



Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to invite you to the *16th Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia* entitled **Invisible and Visible Victims: Contemporary Local and Global Social Context**, which **will be held on November 26 and 27, 2026, at the Palace Hotel, Topličin Venac 23, Belgrade.**

This year's conference aims to bring together experts, researchers, activists, and practitioners from various fields in order to examine the position and victimization of invisible and visible victims within the contemporary social context, both at the local and global levels. The conference provides a platform for the analysis of different forms of victimization, their causes, consequences, and societal responses, with a special focus on victims whose experiences remain marginalized, insufficiently recognized, or invisible within public, institutional, and academic discourse.

Contemporary society is faced with complex social, economic, political, and environmental challenges that shape new patterns of victimization and deepen existing social inequalities. In addition to direct and socially recognized forms of victimization, special attention must also be given to forms of suffering and social vulnerability that often remain outside the focus of the public and institutions, affecting individuals and groups exposed to systemic violence, discrimination, poverty, forced migration, wars, environmental disasters, climate change, institutional failures, and various forms of social exclusion.

At the same time, the contemporary social context contributes to the selective visibility of victims, whereby certain victims receive social recognition and support, while others remain marginalized due to social stereotypes, power relations, political interests, or the absence of an adequate institutional response. In this regard, the conference seeks to encourage dialogue on the social recognition of victimization, the position of marginalized groups, and the possibilities for improving policies, support practices, and institutional responses to contemporary forms of violence and suffering. Through the exchange of theoretical, research-based, and practical experiences, the conference aims to contribute to a better understanding of victimization, as well as to strengthening social responsibility and solidarity toward all victims, both invisible and visible.

The conference work will be organized through:

- Plenary sessions

- Thematic sessions
- Round tables/Workshops
- Poster presentations

We are pleased to present our keynote speakers:

Other-than-humans as victim-survivors: Legal, victimological and restorative anthropocentrism as secondary victimisation and institutional harm



Prof. dr Gemma Maria Varona Martinez is a research professor in Victimology and Criminal Policy at the Faculty of Law of the University of the Basque Country and Director of the Basque Institute of Criminology at that University promoting international projects in education exchange and research (Spain). She is also professor at the International Master for the Sociology of Law. Current President of the World Society of Victimology, member of the Board of the International Society

for Criminology, and member of the European Society of Criminology and the European Forum for Restorative Justice where she has been the Chair of different working groups. Former coordinator of the degree in criminology and current co-director of Post-graduate studies in Victimology at her University. She was pioneer in developing her PhD in Criminology on restorative justice and, since then, she has authored books on migration and human rights, juries and the construction of juridical truth, women local safety audits, political violence, sexual abuse in organisations and evaluation of public policies. For her criminological background, she was elected member of Jakiunde, the Basque Academy of Sciences and Arts. She is a member of the Advisory Board of the academic journal *Temida*.

Invisible and Visible Victims of Crime in the International Paradigm: Successes and Challenges



Dr Uglješa Zvekić is Ambassador and Head of the Permanent Mission of the European Public Law Organization to the United Nations in Vienna. He serves as an adviser to the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime (Geneva/Vienna), professor at the Faculty of Law of Roma Tre University and at the School of Government of LUISS University in Rome, as well as a visiting professor at the University of Milan. Dr Zvekić is an honorary member of the Victimology Society of Serbia. He is also a member of the International Advisory Board for the “International Anti-Corruption Excellence Award” based in Vienna. He previously served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Serbia to the United Nations in Geneva (2009–2013), President of the General Assembly of

the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva (2011–2013), President of the Executive Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in Geneva (2011–2013), Head of the Strategic Planning Unit within the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Vienna (2004–2009), Deputy Regional Representative of the

UNODC Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) in Pretoria (1999–2004), and Deputy Director of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) in Rome (1984–1999).

Long-Term Health Consequences of the 1999 NATO Intervention for the Citizens of Serbia



Prof. dr Danica Grujičić is a retired full professor at the University of Belgrade and a specialist in neurosurgery. Until her retirement in 2024, she worked at the Neurosurgery Clinic of the University Clinical Center of Serbia, where she served as Head of the Department of Neuro-Oncology from 2007 and as Head of the Center for Neuro-Oncology from 2015. Alongside her clinical practice, she was employed at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade, where she served as Head of the Department for Postgraduate Education in Neurosurgery, Head of the Teaching Base at the Neurosurgery Clinic, Coordinator of the undergraduate course *Fundamentals of Clinical Practice* (2004–2019), and Deputy Head of the Department of Surgery for undergraduate education. From 2015 to 2021, she was Head of the Department of Surgery with Anesthesiology, becoming the first woman to hold that position since the department's establishment. She also served as Director of the Institute of Oncology and Radiology of the University Clinical Center of Serbia. From October 2022 to April 2024, she was the Minister of Health in the Government of the Republic of Serbia. Professor Grujičić is the author and co-author of more than 300 professional and scientific publications. She has been actively engaged in advocating for the investigation of the health and environmental consequences of the 1999 NATO military intervention against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. She is also co-editor of the monograph *The Truth About the Consequences of the 1999 NATO Bombing of Serbia*.

You can find the Call for Abstracts [HERE](#).

Information regarding the conference fee and registration procedure can be found [HERE](#).

If you require any additional information regarding the Conference, please contact Milica Luković Radaković by phone at +381 11 228 8040 or via e-mail at vdsconference@gmail.com or vdsrbija@gmail.com.

We would kindly ask you to forward this message to anyone who might be interested in participating at the Conference!

Yours sincerely,

Jasmina Nikolić

Director of the Victimology Society of Serbia

