

Biljana Kovačević - Vučo
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C u r r i c u l u m v i t a e

Name: Biljana Kovačević - Vučo

Born on: May 21, 1952

Born in: Belgrade, Yugoslavia

Languages spoken: English

Other abilities: Computer literacy

Education:

1959-1971 Primary and Secondary School in Skopje (Macedonia), and Belgrade
1971-1977 Belgrade University Law School

Professional career:

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| 1978 | Passed specialist bar exam |
| 1978-1988 | District Commercial Court in Belgrade - legal advisor |
| 1988-1996 | Supreme Court of Serbia - senior legal adviser: criminal and civil law department |
| I had to leave the Supreme Court of Serbia because of my human rights activism. | |
| Since 1996 | Licensed attorney at law in Belgrade (office specialized in criminal law and human rights cases and issues) |
| 1992-1995 | Founding member of the Council for Human rights of the Center for Anti-War Action in Belgrade - head of the SOS Hotline Advice Service to Victims of Political, Ethnic and Trade Union Discrimination |
| 1994-1997 | Founding member and Secretary-general of the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia - head of Legal Aid Department |
| Since 1997 | Founding member and Chairperson of the Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights |
| March 1999 | Founding member and Coordinator of the Yugoslav Action of NGOs and the Independent TU „Nezavisnost“ |
| July 1999 | Member of the Task Force on the Future of the FR Yugoslavia (Founded at the Bratislava Conference organized by the East West Institute from New York) |

Conferences:

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| 1993 | Conference on Refugees (Berlin) |
| 1994-1995 | International War Crimes Tribunal: Permanent Peoples Tribunal (Bern, Switzerland, Barcelona, Spain) |
| 1994 | The role of the Hague Tribunal in former Yugoslavia (Ljubljana) |
| 1995 | Conscientious Objection Conference, Minsk, Belarus |
| 1996 | Legal and Ethic Aspects of Refugee Issues (Belgrade) |
| 1996 | Round Table on Refugees in former Yugoslavia (Kotor) |
| 1996 | Round table on Citizenship (Belgrade) |
| 1996 | Conference on Former Yugoslavia (Berlin) |
| 1997 | Women Conference (Prague) |
| 1998 | Victims of Torture (Sarajevo) |
| 1998 | Osnabruck Conference |
| 1998 | The First Forum of Yugoslav NGOs (Belgrade) |
| 1996, 1997, 1998 | Summer School of Democracy (Crikvenica, Croatia) |
| 1998 | Conscientious Objector and Deserters in Yugoslavia "A Contribution against Violence in Kosovo" (Brussels) |
| 1998 | Freedom of the Press and the Public Information Law (Belgrade) |
| 1998 | "Working together" Building Partnership with Central and Eastern Europe (Vienna) |
| July 1999 | "Future of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia" (Bratislava) |
| July 1999 | "Opposition in Yugoslavia" (Sarajevo) |
| November 1999 | Open Forum on the Future of FRY, Staircase to EUROPE (Strasbourg) |
| September 1999 | Yugoslavia and Russia on the way to democracy (Sarajevo) |
| 1999 | Stability Pact, Berlin |
| February 1999 | Seminar "The Role of NGOs in the Transition to a Democratic Society", Novosibirsk |
| 1999 | Round table devoted to prohibition of land mines (Novi Sad) |
| September 1999 | Conference "Serbia in Stability Pact for South East Europe" (Belgrade) |
| October 1999 | International Colloquium on "The Kosovo Experience: New Challenges for the Protection of Refugees and Displaced Person" (San Remo) |
| 1999 | Conference about Hague War Tribunal (Cologne) |
| March 2000 | Truth, Responsibility, Reconciliation (Ulcinj) |
| June 2000 | Lawyers conference on legal reform (Budva) |
| November 2000 | "Process of transition of the media sphere - determination of problems and methods of solutions" (Belgrade) |
| December 2000 | Round table "RTS towards public diffusion system" (Belgrade) |
| December 2000 | Conference "Media for Democratic Europe - Transformation of |

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| | electronic media in FRY" (Belgrade) |
| February 2001 | Conference "Development of multicultural and multiethnic society" (Belgrade) |
| February 2001 | Conference on compatibility of legislation and practice with the requirements of the European Convention on Human Rights and other European norms" (Belgrade) |
| February 2001 | Goethe Institute - Dialogue on Reconciliation between Zagreb and Belgrade (Belgrade) |
| November 2002 | Conference "Organized Crime in South East Europe, Challenges, Response, Implications" (The American University of Rome, Rome) |
| September 2003 | Conference "What can Nongovernmental Organizations do for Kosovo and Metohija" (Belgrade) |
| September 2003 | Round table on the Future of the Prison Reform, Cooperation Between Prison Correctional Facility Authorities and Nongovernmental Organizations, organized by OSCE (Belgrade) |
| November 2003 | Conference "Key Watersheds in the Development of Political Science", Faculty of Political Sciences, Belgrade University |
| 2004 | Center for Eastern Europe, Berlin - Public panels on Serbia-lecture on Hague tribunal and Serbia |
| 2005 | Cases in front of International bodies - European Court for Human Rights and UN Committee for Human Rights, Belgrade |
| 2005 | G8 NGO Conference - Slobodan Milosevic's Trial at ICTY, Belgrade |
| 2005 | Round table "Free Access to information", Belgrade |
| March 2006 | Training to the Iraq civil society activists on Constitutional issues (Amman, Jordan, 2006) organized by Freedom House |
| 2006 | International conference on War Crimes, Sarajevo |
| Jun 2006 | Zoran Djindjic: ethics, Belgrade |
| Jun 2006 | Transitional Justice, UNDP, Belgrade |
| 2006 | Monitored polls for independence in Montenegro (with Montenegro Helsinki Committee) |
| July 2006 | Promotion of Publication - Vojislav Kostunica, One Carrier-YUCOM, Belgrade |
| September 2006 | Justice Reform, Belgrade |
| 2007 | Discrimination in Media, round tabel YUCOM, Belgrade |
| 2007 | Round table, Tax policy towards NGOs, YUCOM, Belgrade |
| November 2007 | Front Line 4 th Platform on Human Rights Defenders, Dublin |
| November 2007 | Media Conference, Coalition for Tolerance against Hate Crime |
| December 2007 | Solidarity Evening on Human Rights Day: "I am not afraid!", Belgrade |
| January 2008 | G8 NGOs Conference - Appeal to Presidential Candidate Boris Tadic, Belgrade |

Projects and professional activities:

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| Since 1997 | Actively involved in training of Pro bono Legal Aid offices and Human Rights Resource Centers in cities in Serbia |
| 2000 | Formed and coordinated a network of 20 pro bono legal aid offices covering whole Serbia |
| Since 1997 | Engaged in various legal aid and projects dealing with Human Rights such as: Legal Aid to Refugees, Legal Aid to victims of Political, Ethnic, Religion and Labor Discrimination, Hate Speech, Conscientious Objectors and Deserters in Serbia, Legal Status of foreign non-governmental organizations, the Hague Tribunal, Legal aid for Citizens of Serbia and Montenegro, Women's Human Rights, Transitional Justice, Human Rights Resource Centers, Hate Crime, Domestic Violence. |
| Since 1997 | Author of numerous articles and other contributions about activities in the field of human rights and other important questions about democratization and legal system in Serbia. |
| Since 2000 | Prepared, organized and launched campaigns for the adoption of Amnesty Law for Deserters, Draft Evaders and Political Prisoners in Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Opening of Secret Policies Files, Truth Commission, Law on Ethnic Minority Rights, Constitutional Declaration for Serbia, Independent Judiciary, Foreign and International NGO, Declaration on Genocide in Srebrenica, draft Law on NGOs. |
| 2001 | Member of expert team for legal issues and creating draft law on Public Informing and Broadcasting Act. |
| 2003 | Member of editorial board of Publication Kosovo - Decentralization. |
| 2003 | Member of expert team for drafting Law on Free Access to Information and member of editorial board of publication Free Access to Information. |
| 2003 | Hague expert analyst for ICTY prosecutor. |
| 2003 | Member of Working Group for Human Rights, organized by Ministry for Human Rights of Serbia and Montenegro. |
| 2004 | Leader of the campaign for Law on Opening Secret Files and member of the expert team that drafted the law. |
| 2004 | Member of Belgrade University Law School Council Member of judiciary reform Council |
| 2004-2007 | Member of YUCOM's legal expert team that won two cases in front of European Court for Human Rights and UN Committee for Human Rights |
| 2005-2006 | Member of expert team for drafting law on Pro bono Legal Aid |
| 2006 | Member of Women Government, European Movement |
| 2007 | Council member of Liberal Democratic Party |