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MEMORIAL
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HOLOCAUST



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Carnegie Council
ON ETHICS AND
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 28, 2005

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Commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the Genocide in Srebrenica *Genocide and Aftermath: Rationalizing the Process of Truth and Reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina*

New York, NY – Half-a-century after the Holocaust, Srebrenica, a small town in Bosnia, was brutally taken over and its population massacred. From July 12 to 18, 1995, Bosnian Serb soldiers and military units under the control of the Serbian government systematically murdered more than 7,800 men and boys. To commemorate the 10-year anniversary of this tragedy, the Museum of Jewish Heritage — A Living Memorial to the Holocaust in collaboration with the Academy of Bosnia and Herzegovina (ABH) and with advisory support from the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs, will present *Genocide and Aftermath: Truth and Reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina*. The event will take place on **Wednesday, July 13, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. at the Museum**. All tickets to this event are free with suggested donation and can be reserved online at www.mjhnyrc.org or by calling (646) 437-4202.

This gathering will raise awareness of the Srebrenica genocide and tragic suffering of the Bosniak population. Public officials, policy makers, journalists, and members of the diplomatic community among others will participate in a discussion aimed at raising awareness about what happened in Srebrenica and who was responsible, with a look toward future prevention. Participants will assess future actions necessary to provide a workable Truth and Reconciliation platform that will allow both Bosnia and Herzegovina and the international community to pursue a reconciliation process over the next five years.

“Even after ten years it is difficult to fathom the actual extent of the Srebrenica genocide,” said Dr. Mirza Kusljagic, the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations. “But it is more difficult to understand its denial, since as the Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel has said ‘the denial of genocide constitutes double killing, because it seeks to rewrite the history by absolving the perpetrators of violence, while ignoring the suffering of victims.’ By commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide, we hope to initiate a process of facing a common past for a common future of peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina.”

Srebrenica, the world's first United Nations Safe Area, was the site of the worst case of genocide in Europe since World War II and the Holocaust. In April 2004, the Appeals Chamber of The International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia unanimously ruled that “Genocide was committed in Srebrenica.” This ruling, in Prosecutor v. Krstic, put to rest any doubts about the legal character of the Srebrenica massacre.

“It is appropriate that we will be at the Museum of Jewish Heritage — A Living Memorial to the Holocaust for a program looking back at what happened in Srebrenica,” said Dr. Charles Ingrao, professor of history at Purdue University. “I believe there is a commonality in the commission of Genocide in

Europe. No society is immune to the mental processes that leads to the kind of inhumanity that results in Genocide, whether you are talking about Nazis or Serbs or any other group.”

Dr. Charles Ingrao will deliver the keynote address entitled *Accepting the Truth: Why is it So Difficult?...So Necessary?* Since July 1995, he has devoted himself to studying contemporary nationalism and ethnic conflict throughout the region. During that time, he has made 25 research trips to the war zones of Slobodan Milosevic. Over the past five years, he has directed the Scholars' Initiative, a consortium of over 250 scholars from 27 countries dedicated to confronting those major controversies that continue to divide the peoples of the former Yugoslavia.

Following Dr. Ingrao's address, a distinguished panel of experts will discuss the lessons of Srebrenica and how Bosnia and Herzegovina can move forward. **Roy Gutman**, *Newsday's* International News Editor, will moderate the panel. Mr. Gutman has reported on international affairs for more than three decades. His reports on ethnic cleansing in Bosnia-Herzegovina, including the first documented accounts of Serb-run concentration camps, won the Pulitzer Prize for international reporting. Other panelists include:

- **H.R.H. Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations and the first President of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, governing body of the International Criminal Court.
- **Dr. Elazar Barkan**, Professor of History and Cultural Studies at Claremont Graduate University in Los Angeles, California, and the director of the Institute for Historical Justice and Reconciliation.
- **Donald S. Hays**, currently with the U.S. Institute for Peace, who until recently served as the Principle Deputy High Representative in Bosnia Herzegovina with the rank of an Ambassador.
- **Dr. Mirza Kusljagic**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations, who served as an elected member of the parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina, House of Representatives from 1998 to 2001 before entering diplomatic service.

“The purpose of this gathering should be to identify both a process and an institutional structure that will help the Bosnia and Herzegovina society come to grips with what actually happened in Bosnia and how to find closure through justice and truth,” said Donald S. Hays.

“Held on the tenth anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide, this event will raise awareness of the tragic suffering of the Bosnian people,” said Haris Hromic, project director at ABH. “The aim is to assess future actions necessary to provide a workable program that will allow Bosnia and Herzegovina and the international community to pursue a sustainable and realistic reconciliation process over the next five years.”

“On the tenth anniversary of Srebrenica, we pause first and foremost to remember the victims,” added Carnegie Council President Joel Rosenthal. “We remember that ethnic cleansing in Europe happened not only in the early and middle periods of the twentieth century, but also at century's end. As we reflect, we also look forward, asking ourselves what can be done to end cycles of violence and promote peaceful coexistence.”

About the event

- Who:** Museum of Jewish Heritage — A Living Memorial to the Holocaust in collaboration with the Academy of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and with advisory support from the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs
- What:** **Genocide and Aftermath:
Truth and Reconciliation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.**
- Where:** Edmond J. Safra Hall, 36 Battery Place, New York, NY 10280
- When:** Wednesday, July 13, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.
- Cost:** Free with suggested donation

About the Museum

The Museum of Jewish Heritage - A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, located at 36 Battery Place in Battery Park City, uses a core exhibition of more than 2,000 historic photographs, 800 historical and cultural artifacts, and 24 original documentary films to educate people of all ages and backgrounds about the broad tapestry of Jewish life over the past century-before, during, and after the Holocaust. The Museum develops special exhibitions and public programs to examine more closely specific areas of Jewish history and heritage. The Robert M. Morgenthau Wing contains the state-of-the-art Edmond J. Safra Hall, Andy Goldsworthy's *Garden of Stones*, catering hall, classrooms, and expanded gallery space for special exhibitions. The Museum receives general operating support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. The Museum is a founding member of the *Museums of Lower Manhattan*. For more information, visit www.mjhnyc.org or call (646) 437-4200.

About the Academy of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Academy of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as a not-for-profit and non-governmental organization, serves to protect and advance the collective status, socio-economic interests, and well-being of all people stemming from Bosnia and Herzegovina living and working in the United States and around the world, through facilitation of cultural, educational, scientific, political, religious, and other programs and processes that strengthen their identity, and provide for their equal and vibrant participation in all segments of society.

About the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs

The Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs was established by Andrew Carnegie in 1914 to work toward the ideal of world peace. Today it is the world's premier forum for research and education in ethics and international policy. The Council provides a home for those who explore the ethical dilemmas posed by issues such as deadly conflict, human rights violations, environmental protection, global economic disparities, and the politics of reconciliation.

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