



INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE
20 YEARS OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
PROGRAMME

Location: Institute of Comparative Law, Terazije 41, Belgrade, Serbia

Thursday, 25 September 2025

12:00 – 13:00 Welcome cocktail and registration

13:00 – 14:30 Plenary Session (Conference Room)

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/97343979213?pwd=3a4uwWButebPdZcMcwbT6QTdnByabQ.1>

Moderator: Dr. Aleksandra Rabrenović, Senior Research Associate, Institute of Comparative Law

Dr. Jelena Kostić, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovations

Svetlana Đorđević, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue

Prof. Jelena Čeranić Perišić, Director of the Institute of Comparative Law, Belgrade, Serbia

Prof. Helga Špadina, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, Croatia

Dr. Strinivasan S. Pillay, Head of the Department of Public Management and Economics, Durban University of Technology, South Africa

Key note speaker:

Prof. Delia Ferri, Full Professor of Law, School of Law and Criminology, Co-Director of the ALL Institute, Ireland

14.30-15.00 Coffee break

15.00-16.30 Session 1 (Conference Room)

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/97343979213?pwd=3a4uwWButebPdZcMcwbT6QTdnByabQ.1>

CONCEPTUAL ISSUES, EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION AND AWARENESS RAISING

Moderator: Ana Zdravković, Institute of Comparative Law, Belgrade, Serbia,

1. The Protection of Persons with Disabilities: A Comparative Analysis between the International and European Approach

Adriana Brusca, LUMSA University – Rome (Department of Palermo), Italy

2. Affirmative Action and Reasonable Accommodation in International Disability Law – Complementarity, Tension and the Promise of Effective Equality

Milica Matijević, Ana Zdravković, Institute of Comparative Law, Belgrade, Serbia

3. „Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater“ - Potential, limitations and misunderstandings in relation to Article 12 CRPD and people with dementia

Kevin Sabata, School of Law, Keel University, UK

4. Protection from Hate Speech against Persons with Disabilities under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Filip Mirić, Faculty of Law, University of Niš, Serbia

5. Addressing Disability Rights in Civic and Citizenship Education: A Look at Serbian curriculum

Ivana Vulić-Šimšić, Foundation Tempus, Belgrade, Serbia

Natasa Lalić-Vučetić, Institute for Educational Research, Belgrade, Serbia

Discussion

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| 15.00-16.30 Session 2 (Documentation Room) |
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Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/94816571530?pwd=iSuZe2QGqqagO7IG4oa2sV0IjVXHOV.1>

WOMEN AND CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Moderator: Dr. Ana Knežević Bojović, Senior Research Associate, Institute of Comparative Law

1. Left Behind Twice: The Rights of Women and Girls with Disabilities in Humanitarian Settings

Prof. Ivana Krstić, Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade, Serbia

Member of the UN Working Group on Discrimination against Women and Girls

2. The South African Social Security Agency Segregatory Disbursal Instruments: Perspectives of Women Disability Grantees Housed in Selected Disability Non-Profit Organisations

Mthokozisi Sydney Luthuli, Faculty of Management Sciences, Durban University of Technology, South Africa

3. Shelters Availability for Women with Disabilities Victims of Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Andrea Rakanović-Radonjić, Draško Gajić, Faculty of Political Science, University of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

4. Excluded in the Name of Inclusion: When Experts Claim that it is Child's Best Interest to be Excluded from Education

Prof. Helga Špadina, Faculty of Law, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, Croatia

5. Disabled Children’s Participation in Healthcare Decision-Making in England and Serbia – Qualitative Document Analysis

Radoš Keravica, School of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Leeds, UK

6. Children with Disabilities in Residential Institutions

Prof. Olga Jović-Prlainović, Faculty of Law, University of Priština

Discussion

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| 20.00 | Dinner: Restaurant “Reka”, Kej oslobođenja 73b, Zemun, Belgrade |
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| Friday, 26th of September 2025 |
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| 9.30-11.15 | Session 1 (Conference Room) |
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Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/97343979213?pwd=3a4uwWButebPdZcMcwbT6QTdnByabQ.1>

ACCESSIBILITY, PERSONAL MOBILITY AND HEALTH

Moderator: Đorđe Timotijević, Institute of Comparative Law, Belgrade, Serbia

1. Accessibility as the Key to the Enjoyment of Human Rights by Persons with Disabilities

Ljubomir Tintor, Institute of Comparative Law, Belgrade, Serbia

2. Accessibility and Mobility of Persons with Disabilities 20 Years After

Prof. Biljana Činčurak Erceg, Aleksandra Vasilj, Faculty of Law, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, Croatia

3. The challenges of reasonable accommodation in employment of persons with disability in Serbia

Jovana Rajić Čalić, Institute of Comparative Law, Belgrade, Serbia

4. The Right to Inclusive Health: Tailoring Smoking Cessation Supports for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities

Amalia Udeanu, University of Oviedo, Spain, Juan Antonio García-Aller, University of Oviedo, Spain, Patricia Solís, University Internacional de La Rioja, Spain, Estrella Fernández-Alba, University of Oviedo, Spain, Gloria García-Fernández, University of Oviedo, Spain, Laura E. Gómez, University of Oviedo, Spain

5. Re-engineering Healthcare Access: Policy and Innovation for Disability Inclusion in South Africa

Strini Pillay, Vasanthrie Naidoo, Suresh Krishna, Durban University of Technology, South Africa

6. Mindfulness as a Therapeutic Intervention for Individuals with ASD and Their Families

Sandica Ion, Lecturer at Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, University of Bucharest, Romania

Discussion

9.30-11.15 Session 2 (Documentation Room)

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/94816571530?pwd=iSuZe2QGggagO7IG4oa2sV0IjVXH0V.1>

WORK AND EMPLOYMENT

Moderator: Prof. Helga Špadina, Faculty of Law, University of Osijek, Croatia

1. The employer's obligation to make reasonable workplace accommodation for persons with disabilities

Prof. Ljubinka Kovačević, Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade, Serbia

2. Total Permanent Disability and Reasonable Accommodation

Thais Guerrero Padrón, Faculty of Labour Sciences, University of Cádiz, Spain

3. Formal Equality and Real Accessibility: Employment Policies and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the Republic of Srpska

Andrea Rakanović-Radonjić, Draško Gajić, Faculty of Political Science, University of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

4. The Disconnect Between Work Capacity Assessments and Employment of Persons with Disabilities: Bosnia and Herzegovina 20 Years After the CRPD Adoption

Lazar Stefanović, School of Law and Criminology, University of Maynooth, Ireland

5. Remote Work for Persons with Disabilities – Accommodation or Discrimination

Marija Molović, Faculty of Law, University of Belgrade, Serbia

6. Social Entrepreneurship and Employment of Persons with Disabilities in the Serbian Labour Market

Aleksandar Mihajlović, Institute of Comparative Law, Belgrade, Serbia

Discussion

11.15 - 11.45 Coffee break

11.45 - 13.15 Session 3 (Conference Room)

Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/97343979213?pwd=3a4uwWButebPdZcMcwbT6QTdnByabQ.1>

MULTI - SECTORIAL ISSUES

Moderators: Dr. Milica Matijević, Senior Research Associate, Institute of Comparative Law, Belgrade
Dr. Lazar Stefanovic, Researcher and Independent Consultant in Disability Law

1. Assessing the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: A Quality of Life and Supports-Based Approach

Patricia Pérez-Curiel - Faculty of Education, University of Zaragoza, Spain, Lucía Morán - Faculty of Education, University of Cantabria, Spain, Estefanía Martínez-Isla - Faculty of Psychology, University of Oviedo, Spain, Eva Vicente – Faculty of Education, University of Zaragoza, Spain, Laura E. Gómez – Faculty of Psychology, University of Oviedo, Spain

2. Problems and Challenges facing Vulnerable Categories of Citizens in Municipalities in the Republic of North Macedonia

Prof. Jadranka Denkova, prof. Jovan Ananiev, prof. Straško Stojanovski – Faculty of Law, University “Goce Delčev”, Shtip, North Macedonia

3. The Significance of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for EU Integration of the Republic of North Macedonia

Slobodan Ivanov - Law Faculty “Justinianus Primus”, University Ss Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, North Macedonia

4. Enhancing Service Quality Through the Quality of Life Supports Model (QoLSM): The QoLAB Project’s Contribution to Rights-Based Disability Support

Andrés Arias Astray, University Comptense de Madrid – Instituto de Tecnología del Conocimiento, David Alonso González, University Comptense de Madrid – Instituto de Tecnología del Conocimiento, Esther Mercado García, University Comptense de Madrid, David González Casas, University Comptense de Madrid, Konstantina Leventi, European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities

5. Bridging Rights and Practice: Preliminary Findings from the QoLAB Project on Implementing the CRPD in European Support Services

Esther Mercado García, University Comptense de Madrid, David González Casas, University Comptense de Madrid, Andrés Arias Astray, University Comptense de Madrid – Instituto de Tecnología del Conocimiento, David Alonso González, University Comptense de Madrid – Instituto de Tecnología del Conocimiento, Konstantina Leventi, European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities

6. The Right to Independent Living for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities in Selected European Countries

Aleksandra Rabrenović, Institute of Comparative Law, Jovana Misailović, Faculty of Law, University of Kragujevac, Tijana Malezić Repajić, Children without Limits, Belgrade, Serbia

Discussion

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| 13.15-13.30 | Plenary session: Closing remarks (Conference Room) |
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| 13.30 | Lunch |
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