

## **Biographies of Key Speakers at 18 February, 2011, Conference, Sarajevo**

### **Ambassador Gary D. Robbins Head of Mission**

Gary D. Robbins took up his duties as Head of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina in October 2008.

Ambassador Robbins is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service of the U. S. Department of State. Before his appointment to the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, he was the State Department's Director for European Security and Political Affairs. His previous diplomatic postings include assignments in Europe, Africa, and Latin America, as well as the State Department's Operations Center.

Ambassador Robbins holds a Doctorate of Law (J.D.) from the University of California at Berkeley, a Masters in Strategic Studies from the National Defense University, and a B.A. (Philosophy) from Whitman College. He also studied at the University of Strasbourg, the University of Stockholm, and the University of Washington. Before entering the Foreign Service, he practiced law with the Seattle firm of Graham and Dunn.

Ambassador Robbins is married to Katrin Constance Robbins (nee Guenther) of Solothurn, Switzerland. They have two sons.

## **Ambassador Marc Perrin de Brichambaut**

### **OSCE Secretary General**

Ambassador Marc Perrin de Brichambaut of France took up his post as Secretary General of the OSCE in June 2005. He had previously held a number of senior positions in the French administration, as well as in international organizations as a member of the Conseil d'Etat. He was born in Rabat, Morocco, on 29 October 1948, and studied at France's Ecole Nationale d'Administration in Paris, from where he graduated in 1974.

Ambassador de Brichambaut started his career at the Conseil d'Etat, first as an administrative judge and later as Conseiller d'Etat. In 1978 he was posted in New York to work as Special Assistant to the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs.

He returned to Paris in 1981, where he became an adviser to French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson.

In 1983 and 1984 he was Chief of Staff to Roland Dumas, then Minister of European Affairs. When Mr. Dumas became Foreign Minister, Ambassador de Brichambaut continued to serve as his Chief of Staff.

In 1986 he moved to New York, as Cultural Counsellor for the French Embassy, returning to Paris in 1988 as Principal Adviser to Defence Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement.

From 1991 to 1994 Ambassador de Brichambaut represented France as Head of Delegation at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) in Vienna, which in due course became the OSCE. From 1994 to 1998 he headed the French Foreign Ministry's Legal Division.

His most recent post prior to his appointment as OSCE Secretary General was as Director for Strategic Affairs at the French Defence Ministry from 1998. He is married and has two children.

**Ambassador Igor Davidović**  
**Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the OSCE**

Mr. Davidović was appointed the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations in 1998. He also serves as Ambassador to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and other international organizations in Vienna.

Throughout the course of his career, Mr. Davidović has held numerous positions. From 1985-1998 he worked for “Meridian Banjaluka” Company for international shipping, transport and international trade as a Trainee, Chief of Division, and finally as Company Director. From 1998-2000 He was the Chief of Cabinet of Prime-Minister of Republika Srpska. He was Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United States of America, as well as Non-Resident Ambassador to Brazil and Mexico from 2000-2005. In 2005 he assumed the post of Ambassador at Large at the Department for Special Diplomatic Operations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Prior to becoming the Permanent Representative of Bosnia-Herzegovina to the United Nations, he became the Chief Negotiator of Bosnia and Herzegovina for EU Stabilization and Association Agreement.

Mr. Davidović was born in Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1960. He holds a law degree from the University of Banja Luka. He is married and has two children.

**Dunja Mijatović**  
**OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media**

Dunja Mijatović of Bosnia and Herzegovina was appointed OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media on 11 March 2010. She is an expert in media law and regulation. In 1998, as one of the founders of the Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, she helped to create a legal, regulatory and policy framework for the media in a complex post-war society. She was also involved in setting up a self-regulatory Press Council and the first Free Media Helpline in South East Europe.

In 2007 she was elected Chair of the European Platform of Regulatory Agencies. She was the first non-EU Member State representative and the first woman to hold this post. Previously, she chaired the Council of Europe's Group of Specialists on freedom of expression and information in times of crisis. During her Chairmanship, the CoE Committee of Ministers adopted the Declaration by the Committee of Ministers on the protection and promotion of investigative journalism and Guidelines on protecting freedom of expression and information in times of crisis. As an expert on media and communications legislation, she has worked in Armenia, Austria, Iraq, Jordan, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, Morocco and the United Kingdom.

**Selmo Cikotić**  
**Minister of Defense**

Selmo Cikotić was born in 1964 in Berane-Ivangrad Montenegro. He is currently the Minister of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a position to which he was appointed in 2007/He was appointed Minister of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2007.

He graduated from the “Bratstvo i jedinstvo” Military College in Belgrade, Serbia in 1982 and the Land Army Military Academy in Zadar, Croatia in 1986. He assumed the position of Active Military Personnel Member at the Air Defense School Center in Zadar until 1992, when he then became a member of the Army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. From 1994-1997 he was the Military Attache in Washington, USA. Upon his return to Bosnia-Herzegovina, he was Head of the Training Department at the Joint Command of the Army of the Federation of BiH. He went on to hold the positions of Chief of Cabinet of the Deputy Minister of Defense of the Federation of BiH, Deputy Commander of the First Corps of the Army of the Federation of BiH, and Commander of the First Corps of the Army of BiH. Prior to assuming the position as Minister of Defense, Mr. Cikotić was the Executive Director of “OKI”, d.o.o. Sarajevo.

Mr. Cikotić holds a Master and Ph.D degree in Defense and Security from the Faculty of Political Science in Sarajevo. In addition, he speaks fluent English. He is married and has two children.

## **Ambassador Ivan Barbalić**

**Ambassador** of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations

Ivan Barbalić is a Bosnian and Herzegovinian diplomat serving as a Permanent Representative to the United Nations accredited as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Chief of the Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Office of the United Nations. He was elected by the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina upon proposal from the Presiding member of the Presidency, Mr. Željko Komšić. Barbalić was the President of the United Nations Security Council in January 2011.

He graduated from the University of Bridgeport, Connecticut, USA and received his MA degree from the Centre for interdisciplinary postgraduate study of the University of Sarajevo and University of Bologna in Human Rights and Democracy in South-Eastern Europe. He was one of the founders of the Sarajevo based think tank organization ACIPS.

Barbalić was born in 1975 in Sarajevo. He is married to Stela Vasić, a former Advisor to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Denis Latin**  
**Media Expert**

Denis Latin, a prominent Croatian media expert, journalist and television host was born on 14 February 1966 in Šibenik. He began to work on HRT in 1987 and two years later, in 1989, he graduated from the Faculty of Political Science in Zagreb. In 1990 he became the announcer of *Dnevnik*, the daily news program on HRT, and at the age of 24 was the youngest person ever to announce this program. In 1993 he began to host his own talk show *Latinica* that ran on the private network Mreža, but is now aired on national television HRT. So far, more than 500 episodes have been broadcast.

## **Tanya L. Domi**

**Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University**

**[Former Spokesperson/Director of Press and Public Information of the OSCE Mission**

Tanya L. Domi is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and a Senior Public Affairs Officer for International Affairs, Economics and Politics at Columbia University's Office of Communications and Public Affairs. Ms. Domi teaches a graduate seminar on Human Rights in Post-Communist Eurasia. Prior to joining Columbia's public affairs staff in 2006, she worked internationally for more than a decade on issues related to democratic transitional development, including political and media development, gender issues, sex trafficking, human rights and media freedom. Among the countries where Ms. Domi has worked includes: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Georgia, The Gambia, Kosovo, Nepal, The Philippines, The Republic of Montenegro, The Republic of Serbia and Southern Sudan.

Her previous work in Bosnia-Herzegovina implementing the Dayton Peace Accords, from 1996-2000, included stints as the chairperson for the OSCE Media Experts Commission during the 1998 general elections; counselor to Amb. Robert Barry and executive assistant to the late Amb. Robert Frowick. She later served as Spokesperson and Director of Press and Public Information under Amb. Barry from 1999-2000. Prior to working abroad, Ms. Domi served as a congressional aide to the late Frank X. McCloskey, a champion for U.S. intervention during the Bosnian War and served 15 years in the U.S. Army as an enlisted soldier and commissioned officer.

Among her publications include: *The Role of OSCE in Media Development*, "Media Development by the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Summary of Activities, 1996-2000," (Amsterdam: Press Now, October 2005), pp. 57-70; *Media Reform in Post-Conflict Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1996-2001*, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, January 2005; *Putting Women at the Negotiating Table: The Role of the OSCE*, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, 2002, and *Advancing Women's Political Rights in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Making a Difference Early in the Peace Process (A Case Study)*, Harriman Review, Columbia University, November 2002. Ms. Domi's unpublished Harriman Essay is entitled *Personal and Societal Recovery from War Trauma in Bosnia and Herzegovina: A Case Study from a Human Rights and Mental Health Perspective*. She is currently researching trauma and the process of reconciliation in the Balkans and the emerging lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender movements throughout the Balkans and the Post-Soviet Union space.

A well published freelance journalist, Ms. Domi has contributed to the *Christian Science Monitor*, *the New York Times*, *the Institute for War and Peace Reporting*, *Radio Free Europe and Transitions on Line*. Presently, Ms. Domi is a regular contributing blogger on international affairs to *The New Civil Rights Movement* and *SIPA's Morningside Post*. Ms. Domi is an accomplished public speaker, appearing before audiences from New York City to Timisoara, Romania and has been a guest lecturer at Duke University, Harvard University, New York University and the U.S. Army War College. She is a graduate of Columbia University's



M.A. Human Rights Studies program with a concentration in East Central Europe and is currently a Harriman certificate candidate.

## **Azra Hadžiahmetović**

**Professor at Faculty of Economics and the Faculty of Political Science of the University of Sarajevo**

Azra Hadžiahmetović was born in 1956 in Foča, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since 1970 she has been living in Sarajevo where she graduated from Secondary School and Faculty of Economics. She received her Master's degree in International Economics from the Faculty of Economics in Belgrade and she conducted research for her PhD theses under the title: „Work economic development under concept of Roman club on the verge of 21st century“ in Geneva and defended it in Sarajevo.

Mrs. Hadžiahmetović is a full time professor at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Sarajevo. She also worked as a member of the House of Representatives of the BiH Parliament. From 2001 to 2003 she was a Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BiH and operated as BiH Governor in the World Bank in Washington. She is also a lecturer on postgraduate studies of a joint MA program of the University of Sarajevo, University of Bologna and London School of Economics on the subject Economics of Europe. She also teaches postgraduate programs on Faculties of Political Sciences, Criminal Sciences of the University of Sarajevo.

OSCE, Marshall Centre, Open Society Fund and Transparency International engaged Mrs. Hadžiahmetović as an expert in field of economic security in Italy and Albania. During the late nineties Mrs. Hadžiahmetović was a coordinator of PHARE-ACE program for Bosnia and Herzegovina. She was also an expert for the European Commission for project evaluation in Brussels. She is a member of the Commission for Education, Culture and Media and Economic Commission for the Council of Europe; she is also member of the Advisory Committee for the Nobel Prize Awarding and since 2003 she has been a member of Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Azra Hadžiahmetović is an author of many books and publications.