

UNMIK PRESS RELEASE



United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

UNMIK/PR/336

4 September 2000

Seminar on International Humanitarian Law

PRISTINA—The OSCE-run Kosovo Judicial Institute (KJI), in cooperation with the JIAS Department of Judicial Affairs, is hosting an important two-day seminar focussing on international humanitarian law. Legal experts from the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) have been invited to lead the sessions and impart their knowledge on this topic.

The goal of the seminar is to introduce the judiciary in Kosovo to international humanitarian law. The participants will be focusing on the legal concepts of war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and individual criminal responsibility. The format will give the participants a firm foundation in international humanitarian law. This seminar is considered important as cases pertaining to humanitarian law are coming before the judiciary.

The seminar will take place at the Grand Hotel in Pristina on 5-6 September 2000. Forty four participants, five experts and 20 observers, including local judges, public prosecutors and defence counsel as well as representatives of the OSCE and Department of Judicial Affairs will take part in the seminar. It is also being attended by representatives of the ICTY and the American Bar Association/Central and Eastern Europe Law Initiative.

The Kosovo Judicial Institute was set up by the OSCE to provide legal education for judges and prosecutors and plays an important role in strengthening the independence of the judiciary and rule of law in Kosovo.