



Call for Papers

The Scale, Legacy, Documentation and Adjudication of Crimes Committed in Kosovo

The Institute of Crimes Committed During the War in Kosovo (ICCW) focuses on researching and documenting crimes committed during the Kosovo war, from January 1, 1998, to June 20, 1999. It also covers crimes and actions related to the war that occurred earlier but led to the war, and after this period, up to December 31, 2000, as specified in Article 2, Point 3 of the ICCW law.

The ICCW focuses on the research and documentation of war crimes committed from multiple perspectives, including historical, military, legal, ecological, cultural, psychological, medico-legal, and sociological. Its primary goal is to build and preserve collective memory through comprehensive and systematic research and documentation of the events that occurred during the Kosovo war.

During the Kosovo War, forces of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia carried out widespread atrocities against the ethnic Albanian population; this included a systematic ethnic cleansing campaign involving mass expulsions, widespread destruction of homes, and numerous massacres. Targeted killings, summary executions, and extensive sexual violence were used to terrorize Albanian civilians. Alarmed by the scale of the atrocities and the escalating humanitarian crisis, NATO intervened in March 1999 to stop the violence. In June 1999, Slobodan Milosevic's government agreed to withdraw its forces from Kosovo and allow the deployment of a joint UN/NATO peacekeeping mission. During the war, and especially after the deployment of the UN/NATO, members of non-majority communities were also killed and expelled from their homes.

The legacy of the war still has a keen impact on Kosovo society, especially on the families of those killed and missing, and the survivors of sexual violence. Disputes over the scale and nature of the conflict continue to damage relations between the Governments of Kosovo and Serbia, and to date the various transitional justice mechanisms implemented have failed to catalyse meaningful progress on establishing the truth or promoting sustainable peace.

Recognizing the vital link between policy-making and scholarly research, one of the ICCW's key objectives is to establish strong connections with the academic community. To initiate this connection, the ICCW is currently welcoming manuscript submissions for an upcoming edited volume focused on crimes committed during the war in Kosovo. The collection will be edited by Dr Furtuna Sheremeti (University of Prishtina) and Dr Aidan Hehir (University of Westminster). While the ICCW will oversee the collation of the chapters, the finished collection will be published by an independent academic publisher.

We invite local and international researchers to contribute original manuscripts based on rigorous scientific research; we especially encourage researchers to use materials available in the ICCW archive, including photos, video and audio recordings, documents, publications, and other resources, located at the ICCW premises. Please note: submitted manuscripts must be original and should not have been published elsewhere.

This edited volume focuses on four key areas of research conducted by the ICCW. Contributors may choose to focus their writing on one or more of the following topics:

Scale/Nature: What crimes occurred, how were they committed and by whom, why were they committed? Chapters may focus on, for example, ethnic cleansing, sexual violence, attacks against minority communities, as well as reflections on life during and after the war for those forcibly displaced.

Legacy: What has been the impact on survivors and families of the bereaved/missing? Do these crimes still affect inter-ethnic relations? How effective have transitional justice mechanisms been in promoting sustainable peace? Who engages in denialism/revisionism and how widespread is it? What has been the cultural impact of the war, such as on literature/theatre/art?

Documentation: What are the challenges faced by organisations seeking to establish the facts about the war such as, for example, the Humanitarian Law Centres in Prishtina and Belgrade? Reflections on the work/efficacy of transitional justice mechanisms such as courts (ie. ICTY) and truth and reconciliation initiatives (ie. RECOM) in establishing the facts about war crimes in Kosovo.

Adjudication: How have the crimes committed in Kosovo been addressed by courts in Kosovo and Serbia as well as international/hybrid courts such as the ICTY, UNMIK, EULEX and the Kosovo Specialist Chambers? How effective have these courts been and what barriers have impeded the quest for justice?

Procedure:

The ICCW will accept abstracts up to the 4th of October 2024. We will notify authors about their acceptance or rejection within four weeks. Following this preliminary review, authors will submit a first draft by the 1st February 2025. All contributors will be invited to attend a conference in Prishtina on the 18th of February 2025 to present their work; travel and accommodation costs will be covered for all presenters. Following the conference, the manuscripts will undergo a review process by the volume’s editorial board. After the review, the board will email authors with comments and suggestions. Authors should revise their manuscripts based on this feedback and submit the final draft by the 1st of May 2025.

Abstract Guideline Form:

Title of paper
Name of author/authors
Institutional affiliation and email address
The abstract should be between 300 and 500 words and include 5-7 keywords. It must clearly and concisely outline the research topic, field, methodological approach, and general content of the manuscript.

After the acceptance of the abstracts, manuscripts should be submitted by the specified deadline. Contributors must first sign a statement affirming that the paper is original and has not been published or is under review by any other scientific journal.

Manuscript Guideline Form:

The manuscript The manuscript should be written in English and must be original and analytical. It should be approximately 8,000 words in length and must not exceed this limit.	(Times New Roman, Font Size 12, Double Spacing)
Title of paper Title of chapter Title of subchapter	Times New Roman, Font Size 14, Bold) Heading 1 (Times New Roman, Font Size 14, Bold) Heading 2, 3 and so on (Times New Roman, Font Size 12, Bold, All Capslock)
Bibliography References should be formatted according to APA style. In the bibliography, list references in alphabetical order, categorizing physical and electronic resources separately. Include a separate subsection in the bibliography for all figures used in the text.	(Times New Roman, Font Size 12)

Deadlines:

Title and Abstract Submission	4 th October 2024
Notification of abstract acceptance and invitation to submit full papers or chapters	1 st November 2024
Chapter Submission	1 st February 2025
Review and verification	1 st – 28 th February 2025
Submission of revised chapters	1 st May 2025
Response from the editorial board regarding the acceptance or rejection of the chapter	15 th May 2025
Book publication	November 2025

Please submit your abstracts to info.ikkl@rks-gov.net no later than October 4th.