

Study Visit to Regent's University London within the CABUFAL Project

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Report

From May 2nd to May 6th representatives of the Faculty of Law of University of Montenegro and non-academic partners' representatives have visited Regent's University in London, United Kingdom, within the CABUFAL project (Capacity Building of the Faculty of Law, University of Montenegro – curricula refreshment, boosting of international cooperation and improving human, technical and library resources). Below is a brief overview of activities we have been involved during the visit.

On the first day we have visited the Human Rights Watch Office, where we were welcomed by Benjamin Ward, deputy director of Europe and Central Asia Division, who has a presentation on the topic of the main issues related to Human Rights Watch Organisation: its mission, goals, activities, internal organization. Within the presentation, Mr. Ward introduced us the history of the Organisation, which began in 1978 within the creation of Helsinki Watch, that has been followed by founding of Americas, Asia and Africa Watch(es) in 1980s and resulted in united worldwide organization in 1988. Its mission is in defending human rights all over the world, through investigations conducted by 400 staff members in more than 90 countries. Mr. Ward has further explained that the Organisation is divided both geographically and thematically, taking into account the different regions of the world and specific human rights issues such as children's rights, disability rights, women's rights etc. The presentation was followed by questions and answers, which were focused on HRW activities in the Western Balkan countries. In the second part of the day we have visited Regent's University Campus. After working lunch, that was followed by discussion on the role of NGOs and possible use in processes of higher education, the lecture by prof. Zoran Pajić followed. The topic of the lecture was "Professional ethics and integrity of judges and prosecutors in the Western Balkans". Prof. Pajić has comprehensively analyzed the model of proper behaviour of judges and prosecutors and of building and strengthening of their integrity and independence, indicating all the difficulties and obstacles that could be found on this path, as well as the ways of their overcoming. The analysis was given especially in relation to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Western Balkan countries in general. The next was the lecture on the topic of immigration law, by Catharina Harby (from the AIRE Centre). Mrs. Harby spoke about individual rights in Europe, especially about the right of asylum, in light of the practice of European Court of Human Rights and European Union Court of Justice. Discussion about the topic followed. After scheduled lectures at Regent's University, we have visited London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), where several lecturers (Jasna Dragović-Soso,

Jelena Petrović, Eric Gordy, Jelena Subotić, James Gow and Denisa Kostovicova) took lectures on prospects for justice and reconciliation in the Balkans after the Hague Tribunal. They have discussed the implications for accountability for war crimes in the Balkans following the closure of the ICTY.

The second day at Regent's University was devoted to listening the lectures: "Training and development of academics at British universities" by prof. Mark Allinson and "The role of British embassies in Western Balkans with view on judicial reforms" by Mr. Ian Cliff, former British Ambassador. Prof. Allinson has introduced us the methods for development and improvement of research and teaching work of academics in UK. Mr. Cliff spoke of his experiences while being ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Croatia. The discussion followed, especially in terms of judicial reforms in Montenegro in the light of the current accession processes to the European Union. Then, in terms of *Brexit* and its consequences and impact on UK itself, as well as on the EU.

The third day was devoted to roundtable, led by prof. Yossi Mekelberg, on the topic of latest developments in international academia. Apart from the representatives of the Faculty of Law of University of Montenegro, graduate students of Regent's University also took part in the discussion (Željana Švonja and Ariana Yazdi). The discussion was followed by the lecture of prof. Neven Anđelić, on the topic of project and international relations, who also gave concluding remarks on the study visit and the project in general, particularly focusing on framing out the future activities, which was followed by discussion of participants and exchange of views.

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