

# Straniak Academy

for Democracy and Human Rights

**6 to 19 September 2015, Ulcinj/Montenegro**

## Information for students

**Dear students and new graduates,**

We invite you to apply for the third *Straniak Academy for Democracy and Human Rights*, which will take place from **6 to 19 September 2015 in Ulcinj/Montenegro**.

The Academy was established in 2013 by the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights - Research association (BIM) in Vienna in cooperation with the Faculties of Law and Social Sciences of the University of Vienna and the Faculties of Law and Political Science of the University in Montenegro.

The name of the Straniak Academy refers to the Hermann and Marianne Straniak Foundation, Sarnen/Switzerland, being the main facilitator of the Academy. The Foundation's objective comprises, *inter alia*, the promotion of the goals, ideas and values of the European Convention of Human Rights, in particular in East and Southeast Europe.

The Academy was and is also supported by other sponsors i.e. the Central European Initiative (CEI), the agricultural company Agrana, the assurance company UNIQA, and several law firms such as Grilc Vouk Škof, Lansky Ganzger & partners, and others, providing stipends for students, as well as the Humboldt Society for German-Montenegrin cultural exchange.

### ***Aim and concept of the Academy***

The goal of the Academy is to promote academic education on democracy, human rights and the rule of law in the Western Balkan region as a specific focus. The Academy establishes a link connecting academia and practice, promoted through an interdisciplinary and interactive format. To keep abreast with political, legal and social changes and to underscore the Academy's continuous relevance for future professionals, a reasonable part of each year's programme focuses on specific themes.

The intense two-week programme includes courses and workshops on different thematic fields such as concepts of democracy in a globalised world, the international and regional human rights instruments and standards (UN, CoE, OSCE, EU), the relevance of the rule of law, the efficiency of judicial systems, and also includes special human rights related topics.

### ***Who teaches?***

Lecturers at the Straniak Academy are experienced professors, regional and international experts and practitioners who will teach in “tandems” representing different subject-specific and regional approaches. The students will not only have the opportunity to listen to presentations, but will also actively participate in discussions, workshops, roundtables and evening talks. They will get insights into the every-day work of practitioners and experts, such as judges, officials, lawyers, politicians and journalists, economists as well as representatives of the civil society.

### ***Who is eligible to apply?***

We invite motivated students and new graduates with different academic background – who are especially interested in democracy, human rights and the rule of law – to apply for the programme. The target group are in particular students from the Western Balkan region and from EU Member States. Students coming from other countries are also welcome to apply, however preference will be given to students coming from the above mentioned target regions.

### ***Programme and time management***

The syllabus of the Academy 2015 will be uploaded in April 2015, available on the website of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights:

<http://bim.lbg.ac.at/en/straniak-academy-democracy-and-human-rights-0>

In general, the lessons will take place daily in the morning and in the afternoon, except for two afternoons for free time. On some days, evening discussions on current topics will take place with invited experts and practitioners.

### ***Free time***

During noonday the students will not only have time for lunch, but also to relax on the beach which is right underneath the hotel. On two afternoons, no courses will take place. Ulcinj is a very nice place for young people, with a lot of bars, discos, esplanades, ancient romantic squares, castles, and wonderful beaches. An excursion will be organised during the weekend to Cetinje, the mountain of Lovćen and the wonderful historic towns of Budva and Kotor.

### ***Certificates and credits***

Students will receive a diploma and a certificate after the final exam. The preconditions for a positive evaluation are to pass the exam (multiple choice questions and short open questions) and active participation during the two weeks.

Transfer of ECTS is possible according to the plan and programme of the students’ respective faculties and universities. Students will have to inform themselves regarding the necessary procedure and documents required for approval and transfer of ECTS at their faculties/universities. The Straniak Academy team will provide all necessary support in organisational and administrative matters to the students.

### ***Fees and other costs***

The participation fee is EUR 150 for students and new graduates from the Western Balkan region and EUR 250 from EU and other countries. Travel costs have to be borne by the participants themselves. Accommodation including half board (breakfast and lunch or dinner) for the two weeks is covered by the Academy.

### ***Venue***

Students and lecturers will be accommodated in the hotel complex “Dvori Balsića” and “Palata Venezia”, both situated side by side at the wonderful historic fortress of Ulcinj, with a famous panorama over the bay of Ulcinj:

<http://www.hotel-dvoribalsica-montenegro.com/de/>

<http://www.hotel-palatavenezia-montenegro.com/>



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The lessons and workshops will take place in the conference room of the hotel “Palata Venezia” with a wonderful terrace and enough space for working groups. The hotel has a separate beach underneath the fortress, which can be used during the two weeks.

### ***How to apply?***

If you are interested to participate, please fill in the **application form** and send it, together with your **CV and a motivation letter IN ONE PDF DOCUMENT until 21 June 2015 to the following e-mail addresses** of the Academy’s team (see below):

[hannes.tretter@univie.ac.at](mailto:hannes.tretter@univie.ac.at), [ijelic@yahoo.com](mailto:ijelic@yahoo.com), [n.radovic@univie.ac.at](mailto:n.radovic@univie.ac.at)

The Straniak Academy team will inform you about the **selection results until 10 July 2015**. The **registration fee** has to be transferred not later than **31 July 2015**, confirming your participation. Please note that due to organisational reasons and fairness, candidates who do not transfer the registration fee in due time, will be excluded from the list of participants and a candidate from the waiting list will be contacted instead. The Straniak Academy team will contact the **waiting list** candidates until 7 August 2015 who will have to transfer the registration fee not later than 14 August 2015.

### ***Selection criteria***

The Selection Committee of the Straniak Academy will select **30 to 35 students** after close consideration of the following **selection criteria**: motivation of the candidates, academic achievements and advancement in the respective studies, academic background, practical experience, equal gender proportion, regional proportion.

### ***Cancellation***

The cancellation of the application has to be submitted in writing **not later than 4 weeks before the start of the Academy**. The **cancellation fee** amounts to 30% of the tuition fee. If an application is not cancelled in due time, the cancellation fee amounts to 100% of the tuition fee.

### ***The Academy's team:***



**Prof. Hannes Tretter, Director**

Associate Professor for Fundamental and Human Rights Law at University of Vienna and Scientific Director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM), Vienna



**Prof. Ivana Jelić, Deputy-director**

Associate Professor for Public International Law, Human Rights Law and Diplomatic and Consular Law at the Faculties of Law and Political Science of the University of Montenegro



**MMag. Nina Radović, Coordinator**

Researcher at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, Assistant to Professor Tretter at the Faculty of Law of the University of Vienna

***For all additional questions, please visit our website and do not hesitate to contact us:***

Ms. Nina Radović

Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights-Research Association (BIM)

A-1010 Wien, Freyung 6/2 (Schottenhof)

Tel. +43 (0)1 4277 27465

Mail: [n.radovic@univie.ac.at](mailto:n.radovic@univie.ac.at)

Website: <http://bim.lbg.ac.at>

### ***Partners and Sponsors of the Academy***



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