

# The awards of the Victimology Society of Serbia for 2016

**Victimology Society of Serbia** established three awards in 2009:

- The award for the contribution to the promotion of victims' rights
- The award for a non-conflict and comprehensive approach to dealing with the war and war crimes "Third way"
- The award for the talented young researcher

**The award for the contribution to the promotion of victims' rights** is awarded to individuals or organizations who have significantly contributed through their activities and efforts to the promotion of victims' rights and to achieving main aims of the Victimology Society of Serbia.

The Executive Committee of the Victimology Society of Serbia decided to award **prof. dr Oliver Bačanović**, the Dean and full professor at the Faculty of Security, University "St. Kliment Ohridski" in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia for his contribution to the promotion of victims' rights.

Professor Bačanović is one of the founders of victimology in Macedonia and was the first one who started to teach the subject Victimology at one university institution on the territory of the former Yugoslavia. Since 1996 he has been working at the Faculty of Security, University "St. Kliment Ohridski", where he is currently the Dean and teaches Victimology, Juvenile delinquency and Penology. Professor Bačanović has been cooperating very actively with the Victimology Society of Serbia since its establishment. He has been a member of the Editorial Board of the scientific journal Temida for years. He participated at all previous annual conferences of the Victimology Society of Serbia and is the most responsible one for the affirmation of the VDS's annual conferences in Macedonia, which is indicated by the fact that every year there are more participants from Macedonia.

The award for the contribution to the promotion of victims' rights is awarded to professor Bačanović for his contribution to the enhancement of the rights of victims in Macedonia and the entire region of the former Yugoslavia, as well as for the affirmation of victimology in Macedonia and Serbia, affirmation of the Victimology Society of Serbia and affirmation of young professionals who deal with victimological topics.

**The award "Third way"** is awarded to individuals or organizations who have contributed to the development of a non-conflict and comprehensive approach to dealing with the consequences of war and promotion of peace in Serbia.

This year the Executive Committee of the Victimology Society of Serbia awarded the **NGO Nova vizija from Prijepolje**.

NGO Nova vizija is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization, which was founded in 2001 in Prijepolje. Nova vizija works to promote a society of equal, active citizens who foster tolerance, respect diversity, develop partnerships, promote knowledge and lifelong learning. NGO Nova vizija has been an important partner in the implementation of activities within the work package of the Victimology Society of Serbia titled Fostering victim-oriented dialogue in the multiethnic society, which was implemented within the EU funded FP7 research project ALTERNATIVE. Mirsad Duran, the president of the association, and Nermina Duran, the program coordinator, provided an enormous help in organizing and implementing a number of activities, especially in conducting empirical research, as well as the action research that consisted of two parts: organization and implementation of the seminars From the conflict toward the peaceful life in the community, which were conducted in 2014 in three multiethnic communities in Serbia, including Prijepolje, and the

development of the Manual on best practices of applying restorative justice approaches in intercultural settings.

Over the past four years, we had the opportunity to work together, create, comment on and learn from each other. Mirsad and Nermina showed great enthusiasm; they were able to gather people from Prijepolje who are interested to work on the promotion of restorative approaches in the prevention and resolution of problems, including conflicts at the local level, and, thus, to further advocate for implementation of the "Third Way" model as a form of restorative dialogue, which has been recognized as a possible application of restorative justice in the post-conflict society. Therefore, the Executive Board of the Victimology Society of Serbia decided to give the award "Third Way" to the NGO Nova vizija.

**The award for the talented young researcher** is awarded to young people for the special quality of their scientific research in the field of victimology. This award aims to encourage young people to engage in scientific research in the field of victimology.

This year the Executive Board has decided to award **Dana Ivović, Aleksandra Jovanović and Jelena Cvetanović.**

**Dana Ivović** is a master defectologist. She is employed in the Special Hospital for Addictions in Belgrade. During 2013 and 2014 she was a volunteer in the Victimology Society of Serbia, while in the past three years she assisted in the organization of the annual conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia. She defended her master's thesis titled "Attitudes of drivers about road traffic regulations and their behavior in traffic" at the Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, under the mentorship of prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović. In this thesis she conducted empirical research and showed capability for the research relevant for the improvement of the position of victims and development of victimology as a science. Keeping this in mind, the Executive Board of the Victimology Society of Serbia decided to assign the award for a talented young researcher to Dana Ivović. We believe that this would encourage her to continue with making efforts to become a good researcher and to work on the improvement of victims' rights.

**Aleksandra Jovanović** is a master defectologist. She gained professional experience at "Stevan Sremac" high school in Niš, Technical School "Rade Metalac" in Leskovac, as well as in the civil society organizations dealing with the protection of children, young people and other vulnerable groups. She defended the master's thesis titled "Gender socialization and exposure of women living in rural areas to marital violence" at the Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, under the mentorship of prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović. In this thesis she conducted empirical research using victimization survey with women in the village of Vlase, and thus made a significant contribution to studies of this kind carried out in rural areas, as well as to raising awareness of rural women about gender stereotypes, marital violence and possibilities of prevention and protection. Keeping this in mind, the Executive Board of the Victimology Society of Serbia decided to assign the award for a talented young researcher to Aleksandra Jovanović. We believe this will encourage her to continue with the research in the field of victimology and to engage in improving victims' rights, particularly of women who are victims of gender-based violence.

**Jelena Cvetanović** is a master defectologist. Since 2007 she has been employed at the Clinic for Pulmonary Diseases of the Clinical Center of Serbia. She defended the master's thesis titled "Mobbing experiences - victims or survivors in the healthcare institutions" at the Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, under the mentorship of prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović. For the purpose of the master thesis she conducted a qualitative empirical study based on the in-depth interviews with women and men, victims of mobbing in the healthcare institutions in Belgrade. The research had an action character, since, along with the interviews, respondents were informed about possible forms of support and organizations and institutions which they can address for assistance. In this way, she showed the ability to use qualitative methods and approaches in action victimological research, as well as a sensitive attitudes towards victims. Keeping this in mind, the Executive Board of the Victimology Society of Serbia decided to assign the award for a talented young researcher to Jelena Cvetanović. We believe that this would encourage her to continue with the research in the field of victimology and to engage in improving victims' rights, particularly of victims of mobbing.

