Centre for Refugee and IDP Studies (CESI) was established in 2011 through partnership of UNHCR and Faculty of Political Sciences at University of Sarajevo, as a first academic center in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and Western Balkans Region dedicated to forced migration studies.

CESI provides education, research, and training in the field of refugee studies and is committed to addressing causes and consequences of war-induced displacement in BiH and the region, at the same time functioning as a regional knowledge base for the common forced displacement issues worldwide.

Through the four main objectives of our work – research, education, resource activity and academic exchange and networking – we provide access to objective and current information on asylum seekers, refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees in BiH, region and wider.

The Centre's activities promote dialogue and cooperation among actors in the field in order to stimulate the multidisciplinary and collaborative work environment that can bring positive changes in legislation, policy and practice relevant to forcibly displaced persons.

International Summer School – Forced Migration Studies

CESI provides only existing interdisciplinary and regional education in forced migration studies through annual International Summer School on Forced Migration Studies, first being implemented on 22-28 July, 2013 on the subject of Forced Migration Research Methods, in cooperation with Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD).

The aim of the school is to offer certified academic training to young scholars and NGO workers from the Western Balkans Region and wider, as to enhance their competencies in researching the protection of the human rights in general, and refugee specific rights in particular, as well as to promote the research in the most relevant forced migration issues faced throughout the region.

The school is open to students and field practitioners from all backgrounds with admission fee of 250 Euros/150 Euros for participants from WB region, covering school materials, supervision, tutoring, certificates of participation and food during the 7-days long training that includes study visits, exchange and interactive learning.

This year's summer school will focus refugee law and rights and is to be held on 21-28th of July, headed by Professor Emerita Barbara Harrell-Bond. Prof. Barbara is founding director of the Refugee Studies Centre at Oxford University (1982-1996), who also established Refugee Studies Programme at American University in Cairo, (co)founded or helped found several of refugee legal aid organizations worldwide, including the Refugee Law Project in Uganda and AMERA (Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance) in Egypt. In 2005 she was made OBE – Officer of the Order of the British Empire for her contribution to refugee studies.

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Pictures from the International Summer School, 2013

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For follow-up information please pay regular visits to our website.