

CANTON SARAJEVO GOVERNMENT
Ministry for War Veterans
S A R A J E V O

UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO
Institute for Research of Crimes against
Humanity and International Law
S A R A J E V O

Sarajevo, 19 December 2011

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

**“POLITICAL AND MILITARY RELEVANCE OF THE DEFENSE OF SARAJEVO
1992 - 1995”**

A Round table under the title “SIEGE AND THE DEFENSE OF SARAJEVO 1992 – 1995” was held in November 2005 in Sarajevo. On that occasion, various aspects of heroic defense of Sarajevo were critically analyzed: international-legal, political, military, historic, cultural, civilization relevance of the defense, then the siege of Sarajevo, including the crimes against humanity and international law.

Although the results of this scientific counseling were published in a special edition of the Institute for Research of Crimes against Humanity and International Law of the Sarajevo University (2008), the truth about the defense of Sarajevo has not been fully, comprehensively, and scientifically analyzed. Unfortunately, even sixteen years after the Dayton Accord and/or Paris Peace Agreement (14 December 1995), the forgeries and some “new truths” are advocated so offensively in various forms, and the defensive character of the fight conducted by the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and other antifascists are minimized, even the crime of genocide against Bosniacs in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina is still denied, including the one committed in the territory of Sarajevo. According to the great Serbian forgeries and their propaganda, the Bosniacs killed themselves and others (Serbs, Croats and others), massacred, and shelled (Markale market, Brewery, Dobrinja settlement, Pofalići, Žuč hill, and other parts of Sarajevo under the siege). The events in the Dobrovoljačka street in May 1992, particularly massacres in Vase Miskina Street and at the market Markale are ruthlessly and politically instrumentalized and placed in the function of the current politics, whereas the lies are fabricated that the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina fired the shells against its own population, only to get

the international support and help, in other words the military intervention of the Western World. Simultaneously, the notorious facts have been concealed and circumvented: according to the ICTY research, 18,189 civilians died or were killed in Sarajevo (of all religions, ethnicities, gender and age) of which 1,600 were children; the fact was disregarded that the modern history acknowledged that Sarajevo was 1,479 days under the siege (longer than the siege and the barbarian shelling of Leningrad during the WWII) during which time it was subjected to horrific destruction and unbearable living conditions without food, power, water, gas, and anything else needed for a normal life and survival.

Despite all that, Sarajevo was heroically defended and it preserved its multiethnic, multiregional, and civilization character.

Guided by all these, primarily scientific reasons, the Sarajevo Canton Government (Ministry for War Veterans) and the Institute for Research of Crimes against Humanity and International Law of the Sarajevo University decided to organize a scientific conference under the title:

**“POLITICAL AND MILITARY RELEVANCE OF THE DEFENSE OF SARAJEVO
1992 - 1995”**

The objective of the conference is to apply a multidisciplinary approach, study scientifically and comprehensively, and reach valid scientific findings relative to the political and military relevance of the defense of Sarajevo 1992-1995.

This international conference with such a topic will certainly give its contribution to the development of knowledge relevant for science, politics, and social practice.

Starting from these expectations and the articulated objective of the conference, its role, and essential functions, we would like to suggest the list of potential and possible title for the papers. Yet, other titles are possible as well, if they are directly related to the subject of the research or individual aspects of the scientific research.

Potential, working titles are:

- Siege of Sarajevo in the context of historic experiences;
- Sarajevo as a strategic goal of the aggression against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

- The state of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its capital Sarajevo in the pre-war concept of restructuring by the establishment of military districts;
- Resources for the siege of Sarajevo;
- Stages of the aggressor siege of Sarajevo;
- Resources of the defense of Sarajevo (political-sociological analysis of the 1st Corps of the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- Comparative indicators on the resources for the siege and defense of Sarajevo;
- 2nd and 3rd May 1992 in Sarajevo in view of historic sources;
- Implications of the legal status and possibility of the JNA actions in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, after the international recognition of the independence;
- Political and military relevance of the defense of Sarajevo;
- Military and political organization, valued positions, and socio political orientation of the human factor in the defense of Sarajevo;
- General characteristics and indicators relative to the combat operations in the area of responsibility of the 1st Corps of the Army of RBiH between 1992 and 1995;
- Solutions for the issues of securing supplies for the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the population of Sarajevo under siege;
- Moral aspects of the situation in the 1st Corps of the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Genocide and other forms of Crimes against Humanity in the area of Sarajevo under siege;
- Embargo – expression of unfair politics against Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Responsibility of the international community;
- Visits of the high officials of the international community to Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- post festum: interpretational manipulation with the historic facts in Sarajevo, on the 2nd and the 3rd May 1992 (ideological, political, and legal aspects).

The paper titles should be sent to the organizers by 20 January 2012. If the Organizing Committee, chaired by Prof. Dr. Nijaz Duraković, approves the title, and potentially suggests some changes, the participants should no later than 10 February 2012 submit their Abstracts, and final papers by 20 February 2012 by e-mail, mail or personally to the Institute for

Research of Crimes against Humanity and International Law of the Sarajevo University at Halida Nazečića 4 Street.

The maximum length of a paper can be 32 pages on A4 format, font size 12 and 1.5 line spacing, and the presentation time will be limited to 10 minutes.

The organizer will bear the travel costs of participants.

The international conference under the title “POLITICAL AND MILITARY RELEVANCE OF THE DEFENSE OF SARAJEVO 1992 – 1995” will be held in Sarajevo on **29 February 2012**, which is a symbolic date: one day before the Independence day of the sovereign and internationally recognized Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

You will be accordingly informed about all the details.

We expect that you will accept to take part in this conference and thus give your scientific contribution to the scientific findings, critical analysis, and consideration of this scientifically and socially complex issue.

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Doc. Dr. Nedžad Ajnadžić, Minister

Prof. Dr. Smail Čekić, Director