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Human Rights House Zagreb (HRHZ), Croatian Platform for International Citizen Solidarity (CROSOL) and Center for Peace Studies (CPS) in partnership with Human Rights Film Festival are hosting an international conference

**“Il(l)iberal democracies: Europe between democracy and autocracy”  
December 8-9, 2017  
Cinema Europa, Zagreb**

Il(l)iberal democracies phenomenon reduces the concept of democracy to a mere multiparty system, while at the same time attempts to suppress or institutionally marginalize all the remaining fundamental components needed for an adequate functioning of a democratic pluralistic society. In this sense, political leaders of so-called il(l)iberal democracies are directly attacking human rights - particularly the ones related to freedom of assembly, association and expression. Critical civil society organizations, independent media as well as independent judiciary and other institutions responsible for the protection of human rights and the functioning of democracy all become subjected to their impact. This phenomenon was well-known outside the EU, but in the last couple of years it has begun to spread even within the EU borders. At this conference, we will discuss whether il(l)iberal democracy can be perceived as democracy at all, why is it that they come to fertile ground in Eastern European countries, and ultimately – how to resist them? This conference will bring together some of the leading experts in the field of international relations, and human rights protection, who will - together with activists from European countries - articulate resistance strategies against autocratic trends in Europe.

As a part of the conference, we will also screen the film “Undercover In The Alt-Right: My Year In Kekistan” by Patrik Hermansson (UK) followed by discussion with the director.

Please find the draft conference agenda enclosed below. For any additional questions including registration to the conference, please contact [protokol@kucaljudskihprava.hr](mailto:protokol@kucaljudskihprava.hr).

We are looking forward to seeing you at the conference!

Gordan Bosanac, *CROSOL / Center for Peace Studies*  
Ivan Novosel, *Human Rights House Zagreb*

*More Democracy for More Europe – With the support of the Europe for Citizens programme of the European Union*



## ILL DEMOCRACIES: EUROPE BETWEEN DEMOCRACY AND AUTOCRACY

*Muller Hall (Kino Europa)*  
**Friday and Saturday, December 8 and 9, 2017**  
Working language of the Conference is English.

*Friday, December 8, 2017*

16:00 – 18:00	<p><b>Opening panel: Il(l)iberal trends in Europe: what's the appeal?*</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prof. dr. sc. Žarko Puhovski, <i>professor of political philosophy</i></li> <li>2. dr. sc. Vesna Pusić, <i>former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Croatia</i></li> <li>3. Jadranka Kosor, <i>former Prime Minister of Croatia</i></li> </ol> <p>Moderator: Ivana Dragičević, <i>journalist</i></p> <p>*Working language of the panel is Croatian. Simultaneous translation will be provided for this panel only.</p>
18:00 - 19:00	<b>Reception</b>
<i>Saturday, December 9, 2017</i>	
10:00 – 10:15	<p><b>Opening Remarks</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ivan Novosel, <i>Human Rights House Zagreb</i></li> <li>2. Gordan Bosanac, <i>Croatian Platform for International Citizen Solidarity (CROSOL) and Center for Peace Studies (CPS)</i></li> <li>3. Florian Irmingier, <i>Human Rights House Foundation</i></li> </ol>
10:15 – 11:15	<p><b>What is il(l)iberal democracy? Why, when and where does it happen?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. dr. sc. Dominic Eggel, <i>The Graduate Institute Geneva</i></li> <li>2. dr. sc. Dejan Jović, <i>Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb</i></li> </ol> <p>Moderator: Gordan Bosanac, <i>CROSOL/CPS</i></p>
11:15 – 11:45	Coffee Break
11:45 – 12:45	<p><b>Il(l)iberal democracies: first-hand experience</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dr. Éva Bördős, <i>Foundation for Development of Democratic Rights</i></li> <li>2. Katarzyna Batko Toluć, <i>Sieć Obywatelska Watchdog Polska</i></li> </ol> <p>Moderator: Florian Irmingier, <i>Human Rights House Foundation</i></p>
12:45-13:30	Lunch

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13:30 – 15:00	<p><b>Living on the edge of il(l)iberal democracy</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Jelena Berković, <i>GONG</i></li> <li>2. Sonja Stojanović, <i>BCBP (Serbia)</i> (tbc)</li> <li>3. Albin Keuc, <i>SLOGA (Slovenia)</i></li> <li>4. Mr. Krisjanis Liepa, <i>LAPAS (Latvia)</i></li> <li>5. Xhabir Deralla, <i>CIVIL (Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)</i></li> </ol> <p>Moderator: Ivan Novosel, <i>HRH Zagreb</i></p>
15:00 -16:00	<p><b>Resisting ill democracies in Europe: Understanding the playbook of il(l)iberal governments to better resist them</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Alexandra Swetzer, <i>HRHZ</i></li> <li>2. Ivan Novosel, <i>Human Rights House Zagreb</i></li> <li>3. Gábor Vágó, <i>watchdog online news 'Mérce'</i> (tbc)</li> <li>4. Konrad Siemaszko, <i>Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights (Poland)</i></li> </ol> <p>Moderator: Marina Škrabalo, <i>Solidarna - Foundation for Human Rights and Solidarity</i></p>
16:00 -16:45	<p><b>Future steps: Ideas on How to Change the il(l)iberal trends</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• open discussion</li> <li>• defining conference recommendations to national and European institutions</li> </ul> <p>Facilitators: Gordan Bosanac, <i>CROSOL/CPS</i> Ivan Novosel, <i>HRHZ</i></p>
16:45 -17:15	<p><b>Break</b></p>
17:15 -18:00	<p><b>Screening of the movie and discussion with the director</b></p> <p>„Undercover In The Alt-Right: My Year In Kekistan“, 24min director Patrik Hermansson (UK)</p> <p>moderator: Ivan Blažević, <i>Solidarna</i></p>
22:00	<p><b>Fundraising Party “Human Rights Day Eve”</b></p> <p><b>Bar Vinyl</b>, Bogovićeva 3</p> <p>Hosted by <b>Solidarna Foundation</b></p> <p>Entry fee: 20 kn (~3 €)</p>