion

13:00-14:30 - Lunch Break-Reception (opportunity for members of groups to get to know each other)

TOPIC: Accountability mechanisms outcomes

Moderators: Robert Muharremi & Sunčana Roksandić & Sonja Biserko

14:30-15:30 - Lecture IV 'Domestic Accountability in Crisis: The Serbian Student Protests Case Study' by Sonja Biserko

15:30-16:30 - Lecture V ‘New Frontiers in International Accountability: Law, Politics, and Sanctions’ by Sunčana Roksandić and Boris Rajić

16:30-17:15 - Group Discussion/Exercise

17:15-17:30 - Introduction to second exercise for presentations by groups at the end of week, Saturday 4th July by Sir Geoffrey Nice

17:30-18:00 - Free time before the tour

18:00-19:30 - Tour of Dubrovnik

Tuesday 30th June

TOPIC: Law on Accountability mechanisms for war crimes. Other mechanisms of accountability. Do any mechanisms stop wars?

Moderators: Robert Muharremi & Sunčana Roksandić

9:00-10:30 - Lecture I ‘International Law and Justice – A Realist Perspective’ by Robert Muharremi

10:30-10:45 - Break

10:45-11:45 - Group exercise by Sunčana Roksandić and Boris Rajić

TOPIC: Soft power in stopping wars. Pacifism, religions, beliefs. Can such beliefs and their organising bodies stop wars?

Moderators: Hamid Sabi & Sir Konrad Schiemann & Sir Geoffrey Nice

11:45-12:45 - Lecture III ‘Causes of conflict’ by Sir Konrad Schiemann

12:45-13:00 - Introduction to first group exercise AVERNIA by Sir Geoffrey Nice

13:00-14:30 - Lunch Break

14:30-15:30 - Lecture IV ‘Common humanity: Attempts to convince everyone to agree’ by Sir Konrad Schiemann

TOPIC: What role does the military play in stopping future wars? Part 1

Moderators: General Sir Nick Parker & Jill Sinclair & Anastasia Kucher

15:30-16:00 - Lecture V 'Changing character of order' by Nick Parker

16:00-16:20 - Break

16:20-17:10 - Lecture VI 'Time, Uncertainty and the Contemporary Challenge' by Jill Sinclair, Anastasia Kucher

17:10-17:45 - Discussion

17:45-18:05 - Lecture VII 'Institutional challenge' by Maria Portuondo

18:05-18:20 - Summary by Geoffrey Nice

18:20-18:45 - Briefing for Ex Iron Resolve by Nick Parker

Wednesday, 1 July

TOPIC: What role does the military play in stopping future wars? Part 2 - Ex Iron Resolve

Moderators: General Sir Nick Parker & Anastasia Kucher

9:00-13:00 - Exercise (Papers and programme issued separately)

13:00-14:30 - Lunch Break

TOPIC: Soft power in stopping wars. Other 'beliefs': nationalism, fascism and communism. Can they ever stop wars?

Moderators: Hamid Sabi & Konrad Schiemann & Robert Muharremi

14:30-15:30 - Lecture I 'Dividing the world into two: the good and the bad' by Sir Konrad Schiemann

15:30-16:30 - Lecture II 'The Politics of Nationalism in the current Middle East Conflict' by Ali Ansari

16:30-16:45 - Break

16:45-18:00 - Lecture III 'The Dangers of Apocalyptic Politics' by Daniel Nilsson DeHanas

18:00-19:00 - Lecture IV 'Pacifism: An Alternative to War and Violence' by Peter Glasgow

Thursday, 2 July

9:00-10:30 - AVERNIA presentations by groups

10:30-10:45 - Break

TOPIC: What role do NGO crisis organisations and similar play in stopping wars

Moderator: Anastasia Kucher

10:45-11:45 - Lecture I ‘The crucial role of medics in conflicts and wars’ by Dr. Vita Sinclair, Dr. Kostyantyn Kravets, Dr. Aula Abbara

11:45-13:00 - Talk and exercise ‘What do volunteers do, and why: example of Ukraine’ by Mariia Semanyshyn, Olga Golovina, Darrell McKey, Maiken Larsen

13:00-14:30 - Lunch Break

TOPIC What role does the media play in stopping wars?

Moderators: Anastasia Kucher & Huub Jaspers

14:30-15:30 - Lecture II ‘Reporting on war crimes during the war’ by Olga Golovina, Yuliia Kalaban and Anthony Borden

15:30-16:30 - Lecture III ‘Tackling the most extreme forms of injustice worldwide’ by Kristin Rosella

16:30-16:45 - Break

16:45-17:15 - Discussion ‘Reporting from the ground: why is it needed and does it make a difference?’ with Alex Crawford

17:15-19:00 - Film screening and discussion with Huub Jaspers

Friday, 3 July

TOPIC: Has the UN failed us? Can it be made to function better? Does US withdrawal from UN bodies matter?

Moderator: Aldo Zammit-Borda

09:00-10:30 - Lecture I 'Post conflict reconstruction and nation (re)building: lessons from Cambodia for the UN today' by Professor Rhona Smith

10:30-11:45 - Break

10:45-11:30 - Lecture II 'The UN at a Crossroads: Failure, Reform, and the Role of Great Powers' by Dr Thomas Grant

11:30-13:00 - Lecture III and Q&A 'United Nations, Divided World: What role does the UN have in its 9th decade' by Professor Rosa Freedman

13:00-14:00 - Lunch Break

14:00-15:00 - Lecture IV 'Where might the UN fit in the future international order?' by Professor Philip Alston

TOPIC: Soft Power in stopping wars. Role of writers, artists, musicians, composers, rock stars and sportsmen in stopping wars?

Moderator: Horst Junk

15:00 -15:45 - Introduction to the topic

15:45-16:00 - Break

16:00-17:00 - Lecture V 'What art can offer in desperate war situations?' by Haris Pašović

17:00 -18:00 - Lecture VI 'Literature, poetry and the activities of Writers for Peace section of PEN international' by Germán Rojas

18:00 -19:00 - Discussion 'What did art do to you and the world?'

Saturday, 4 July

TOPIC: Soft Power in stopping wars. Role of writers, artists, musicians, composers, rock stars and sportsmen in stopping wars?

Moderator: Horst Junk

09:00-10:30 - Lecture I ‘War and Peace – and sport?’ by Lejla Njemčević, Harry Rogers, Kondwani Nyirenda

10:30-10:45 - Break

TOPIC: “CONCLUDING LECTURES ON ALL TOPICS”

Moderator: Sir Geoffrey Nice

10:45-11:30 - Lecture II ‘The Feminine Law of War...and the ‘After-War’ by Akriti Purohit

11:30-12:15 - TBA

12:15-13:00 - Time to finish presentations for the exercise

13:00-14:30 - Lunch Break

14:30-16:45 - Exercise Group Presentations

16:45-17:30 - Plenary session to prepare communique by all faculty present

17:30-18:00 - Closing remarks by Sir Geoffrey Nice

20:00 - Dinner if organised by students

Sunday, 5 July

All depart