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2023



TRANSKULTURNA PSIHOSOCIJALNA
OBRAZOVNA FONDACIJA - TPO

(Annual narrative report January - December 2023.)

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Annual narrative report January - December 2023.

INTRODUCTION

During 2023, the TPO Foundation made significant progress in enhancing existing programs, thus solidifying its role as an advocate for human rights, with a particular emphasis on promoting gender equality. The organization conducted various activities through four key programs: the FER School, SAPERE, the ETOS Initiative, and the UNIGEM Project, as well as new projects such as MENGA. The TPO Foundation continued its collaboration with 19 partner universities, including UNSA, UNZE, UNTZ, UNMO, SVEHER, SUM, UES, UNBL, UNBI, UIT, UDG, UCG, UNBG, UNS, IBU, SSST, UNIRI, UNIOS, UNZG, and provided support and activities at the University of Vitez. Based on the monitoring reports of activities from the Action Plans for Gender Equality of partner universities within the UNIGEM project, as well as regular quarterly coordinator reports, a review of planned and implemented educational activities at these universities was compiled, primarily aimed at university staff with a focus on teaching personnel. Findings from these reports clearly indicate that, although there is heterogeneity regarding the structure and size of universities, there are similar challenges in the implementation of gender policies at universities, particularly concerning strengthening the capacities of teaching staff in this domain. Considering the identified problems, necessary support, and barriers, the importance of collaboration between universities and external partners such as non-governmental organizations like the TPO Foundation, governmental organizations dealing with this issue, and international partners who can provide organizational, expert, and financial support that universities often lack, is highlighted as a conclusion. Continuing its efforts, the Foundation conducted educational sessions for non-teaching staff aimed at raising awareness of gender-sensitive policies as a significant step towards creating a safe academic environment. The UNIGEM project continues to prove its significance in achieving gender equality and eliminating gender-based violence at universities. The global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” was traditionally observed during the previous year with a focus on preventing femicide as the worst form of gender-based violence, the rate of which significantly increased during 2023 in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as the region. More than 80 different activities, including workshops, discussions, roundtables, debates, exhibitions, dance performances, trial simulations on cases of gender-based violence, quizzes, and video screenings, were conducted as part of this campaign. In collaboration with the Ecumenical Initiative of Women (EIŽ) from Omiš, the TPO Foundation continued to organize the Feminism and Religion School (FER). Ten courses were organized on topics such as feminism, gender equality, religion, peacebuilding, and media. In addition to the regular school program, the first FER conference was organized in Sarajevo with 40 participants from the Western Balkans region, where past experiences and practices were exchanged, alongside academic panels and artistic content. The SAPERE BiH program aimed at developing critical thinking and the ETOS initiative focused on learning about ethical values continued their activities throughout 2023. Through this program and initiative, over 500 students from primary and secondary schools in the Sarajevo Canton were educated on topics of gender equality, discrimination, and human rights. Additionally, a TOT group consisting of 26 trainers, teachers, and primary school teachers from the Sarajevo Canton was certified. The P4C method was also applied in the teaching of primary school teachers in nine primary and secondary schools for approximately 200 students. Within the ETOS initiative, approximately 700 students were educated about gender-based violence and gender equality. The global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” was also commemorated within the framework of the ETOS initiative and was implemented by teaching staff in seven schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina. I would like to express sincere gratitude to the TPO Foundation team for their collaboration.

prof. dr. Zilka Spahić-Šiljak

ABOUT US

The TPO Foundation (Transcultural Psychosocial Educational Foundation) advocates for gender equality, dialogue, and peacebuilding through collaborative action among civil society, academic, and governmental institutions. It also advocates for freedom of conscience and thought regardless of any identity or affiliation. Bridging the gap between the academic and activist, governmental and non-governmental sectors, as well as religious and non-religious worldviews, the TPO Foundation is one of the leading organizations in inclusive approaches to education for peace, equality, and leadership.

TPO programs are implemented through several strategic areas:

Education - Collaboration with universities and other organizations in implementing education reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Establishing educational centers, in collaboration with educational and cultural institutions that will offer programs for intercultural, multi-religious, and civic education, primarily for women and youth. Preparation of curricula, syllabi, and training materials in collaboration with state institutions and other organizations.

Research - Assessment of the situation in the areas of education, human rights, gender equality, dialogue, and peacebuilding, with the aim of preparing appropriate action policies and concrete project activities, always taking into account a gender perspective and the specific cultural context in which people live.

Gender equality - Promotion and implementation of domestic and international standards on gender equality through various types of education and raising awareness of these issues in the local community. Special attention is paid to the development of local gender-inclusive communities that take into account the needs of both women and men.

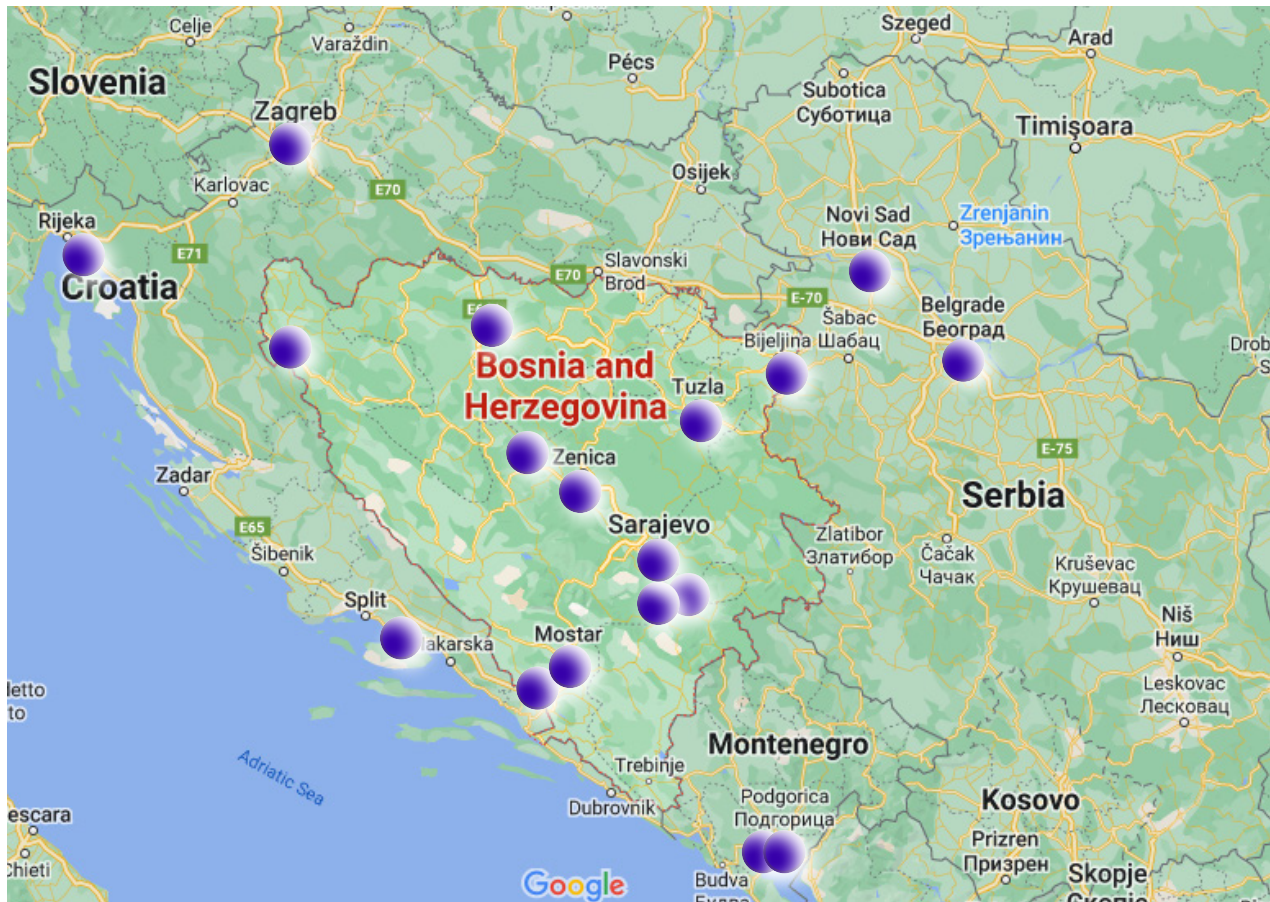
Public advocacy - Advocating for policy changes and adoption of new policies aimed at building a democratic civil society, gender equality, and raising awareness of the importance of active participation in these changes. Advocating for gender sensitization of the legal framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Capacity building - Working to strengthen the individual capacities of women and youth, as well as the organizational capacities of local organizations in the areas of gender equality, human rights, economic empowerment, dialogue, and peacebuilding. Supporting the development of education reform, health protection, and social rehabilitation through professional training and promoting the strengthening of user initiatives and psychosocial support for women, children, and youth.

Intercultural dialogue - Promoting intercultural dialogue, peacebuilding, and reconciliation, in collaboration with NGOs in Bosnia and Herzegovina and around the world dedicated to these issues. Organizing public debates, roundtables, and workshops on these topics, as well as meetings of artists, academics, and NGO activists, who can offer ideas for joint action and coexistence from their perspectives. Organizing meetings in small local communities to bring together divided people in Bosnia and Herzegovina to one table.

CITIES AND PLACES WHERE THE TPO FOUNDATION IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS

The cities and places where the TPO Foundation conducted activities are: Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Mostar, Travnik, Tuzla, Zenica, Bijeljina, Bihać, East Sarajevo, Međugorje, Pale, Zagreb, Rijeka, Osijek, Omiš, Belgrade, Novi Sad, Podgorica, Nikšić, and Donja Gorica.



RESULTS

- As part of the “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” campaign, over 80 activities were conducted at partner universities in Bosnia and the region for teaching staff and the student population.
- Publication of the Proceedings “Gender and Globalization”
- Publication of a manual for implementing the philosophy for children through the classroom community program in primary education
- Educated over 180 participants of the FER (Feminism and Religion) School.
- Created 13 podcasts for the FER School.
- Educated approximately 500 primary and secondary school students in the Sarajevo Canton on the topic of gender equality, discrimination, and human rights in the public education system.
- Certified TOT group of 26 trainers, primary school teachers from the Sarajevo Canton within the SAPERE BiH program (Philosophy for Children).
- Applied the P4C method in the teaching of primary school teachers in nine primary and secondary schools for approximately 200 students.
- Educated approximately 700 students about gender-based violence and gender equality within the ETOS Initiative.
- Participated in the global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” through the engagement of teaching staff from seven schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as part of the ETOS Initiative.

PROGRAMS OF THE TPO FOUNDATION

1. UNIGEM
2. FER SCHOOL: FEMINISM AND RELIGION
3. SAPERE BH
4. ETOS INITIATIVE

PROGRAM 1: UNIGEM

The University and Gender Mainstreaming, abbreviated as the UNIGEM project, represents the strategic commitment of universities to introduce a gender perspective to ensure gender equality and a safe environment for both teachers and students at universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region. The realization of project objectives over a period of four years also includes comprehensive research on the state of gender equality at universities before and after the implementation of this project. Within the UNIGEM project, the establishment of a special body to combat gender-based discrimination at all universities that have signed the Memorandum of Cooperation with the TPO Foundation is envisaged. The UNIGEM project is implemented with the support of the Embassy of the United Kingdom in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES OF THE UNIGEM PROJECT 2023

During 2023, the TPO Foundation continued the implementation of the UNIGEM project, which significantly contributed to the integration of gender equality in the academic community. Through the implementation of various workshops, lectures, and strategic meetings, the UNIGEM project ensured raising awareness about gender (in)equality at universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, and Serbia in 2023.

Successfully held the first regional Winter School “Gender and Globalization”

The Winter School took place from February 20th to 26th and gathered 50 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, and Montenegro. The organizers of the Winter School were the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies - Prof. Dr. Zdravko Grebo, University of Sarajevo, and the TPO Foundation. Participants in this program were second and third-year undergraduate and master's students from 19 partner universities in the four countries of the region where the UNIGEM project is being implemented. The Winter School program consisted of four areas: Introduction to Gender Issues, Gender and Globalization, Gender and Economics, and Gender and Migration. Within these four areas, participants had the opportunity to attend lectures totaling 30 hours of teaching, 10 exercises, and five hours of study visits to academic programs at the CIS of the University of Sarajevo.



During the first day of the Winter School, students gained basic knowledge about the concepts of sex, gender, gender identities, and gender mainstreaming, with examples from the Balkan countries. Through implicit bias tests, they tested themselves and others, thereby becoming aware of their prejudices. By the end of the day, they gained insight into the definitions of masculinity, and through theoretical analysis and deconstruction of prevalent cultural narratives about desirable masculinity and femininity, they discussed toxic masculinity generated by

numerous social factors. In the context of the second thematic area, they analyzed political events at the global level and the rise of populist ideologies. The Gender and Economics domain problematized fluctuations in the global economy from a gender perspective, referring to the relationship between gender, labor, and social reproduction in the global context. Additionally, this thematic unit addressed public revenue management through gender-responsive budgeting. The final lecture block demonstrated how contemporary global trends, including migration, conspiracy theories, and fake news, influence the radicalization of public space and the emergence of new forms of politically motivated violence



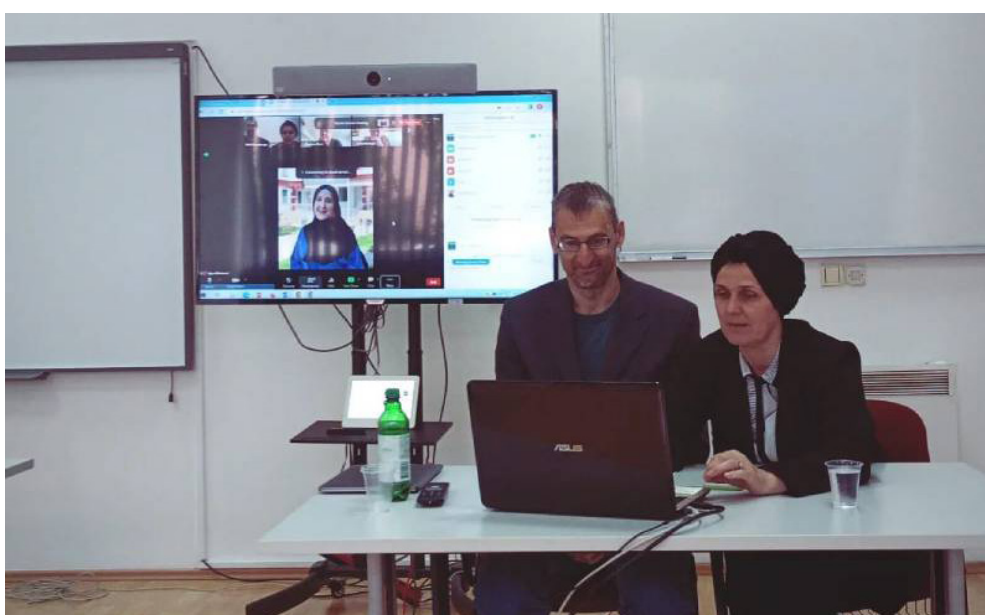
More information available at:

http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-27022023

<https://youtu.be/L-8chU9KO5k>

Lecture by Dr. Adis Duderija: “Female Sexuality, Gender Segregation, and Veiling in Islam”

As part of the project “Introducing Gender-Aware Policies in Higher Education - UNIGEM,” the TPO Foundation and the University Gender Resource Center of the University of Sarajevo - UNIGeRC, hosted Prof. Dr. from Griffith University in Australia. The lecture titled “Female Sexuality, Gender Segregation, and Veiling in Islam” took place at the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies “Prof. Dr. Zdravko Grebo” at the University of Sarajevo and via the Zoom platform. Dr. Duderija began his lecture by presenting the ideal Muslim woman through two works: Baljić, H. (2012) “Bosnian Customs in the Light of the Sunnah” (El-Kelimeh, Novi Pazar) and Hangi, A. (1907) “Life and Customs of Muslims in Bosnia and Herzegovina” (Sarajevo, Kajan). Dr. Duderija concluded that Islamic norms are highly traditionalized and that some ontological beliefs emphasize that man is primary and woman secondary. Female sexuality is often viewed as something destructive, devilish, while masculinity and male sexuality are associated with knowledge, logic, and religious knowledge. Traditional Islam has linked obedience to God with obedience to the husband. It is important to critically approach different religious interpretations. Most interpretations have emerged from male perspectives, leading to gender discrimination that puts women in an unfavorable position.



More information available at:

http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-19062023

<https://youtu.be/igpTzAnhTrw>

Panel Discussion “With Bosnian Writers about Bosnian Writers Today”

In celebration of International Women’s Day, another activity organized by the TPO Foundation was a panel discussion titled “With Bosnian Writers about Bosnian Writers Today.” The panel discussion took place on March 9, 2023, at the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies “Prof. Dr. Zdravko Grebo” at the University of Sarajevo. An interesting and inspiring conversation was led by contemporary writers Adisa Bašić, Melida Travančić, Lejla Kalamujić, and Nikolina Todorović, moderated by writer Lamija Begagić. Lamija Begagić, the moderator of the panel discussion, opened the conversation with the topic of rest and International Women’s Day, which also brought up the theme of unpaid household work and the social perception of rest as a certain privilege. The panelists highlighted the pervasive invalidation of artistic and cultural work, which is a common occurrence in literary circles, often appearing in the form of unpaid appearances, where promoting their work is seen as a luxury. Writers often seize opportunities such as literary residencies to fully dedicate themselves to their work without the burden of other societal roles imposed on women. However, as they

point out, this is accessible only to a small number of female writers because achieving a balance between private life and the isolated conditions of residencies is impossible.

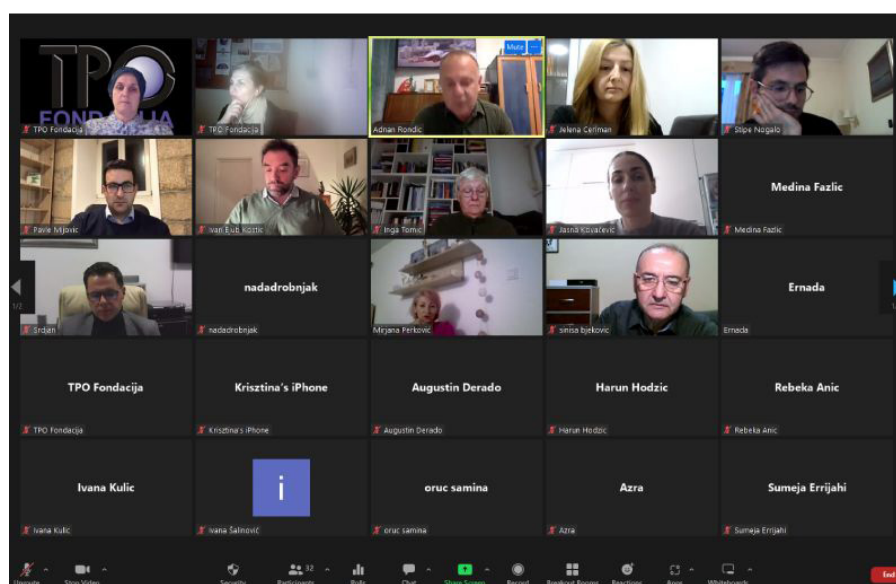


More information available at:

http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-10032023-a

Panel Discussion “Addressing Toxic Masculinity”

Although younger generations show positive changes in expressing masculinity, as well as gender roles in family and society in general, hegemonic masculinities are still widely present in Balkan societies, concluded the participants of the panel discussion titled “Addressing Toxic Masculinity,” which was held on March 8, 2023, at 6:00 PM. As part of the UNIGEM project, the TPO Foundation and the University Gender Resource Center (UNIGERC) of the University of Sarajevo organized this event on the occasion of International Women’s Day with guests from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, and Serbia. The moderator of the panel, Adnan Rondić, emphasized the importance of discussing these topics, as it is noticeable that there are changes in the public discourse worldwide indicating a significant increase in violence against women, which is a consequence of cultivated or imposed toxic masculinity.



More information available at:

http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-08032023-e
<https://youtu.be/ca2eIOXlrvC>

EQUALITY LEAGUE: Promoting Gender Equality through Sports

From January 28th to February 26th, 2023, matches of the Equality League are being held. Male and female students of the University of Sarajevo compete in futsal, volleyball, and basketball, with an equal number of men and women on each team. The drawing of groups took place in the amphitheater of the Faculty of Sport and Physical Education of the University of Sarajevo, and the first matches were played on January 4th and 5th. The aim of the Equality League is to empower the student population in the field of gender equality and prevention of sexual and gender-based harassment through sports activities.



More information available at:

http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-10022023

Workshop “Gender-Based Harassment/Violence: Preventive and Repressive Mechanisms at the University of Sarajevo”

At the Faculty of Criminology, Criminology, and Security Studies, a workshop on gender equality was organized for deans and directors of member institutions of the University of Sarajevo on April 5th and 6th, 2023. The workshop’s theme was “Gender-Based Harassment/Violence: Preventive and Repressive Mechanisms at the University of Sarajevo,” with Professor Dr. Marija Lučić-Čatić as the lecturer. The workshop covered topics such as: what gender-based harassment and gender-based violence are, what preventive measures and investigative and repressive mechanisms exist at the University of Sarajevo (reporting procedures, relevant legal regulations, and competent bodies).



More information available at:

http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-07042023

Book Promotions at the University of Sarajevo (UNSA) published by the TPO Foundation

As part of the UNIGEM project at the Faculty of Political Sciences, Professor Dr. Dino Abazović promoted the book “Women and Religion in the First Centuries of Christianity,” and Selma Alispahić, MA, promoted the book “Decolonial Feminism.” The promotion was moderated by Professor Dr. Valida Repovac-Nikšić. The event was jointly organized by the TPO Foundation and the Faculty of Political Sciences in Sarajevo. The book “Women and Religion in the



First Centuries of Christianity,” edited by Deborah F. Sawyer and John Sawyer, focuses on religion during the period of Roman imperial rule and considers its significance in the lives of women. It explores the rich diversity of religious expressions, from pagan cults and classical mythology to ancient Judaism and early Christianity, as well as the wide range of religious functions performed by women. The book “Decolonial Feminism,” by author Françoise Vergès, examines feminist struggles in the context of violent and brutal counter-revolution. The question “Who cleans the world?” prompted strikes by black and brown women who clean the Gare du Nord railway station in Paris. The book explores the role of what the text calls civilizational feminism, which is seen as a specific strategy of the current counter-revolution

More information available at:

http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-02062023

Promotion of Publications on the Care Economy and Panel Discussion

On Monday, October 30, 2023, at the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies of the University of Sarajevo, within the framework of the “University and Gender Mainstreaming – UNIGEM” project, a promotion of publications on the care economy and a panel discussion were held. During this event, the following publications were promoted: “Baseline Study on the Care Economy,” “Feminism and Religion in the 21st Century,” and “Ethics of Care in the Era of Precariousness.” The promoters were professors Dr. Jasna Kovačević, Dr. Maja Arslanagić-Kalajdžić, and Dr. Melika Husić-Mehmedović, with Kristina Ljevak serving as the moderator. The “Baseline Study on the Care Economy and Nursing in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Overview of Key Characteristics, Policies, and Program Options)” is focused on the care economy and nursing in Bosnia and Herzegovina, providing an overview of available key characteristics, policies, and program options. The aim is to build an understanding of the disproportionate distribution of care and nursing responsibilities as a source of inequality, with a focus on gender, and thus contribute to initiating positive changes leading to a fairer distribution of care provision within households and communities, thereby empowering women. The goal is to provide evidence for strategies and interventions using the ‘3R approach’ (recognize, reduce, and redistribute), which helps in recognizing, reducing, and redistributing existing unpaid care work within households, communities (civil society), the market (private sector), and governance (by improving legal and institutional infrastructure). “Feminism and Religion in the 21st Century” brings together sixteen essays covering a variety of topics. “Various authors write about the transformative effects of communication technologies, the Internet, blogs, and social media such as Twitter

and Facebook, within communities of women and men engaged in religion and feminism. Women are highly involved in the digital world as they dominate blogs and represent the majority of social media users.” In the book “Ethics of Care in the Era of Precariousness,” the fundamental question addressed by the authors is how those using care theory can effectively respond to the prevailing reality of neoliberal precarity. Another significant aspect of care theory is its feminist origin and grounding in women’s experience. Feminist social theory shifts the focus of care theory towards the dynamics of power and privilege in society. Gender identity was the driving force behind the development of the ethics of care.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-02112023

Promotion of the book “Feminism and Religion in the 21st Century”

On Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at the Faculty of Political Sciences in Sarajevo, the promotion of the book “Feminism and Religion in the 21st Century: Technology, Dialogue, and Expanding Boundaries” was held, edited by Gina Messina-Dysert and Rosemary Radford Ruether. The book was promoted by Mr. Đermana Kurić and Prof. Dr. Pavle Mijović, with Mr. Adnan Rondić moderating the promotion.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-27092023

Panel Discussion “Feminist Methodological Challenges in Research”

The panel titled “Feminist Methodological Challenges in Research” was held on Monday, May 8, 2023, at the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Sarajevo, organized as part of the UNIGEM project by the University Gender Resource Center (UNIGeRC) of the University of Sarajevo and the TPO Foundation. The panelists were professors Dr. Ajla Demiragić (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo), Dr. Jasmina Husanović-Pehar (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Tuzla), and Dr. Amila Ždralović (Faculty of Law, University of Sarajevo), with Professor Dr. Jasna Kovačević (Faculty of Economics, University of Sarajevo) as the moderator. In their brief introductory presentations, the panelists addressed the challenges of research, the principles of feminist epistemology, and steps toward improving research methods and methodological approaches. They emphasized the importance of building a knowledge community in a democratic environment with participatory approaches and knowledge production policies.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-11052023

Lecture on “Gender and Ethical Dimensions of Reconciliation”



As part of the Societas Ethica Conference, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić-Šiljak, on behalf of the UNIGeRC Center, conducted a workshop with doctoral students from Western European countries focusing on ethics and reconciliation issues. The gender dimension is crucial in feminist approaches to justice and reconciliation because without this dimension, it is not possible to see how conflict and peacebuilding affect women and minorities who are often collateral damage. Doctoral students from several Western European countries, including Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, and Sweden, attended the workshop. Also

present was Professor of Education Dr. Taro Komatsu from Sofia University in Japan. Workshop participants read three texts from the book “Healing and Peacebuilding After War: Transforming Trauma in Bosnia and Herzegovina,” which elaborate on the issue of the female body, agency, vulnerability, as well as resilience. Personal experiences of trauma and pain are crucial for survivors, but it’s also essential not only for their voices to be heard but also for them to be in a position to change



dominant narratives and create new ones about how to talk about the experience of gender-based violence in war. Through collective discussion, workshop participants analyzed questions such as: what it means to be a victim, how to deal with the denial of crimes, and the various roles religion can play in post-conflict societies.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-25082023

Education “Integrating Gender Perspective into Teaching”

As part of the UNIGEM project in Sarajevo, a three-day training for teachers from partner universities on integrating gender perspective into the teaching of social and humanistic sciences was held from August 27th to 29th, 2023. One of the major challenges in education is how to integrate gender perspective into



existing curricula without it being just “adding women,” as it has been traditionally understood. To assist teachers with specific suggestions for various subjects, especially language and literature, history, sociology, and pedagogy, educators offered concrete examples and ways to structure lessons to be gender-responsive. The key question that every teacher should address is: At what stage of curriculum development can existing differences between women and men leading to segregation be observed? Based on the answers, an analytical framework can then be developed. The education was led by Jadranka Rebeka-Anić and Zilka Spahić-Šiljak.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-26082023

The first promotion of the novel “Sky in Your Heart” by Turkish author Leyla Karaça was held in Sarajevo.

The TPO Foundation and the University Gender Resource Center organized the promotion of the novel “Sky in Your Heart” by Turkish author Leyla Karaça on September 12, 2023, in Sarajevo. The first promotion of the mentioned novel in Bosnia and Herzegovina took place in Sarajevo on September 12, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the premises of the Museum of Literature and Performing Arts. As part of the novel promotion, a panel discussion “Spaces for Women in Literature” was organized, with participants including Prof. Dr. Adisa Bašić and comparative literature graduate Nikolina Todorović, moderated by Prof. Dr. Ajla Demiragić. Author Leyla Karaça greeted the audience via video address, and she made a brief overview of the promoted novel, emphasizing the philosophical questions it raises regarding the exploration of authentic self-knowledge and the relationship between ego and spirituality.



More information available at:

http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-13092023

<https://youtu.be/7tFDMfMsmm4>

Education on the Prevention of Discriminatory Practices at Universities in the Region Held

From October 27th to 28th, an informative seminar was held with the aim of raising awareness and implementing measures to combat discrimination within academic environments. The event started with an introductory speech by Prof. Dr. Edita Nakaš, who welcomed the attendees on behalf of the University of Sarajevo's rectorate, followed by remarks from the academic director of the University Gender Center, Jasna Kovačević, and Lamija Subašić, the project coordinator of UNI-GEM. They emphasized the importance of this initiative in promoting an inclusive and fair academic environment. The main conclusions of the event highlighted the imperative need to simplify the process of reporting discrimination incidents. Faster and more efficient processes were considered necessary, with a call for appropriate consequences for perpetrators, ensuring justice and support for victims of discrimination. This event underscored the collective commitment of academic institutions to create a safe, inclusive, and fair environment free from discriminatory practices. By sharing knowledge and best practices, participants emphasized the importance of proactive measures to promote equality and combat discrimination in academic environments.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-30102023

Education for Female Police Officers Held

In collaboration with the Network of Female Police Officers and the NGO DTCare, as part of the project “Introducing Gender Perspective to Universities” (University and Gender Mainstreaming - UNIGEM), the TPO Foundation held an education session on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at the premises of the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA). The education session consisted of four lectures with the following titles:



- Security and Trust (lectured by Prof. Dr. Mirza Smajić, Head of the Department of Security and Peace Studies at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Sarajevo)
- Gender Stereotypes (lectured by Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić-Šiljak, Director of the TPO Foundation and Professor of Gender Studies at the University of Zenica)
- From Micro to Macro: How Micro aggressions Lead to Macro-discrimination (lectured by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Amer Smailbegović, DTCare, and Zemira Konjalić, Director of DTCare’s representation office)
- Law on Protection from Domestic Violence, Istanbul Convention, and Criminal Legislation (lectured by Branka Mašić, retired judge of the Higher Misdemeanor Court of the Republic of Croatia). A total of 24 policewomen attended the education session, representing the Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina, SIPA, Border Police of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federal Police Administration, Judicial Police of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Zenica-Doboj Canton, and Ministry of Internal Affairs of Herzegovina-Neretva Canton.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-5

16 Days of Activism

On November 22, 2023, the TPO Foundation and the University Gender Resource Center (UNI-GeRC), as part of the UNIGEM project, launched this year’s campaign “16 Days of Activism,” focusing on the fight against femicide. To mark the beginning of the campaign, which ran from November 25 to December 10, 2023, a panel on violence prevention was held. The panelists included: Dr. Alma Kratina, a representative in the Federal Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Prof. Dr. Amila Ždralović from the Faculty of Law at the University of Sarajevo, and Prof. Dr. Mirza Smajić from the Faculty of Political Sciences at the University of Sarajevo. The panel was moderated by journalist Arijana Saračević-Helać. The focus of this year’s campaign was on preventing femicide, which was the topic discussed by both



male and female panelists. The conclusions reached on this occasion emphasize that overall security in today's society raises many questions to which we await answers. In the meantime, we must all work together on prevention and sensitizing all stakeholders in the multi-sectoral approach to addressing this serious issue



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-24112023-2

Awareness of Gender Equality Beyond Academic Walls

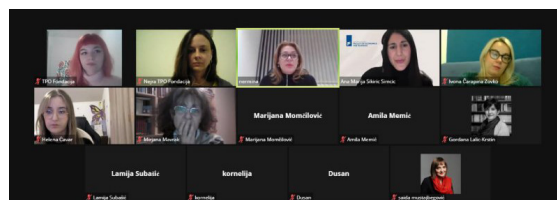


As part of the “16 Days of Activism” campaign, representative of the Association “Azimuth 135”, Afan Abazović, presented the UNIGEM project. In the mountain air, at several meters above sea level, male and female hikers listened to discussions about gender equality. This unusual activity serves as an example of how we can educate ourselves beyond classroom and academic boundaries. Representative Abazović presented the inception of the UNIGEM project, its objectives, and why the global campaign “16 Days of Activism” is important.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-05122023

Anthology “Gender and Globalization” successfully promoted

In an effort to stimulate intellectual dialogue on gender issues, an online promotion of the collection titled “Gender and Globalization” was held on November 28th via the Zoom platform. The collection, a result of the efforts of participants of the Winter School “Gender and Globalization” and their mentors, explores the complex relationship between gender dynamics and various aspects of society. The promotion, which began on November 28th at 6 p.m., provided a virtual space for scholars and other interested individuals to engage in thoughtful discussions on key topics explored within the collection. Distinguished professors, Prof. Dr. Ana-Marija Sikirić-Simčić from the University of Rijeka, and Prof. Dr. Nermina Mujagić from the University of Sarajevo, served as reviewers of the collection as well as promoters during the online event. During the online promotion, these esteemed professors revealed the key themes from the collection, shedding light on the nuanced and well-argued approach of the authors in exploring the impact of globalization on gender dynamics.

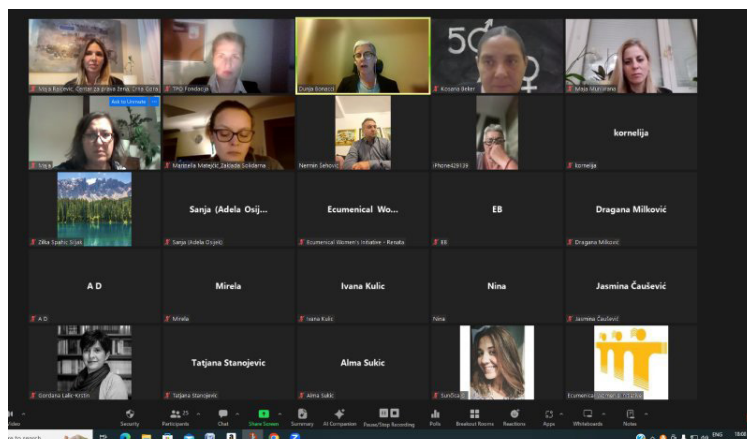


More information available at:

http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-29112023
<https://youtu.be/hTc2rohljiU>

Panel “Law and Femicide - Comparative Overview of Legal Solutions and Systemic Responses in the Region (BiH, Montenegro, Croatia, and Serbia)” held

The panel titled “Law and Femicide - Comparative Overview of Legal Solutions and Systemic Responses in the Region (BiH, Montenegro, Croatia, and Serbia)” was held via the Zoom platform. The panelists included individuals from the region, namely one person from each country where the UNIGEM project has partner institutions. The participants were: Kosana Beker (Program Director of FemPlatz, Pančevo, Serbia), Prof. Dr. Maja Munivrana (Professor of Criminal Law at the Faculty of Law in Zagreb, Croatia), Maja Raičević (NGO Center for Women’s Rights, Montenegro), and Nermin Šehović (Federal Police Administration of BiH, Doctor of Legal Sciences and Specialist in Criminal Law). The panel was moderated by Dunja Bonacci-Skenderović (Independent Consultant, Bonacci Ltd.). Since femicide is not legally regulated in any country in the region (neither in the criminal code nor in special legislation), the question discussed by the panelists was how femicide perpetrators are currently prosecuted in the countries of the region.



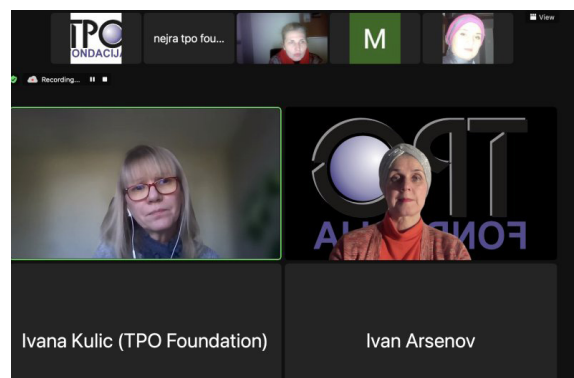
More information available at:

http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-24112023-4

<https://youtu.be/Yn9oLw-X2kA>

Find Your Voice in the Fight Against Gender-Based Violence - Christel Gopin

“Inner voice is important for us to think about girls and to feel comfortable hearing our voice and criticizing, but also believing in our voice,” said Christel Gopin during an online conversation held on December 8, 2023, as part of the “16 Days of Activism” campaign. The session was moderated by Zilka Spahić-Šiljak on behalf of the TPO Foundation and the University Gender Resource Center (UNIGeRC). Christel is the Deputy Director of the Center for World Religions, Diplomacy, and Conflict Resolution (CRDC) at the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution at George Mason University. CRDC specializes in innovative international conflict resolution practices and citizen diplomacy, seminars, field experiences, and business/organizational consulting. She is also the co-founder and director of the Conflict Healing Institute, which helps individuals, groups, and organizations build compassionate human relationships and communities. During the session, Christel shared her thoughts on the importance of self-help, finding one’s own voice, and why it is important in cases of gender-based violence and what strategies women can apply to protect themselves and report violence. Women’s voices are often silenced and muted, but proper training can help every woman find her own voice and use it effectively. Women together, in the right training environment, can learn how to raise awareness and find solutions to problems that affect their lives and the lives of



others. Finding your voice means knowing what is important to you because it is easy to develop laws and procedures, and we forget that our story is also important.

More information available at: <https://youtu.be/HVcYBzT-TEw>

Video material “Against Violence” Released

As part of the UNIGEM project and the “16 Days of Activism” campaign, video materials have been created to inform the public about procedures for reporting violence, as well as violence prevention itself. Through these videos, citizens can obtain information about how gender-based violence constitutes discrimination, what to do when violence occurs, how to prevent violence, and how to recognize and respond to femicide. The video material was created with the support of academician Prof. Dr. Nedžad Korajlić from the Faculty of Criminology, Criminology, and Security Studies at the University of Sarajevo, Prof. Dr. Amila Ždralović from the Faculty of Law at the University of Sarajevo, and practitioner expert Dr. Nermin Šehović, spec. iur.



Video materials are available at the link:

- <https://youtu.be/ksSTm9fWco8>
- <https://youtu.be/kWZQO4kpDjY>
- <https://youtu.be/VWYRS-KRUtE>
- <https://youtu.be/GI-MnExatxs>
- https://youtu.be/JVLSj_pA5CM
- <https://youtu.be/lel9pGlxWBA>
- https://youtu.be/g_oyBGshr3o
- <https://youtu.be/f5GfAMBCdcA>

University of Sarajevo Against Violence

Once again this year, the University of Sarajevo has marked the global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence”. Workshops on unconscious bias, violence against women in families, and violence against female prisoners were held for student groups. The Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Political Sciences conducted a workshop on the topic “Violence against Women and Domestic Violence - ECtHR Case Law (analysis of judgments)”. The workshop was led



by Prof. Dr. Sarina Bakić and Prof. Dr. Amila Ždralović. At the Faculty of Philosophy, a lecture on “Structural and Institutional Violence against Female Prisoners - Lessons from Bosnian-Herzegovinian History” was held. The lecture was led by Prof. Dr. Amila Kasumović and Prof. Dr. Ajla Demiragić.



The last workshop was held at the Faculty of Sport and Physical Education on the topic “Unconscious Bias in Sports”, led by Prof. Dr. Lejla Šebić (FASTO UNSA), Prof. Dr. Jasna Kovačević (EFSA UNSA), and Prof. Dr. Munir Talović (FASTO UNSA). The workshop was moderated by Assis. Prof. Dr. Šemso Ormanović (FASTO UNSA).

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-11

Round table on the topic “Police Procedures in Cases of Gender-Based Violence” was held

On December 22, 2023, as part of the UNIGEM project and the “16 Days of Activism” campaign at the Faculty of Criminalistics, Criminology, and Security Studies (FKKSS) of the University of Sarajevo (UNSA). Participants included: Prof. Dr. Nedžad Korajlić, Prof. Dr. Irma Deljkić, Prof. Dr. Adnan Fazlić, Prof. Dr. Elvira Čekić, and Prof. Dr. Azra Adžajlić-Dedović. It was emphasized on this occasion that numerous femicides occurred in Bosnia and Herzegovina during 2023, namely in May in Tuzla, in August in Gradačac and Živinice, in September in Zavidovići, and in November in Sarajevo. However, even before these cases, femicide was a problem in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but it was not sufficiently discussed and was not addressed adequately. When we look at the data from the Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period from 2016 to 2022, we see that 76 women died from violent deaths, which can be considered alarming and requires an urgent reaction from all relevant institutions. One of those institutions is certainly the police agencies, whose procedures were discussed at the round table.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-12012024-6

UNIVERSITY OF BANJA LUKA

16 Days of Activism

From November 25 to December 10, 2023, the University of Banja Luka held a series of activities to mark the global campaign “16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.” Students and faculty organized a film screening, a round table on femicide, and four workshops. The film screening of “The Night of the 12th” with a discussion was held on December 5 in the reading room of the Faculty of Philosophy at UNBL. The activity was led by Nemanja Tubonjić, MA in Philosophy. A workshop on “Gender Violence / Domestic Violence / Sexual Violence Against Women” took place

at the Faculty of Security Sciences at UNBL, led by Prof. Dr. Žana Vručinić, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dragana Vasiljević, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Predrag Popović.



The round table “Mosaic of Femicides” was held on December 7. Participants in this activity included Mile Šikman, a professor at the Faculty of Security Sciences; Gorica Ivić, president of the “United Women” Foundation; Milkica Milojević, a journalist; Biljana Radulović, a judge at the District Court; and Miroslav Kotur, a prosecutor at the District Public Prosecutor’s Office. The discussion was moderated by Prof. Dr. Ivana Zečević and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nataša Vučenović Gnjata. “The round table served as an interactive platform where the issue of violence against

women was discussed through a multidisciplinary framework, which combined theoretical considerations of femicide with criminal-legal aspects and numerous practical examples, illustrating the application of the legal framework in specific cases of violence, as well as institutional and non-institutional obstacles to the effective implementation of existing laws and measures,” said Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vučenović Gnjata to “Nezavisne novine.” Participants, as she says, also addressed the issue of cultural patterns that favor the normalization of violence, as well as the problem of media reporting, with particular emphasis on the necessity of violence prevention through formal and informal education. At the panel discussion “Positive Examples of Local Community Responses to Gender-Based Violence,” representing the city of Banja Luka, one of the panelists was Milada Šukalo, an advisor to the mayor, who emphasized the importance of cities being safe places for women and girls, and that individuals must feel free to move around and feel protected in cities. The message sent by all panel participants is that violence can only be eliminated if everyone acts together, and that cooperation between institutions of different levels and the non-governmental sector is crucial.



The workshop “Patterns of Victim Blaming on Social Media: A Pragmatic-Discursive Approach” was conducted by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nataša Vučenović-Gnjato from the Faculty of Philology at UNBL. The first part of the workshop introduced basic concepts from the domain of pragmatics and critical discourse analysis, with a focus on concrete examples of the social conditioning of linguistic practices, while the second part was dedicated to the analysis of online comments on news about partner violence. The analysis included the classification of comments according to pragmatic function, with a special emphasis on expressions through which victim blaming and perpetrator justification are carried out, which were shown to be the most numerous.

There was also a workshop titled “A Chink in Misogyny: Chipping away at the Walls of the Unhearing for the Unheard” led by Tijana Popović, Senior Assistant, and Prof. Dr. Emir Muhić. During the first part of the workshop, a part of the film *Hidden Figures* was shown. The second part focused on discussions about important and current topics related to raising awareness about courteous, equitable, and constructively benevolent communication.

The Literary-Legal Club organized a multidisciplinary workshop titled “How Do We Educate a Man?” Participants of the workshop approached the topic of violence against women from the perspectives of science (legal history, substantive and procedural criminal law, criminology, sociology, psychology, victimology), religion, and art (performative/film art and poetics). Prof. Dr. Dijana Zrnić, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mirjana Miškić, Research Assistant Milica Kostovski, Assistant Marko Romić, OJT Tanja Mrđa, and students Đurđina Talić and Anastasija Glušac spoke about the phenomenon of violence against women, as well as the position of women in society. At the beginning of the workshop, participants were shown a short documentary film “She,” whose acting, direction, and production are credited to students of the Faculty of Law and members of the Literary-Legal Club. Stefan Ivetić and Dajana Piljić ensured the successful facilitation of the workshop.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-16

UNIVERSITY OF TUZLA

Book Promotion “Heaven in Your Heart” and Panel Discussion “Spaces for Women in Literature”

At the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Tuzla on September 13, 2023, a book promotion event was held for the book “Heaven in Your Heart” by the author Leyla Karaça, followed by a panel discussion on “Spaces for Women in Literature.” Panelists, Prof. Dr. Anisa Avdagić and Prof. Dr. Melinda Botalić, discussed their impressions of the novel, which follows the spiritual journey of the main character Dilrube, who questions her existence through dreams and hallucinations, undergoing different phases to reach an understanding of God.

The author addressed the audience through a video message, discussing the genesis and main motifs of the novel, as well as the difficulties faced by authors in Turkey. In the introductory part

of the event, the panelists analyzed how this novel opens up possibilities for other readings and serves as an “invitation” not to give up on oneself, on that heaven of love in one’s heart... however interpreted – whether as an example of Sufi literature or as a self-help book.

The panelists highlighted the challenges women face when publishing literary works in both Bosnia and Herzegovina and Turkey. Interestingly, both the author Leyla Karaça and our panelists pointed out that these problems are almost equally faced by both women and men. It was concluded that Bosnia and Herzegovina lacks research systematically addressing women’s literature, and that well-known works by Bosnian and Herzegovinian authors are not included in anthologies, which gives a false picture of women’s literary production. Additionally, it was noted that spaces for women in literature are provided by editors, publishers, proofreaders, translators, promoters, and readers.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-14092023

16 Days of Activism

During the last academic year, within the framework of the “16 Days of Activism” campaign, students of the Faculty of Law at the University of Tuzla participated in a mock trial simulation. Thanks to the success of the project, all funds raised were invested in the “Viva Women’s Safe House” in Tuzla. Through this and other donations, the project to install a fence and playground equipment for children was successfully realized. The collaboration with “Viva Women” continued this year as well. Psychotherapists from the NGO “Viva Women” in Tuzla shared their experience of working with individuals who have experienced various types of trauma with the youth. The focus was on assessing personal communication skills and providing basic guidelines for communicating with victims of violence.

On December 5, 2023, a public lecture on “Femicide and Rape in Historical, Literary, and Cultural Context” was held at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Tuzla. The lecture resulted from the work of third and fourth-year students of the Department of English Language and Literature



who examined various literary representations of femicide and rape, as well as historical explanations of violence against women in the context of modern capitalist society. The participating students included Ajla Hadžimuratović, Amina Moranjačkić, Lejla Sofić, Medina Halidović, Lejla Alić, Ema Mujić, Lejla Justufović, Selma Vehabović, and Lejla Mulavdić. Alongside their colleagues from the courses “Introduction to Gender Studies” and “Victorian Literature” taught by Prof. Dr. Jasmina Husanović-Pehar and Prof. Dr. Selma Veseljević, this lecture was organized by the Gender Equality Council of the University of Tuzla.



Additionally, third and fourth-year students from the Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences of the University of Tuzla, Ella Mehić, Lana Stanić, Elma Muslić, and Dženita Šabanović, under the mentorship of Prof. Dr. Vesna Bratovčić and with the support of the Tuzla Cultural Center - Tuzla Literary House, conducted a workshop titled “Women’s Strength: Refresh, Strengthen, Raise Awareness” with students from the Secondary School of Electrical Engineering and the Secondary School of Tourism and Hospitality in Tuzla. Through self-actualization, exploration of the history of women’s rights, and literature that shifts perspectives, they strengthened their self-confidence and raised awareness of the importance of recognizing gender-based discrimination and violence. Simulation workshops on danger led to a better understanding of the reality of gender-based discrimination and violence in families and society. The emphasis was on support, self-respect, and empowerment, reminding participants to accept themselves in their true form, appreciating their own potentials and qualities. Towards the end of the workshop, participants wrote letters to their younger selves, sharing wisdom and support.

Third-year students of the Faculty of Law at the University of Tuzla engaged in educating first-year students on the legal dimension of violence. Students involved included Una Pehlić, Vedran Čajić, Amina Kabil, Admir Šečić, Tea Šarić, Erna Malkić, Dženita Ribić, and Armina Škapur, contributing to raising awareness of the importance of a legal approach in addressing the issue of violence in intimate relationships. At the Faculty of Law of the University of Tuzla, a workshop on gender-based violence was held. Dr. Sci. Prof. Dženeta Omerdić led a debate class, exploring with students what constitutes gender-based violence and how to recognize it. Additionally, a mock trial for abuse within a relationship was conducted, providing students with insight into the complexity of such situations. The simulated trial deeply affected the souls of the students, awakening their passion for exploring the nuances of the legal system in the context of partner violence. These delicate cases carry weight not only for the participants but also for the wider community, posing challenges to the legal system in finding fair solutions in the labyrinth of extremely complex dynamics of interpersonal relationships. A student who researched and wrote the defense for the accused encountered moral dilemmas, raising awareness of the serious consequences that can affect victims. This insight clearly reveals the deep-seated weaknesses of the legal system, rooted in social prejudices.

The analysis during the mock trial illuminated the tragic impact of sexist prejudices on police investigations, reigniting in students a burning desire to dedicate themselves to correcting the shortcomings in the system and ensuring justice. Education of university students on the legal dimension of gender-based violence becomes vital as a key mechanism for sanctioning violence, and students are committed to proactively understanding and reforming the legal framework to combat injustices and create a safer society.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-12012024-5

UNIVERSITY OF ZENICA

Training of teaching staff at the University of Zenica in the field of gender equality

During June 2023, within the framework of the UNIGEM project, gender equality training sessions were conducted at the University of Zenica, involving all eight faculties of this University: Islamic Pedagogical, Economic, Philosophical, Mechanical, Medical, Metallurgical-Technological, Polytechnic, and Faculty of Law. During the training sessions, the teaching staff engaged in interaction and exceptionally interesting tasks, discussing the difference between sex and gender, gender roles, the importance of using gender-sensitive language, the impact of gender stereotypes on social relationships, and modalities for promoting gender equality and combating gender-based discrimination. Teachers and associates acquired additional knowledge during the interactive workshop and concluded that it is necessary to organize more such workshops and work continuously with different target and age groups to raise awareness about gender (in)equality and contribute to greater equality in society.



More information available at: <https://unigerc.unsa.ba/edukacije-nastavnog-osoblja-na-univerzitetu-u-zenici-iz-oblasti-rodne-ravnopravnosti-drzane-tokom-juna-2023-u-sklopu-projekta-unigem/>

Gender Equality Counseling Office opened at the University of Zenica

In addition to the UNIGERC Center at the University of Sarajevo, as of December 7, 2023, the Gender Equality Counseling Office is also available at the University of Zenica. In the newly opened office, academic and administrative staff as well as the student population can receive information on issues related to gender-based violence and methods for reporting gender inequality. The office will be led by Prof. Anela Hasanagić from the Islamic Pedagogical Faculty of the University of Zenica and Assistant Professor Aida Rizvanović, specializing in inclusion and serving as the coordinator of general, personnel, and legal affairs at the University of Zenica's Rectorate. During the ceremonial opening of the office, Prof. Dr. Dženana Radončić from the Faculty of Law at the University of Zenica addressed the attendees, speaking about gender equality policies. Additionally, this event served as an opportunity to sign a cooperation agreement with the Center for Women's Rights Zenica.

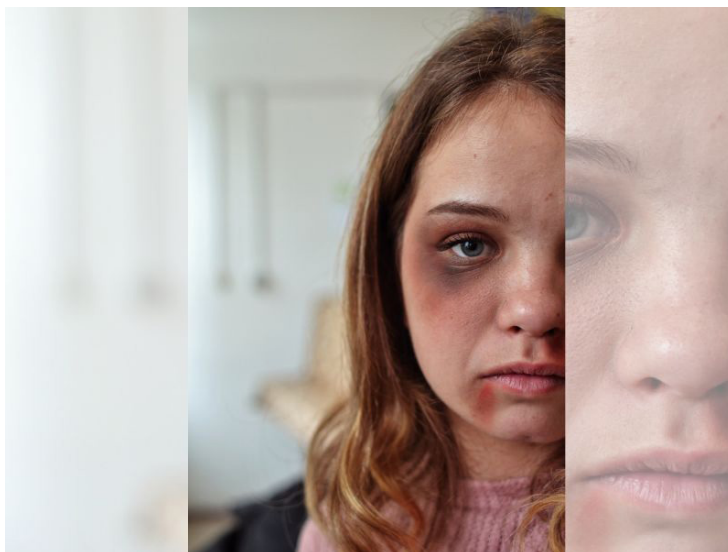


More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-07122023-a

16 Days of Activism

On December 6, 2023, a student group organized a performance titled “Stop Femicide in BiH” and thus began a series of activities through which they, once again this year, marked the global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence”.

The performance is available [HERE](#). Through the “Stop Femicide in Bosnia and Herzegovina” performance, students of the Faculty of Philosophy in Zenica clearly stated that violence is not a “private matter”. Although it most often occurs within families, by marital



partners, violence is a problem of the entire society. Students called on citizens to raise awareness through open discussions, activism, and reporting of violence, as well as on institutions to act more effectively. “It is very important to talk about violence against women in order to awaken the social environment, patriarchal consciousness, to have more reports, and in a way to influence institutions that are obligated to protect victims of violence, not to protect perpetrators - as we have seen in recent months,” emphasized Prof. Dr. Edisa Gazetić, associate professor at the Faculty of Philosophy in Zenica and coordinator of this activity.

In addition to the performance, a workshop titled “Everything You Were Afraid to Ask about Reproductive Health” was held at the Faculty of Law of the University of Zenica. The workshop was led by Ajša Luković, an assistant at the Faculty of Law. Participants had the opportunity to ask any questions regarding this topic. They were educated about the concept of reproductive health, the reproductive system, its functioning in all stages of life, as well as methods of fertility regulation and the right to access certain health care services, and numerous possibilities for preserving the quality of reproductive health in young people.

In addition to students of the University of Zenica, students from the Medical School and the Second Gymnasium in Zenica also participated in this workshop. Furthermore, the Student Union of the University of Zenica organized three workshops at the Medical, Economic, and Polytechnic Faculties of the University of Zenica. The aim of these workshops was to stimulate dialogue among students



about the problem of femicide. Participants actively participated in discussions, emphasizing that signs of violence are often unrecognized by society and general practitioners. The responsibility of men in changing their own attitudes and behavior was emphasized. It was particularly highlighted that there is a great task ahead for doctors, psychologists, and educators in high schools to recognize signs of abusive behavior, especially in men, and actively work to address this problem.



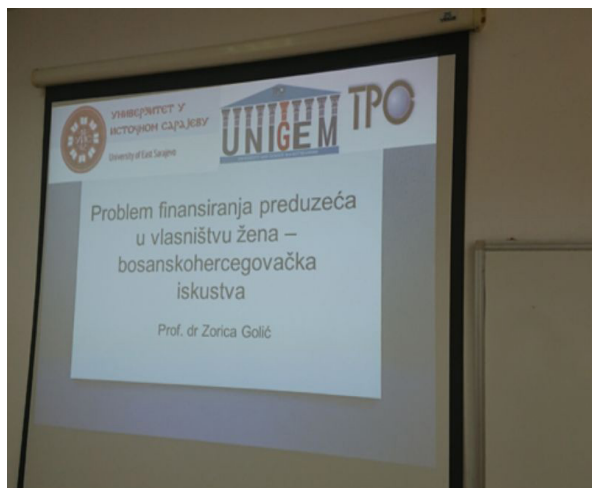
More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-13

UNIVERSITY OF EAST SARAJEVO

16 Days of Activism

From November 25th to December 10th, 2023, the University of East Sarajevo held three workshops on gender-based violence, thus marking the global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.” Prof. Dr. Predrag Mlinarević delivered a lecture at the Faculty of Economics in Pale on the topic “Gender Equality as a Goal of Sustainable Development by the UN.” During this lecture, Professor Mlinarević introduced the audience to the content of gender equality as one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals primarily based on eliminating all forms of gender inequality. Additionally, indicators of the Gender Equality Index for Bosnia and Herzegovina, which was first developed for BiH in 2022, were presented. At the Faculty of Business and Economics in Bijeljina, Prof. Dr. Zorica Golić delivered a lecture on “The Problem of Financing Women-Owned Enterprises - Bosnian-Herzegovinian Experiences.” During the lecture, Professor Golić acquainted the audience with the results of the latest qualitative research providing deep insights into the perceptions of successful female business owners regarding access to external sources of financing. The lecture facilitated an understanding of the problem of financing women-owned enterprises, as one of the problems rooted in Bosnian-Herzegovinian society. Professor Golić emphasized the importance of increased education about the potential of women and female entrepreneurship directed towards financial intermediaries, investors, and lenders as a way to break the unjust stereotype of a successful entrepreneur (embodied in a man) and improve the position of women in finding and securing financing. At the Faculty of Economics in Pale, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Snježana Paunović delivered a lecture on “Gender Equality in Education” with the aim of providing insight into the historical development and current state, presenting relevant data, and providing examples of good practice and strategies for improving gender equality in the education sector. Through this lecture, the audience was introduced to key aspects of gender equality in education. The current state of gender equality in educational institutions was analyzed. Relevant data indicating inequalities that still occur, whether in access to education, choice of study programs, or professional advancement, were

presented. The importance of continued monitoring and analysis of this data to identify problems and work on their resolution was emphasized.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-7

UNIVERSITY OF BIHAĆ

16 Days of Activism

From November 25th to December 10th, 2023, the University of Bihać conducted a series of activities marking the global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.” The project title and central event were “Femicide in Law, Murderers in Prison.” As students are always in focus, this time too, a student group contributed by surveying the citizens of the city of Bihać. To see how it went, click [HERE](#).

As part of the campaign, the University of Bihać promoted three publications published by the TPO Foundation. Organized by the Center for Gender Equality of the University of Bihać, a promotion of the Collection “Despite Fear and Silence: Universities against Gender-Based Violence” was held at the Faculty of Law. The collection was edited by Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić-Šiljak, Prof. Dr. Jasna Kovačević, and Prof. Dr. Jasmina Husanović. The promoters of the Collection were Prof. Dr. sc. Vildana Pečenković and Prof. Dr. sc. Albin Muslić, with Prof. Dr. sc. Jasmina Bešlagić as the moderator.



Another publication, organized by the Center for Gender Equality of the University of Bihać, was promoted at the Faculty of Education. Prof. Dr. sc. Vildana Pečenković, the Dean of the Faculty of Education, and Prof. Dr. sc. Albin Muslić, a professor at the Faculty of Law, conducted the promotion, moderated by Prof. Dr. sc. Jasmina Bešlagić. The publication is titled “Feminism and Religion in the 21st Century: Technology, Dialogue, and Expanding Boundaries.” This collection discusses the transformative effects of communication technologies, the internet, blogs, and social media within religious discourses, with authors exploring the digital world and online spaces as places that are more accessible to women, opening up opportunities for greater engagement and access to information.



At the Faculty of Economics, the third publication “Women and Work: Feminism, Labor, and Social Reproduction” was promoted. The promoters were Prof. Dr. sc. Mirela Kljajić-Dervić from the Faculty of Economics and Prof. Dr. sc. Albin Muslić from the Faculty of Law, with Prof. Dr. sc. Jasmina Bešliagić as the moderator. The interest of academic staff, students, and the wider readership in this event was particularly

pronounced due to the topicality of the issues addressed by the publication, namely the position of women in the labor market, the question of balancing private and professional life, as well as other issues women face in the world of work and employment relationships. The central event of the “16 Days of Activism” campaign at the University of Bihać was conducted with active participation from students of the University of Bihać, students of the Gymnasium “Bihać,” as well as relevant representatives of social life to problematize the recently particularly topical issue of femicide. The Campaign’s slogan, as well as the Central Event, was “Femicide in Law, Murderers in Prison.” Theoretical, practical, and statistical aspects of femicide were presented, followed by a discussion involving representatives of the academic community, judiciary, investigative bodies, agencies, institutions, covering government and non-government sectors, regarding the need to include femicide in criminal legislation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The central event was moderated by the Coordinator of the Center for Gender Equality of the University of Bihać, Prof. Dr. sc. Jasmina Bešliagić, with the discussion led by Prof. Dr. sc. Nikola Findrik.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-12

UNIVERSITY OF RIJEKA

16 Days of Activism

On the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, on Saturday, November 25, 2023, at the Aquarium venue on the Campus of the University of Rijeka, a screening of the award-winning documentary film “Larger than Trauma” was held. In addition to the film screening, a panel discussion titled “Prevention and Combating Violence against Women and Family Violence” was held on November 30, 2023, also at the “Aquarium” on the Campus of the University of Rijeka.

The film “Larger than Trauma” follows a group of participants in a three-year therapeutic program who share their life stories, confront past traumas, and seek healing. After the film screening, a discussion and social gathering with the authors of the film, Vedrana Pribačić and Mirta Puhlovski, took place. The discussion was led by Iva Davorija from SOS Rijeka - Center for Nonviolence and

Human Rights, and the authors responded to questions from the audience. Despite the cold winter weather, a large number of members of the University of Rijeka, volunteers, and citizens of Rijeka supported the event with their participation.

The International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on November 25 is dedicated to raising awareness about the issue of violence against women. Gender-based violence is one of the most common forms of human rights violations worldwide. According to global research, every third woman experiences some form of violence during her lifetime. Wars and conflicts further increase the risk of war crimes targeted specifically against women, and traumas leave deep emotional and psychological consequences that require special attention and support from society and the community.



To see how the social gathering during the film screening looked like, [click here](#).

A panel discussion titled “Prevention and Combating Violence against Women and Family Violence” was held on the occasion of marking 10 years since the signing and 5 years since the ratification of the Istanbul Convention (Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence) in the Republic of Croatia.



The discussion was moderated by Sanja Barić, the President of the Gender Equality Council of the University of Rijeka, who concluded that, despite a tendency towards self-criticism, it is necessary to commend all past achievements and efforts in the field of prevention and combating violence against women and to identify areas for further collaboration. As assistance in solving the problem, she highlighted clear and informative reports from the Ombudsperson

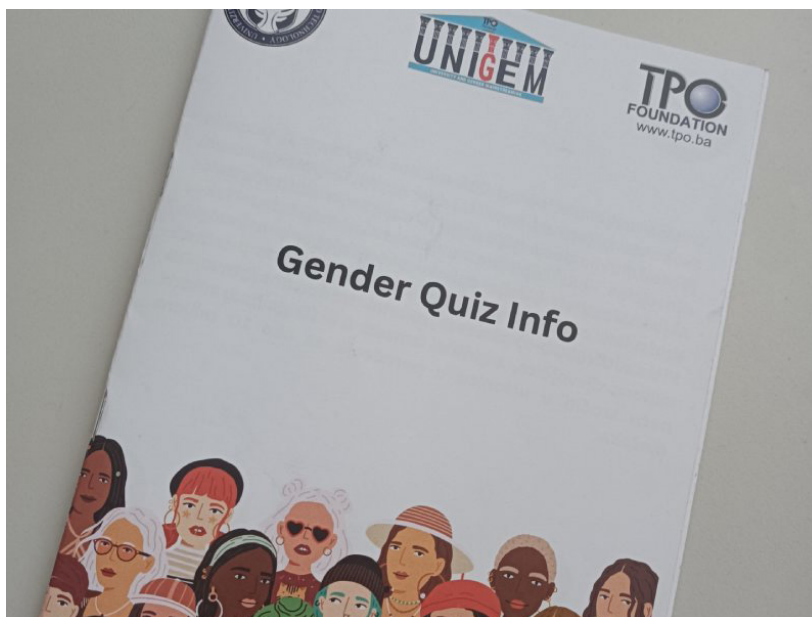
for Gender Equality and the GREVIO Report on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention, as well as the implementation of activities within the global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence,” whose theme this year is investing in prevention, education, cooperation, and quality and meaningful policies. Further efforts are crucial in increasing the level of education and raising awareness of personal responsibility. A positive step could be achieved through education within lifelong learning for various participants involved in dealing with gender-based violence such as courts and public prosecutors, as well as other legal areas where there is a clear lack of quality practical experience.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-12012024-3

SARAJEVO SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SSST)

16 Days of Activism

On the occasion of the campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence,” the Sarajevo School of Science and Technology (SSST) held a series of activities. In the premises of the Homework HUB, a fun and educational quiz “Gender Quiz: Femme Štrebare” was conducted, with prizes awarded to the winners. A brochure was created for the purpose of the quiz. An installation of cardboard heels in front of and in the lobby of SSST remained a mystery for several days. Then, students were informed that the orange-colored



heels symbolize the message to stop femicide. During a lecture, students from the IT department presented undergraduate topics as part of the course “Artificial Intelligence” titled: “Bridging the Gender Gap in Women’s Health Information,” which introduced the new concept of FemTech. Additionally, the coordinator of the UNIGEM project, Prof. Dr. Jasminka Hasić Telalović, addressed the youth, and you can listen to her message [here](#).



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-12012024-4

Final panel within the campaign “16 Days of Activism”

On December 12, 2023, the final panel was held, concluding the “16 Days of Activism” campaign. As part of the UNIGEM project, the TPO Foundation and the Sarajevo School of Science and Technology (SSST) organized a panel where panelists reflected on what has been achieved since last year’s campaign until now, the challenges faced by support providers for victims of violence, how femicide is addressed within legal frameworks, and many other issues. The panel was moderated by SSST representative Emina Ganić, and the panelists included: Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, Director of the TPO Foundation, Mubera Hodžić Lemeš, Director of the Safe House in Sarajevo, Emina Bošnjak, Director of the Sarajevo Open Center, Prof. Dr. Jasminka Hasić Telalović from SSST, psychologist and psychotherapist Maja Misira Rašić from SSST Gymnasium, and Dr. of Legal Sciences, Nermin Šehović.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-6

UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE

16 Days of Activism

From November 25th to December 10th, 2023, the University of Belgrade held a round table discussion “From Obstetric Violence to Dignified Birth: Research and Experiences” and training on mechanisms for responding to workplace sexual harassment aimed at employees of the University of Belgrade. These activities marked the global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women and Girls”.

A training on mechanisms for responding to workplace sexual harassment was held for employees of IFDT UNIBG. The training was conducted by Dr. Jelena Čeriman, a staff member of IFDT UNIBG. The training for the equality commissioners appointed at UNBG was held in the Rectorate Hall of UNIBGD.

The round table “From Obstetric Violence to Dignified Birth: Research and Experiences” was held at the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, University of Belgrade. Participants included the creators of the series “Mama Sutra,” Mina Šarenac and Ana Petrović, psychologist Prof. Dr. Biljana Stanković (UNIBG, Faculty of Philosophy), and medical anthropologist Dr. Ljiljana Pantović (IFDT). The recording of the round table is available [HERE](#).



Lack of informed consent, privacy infringement, inadequate information, insufficient support, and the complete absence of active involvement of women during childbirth are key problems in maternity wards in Serbia. Although the issues in maternity wards were known, there was an unwritten rule that women should not speak about them publicly. This situation has drastically changed in recent years, with women increasingly speaking out about their negative and traumatic experiences and advocating for change.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-9

UNIVERSITY OF NOVI SAD

16 Days of Activism

From November 25th to December 10th, 2023, the University of Novi Sad held a series of activities to mark the global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women and Girls”. Experts conducted a panel discussion, engaged in conversations with students, and delivered lectures on topics such as digital violence, gender-based violence, and violence against children.

At the Faculty of Economics in Subotica, a two-day workshop titled “Implicit Gender Biases” was organized on November 16th and 17th, 2023. The workshop, aimed at teaching and administrative staff of the Faculty of Economics, was led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bojana Bodroža from the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, UNS. The workshop was designed to familiarize participants with implicit and often unconscious gender biases, which serve as mechanisms that perpetuate existing power imbalances and inequalities between men and women. The theoretical basis of the workshop is the dual process theory, which enables understanding of the fact that people often unconsciously reproduce patterns of gender inequality through a range of behaviors and thoughts.



On November 23-24, 2023, the UNIGEM project co-ordinator at UNS, Prof. Dr. Gordana Lalić-Krstin, participated in the XIII Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia, titled “Support for Victims and Prevention of Victimization: Challenges and Perspectives”. Prof. Dr. Lalić-Krstin took part in the thematic session “International Panel on Universities and Sexual and Gender-related Violence: Response is Not Enough!”, where she presented the UNIGEM project, its results, and perspectives.



A discussion with students on the topic “Sexual Violence: How to Recognize It and What to Do If It Happens to You” was also held. The lecture, delivered by Biljana Stepanov from the Center for Victims of Sexual Violence, took place in the packed ceremonial hall of the Faculty of Philosophy, followed by answering numerous questions and concerns from participants.

On December 4th, a panel discussion on the topic “Children as Invisible Victims of Gender-Based Violence” was held in the cinema hall of the Faculty of Philosophy. Dr. Nada Padejski Šekerović, the head of the Safe Women’s House in Novi Sad, and Daliborka Vojvodić Tomović, the head of the group for combating juvenile delinquency and family violence at the Novi Sad Police Department, spoke at the panel, moderated by journalist Tamara Srijemac.

Then, on December 5th, a lecture on the topic “Involvement in Digital Violence from Women’s Perspective” was held at the Rectorate building of the University of Novi Sad. The lecture was delivered by Prof. Dr. Bojana Dinić from the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, who researches the phenomenon of violence in the digital environment and is the author of several papers in this field.

On December 7th, 2023, at the panel discussion “Violence in Youth Romantic Relationships” organized by the Safe Women’s House and the Social Welfare Center Novi Sad, the UNIGEM project was presented. The presentation material for UNIGEM was prepared by Prof. Dr. Gordana Lalić-Krstin, and the panel featured speeches by Prof. Dr. Smiljana Milinkov and Prof. Dr. Jelena Šakotić Kurbalija.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-15

UNIVERSITY OF MOSTAR

Workshop on the Implementation of the Gender Action Plan at the University of Mostar

In 2021, SUM adopted the Gender Action Plan (GAP) and committed to achieving several goals. On January 30, 2023, a workshop was held with members of the Advisory Board for Gender Equality. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Dr. Davorka Topić Stipić. The workshop was led by the academic directors of the University Gender Resource Center of the University of Sarajevo (UNIGeRC), Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak and Prof. Dr. Jasna Kovačević. One of the goals of the GAP was to incorporate syllabi into the curriculum. Specifically, these five syllabi were incorporated into an elective university course titled “Gender Equality” offered at the undergraduate and graduate levels.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-01022023-a

16 Days of Activism

For the third consecutive year, the University of Mostar has been participating in the campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence,” aimed at raising awareness and preventing violence against women for the benefit of society as a whole. The campaign began at the Faculty of Agriculture with a lecture on Eating Disorders and Feminism. Students of Nutrition discussed beauty standards imposed on women that can result in eating disorders, with an emphasis on anorexia and bulimia being the most prevalent.

This year’s campaign included activities and lectures such as: “Deactivation of Gender Stereotypes in Selection Situations”, “The Glass Ceiling in the Career World?”, “Sexist Humor or Just Joking”, “Gender Norms in Romantic Relationships”, “One Purple Day - Photoframe and Purple Ribbons”, “Workshop - Gender Stereotypes”, and many others. Additionally, the University of Mostar established the Gender Equality Council and the Advisory Council for Gender Equality, available to all female and male students, professors, and employees who experience any form of violence.



An informational booth named “Purple Day” was set up in the lobby of the Faculty of Philosophy as a sign of support for women who are victims of violence. Purple ribbons, information about violence against women, and promotional material were available at the booth.

At the Faculty of Law, in the Criminalistics program, a lecture titled “Deactivation of Gender Stereotypes in Selection Situations” was held, focusing on gender stereotypes that often arise in traditionally male or female occupations and how to remove prejudices towards them.



At the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Architecture, and Geodesy, a workshop titled “Gender Norms in Romantic Relationships” was conducted, addressing the popular issue of who should take the first step in a romantic relationship. The workshop was interesting to students as it was a topic they could relate to firsthand, while also providing insights into gender norms and stereotypes.

At the Faculty of Economics, a lecture on the “Glass Ceiling in the Career World” was held, considering the glass ceiling as discrimination against women in management. The glass ceiling affects women regardless of their level of education, experience, and skills, and is seen as something that needs to be addressed for the advancement of women in their careers. To maintain students’ interest in the numerous activities conducted, a Film Day was organized where they had the opportunity to watch the film “Alice Darling,” a psychological thriller about a woman escaping from an abusive relationship and struggling for her independence.

At the Faculty of Philosophy, a workshop on “Gaslighting” was conducted, introducing participants to the fundamental concept and ways in which gaslighting occurs. They also had the opportunity to learn about the concept of violent and non-violent communication and practice using non-violent communication through interaction with the speakers.

In collaboration with a student from the Faculty of Law, a lecture on the topic of “Femicide” within the legal framework was held, explaining how femicide is viewed in the laws of Bosnia and Herzegovina and identifying areas for improving current practices.

At the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Education, together with students in the Kinesiology program, a workshop titled “Sexist Humor or Just Joking” was conducted. The aim was to familiarize young students with the concepts of sexism, sexist humor, and provide guidelines on how to avoid and prevent such humor. The campaign concluded at the Faculty of Philosophy, where the final topic was “(Un) Justification of Violence against Women in Christianity and Islam.” The historical aspect of violence against women in two different religions was discussed, along with a comparison with the 21st century and recent events.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-12012024-7

UNIVERSITY “DŽEMAL BIJEDIĆ” IN MOSTAR

Workshop on the Implementation of the GAP

Following the adoption of the Gender Action Plan at the University “Džemal Bijedić” in Mostar in 2021, a series of activities promoting gender equality in the academic community have been implemented. Regular monitoring and evaluation of past activities are inevitable for the better continuation of work. Therefore, at the University “Džemal Bijedić” in Mostar, on January 30, 2023, a workshop was held with the Advisory Board for Gender Equality led by Prof. Rebeka Kotlo. The workshop was conducted by the academic directors of the University Gender Resource Center at the University of Sarajevo, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak and Prof. Dr. Jasna Kovačević. The directors discussed with the members of the Advisory Board for Gender Equality at UNMO “Džemal Bijedić” about the set and achieved goals. The entire GAP of UNMO “Džemal Bijedić” is available at the following link: <https://unigerc.unsa.ba/gender-action-plans/>



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-01022023-b

16 Days of Activism

The University “Džemal Bijedić” in Mostar and the TPO Foundation, within the framework of the UNIGEM project, aimed at marking the campaign “16 Days of Activism”, conducted several lectures, workshops, and discussions from December 5th to 7th, 2023, with the goal of educating academic and non-academic staff, as well as students, about gender equality and gender-based violence. The first in a series of lectures with discussions was held by Prof. Dr. Rebeka Kotlo, the project coordinator for UNIGEM at the University “Džemal Bijedić” in Mostar, on the topic “Access to Justice: Free Legal Aid for Victims of Gender-Based Violence.” The lecture aimed to enhance knowledge and raise awareness about the importance and respect for gender equality, prevention and sanctioning of gender-based violence and perpetrators, as well as the protection and realization of the rights of victims of gender-based violence, with a specific focus on access to justice, namely free legal aid. A lecture with a workshop was conducted by Mr. Sc. Edisa Demić on the topic “Gender-Based Violence and Femicide.” During the lecture, she spoke about her experience working with victims of gender-based violence, etymological and phenomenological considerations, attitudes towards the use of the term femicide, definition and forms of femicide, legal regulation of violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina, safe houses, practical examples, and prevention of gender-based violence. The third lecture within the campaign was delivered by the Rector of the University, Prof. Dr. Alena Husseinbegović, on the topic “Gender Equality, Gender-Based Violence, and Compensation for Victims

of Gender-Based Violence.” The focus of the lecture was to raise awareness and improve knowledge about the obligation and importance of respecting gender equality, manifestations, causes, consequences, and mechanisms of sanctioning gender-based violence. In addition, Rector Prof. Dr. Huseinbegović spoke during the lecture about the legal framework and procedures for compensation for victims of gender-based violence. The final lecture with a workshop was conducted by Prof. Dr. Merima Jašarević. The workshop aimed, through interactive dialogue, to enable students to gain a deeper understanding of the self through the concepts of gender. The focus of the lecture was on raising awareness of socially constructed platforms (often imposed through media and religion) that set standards or frameworks for gender roles in society and culture.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-2

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB

Book Promotion “Violence against Pregnant Women in Bosnia and Herzegovina - Family, Healthcare System, and Employment Relations”

On March 31, 2023, at the Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, a book promotion event titled “Violence against Pregnant Women in Bosnia and Herzegovina - Family, Healthcare System, and Employment Relations” by Dr. Zlatan Hrnčić was held. The workshop accompanying this promotion had the same title “Violence against Pregnant Women.” Since the book explores issues of gender equality and discrimination against pregnant women in the healthcare system in a scientific manner, the author presented his research journey undertaken to obtain valid quantitative and qualitative data on the experiences of pregnant women during pregnancy and childbirth in Bosnian medical institutions. As the topic is still somewhat taboo, the presentation of certain facts sparked lively discussions among the attendees, in which new topics for master’s and doctoral theses, as well as new research endeavors in general, could be discerned.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-11042023

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF TRAVNIK

16 Days of Activism

At the International University of Travnik, within the framework of the UNIGEM project, the campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence” was commemorated this year as well. Six workshops were held for the students of the International University of Travnik, aiming to educate and raise awareness among students about the position of women and the power they possess in fulfilling multiple social roles. The goal of these workshops was to promote equality and partnership in all aspects of women’s social, familial, professional, and political endeavors as individuals. Through discussion and understanding, students were encouraged to develop their own personal perspectives on the topic.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-10

UNIVERSITY OF VITEZ IN TRAVNIK

16 Days of Activism

From November 25th to December 10th, 2023, the University of Vitez in Travnik held a workshop for students of the Mixed Secondary School of Economics and Catering in Travnik and a panel discussion for the citizens of Travnik titled “Together Against Violence.” These activities marked the global campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.”

Dr. Aida Vatreš, a specialist in neuropsychiatry at the Travnik Hospital, delivered a lecture on “Healthy Relationships” for students of the Mixed Secondary School of Economics and Catering in Travnik. The lecture was highly interactive, and the young people engaged in motivated and open discussions about interpersonal relationships.



A panel discussion “Together Against Violence” was held at the Chamber Stage of the Cultural Center of the Municipality of Travnik. The aim was to bring together experts, representatives of government institutions and civil society, as well as citizens, to discuss the problem of violence, share experiences, and promote awareness of the importance of collaboration in addressing this social issue. The discussion was preceded by a performance by the Talija Theater from Novi Travnik.

The moderator of the panel discussion was the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Professor Goran Šimić. The participants of the panel discussion were Assoc. Prof. Rasema Okić, Director of the Institute for Addiction Diseases of the Sarajevo Canton, Amra Kovačević, Occupational Therapist at the Center for Mental Health, Sabina Malanović, Representative of the Social Welfare Center Travnik, Mr. Šemsudin Fuško, Chief Prosecutor of the Canton Prosecutor's Office of the Central Bosnia Canton, Rusmir Prohan, Chief of the Crime Police Department, Mr. Lejla Bešo-Haskić, Professor at the Elči Ibrahim-paša Madrasa in Travnik and Coordinator of the Department for Marriage and Family, and Mr. Željko Marić, Director of the Petar Barbarić Cultural and Sports Center in Travnik.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-8

UNIVERSITY OF HERZEGOVINA

16 Days of Activism

On December 2nd, 2023, at the premises of the University of Herzegovina, as part of the UNIGEM project, a series of interactive workshops were held as part of the campaign "16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence."

The workshops were led by:

Dr. Martina Primorac, PhD - "About the 16 Days of Activism campaign",

Dr. Karolina Tadić Lesko, PhD - "Programs for the Prevention of Domestic Violence" AND

Dr. Sandi Dizdarević, PhD - "Social Non-Reaction to Domestic Violence". The workshops were also available to follow online.

The workshops were also available to follow online.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-06122023

UNIVERSITY OF DONJA GORICA

16 Days of Activism

As part of the campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence – AGAINST FEMICIDE,” the University of Donja Gorica presented the research “Social and Institutional Response to Femicide in Montenegro,” conducted by the SOS Helpline for Women and Children Victims of Violence in Nikšić. The organization also held a presentation on the importance of the Istanbul Convention. The workshop concluded with the message that every man, woman, boy, girl, and parent must learn that any form of violence is not the right way to resolve difficulties. Everyone must understand that violence against women and within families is no longer tolerated.



On this occasion, the promotion of five books translated and published by the TPO Foundation was also carried out. The following books were promoted:

- “Women and Religion” – Deborah F. Sawyer and John Sawyer,
- “Women and Work” – Susan Ferguson,
- “Feminism and Religion in the 21st Century” – Gina Messina-Dysert and Rosemary Radford Reuther,
- “Decolonial Feminism” – Françoise Vergès, and
- “Ethics of Care in the Age of Precarity” – Maurice Hamington and Michael Flower.

Researchers from the NGO Prima Podgorica held a workshop on gender-based violence, healthy vs. toxic relationships for UDG students and lecturers.

Additionally, UDG organized a roundtable discussion on the topic “Combatting Femicide in Montenegro.” The roundtable was held on December 5th, 2023, and brought together representatives of civil society organizations, especially NGOs with extensive experience in combating gender-based violence, as well as representatives of universities and relevant institutions, primarily ministries and the police. Participants in the roundtable included: Aida Perović (NGO Prima Podgorica), Alisa Zerović (Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare), Jovana Mijović (Ministry of Internal Affairs), and Assoc. Prof. Nikoleta Đukanović (Faculty of Law, UDG).



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-14

INTERNATIONAL BURCH UNIVERSITY

A book promotion titled “Challenges of Integrating Gender Equality in the University Community: Against Gender-Based Violence” was held at the International Burch University (IBU) in Sarajevo. The promoters were Prof. Dr. Ahmed El Sayed, Naida Misimović Čustović, MA, and Amer Kurtović, MA.

The editors of “Challenges of Integrating Gender Equality...” are Professors Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, Dr. Jasna Kovačević, and Dr. Jasmina Husanović. Approximately 40 students and 10 teachers attended the promotion at IBU. On this occasion, they were able to participate in an interactive workshop related to the findings of the research. Utilizing the on-line tool Kahoot!, the promoters initially posed a series of questions about all thematic areas of the research. After collecting responses, they discussed why certain phenomena are present in



society, particularly at universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region. By using quotes from interviews and statistical data gathered during the research, these (deviant) phenomena were elucidated to those who may not have been aware of them per se. The event lasted for an hour and 45 minutes, and upon the request of the sociology professor, it was repeated the following day for students as part of their curriculum.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-09022023

UNIVERSITY OF MONTENEGRO (UCG)

16 Days of Activism

As part of the 16 Days of Activism campaign, the University of Montenegro organized a competition for the best essay on the topic “Consequences of the Relativization of Femicide Causes.” The first place was awarded to Tijana Draganić, a second-year master’s student at the Faculty of Philosophy, the second place went to Miloš Bujanja, a second-year master’s student at the Faculty of Civil Engineering, while the third place was won by Tereza Vujošević, a first-year master’s student at the Faculty of Law. The winners of the competition were decided by a committee consisting of Prof. Dr. Nebojša Vučinić, retired full professor at the Faculty of Law UCG and former judge of the European Court of Human Rights; Dr. Ljiljana Jovanović, Head of the Human Rights Center; Dr. Sanja Grbović, teaching associate at the Faculty of Law UCG.

More information available at: http://www.tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-24012024

PROGRAM 2: FEMINISM AND RELIGION (FER) SCHOOL



In 2021, the TPO Foundation and the Ecumenical Initiative of Women (EIŽ) from Omiš launched the first online FER School in the Balkans. The FER School is led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak and Dr. Jadranka Rebeka Anić, and it is intended for anyone who wishes to academically examine their beliefs, attitudes, knowledge, and practices regarding human rights and freedoms, and who wants to explore how gender stereotypes shape the lives of women and men in families and society.

In 2023, the activities of the FER School were successfully continued. A total of 13 podcasts were prepared for the needs of the FER School, featuring various speakers, including renowned theologians such as Anne Hegge and Amina Wadud, as well as numerous regional advocates for women's rights and feminist theology.

All podcasts are available at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLf-v-KQgYOwvbQ9bK5dKcaK-La87-JaUPO>

The FER School classes were organized online again this year. A total of five courses were prepared for the non-academic level, each lasting for 10 weeks, and they were conducted in the Winter Semester of 2023. The new semester of the FER School included the following courses:

- History of Feminism;
- Feminisms in the East;
- And You, Sister, Keep Quiet: Gender-Based Violence;
- Is Woman a Human?
- Is Peace a Woman's Matter?

The regional FER conference “And You, Sister, Speak” was held in Sarajevo



The Regional FER Conference “And You, Sister, Speak!” took place from November 16th to 19th, 2023, in Sarajevo. After online meetings within the framework of five courses, participants had the opportunity to meet in person. Attendees engaged in discussions with experts in the fields of feminism, theology, education, literature, art, acting, journalism, and legal studies through lectures, panels, and creative workshops.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-24112023-1
<https://youtu.be/hsHh5fTMt24>



PROGRAM 3: SAPERE BH



SAPERE (Society for Advancing Philosophical Enquiry and Reflection in Education), or the Society for Advancing Philosophical Inquiry and Reflection in Education, is an institute based in London that educates teachers in the United Kingdom and across Europe and the world using the Philosophy for Children (P4C) method. The SAPERE Institute in London has licensed 12 teachers through the TPO Foundation to work with teachers and children. Philosophy for Children (P4C) is a method of inquiry based on:

- Reflection on philosophical/big questions and concepts;
- Reasoning and argumentation leading to the improvement of thinking skills;
- Shaping and changing attitudes;
- Cultivating questioning skills: critical, creative, collaborative, and caring/empathetic thinking, often referred to by the English abbreviation 4C (critical, creative, collaborative, caring).

First P4C module for teaching staff in the Sarajevo Canton

From January 11th to 13th, 2023, a P4C education was held for subject teachers in the Sarajevo Canton. Participants were introduced to the P4C program, the 4 types of thinking, and carried out their first philosophical inquiries. The three-day training was attended by 39 teachers, and the educators were: Associate Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, M.Sc. Elmana Cerić, M.Sc. Sedžida Hadžić, M.Sc. Dragana Koprivica, and Assistant Prof. Dr. Bruno Ćurko.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/sapere-bh-prvi-modul-p4c-edukacije-nastavnog-osoblja-ks/>



Second module of P4C education for teaching staff in the Sarajevo Canton

From March 16th to 17th, 2023, the second module of the “Philosophy for Children - P4C” training for subject teachers in the Sarajevo Canton was held. Participants conducted philosophical inquiries in their own classrooms, and the second module began with a reflection on their gained experience. Through this module, participants of the training philosophically examined the topic of gender inequality. Some of the questions were: is gender inequality part of injustice, why does a woman in the 21st century accept being in a subordinate position, can gender equality be achieved in a patriarchal society, and so on.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/sapere-bh-dru-gi-modul-p4c-edukacije-nastavnog-osoblja-ks/>



Third module of P4C education for teaching staff in the Sarajevo Canton

From June 19th to 20th, 2023, the third module of the TOT training “Philosophy for Children - P4C” for subject teachers in the Sarajevo Canton was held. Once again, participants conducted philosophical inquiries in their own classrooms, and the third module began with a reflection on their gained experience. After the reflections, the teaching staff had the opportunity to use the teaching technique “Six Thinking Hats,” which is ideal for working with students as it activates all levels of learning according to Bloom’s taxonomy of educational objectives.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/sapere-bh-treci-modul-p4c-edukacije-nastavnog-osoblja-ks/>



Fourth module of P4C education for teaching staff in the Sarajevo Canton

From August 28th to 29th, 2023, the fourth and final module of the TOT training “Philosophy for Children - P4C” for subject teachers in the Sarajevo Canton was held. This time, participants conducted philosophical inquiries as a prerequisite for obtaining certification. The two-day module was intensive, with inquiries following one after another. Trainers, Mr. Elmana Cerić and Mr. Dragana Koprivica, monitored and evaluated them, providing feedback to the participants. Professor Dr. Taro Komatsu from Japan, from Sofia University, who is conducting research on the impact of non-formal education on formal education in Bosnia and Herzegovina, also attended the module.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/sapere-bh-cetvrti-modul-p4c-edukacije-nastavnog-osoblja-ks/>



Ceremonial certificate award ceremony for participants of the P4C (Philosophy for Children) training in the Sarajevo Canton

On August 29, 2023, a ceremonial certificate award ceremony was held for participants of the P4C training. At the “House of Knowledge” in the premises of the Second Gymnasium Sarajevo, a total of 27 subject teachers received certificates for successfully completing the one-year Philosophy for Children (P4C) training. The event was addressed by Mr. Elmana Cerić, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, and Mr. Sedžida Hadžić.

More information available at:

1. <https://thinkerica.ba/sapere-bih-svecana-dodjela-certifikata-polaznicima-ama-p4c-filozofija-za-djecu-trenin-ga-u-kantonu-sarajevo/>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6V-Og1Qr0M&t=202s>



Replication Training Sessions “Philosophy for Children - P4C” in the Sarajevo Canton

Following the successful completion of the P4C education in 2022, a group of primary school teachers acquired skills to independently conduct training sessions. From January to March 2023, two modules were held in eight schools in Sarajevo. The training sessions, conducted in pairs, involved 16 teachers. A total of 92 participants successfully completed the training. Replication training sessions are conducted with the support of the TPO Foundation from Sarajevo in collaboration with the Institute for the Development of Pre-University Education of the Sarajevo Canton and the Ministry of Education of the Sarajevo Canton.



More information available at:

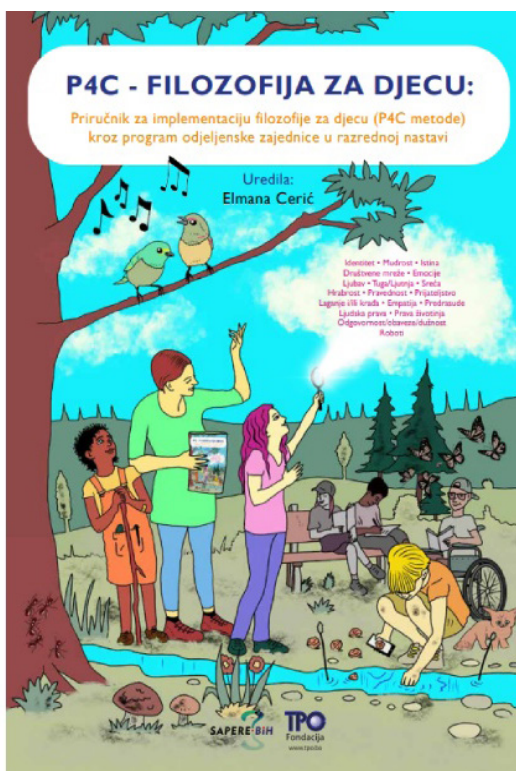
1. <https://thinkerica.ba/odrzani-replikacioni-treninzi-filozofija-za-djecu-p4c-u-kantonu-sarajevo/>
2. <https://irpo.ba/replikacioni/>

Ceremonial Certificate Award Ceremony for Participants of Replication P4C (Philosophy for Children) Training

On June 23, 2023, a ceremonial certificate award ceremony was held for participants of the replication P4C training. At the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies “Prof. Dr. Zdravko Grebo” at the University of Sarajevo, nearly a hundred primary school teachers exchanged experiences about their participation in the training and the application of the P4C method in their own classrooms. A group of 16 trainers educated around a hundred primary school teachers from January to March 2023. On this occasion, certificates were awarded to the participants as well as certificates of appreciation to the trainers.

More information available at:

1. <https://thinkerica.ba/sapere-bih-svecana-dodjela-certifikata-ucenicima-ama-replikacionih-p4c-filozofija-za-djecu-treninga/>
2. <https://youtu.be/MC45SJF5mzw>



Published Manual for Implementing Philosophy for Children (P4C Method) through Classroom Community Program in Elementary Education

TPO Foundation has released a publication titled “Manual for Implementing Philosophy for Children (P4C Method) through Classroom Community Program in Elementary Education.” The publication is the result of collaborative work between a group of enthusiastic primary school teachers from the Sarajevo Canton and P4C trainers from TPO Foundation. The Philosophy for Children (P4C) manual in primary schools was developed as part of the project “Philosophy for Children Program through Integration with Curriculum Reform and Activities of the Institute for the Development of Pre-University Education of Sarajevo Canton,” which TPO Foundation has been implementing in partnership with the Ministry of Education of Sarajevo Canton since 2021.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/p4c-filozofija-za-djecu-prirucnik-za-implementaciju-filozofije-za-djecu-p4c-metode-kroz-program-odjeljske-zajednice-u-razrednoj-nastavi/>

P4C at Kovačići Elementary School Sarajevo - Making Canvas Wallets

In “Kovačići” Elementary School Sarajevo, Benjamin Topalčević, a teacher of technical culture and informatics, conducted a class using the Philosophy for Children P4C method to encourage critical thinking among children.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/p4c-u-os-kovacici-sarajevo-izrada-novcanika-od-platna/>



P4C at Fifth Elementary School Sarajevo - Animal Riddles

At the Fifth Elementary School Sarajevo, Ajla Aljović, an English language teacher, conducted a class using the Philosophy for Children P4C method. Students discussed animals, friendship, emotions - both human and animal.



More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/p4c-u-petoj-osnovnoj-skoli-sarajevo-zivotinjske-zagonetke/>

P4C at Pofalići Elementary School Sarajevo - Stress and School Obligations

Selma Muzaferija, a teacher of BHS language and literature, conducted a philosophical inquiry with students at Pofalići Elementary School in Sarajevo. After watching a stimulus, a short film about preparing and studying for a school test, students formulated five philosophical questions. The final question they discussed was: Is it worth stressing about school obligations?

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/p4c-u-os-pofalici-sarajevo-stres-i-skolske-obaveze/>





P4C at Hrasno Elementary School - Truth or Lie

At the Hrasno Elementary School in Sarajevo, teacher Aida Čaušević conducted a philosophical inquiry with eighth-grade students. The fourth session of philosophical inquiry in the VIII 4 grade was held on Thursday, May 18, 2023.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/p4c-filozofija-za-djecu-u-os-hrasno-istina-ili-laz/>



P4C at Pofalići Elementary School - How Well Do We Really Know Our School Friends?

The fourth inquiry session at “Pofalići” Elementary School was held in the school premises in mid-May. The inquiry took place with sixth-grade students during the BCS, English, and German language classes, facilitated by teacher Selma Muzaferija. The session began with the selected question: How well do we really know our school friends?



More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/p4c-u-os-pofalici-koliko-zapravo-poznajemo-skolske-prijatelje/>

The P4C Method Applicable Even in Parent Meetings

Kanita Granov, a teacher at the Seventh Elementary School in Ilidža, demonstrated that the P4C method is applicable even in parent meetings. On May 19, 2023, she held a meeting for the parents of the fourth-grade students on the topic of “Peer Violence and Violence in Elementary Schools.” One of the parent meetings provided an ideal opportunity to apply the P4C method, and accordingly, the theme “Protecting Children from Peer Violence” was addressed. Since this was the first workshop of its kind and parents were encountering this method for the first time, they enthusiastically embraced it and engaged in the session’s flow and inquiry.



More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/filozofija-za-djecu-p4c-metoda-primjenjiva-i-na-roditeljskim-sastancima/>

The First Module of P4C Education at the Second Gymnasium Sarajevo

The first module of the “Philosophy for Children - P4C” training for the teaching staff of the Second Gymnasium Sarajevo was held from November 6th to 7th, 2023. The training was led by SAPERE BH coordinator, also an employee of the Second Gymnasium Sarajevo, Ms. Elmana Cerić, M.Sc. Through the two-day education, the participants were introduced to the P4C approach as an innovative teaching method. The participants were teachers of various subjects, and since the P4C approach is interdisciplinary, it further aroused their curiosity and motivation for participation and learning.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/sapere-bh-prvi-modul-p4c-edukacije-u-ju-druga-gimnazija-sarajevo/>



PROGRAM 4: ETOS INITIATIVE



Within the framework of the ETOS Initiative, a series of activities were held through the EMIL project (Empowerment for Multireligious and Intercultural Learning), which is a continuation of ETOS activities from previous years. The EMIL project had two key activities in promoting ETOS values, namely: strengthening intercultural and interreligious competencies and ETOS Balkan training, through which the ETOS initiative expanded its network of teachers in the Balkan region.

International Women's Day: Reflection of students from the Secondary Medical School on the panel "Women's Rights Between Generations"

The TPO Foundation and the University Gender Resource Center (UNIGeRC) of the University of Sarajevo, with the support of the Swiss Embassy in Sarajevo, held a panel titled "Women's Rights Between Generations" to mark International Women's Day.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/medunaroni-dan-zena-osvrt-ucenica-srednje-medicinske-skole-na-panel-zenska-prava-iz-medu-generacija/>



Preparation for the certification of ETOS schools - Catholic School Center St. Joseph Sarajevo

On June 7, 2023, a meeting was held at the Catholic School Center St. Joseph Sarajevo (KŠC), attended by the Director of the TPO Foundation, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, the School Principal, Dr. sc. Rev. Mario Ćosić, and the activity coordinator within the ETOS project, teacher Emilija Pavićević, to discuss the final activities for certifying this institution as an ETOS school.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/priprema-certificiranja-etos-skola-katolicki-skolski-centar-sv-josip-sarajevo/>



Preparation for the certification of ETOS schools - Third Gymnasium Sarajevo

On June 19, 2023, a meeting was held at the Third Gymnasium Sarajevo attended by the Director of the TPO Foundation, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, the School Director, Amra Čolić, and the activity coordinator within the ETOS project, teacher Đuldina Kurtović, to discuss the final activities for certifying this institution as an ETOS school.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/priprema-certificiranja-etos-skola-treca-gimnazija-sarajevo/>



Preparation for the certification of ETOS schools - High School for Textiles, Leather, and Design Sarajevo

Dana 19.6.2023. održan je sastanak u Srednjoj školi za tekstil, kožu i dizajn Sarajevo na kojem su, direktorica TPO Fondacije, prof. dr. Zilka Spahić-Šiljak, direktor škole, Samir Pačavar i koordinatorica aktivnosti u okviru ETOS projekta, nastavnica Alma Ahmethodžić, dogovarali završne aktivnosti certifikacije ove ustanove za ETOS školu.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/priprema-certificiranja-etos-skola-srednja-skola-za-tekstil-kozu-i-dizajn-sarajevo/>



Preparation for the certification of ETOS schools – First Bosniak Gymnasium Sarajevo

On June 20, 2023, a meeting was held at the First Bosniak Gymnasium Sarajevo, attended by the Director of the TPO Foundation, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, and the School Director, Emela Mehmedspahić, to discuss the final activities for certifying this institution as an ETOS school.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/priprema-certificiranja-etos-skola-prva-bosnjacka-gimnazija-sarajevo/>

Preparation for the certification of ETOS schools – Medical High School Tuzla

On June 21, 2023, a meeting was held at the Medical High School Tuzla, attended by the Director of the TPO Foundation, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, the school pedagogue, and the activity coordinator within the ETOS project, Mirza Jahić, to discuss the final activities for certifying this institution as an ETOS school.

More information available at:

<https://thinkerica.ba/priprema-certificiranja-etos-skola-srednja-medicinska-skola-tuzla/>



Preparation for the certification of ETOS schools – Brčanska Malta Elementary School Tuzla

On June 21, 2023, a meeting was held at the Brčanska Malta Elementary School Tuzla, attended by the Director of the TPO Foundation, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, the School Director, Mirsudin Pečarić, and the activity coordinator within the ETOS project, teacher Munevera Rahmanović-Hrbać, to discuss the final activities for certifying this institution as an ETOS school.

More information available at:

<https://thinkerica.ba/priprema-certificiranja-etos-skola-osnovna-skola-brcanska-malta-tuzla/>



Preparation for the certification of ETOS schools – Husino Elementary School Tuzla

On June 21, 2023, a meeting was held at the Husino Elementary School Tuzla, attended by the Director of the TPO Foundation, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, the School Director, Mirsada Baraković, and the activity coordinator within the ETOS project, teacher Amela Petričević, to discuss the final activities for certifying this institution as an ETOS school.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/priprema-certificiranja-etos-skola-osnovna-skola-husino-tuzla/>



Preparation for the certification of ETOS schools – Mostar Vocational School of Construction

On June 22, 2023, a meeting was held at the Mostar Vocational School of Construction, attended by the Director of the TPO Foundation, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, and the School Director, Sanela Mesihović, to discuss the final activities for certifying this institution as an ETOS school.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/priprema-certificiranja-etos-skola-srednja-gradevinska-skola-mostar/>



Ceremonial Awarding of ETOS Certificates for Eight Schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina

At the Catholic School Center St. Joseph in Sarajevo, on September 19, 2023, a ceremonial awarding of ETOS certificates for Bosnian and Herzegovinian schools took place. By diligently promoting the ethos values: ethicality, tolerance, openness, and solidarity, a total of eight schools from Sarajevo, Tuzla, and Mostar have met the requirements for obtaining the ETOS certificate.

More information available at:

1. <https://thinkerica.ba/etos-inicijativa-svecana-dodjela-etos-certifikata-za-osam-bh-skola/>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kYA8sLy8zY8&t=2881s>

Visit to ETOS Schools with a Representative from the Weltethos Foundation (Tübingen)

On September 20, 2023, Julia Willke, a representative from the Weltethos Foundation in Tübingen, Germany, visited three ETOS schools in Sarajevo. The visit provided an opportunity to familiarize herself with the school's work, exchange experiences and challenges faced by education systems in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Germany, as well as to gain insight into the ETOS activities implemented during the past period.

More information available at: <https://thinkerica.ba/etos-inicijativa-posjeta-etos-skolama-sa-predstavnicom-weltethos-fondacije-iz-tubingena-njemacka/>



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM – Second Gymnasium Sarajevo Against Violence

The Second Gymnasium Sarajevo commemorated the “16 Days of Activism 2023” campaign this year by organizing three workshops with students. The coordinator of the activities, teacher Elma-na Cerić, M.Sc., led workshops on the topic of gender-based violence.

More information available at:

1. <https://2gimnazija.edu.ba/bs/vijesti/item/1132-u-drugoj-gimnaziji-obijezen-dan-ljudskih-prava>
2. <https://2gimnazija.edu.ba/bs/vijesti/item/1131-radionica-ko-se-krije-iza-tradicije>
3. <https://thinkerica.ba/etos-inicijativa-16-dana-aktivizma-druga-gimnazija-sarajevo-protiv-nasilja/>



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM – Schools in the Sarajevo Canton Against Violence

From November 25th to December 10th, 2023, the following schools: the Secondary School for Textiles, Leather, and Design Sarajevo, the Secondary School for Traffic and Communications Sarajevo, the Third Gymnasium Sarajevo, the Obala Gymnasium, and the Secondary Medical School Sarajevo, carried out five activities. The project was titled “Say NO to Violence and Discrimination.” The teachers representing the schools and leading the activities were Alma Ahmethodžić, Lejla Karahodžić, Marija Knežević, Igor Smiljanić, and Esad Karahodžić.

More information available at:

1. <https://thinkerica.ba/etos-inicijativa-16-dana-aktivizma-skole-u-kantonu-sarajevo-protiv-nasilja/>
2. <https://ssskkola.edu.ba/?p=8786>
3. <https://ssskkola.edu.ba/?p=8763>
4. <https://ssskkola.edu.ba/?p=8749>
5. <https://treca-gimnazija.edu.ba/meduskolski-projekt-kazimo-ne-nasilju-i-diskriminaciji/>
6. <https://treca-gimnazija.edu.ba/kazimo-ne-nasilju-i-diskriminaciji/>
7. <https://treca-gimnazija.edu.ba/okrugli-sto-izazovi-s-kojima-se-mladi-susrecu/>
8. <https://www.sms.edu.ba/latest/okrugli-stol-uloga-covjecnosti-u-suvremenom-svijetu/4443>
9. <https://www.sms.edu.ba/latest/okrugli-stol-izazovi-s-kojima-se-mladi-susrecu/4421>
10. <https://obala.edu.ba/2023/12/05/okrugli-sto-izazovi-s-kojima-se-susrecu-mladi/>



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM – Vocational High School of Metalworking Sarajevo Against Violence

JU Srednja škola metaliskih zanimanja Sarajevo, i ove godine je obilježila kampanju „16 dana aktivizma 2023.“ realizacijom dvije radionice s učenicama i učenicima. Koordinator aktivnosti, nastavnik Mirsad Cvrk, predvodio je radionice o temi rodno zasnovanog nasilja.

More information available at:

1. <https://thinkerica.ba/etos-inicijativa-16-dana-aktivizma-srednja-skola-metaliskih-zanimanja-sarajevo-protiv-nasilja/>
2. <https://www.facebook.com/SrednjaSkolaMetaliskihZanimanja/posts/pfbid02yohhdPiLToQW5wCLB-NeLrqpamEKnrFXrPPEdkTVY1UQtCZDL1K9b3EhRrD7jLqjfl>
3. <https://www.facebook.com/SrednjaSkolaMetaliskihZanimanja/posts/pfbid0RaMUCKB79m7S-fqW1nA2bgDUKT5WyccEedfsYAMjeVCnj93mULhyFfWjeiT8Rgkql>
4. <https://www.facebook.com/SrednjaSkolaMetaliskihZanimanja/posts/pfbid0wesuj99by2JDjdJBtaet-V1advG5szR77G3BabWjeMHKtG8HmoDW5VJiwEv77qsYDI>
5. <https://www.facebook.com/SrednjaSkolaMetaliskihZanimanja/posts/pfbid033vYgzoWx1CLCHMK54i-YrZkQ1uQWhSJGVNkCPXtyZv8WZh8FRGdmJJ6BurzGBhMJrl>



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

MENGA

MENGA

During 2023, the TPO Foundation initiated the implementation of a project called Menstrual and Gender Action - MENGA. The main idea of the project is to lobby for the reduction of the so-called 'pink tax'. Additionally, the realization of a project on this social issue is inconceivable without the participation and support of the government. Therefore, discussions will be held with government representatives regarding access to menstrual hygiene products at universities in BIH and, generally, about abolishing/reducing taxes on menstrual products. Furthermore, the idea is to lobby for cooperation between menstrual product manufacturers and universities to make the products available for free. The main goal is to provide better access to hygiene, sanitation, and menstrual products used during women's menstrual cycles. The project in Bosnia and Herzegovina is implemented by the Center for the Promotion of Civil Society, financially supported by the Austrian Development Agency and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

Meeting with the Sarajevo Open Center

On September 18th, at the premises of the University Gender Resource Center (UNIGERC), the TPO Foundation and a representative of the Sarajevo Open Center held a meeting aimed at exchanging experiences regarding advocacy on the issue of menstrual poverty.

The Sarajevo Open Center (SOC) launched an initiative in November 2021 to abolish taxes on hygiene products for women and children. According to the resolution of the European Parliament dated January 15, 2019, on gender equality and taxation policies in the EU, all member states are called upon to abolish the so-called 'tampon tax' by applying exemptions or a 0% VAT rate on these essential products, as permitted by the VAT Directive. Referring to these documents, SOC invited the public in Bosnia and Herzegovina to participate in public consultations and send their letters of support for this initiative. Unfortunately, the proposed amendments to the Value Added Tax (VAT) Law were not adopted, so the tax on pads, tampons, diapers, and similar products still stands at 17%.

As an introductory activity of the MENGA project, the TPO Foundation organized a meeting with the representative of the Sarajevo Open Center, Amina Dizdar, aimed at gaining insight into the activities and results of their previous initiative, and developing a strategic approach to conducting the MENGA campaign. The meeting participants concluded that the issue of menstrual poverty is still under-researched and a taboo subject, and that it is of utmost importance to promote this topic that affects all members of Bosnian society. It was also concluded that the MENGA research will be one of the key studies in this field, the results of which will provide an objective basis for advocacy policies to reduce taxes on menstrual products.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-18092023



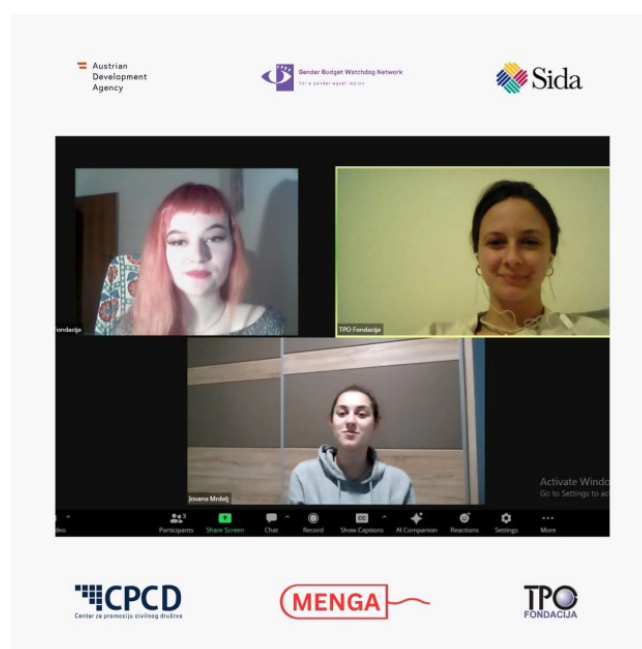
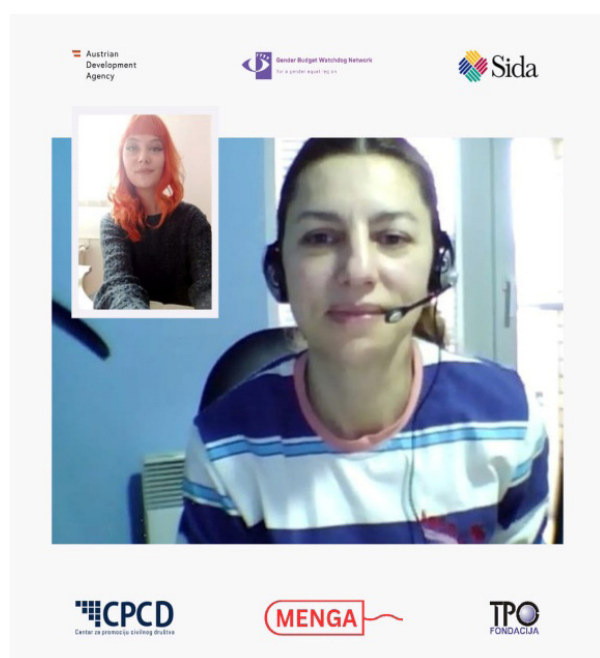
Meeting with UNFPA Bosnia and Herzegovina

A meeting was held at the premises of the UNIGERC Center between representatives of the TPO Foundation and representatives of UNFPA Bosnia and Herzegovina. The purpose of the meeting was to exchange experiences and find opportunities for collaboration in the field of menstrual poverty.



Regional Exchange

As part of the MENGA project, the TPO Foundation held online meetings with representatives of the NGO Journalists for Human Rights - JHR from Skopje, Aleksandra Radevska, and representatives of the Women's Initiative from Serbia, Jovana Mrdalj. The aim of the meetings was to exchange experiences on successful campaigns in the field of menstrual poverty conducted by the NGO JHR and the Women's Initiative.



Research on Menstrual Poverty

As part of the Menstrual and Gender Action (MEN-GA) project, the TPO Foundation seeks to advocate for the initiative to abolish taxes on menstrual products by monitoring and financing resilience and influencing the formation of gender-responsive budgets in educational institutions. In this regard, research was conducted at eight state universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. An online questionnaire was created for female students and teaching staff, and individual interviews were organized with these groups for the purposes of the research. The results of the research will be published during the year 2024.

More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-10102023



TPO Foundation Participated in a Forum on Gender-Responsive Budgeting

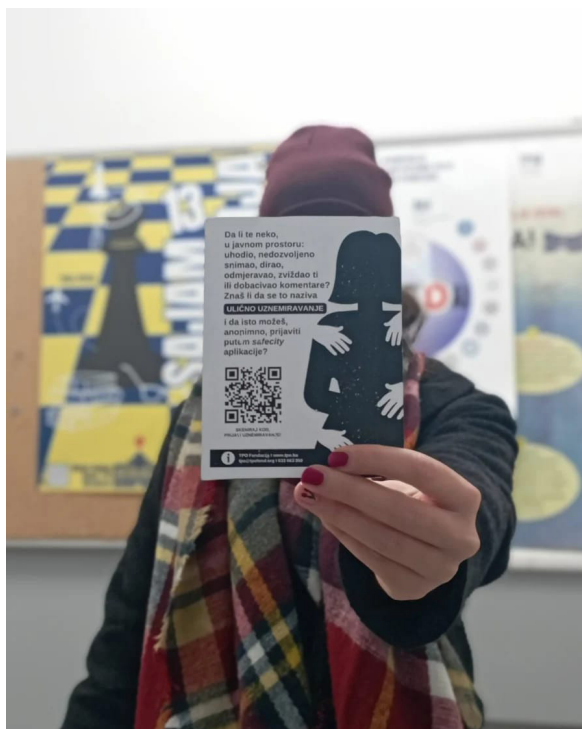
The Gender Budget Watchdog Network (GBWN), consisting of over 100 civil society organizations in the Western Balkans and Moldova, including the TPO Foundation, organized an international forum titled “Going Glocal” on gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) in Skopje, North Macedonia, on October 19th and 20th, 2023. The forum aimed to connect global expertise and local experiences using the principles of gender-responsive budgeting, bringing together diverse activists, academics, and officials to discuss best practices, lessons learned, and methodological ideas.

SAFE CITY: Report Street Harassment

From October 26th to November 23rd, 2023, the TPO Foundation was part of the Regional Data Challenge initiated by the Safe Places Association from Zagreb. Through online sessions, the SafeCity application was presented, aiming to encourage and empower anonymous reporting of street harassment.

The online sessions consisted of several topics. Initially, the SafeCity application was introduced, followed by its creator, Elsa Marie D’Silva, discussing the reasons for the creation of the application and the results they have achieved, specifically in India. Additionally, a representative from the FemPlatz organization from Belgrade presented the results of the research “Violence against women and girls in public spaces in Serbia” (2022), while Prof. Dr. Anita Korajlija, a collaborator of the Autonomous Women’s House Zagreb and a professor at the University of Zagreb, presented responses to trauma, i.e., how to adequately communicate with victims of street harassment. In the final session, a representative from the TPO Foundation discussed a specific type of street harassment – unauthorized photography.

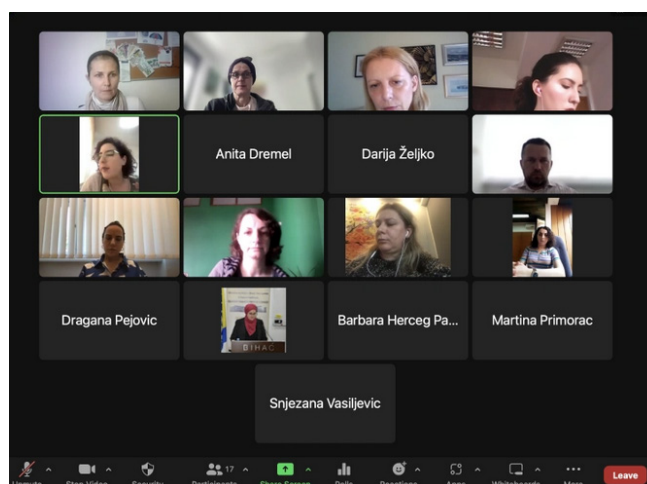
By participating in the Regional Data Challenge, the TPO Foundation initiates the promotion of the SafeCity application in Bosnia and Herzegovina. You can download the application via the Google Play Store or Apple Store, or simply submit a report through the web form at the following link: <https://safecity.in/>. Reports are anonymous, and we recommend filling them out in the Croatian language, as the adaptation of the application to other languages is still ongoing.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-30112023

Discursive Justice: Gender-Responsive Approaches to Justice in the Balkans

On June 5th, 2023, the first (online) meeting with researchers officially marked the beginning of the regional research titled “Discursive Justice: Gender-Responsive Approaches to Justice in the Balkans.” The research is conducted by the TPO Foundation from Sarajevo and the University Gender Resource Center (UNIGeRC) of the University of Sarajevo (UNSA) as part of the project “Introducing a Gender Perspective to Universities (UNIGEM).” The research will focus on analyzing criminal verdicts for gender-based violence, particularly sexual and domestic violence, and femicide. Two key aspects that will unify the research are legal and linguistic, with both mentioned aspects being gender-sensitive and gender-responsive. The expected outcome of the research is a publication in the form of a collection of individual author contributions that will provide analyses of the criminal justice processing of cases of gender-based violence, grouped into the aforementioned three categories.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-06062023

Panel “Women’s Rights Across Generations”

The TPO Foundation and the University Gender Resource Center (UNIGeRC) of the University of Sarajevo, with the support of the Swiss Embassy in Sarajevo, organized and held a panel titled “Women’s Rights Across Generations” on Tuesday, March 7th, 2023, to mark International Women’s Day.

The panelists were activists from three generations who have distinguished themselves in Bosnian society through their years of exceptional and dedicated work in the fight for human rights, particularly women’s human rights. Each generation was represented by two individuals on the panel. Representing the first generation, we hosted Dr. Nermina Zaimović-Uzunović, a professor at the University of Zenica, and Lana Jajčević, an activist from “United Women Banja Luka.” For the second generation, we had journalist Borka Rudić from Sarajevo and Amela Hajvaz Pozderović, an activist from “Women’s Vision” from Tuzla. Finally, representing the youngest, third generation of Bosnian activists, we had journalist Aida Čičak from Sarajevo and politician Lana Prlić from Mostar.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-09032023

Summer Camp “Unity through Sport”

The summer volleyball camp MOVEMENT (Mountain volleyball, education, and mentorship camp) - unity through sport was held from July 21st to July 23rd at the EKO-FIS Vlašić location. After three days of intense sports activities, games, education, and discussions, the first summer volleyball camp for girls who are members of OK Travnik and OK Victor Novi Travnik, organized by the representation of the non-governmental organization DTCare, concluded. The project coordinator of the TPO Foundation, Ivana Kulić, conducted an interactive training on inclusivity for the participants,



focusing on the question ‘What is diversity and how does it enrich our society?’ Participants had the opportunity to explore their prejudices through artistic and educational methods and provide potential solutions for the pervasive discrimination and violence in Bosnian society. This is the first camp of such a multidisciplinary nature, bringing together mentors and volunteers from both Bosnia and Herzegovina and the United States, marking the beginning of other similar camps aimed at improving the quality of social interaction, reconciliation, and understanding among young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-24072023

Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak participated in the seminar “Femicide Challenges: Studying Arguments for the Specific Criminal Offense of Femicide in the Legal Framework of Bosnia and Herzegovina.”

On November 30, 2023, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, Director of the TPO Foundation, participated in the seminar “Femicide Challenges: Studying Arguments for the Specific Criminal Offense of Femicide in the Legal Framework of Bosnia and Herzegovina.” The ELSA Sarajevo team, together with project coordinators Hana Kurtović and Hana Kunić, organized this regional event, which was attended by 145+ participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Austria. During the online seminar, participants had the opportunity to listen to presentations by eminent speakers: Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, Director of the TPO Foundation, Jasmine Sazdovski, judge of the Cantonal Court in Sarajevo, and assistants from the University of Sarajevo – Faculty of Law, Mr. Kanita Pruščanović and Mr. Dino Kovačević. The seminar concluded with the message that despite challenges, it is crucial to work together to establish a safer environment for all women. Increasing awareness, implementing effective laws, and providing support to victims are fundamental steps in the fight against femicide.



Book promotion “We are to give good to each other” by author Jelena Jorgačević Kisić

The promotion of the English edition of the book “We are to give good to each other” (Bridge-Builders in (Post)War Times Guidelines on Interreligious Dialogue) was held on March 29, 2023, at the premises of the International Multireligious and Intercultural Center IMIC Together in Sarajevo. The event was supported by KAICIID from Portugal. The author of the book is Jelena Jorgačević Kisić, a journalist for the Belgrade weekly Vreme. Jelena is a doctoral student at the University of Regensburg. She has received several national journalism awards for her articles and is the president of the non-governmental organization Forum for Religion, Media, and Culture of Memory.

The idea of this book, as emphasized by the author, is to show how true faith, according to the words of one of the interviewees, is the faith that connects people. The promotion was moderated by Nikola Vučić, a journalist from N1 TV, and the promoters were: friar Ivan Šarčević, Prof. Dr. Zilka Spahić Šiljak, and the cantor of the Sarajevo synagogue, Igor Kožemjakin. After the author’s introductory words, the promoters reflected on their initial impressions after reading the book, as well as anecdotes experienced with some of the religious representatives, portrayed through nine chapters.



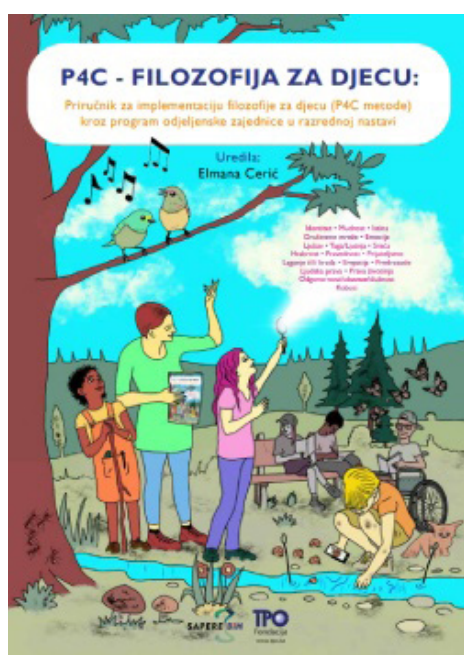
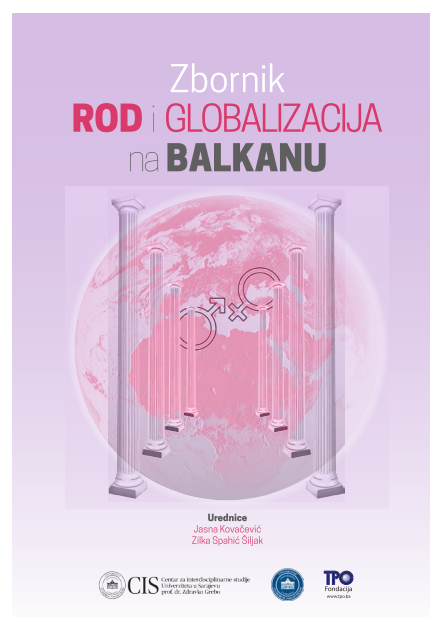
More information available at: http://tpo.ba/b/novosti_2023/novost.php?id=c-30032023



PUBLICATIONS

Anthology “Gender and Globalization in the Balkans”

The collection of final papers “Gender and Globalization in the Balkans” is one of the outcomes of the regional Winter School “Gender and Globalization” held from February 20 to 26, 2023, in Sarajevo, organized by the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies of the University of Sarajevo and the TPO Foundation. Participants of the Winter School “Gender and Globalization” were students from social sciences faculties from 19 partner universities from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, and Serbia participating in the UNIGEM project led by the TPO Foundation. After the Winter School, students had the opportunity to write research papers on selected topics, under the mentorship of professors from partner universities. This enabled further networking between the teaching staff and the student community through a joint academic project preparing the Collection of final papers titled “Gender and Globalization in the Balkans.” The collection consists of 12 selected student papers organized into the following four thematic sections: gender and globalization, gender and society, gender and migrations, and gender and politics. This activity was carried out within the framework of the UNIGEM project financially supported by the Government of the United Kingdom.



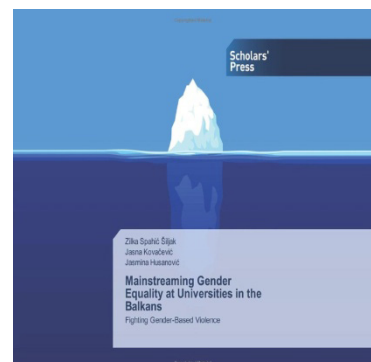
P4C Philosophy for Children: Handbook for Implementing Philosophy for Children (P4C Methods) through the Classroom Community Program in Elementary Education EDITED BY: Elmana Cerić

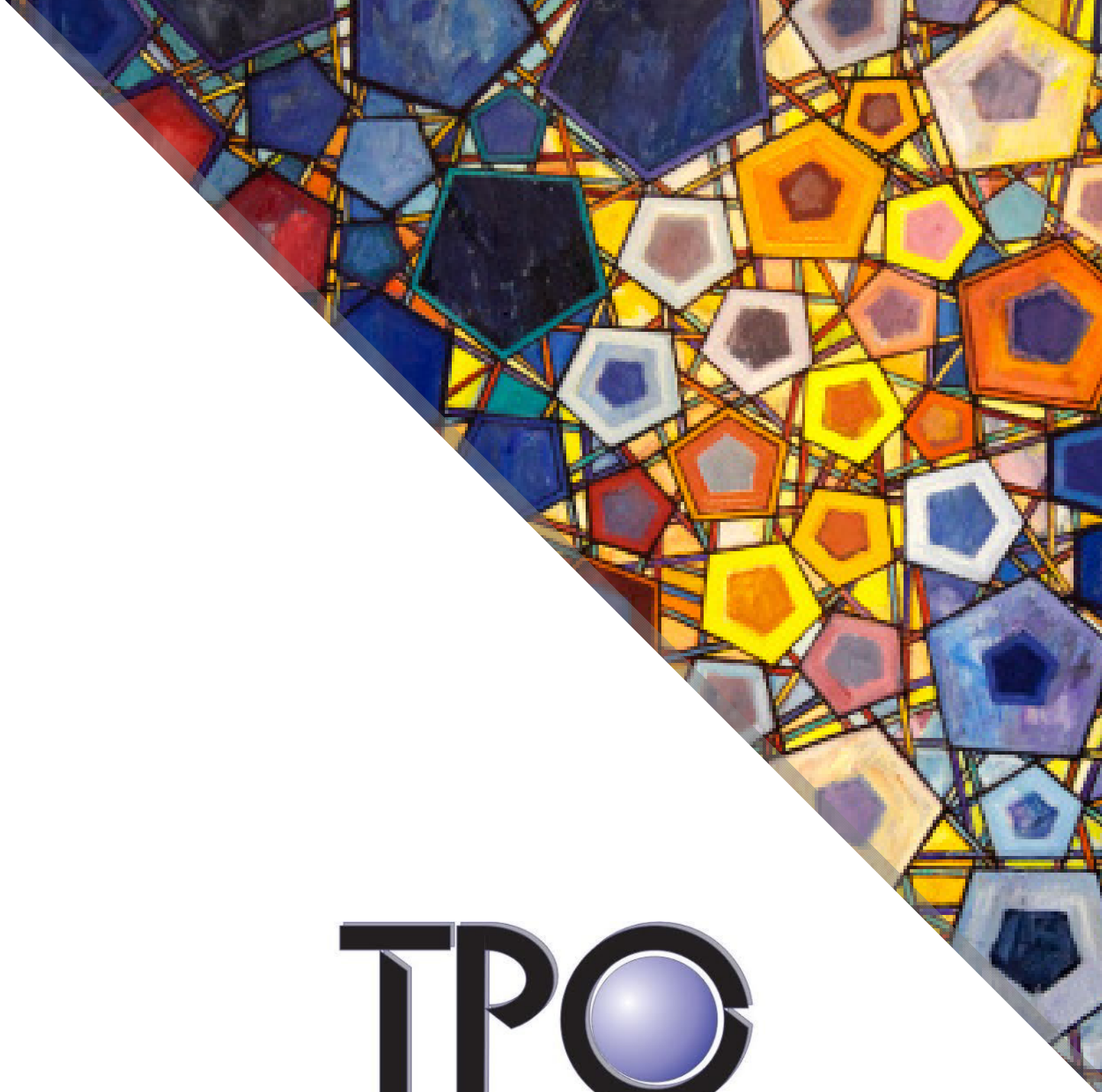
The TPO Foundation has published a publication titled “Handbook for Implementing Philosophy for Children (P4C Methods) through the Classroom Community Program in Elementary Education.” The publication is the result of collaborative work between a group of enthusiastic primary school teachers from the Sarajevo Canton and P4C trainers from the TPO Foundation. The Philosophy for Children (P4C) Handbook in primary schools emerged as part of the project, the Philosophy for Children Program through integration with the curriculum reform and activities of the Institute for the Development of Pre-University Education of the Sarajevo Canton, which the TPO Foundation has been implementing since 2021 in partnership with the Ministry of Education of

the Sarajevo Canton. The purpose of this handbook is to offer primary school teachers an innovative classroom community program based on the P4C working method, as well as scenarios for implementing this program as a stimulus for developing their teaching creativity. In the introductory part of the handbook, Elmana Cerić, an internationally certified P4C trainer, provides a brief theoretical overview of the educational potentials of Philosophy for Children (P4C) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as worldwide. The rest of the handbook consists of lesson plans from 24 teachers that are adaptable for different ages of students.

The book “Challenges of integrating gender equality in the university community: combating gender-based violence” by Zilka Spahić Šiljak, Jasna Kovačević, and Jasmina Husanović has been published in English.

This edition was published under the editorship of the American publishing house Scholars Press. We remind you that this publication is the result of extensive research efforts within the five-year project UNiversity and Gender Mainstreaming (UNIGEM) launched in 2021 by the TPO Foundation from Sarajevo with the aim of networking universities in the region, exchanging expertise, mainstreaming higher education through the establishment of mechanisms for gender equality (councils or centers), adopting gender action plans (GAP), enriching curricula in the field of gender equality, and raising awareness among teaching staff and students through various forms of thematic education and training.





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