Course description
The aim of the seminar is to investigate main principles, foundation, and actors involved in the dominant form of peacebuilding today - liberal peacebuilding. In the last twenty-five years, and in its present form, liberal peace has attained truly global dominance, stretching from the Balkans (Bosnia and Herzegovina, FR Yugoslavia) to Africa (Libya, Mali), South-East Asia (Cambodia, Timor Leste) and other conflict-affected regions. Additionally, in this notion of post-conflict transition, peace is primarily understood as governance (Richmond 2009), entailing comprehensive implementation of generic institutional blueprints (most often Western) in post-conflict and conflict-affected societies, thus implying their universality and superiority. As a result, strong criticism (and resistance), both in academia and the local population, has been developed against this form of top-down peacebuilding. Consequently, the main points of critique, as well as alternative, grassroots, models of peace transitions will be included as topics of the seminar. By focusing on these examples of small peace (Smoker 1981), the seminar tries to understand possibilities, but also limitations of bottom-up (emancipatory) endeavors, often seen as the antipode of the liberal approach. Finally, the everyday aspect (Mac Ginty 2014) of the liberal peace, its successes, and shortcomings will be investigated by employing comparative approach and by focusing on local interpretations of these peace interventions in the case of Northern Ireland and the Balkans.

Course structure

7 June
09:30 - 13:00 general introduction (Nemanja Dzuverovic, University of Belgrade)
  - Foundation and principles of liberal peacebuilding and statebuilding in post-conflict and conflict-affected societies
  - Main criticism of liberal peacebuilding and its alternatives
  - Contextualization of liberal peace: The case of Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
  - Q&A section followed by group discussion
13:00 - 14:00 lunch break
14:00 - 17:00 Peace transition and statebuilding: Case studies
  - Northern Ireland (Christina Griessler, Andrassy University)
  - Bosnia and Herzegovina (Hana Semanic, CEU)
  - Discussion
**Course reading list**


**Course requirements**

For successful completion of the seminar student are obliged to:

1. Send the 3-page summary of 5 selected readings from the course reading list to nemanja.dzuverovic@fpn.bg.ac.rs two days before the beginning of the doctoral seminar.
2. Prepare 20 minutes presentation on one of the following topics:
   (i) Liberal peacebuilding is failed by design. (students can either argument or counter-argument the thesis or both - *pro et contra*)
   (ii) Peace transition: Success and failures (comparative approach of 2 or more case studies - selected by students - of liberal peacebuilding and/or post-conflict statebuilding missions)
   (iii) Local approaches to peacebuilding (presentation on indigenous methods for conflict resolution, reconciliation, development or any other relevant peacebuilding aspect)