



Women, Peace and Security Summer School 2025

Sarajevo
22–26 September

DAY 1 - MONDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2025

MODULE I: FOUNDATIONS OF THE WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY & YOUTH, PEACE AND SECURITY AGENDAS

09:00 – 09:30	Registration @ Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies
09:30 – 10:00	Opening Ceremony and Welcome Remarks Prof. Jasmin Ahić, PhD , Dean of the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies Prof. Naris Pojskić, PhD , Vice-Rector for Research of the University of Sarajevo H.E. Julian Reilly , British Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina Arnhold Spence , United Nations Resident Coordinator in Bosnia and Herzegovina
10:00 – 10:45	Setting the Stage: Goals, Expectations and Building Connections <i>Orientation Session</i> Ass. Prof. Nerma Halilović-Kibrić, PhD , Women, Peace and Security Summer School Coordinator, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies <i>Participant introductions, overview of the Summer School programme and goals, and networking activity.</i>
11:00 – 11:45	Introduction to WPS: Core Concepts and Key Principles <i>Introductory Lecture and Q&A</i> Edita Miftari , Women, Peace and Security Programme Specialist, UN Women Bosnia and Herzegovina <i>Foundational overview of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, introducing the origins and evolution of WPS, the normative framework anchored in UNSCR 1325 and subsequent resolutions, and its application in practice. The session will highlight core concepts such as gendered perspectives on peace and security, women's participation in decision-making, and protection from conflict-related violence.</i>

12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break
13:00 – 13:45	<p>From UNSCR 2250 to Today: Lessons and Future Directions <i>Introductory Lecture and Q&A</i></p> <p>Samid Šarenkapić, Youth and Peace Program Analyst, UNFPA Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p><i>This keynote will provide a critical overview of the global Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda, tracing its evolution since the adoption of UNSCR 2250. The session will examine key achievements and persistent challenges, highlighting how concepts of inclusion and meaningful participation have developed over time. Participants will explore what these lessons mean for strengthening gender- and youth-responsive approaches to peace and security today, and how YPS can be advanced in synergy with broader WPS efforts.</i></p>
14:00 – 16:00	<p>Seeing with a Gender Lens: Case Studies from Colombia and Bosnia and Herzegovina <i>Workshop on Gender Analysis</i></p> <p>Adnan Kadribašić, Senior Expert on WPS and Gender Equality</p> <p><i>Introduction to key concepts of gender analysis in post-conflict settings, using case studies from the Colombian peace process and post-war Bosnia and Herzegovina and exploring how gender shapes roles, power, and participation in peacebuilding, and gain practical tools for applying a gender lens to security and recovery efforts.</i></p>
16:00 – 16:30	<p>Wrap-Up of Day 1</p> <p>Ass. Prof. Nerma Halilović-Kibrić, PhD, Women, Peace and Security Summer School Coordinator, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies</p> <p><i>Participant reflections & Q&A</i> <i>Preview of Day 2</i></p>

DAY 2 - TUESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2025

MODULE II: CONFLICT-RELATED SEXUAL VIOLENCE (CRSV) – POWER, JUSTICE, AND HUMAN RIGHTS

09:00 – 09:45	<p>Denial as Strategy: Political Uses of Genocide Memory in Bosnia and the Balkans <i>Introductory Lecture and Q&A</i></p> <p>Prof. Edina Bećirević, PhD, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies, University of Sarajevo</p> <p><i>Examines how denial and distortion of atrocity crimes obstruct reconciliation, and why confronting historical truth remains essential to building sustainable peace.</i></p>
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10:00 – 10:45	<p>Gender, Violence, and War: Understanding the Dynamics of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence <i>Keynote Lecture and Q&A</i></p> <p>Prof. Inger Skjelsbaek, PhD, Professor at the University of Oslo and Research Professor at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)</p> <p><i>Examines the roots, patterns, and consequences of conflict-related sexual violence, highlighting its gendered dynamics, political functions, and the challenges it poses for justice and peacebuilding in post-conflict societies.</i></p>
11:00 – 11:45	<p>Establishing the Facts: The Role of War Crimes Judgments in CRSV Justice and Memory <i>Case Study - Bosnia and Herzegovina</i></p> <p>Denis Džidić, Executive Director of Balkan Investigative Reporting Network in BiH</p> <p><i>How judicially established facts in war crimes trials contribute to truth-telling, accountability, and the broader societal understanding of conflict-related sexual violence, drawing on case law from Bosnia and Herzegovina to illustrate the strengths and limitations of legal processes in shaping public memory and advancing justice for survivors.</i></p>
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Lunch Break</p>
13:00 – 13:45	<p>Documenting Truth, Centering Survivors: Transitional Justice Approaches to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence <i>Expert Lecture and Q&A</i></p> <p>Adrijana Hanušić, Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) Documentation and Transitional Justice expert</p> <p><i>Drawing on regional and international experiences, the session will examine how ethical documentation can contribute to truth-telling, accountability, and long-term justice for survivors, while avoiding retraumatization and reinforcing agency.</i></p>
14:00 – 16:00	<p>Intergenerational Justice and Memory - War Childhood Museum <i>Field Visit (includes commuting time)</i></p> <p><i>A guided visit to the War Childhood Museum exploring themes of intergenerational justice, memory, and survivor-led advocacy in post-conflict settings, with reflections on their relevance to the WPS and YPS agendas. Includes commuting time.</i></p>
16:00 – 16:30	<p>Wrap-Up of Day 2</p> <p>Ass. Prof. Nerma Halilović-Kibrić, PhD, Women, Peace and Security Summer School Coordinator, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies</p>

	<p><i>Participant reflections & Q&A</i></p> <p><i>Preview of Day 3</i></p>
18:00 - 19:30	<p>Welcome Reception and Networking</p> <p>@ UN House</p> <p><i>An informal evening gathering to foster connections, exchange experiences, and build a sense of community among Summer School participants, speakers, and organizers.</i></p>

DAY 3 - WEDNESDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2025

MODULE III: THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN CONFLICT PREVENTION, MEDIATION, AND RESOLUTION

09:00 – 10:15	<p>Women as Key Players for Mediation, Peace and Security</p> <p><i>Introductory Lecture and Q&A</i></p> <p>Prof. Jasmin Ahić, PhD, Dean of the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies</p> <p><i>This keynote lecture explores the evolving role of women as mediators, diplomats, and peacebuilders in national and international peace processes. Participants will examine the barriers and breakthroughs in advancing women's participation in diplomacy, negotiation, and peace missions, highlighting practical pathways toward more inclusive and effective mediation.</i></p>
10:30 – 12:00	<p>Women, Identity, and Post-Conflict Belonging: Between Narratives and Negotiations</p> <p><i>Keynote Lecture and Q&A</i></p> <p>Univ.-Doz. Dr. habil Dženeta Karabegović, Associate Professor at University of Salzburg, Sociology and Human Geography Department</p> <p><i>This lecture explores how women contribute to peacebuilding and social transformation beyond formal negotiations, through activism, memory, research, and community rebuilding. Participants will examine how identity, diaspora, and collective memory shape women's roles in post-conflict societies, and how these lived experiences influence broader peace and reconciliation efforts.</i></p>
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break

13:00 – 14:15	<p>From Grassroots to Peace Tables: Lessons from Liberia's Women's Movement <i>Case Study - Liberia</i></p> <p>Mirsad Miki Jačević, Fellow at Our Secure Future</p> <p><i>This case study session explores the role of women-led activism in ending the Liberian civil war, with a focus on Leymah Gbowee's leadership and the strategic impact of the women's peace movement. Through analysis and reflection, participants will examine how grassroots mobilization can shift political outcomes, influence negotiations, and transform peace processes.</i></p>
14:30 – 16:00	<p>Negotiating Peace: A Simulation on Inclusive Conflict Resolution <i>Simulation Workshop</i></p> <p>Mirsad Miki Jačević, Fellow at Our Secure Future</p> <p><i>This interactive simulation places participants in the roles of key stakeholders in a fictional peace negotiation scenario. The session will explore the challenges and opportunities of achieving inclusive agreements, highlighting the impact of gender-sensitive approaches in conflict resolution.</i></p>
16:00 – 16:30	<p>Wrap-Up of Day 3</p> <p>Ass. Prof. Nerma Halilović-Kibrić, PhD, Women, Peace and Security Summer School Coordinator, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies</p> <p><i>Participant reflections & Q&A</i> <i>Preview of Day 4</i></p>

DAY 4 - THURSDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2025

MODULE IV: INCLUSIVE SECURITY – WOMEN'S ROLE IN REFORMING THE SYSTEM

09:00 – 09:15	<p>From Policy to Practice: Embedding Gender in Security Institutions <i>Video Message</i></p> <p>Commander Tyson Nicholas RAN, Strategic Military Advisor, UN Women</p> <p><i>A strategic-level reflection on embedding gender in military and security institutions, highlighting the operational relevance of the WPS agenda, the role of leadership and allyship, and lessons learned from implementing institutional reform in practice.</i></p>
09:15 – 10:00	<p>Power, Politics, and Resistance: Gender Equality in Security Institutions <i>Introductory Lecture and Q&A</i></p>

	<p>Tanya L. Domi, Adjunct Assistant Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, affiliate faculty member of the Harriman Institute</p> <p><i>Drawing on her extensive experience in the Western Balkans and U.S. foreign policy, Tanya Domi will examine how political will, institutional culture, and democratic backsliding influence the integration of gender perspectives in security sector reform. The session will highlight challenges faced by women in militarized and male-dominated structures, as well as the broader implications for accountability, civilian oversight, and democratic governance.</i></p>
10:15 – 12:00	<p>Designing Security Differently: Reviewing and Reimagining Gender-Sensitive Action Plans <i>Workshop</i></p> <p>Mirsad Miki Jačević, Fellow at Our Secure Future</p> <p><i>This practical workshop explores how gender is – or isn't – integrated into existing national action plans (NAPs) and sectoral strategies. Using real-world examples such as Bosnia and Herzegovina's WPS NAP or comparable frameworks in security-related areas like policing, cyber-security, CVE, or trafficking, participants will assess current gaps and propose concrete, actionable improvements. The session will guide participants in generating reform-oriented recommendations that strengthen institutional accountability, inclusivity, and impact.</i></p>
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 15:30	<p>On the Frontlines of Security: Voices from Practice <i>Interactive Panel Discussion</i></p> <p>Tanya L. Domi, ret. U.S. Army Captain (Adjunct Assistant Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University)</p> <p>Lejla Čopelj, Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p>Major General Mirsad Ahmić, Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p>Kristina Jozić, Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Women Police Officers Network</p> <p><i>An interactive dialogue with security professionals from Bosnia and Herzegovina sharing first-hand experiences, challenges, and lessons learned in advancing gender-responsive approaches within national security institutions.</i></p>
15:30 – 16:00	<p>Wrap-Up of Day 4</p> <p>Ass. Prof. Nerma Halilović-Kibrić, PhD, Women, Peace and Security Summer School Coordinator, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies</p> <p><i>Participant reflections & Q&A</i></p> <p><i>Preview of Day 5</i></p>

DAY 5 - FRIDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2025

MODULE V: APPLICATION OF WPS PRINCIPLES

09:00 – 12:00	<p>Stories, Memory, and Dialogue in Practice - Post Conflict Research Center Workshop</p> <p>Velma Šarić, Post Conflict Research Center Founder & President</p> <p><i>A workshop with the Post-Conflict Research Center (PCRC), a women-led peacebuilding organization working to transform conflict narratives and promote human rights, transitional justice, and inclusive democracy in the Western Balkans.</i></p>
12:00 – 13:00	<p>Lunch Break</p>
13:00 – 13:45	<p>From Principles to Power: The Future of Women, Peace and Security <i>Keynote Lecture and Q&A</i></p> <p>H.E. Darja Bavdaž Kuret, Ambassador/Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia</p> <p><i>This keynote lecture offers forward-looking reflections on global diplomacy, trust-building, and principled leadership in peace and security, including how the WPS and YPS agendas are being considered in the context of the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review co-led by Slovenia and Egypt.</i></p>
14:00 – 14:45	<p>Closing the Circle: Empowering the Next Generation of Peacebuilders <i>Closing Fireside Chat and Q&A</i></p> <p>H.E. Åge Sandal Møller, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark to Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p><i>An open conversation with H.E. Åge Sandal Møller, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Denmark to Bosnia and Herzegovina, reflecting on personal leadership, Denmark's commitment to gender equality and youth inclusion, and the role of male allies in advancing the WPS and YPS agendas.</i></p>
15:00 – 15:30	<p>Final Reflections and Evaluation</p> <p>Ass. Prof. Nerma Halilović-Kibrić, PhD, Women, Peace and Security Summer School Coordinator, Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security Studies</p> <p>Edita Miftari, Women, Peace and Security Programme Specialist, UN Women Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p><i>A facilitated group discussion to reflect on key learnings, exchange final impressions, and gather feedback on the WPS Summer School experience for future improvement and continued engagement.</i></p>

15:30 – 16:00	Closing Ceremony <i>Closing ceremony to award certificates of successful completion to all participants, group photo and formal conclusion of the WPS Summer School.</i>
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