

Session 9.04
HIGHER EDUCATION UPDATES:

KOSOVA/O
BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA

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ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Ms. Bardha Qirezi has been an International Relations Officer at the University of Prishtina, Kosova/o since October 2002. Prior to that she worked as a Program Assistant with the Kosova/o Ministry of Culture and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) Department of Culture in developing, implementing and managing programs and policies. She holds a Diploma in English Language and Literature from the University of Prishtina (1998) and is currently completing a Master's degree in Literature there. Her background also includes work in journalism and literary translation, and her languages are Albanian, English, Spanish, and Serbian.

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Ms. Ann M Koenig is the director of credential evaluation services at the Southwest regional office of the AACRAO (American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers) International Education Services. She has 15 years of experience in the field of foreign credential evaluation and university admissions, academic advising, and student records management, and has worked at several higher education institutions, including the University of California-Berkeley and the former UMUC campus in Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany. She has been a leader in AACRAO and NAFSA activities, has given numerous conference presentations and workshops, and has written or contributed to publications on Poland (PIER, 1992), Albania (ECE, 1993), *A Guide to Educational Systems Around the World* (NAFSA, 1999), and AACRAO's quarterly journal *College and University*. Ms. Koenig holds a B.A. (1982) and M.A. (1988) in German from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and studied in Germany at the University of Freiburg, the Free University of Berlin and the Goethe University of Frankfurt/Main.

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1. KOSOVA/O HIGHER EDUCATION TIMELINE: 1970 – Present

“Tito Era”

- 1945 – 80 1970: Founding of University of Prishtina.
1974: Autonomy and self-rule of Kosova/o established.
1980: Death of Tito, new Serb-dominated government.

“Milošević Era”

- 1986-89 Election of Milošević and repeal of autonomy of Kosova/o.
Starting 1990 Repeal of education laws in Kosova/o by Milošević. Albanian language section of University purged, university facilities taken over by Serbs; Albanian Kosovars continue University of Prishtina activities from private quarters (“home schooling”, “shadow university”, “underground university”); decay and destruction of University facilities throughout the decade.
1991-98 Kosovar Albanians create their parallel government financed by voluntary income tax. Education is the main pillar of this system.
1996 & 1998 Serbian/Albanian “agreement” of 1996/98 to allow for use of University facilities by ethnic Albanians fails. Student protest of October 1997; other protests follow in streets of Prishtina. Attempts at ceasefire and political dialogue by UN and NATO, to no avail.
1999 The international community proposes an interim solution for the self-rule of Kosova/o; rejected by Belgrade.

“UNMIK Era”

- March 1999 NATO bombardment of Prishtina following unsuccessful tries at negotiation.
June 1999 United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) authorized by UN Security Council Resolution 1244 to establish an interim civil administration under UN leadership, headed by the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG).
Fall 1999 Schools and University of Prishtina re-open to Albanian Kosovars. Kosovo Serbs move Serbian-language faculties of University of Prishtina to divided city of Mitrovica, continue to operate what they call the “University of Prishtina in exile”.
Feb. 2002 UNMIK licenses former Serbian-language faculties of University of Prishtina in Mitrovica as “North Kosovo University”, creating a second public university in Kosova/o.
Sept. 2002 Kosova/o Assembly passes law on higher education without provisions for Slavic-language instruction; must be approved by SRSG. SRSG responds with recommendation to include such provisions; Assembly rejects recommendation.
Oct. 2002 New law on primary and secondary education promulgated by SRSG.
May 2003 SRSG adds provisional supplement to higher education law – licensing “all providers of higher education that were authorized to operate in the academic year 2001-02” – and signs the law.
Oct. 2003 American University in Kosovo set to open as a private institution licensed by UNMIK.

2. ADMINISTRATION OF KOSOVA/O SINCE JUNE 1999

- June 1999** **UNMIK:** *The United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo*, headed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG), is created based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 of 10 June 1999.
<http://www.unmikonline.org/>
Roles of UNMIK: perform and help rebuild civilian administration; promote the establishment of autonomy and self-government; facilitate a political process to determine Kosova/o's future status; coordinate relief assistance of all international agencies; support reconstruction of infrastructure; maintain civil law and order; promote human rights; assure the safe return of all refugees and displacees to their homes in Kosova/o.
- Feb. 2000** **JIAS:** *Joint Interim Administrative Structure* is established in February 2000 (based on UNMIK Regulation 2000/1) as representatives of all sides agree to the dissolution of previously-existing parallel structures and to the construction of provisional institutions of self-government. First national Assembly elections held on 17 November 2001. Municipal elections scheduled for October 2002.
- *Education authority under JIAS:*
Administrative Department of Education and Technology
- March 2002** **PISG:** *Provisional Institutions of Self-Government* formed in March 2002, on the basis of the Constitutional Framework For Provisional Self-Government in Kosovo (UNMIK Regulation No. 2001/9) signed by SRSG on 15 May 2001.
- *Education authority under PISG:*
Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

3. MAP OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN KOSOVA/O

Source: *Facts and Figures on Education in Kosova, 1999/2000*, Kosova Education Center
http://www.see-educoop.net/portal/id_kosovo.htm - Basic Information and Database



4. KOSOVA/O: PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Source: *Education in Kosova 2000/01*, Kosova Education Center

http://www.see-educoop.net/portal/id_kosovo.htm - Basic Information and Database



Exhibition 1. The existing and the new structure of the pre-academic education in Kosova

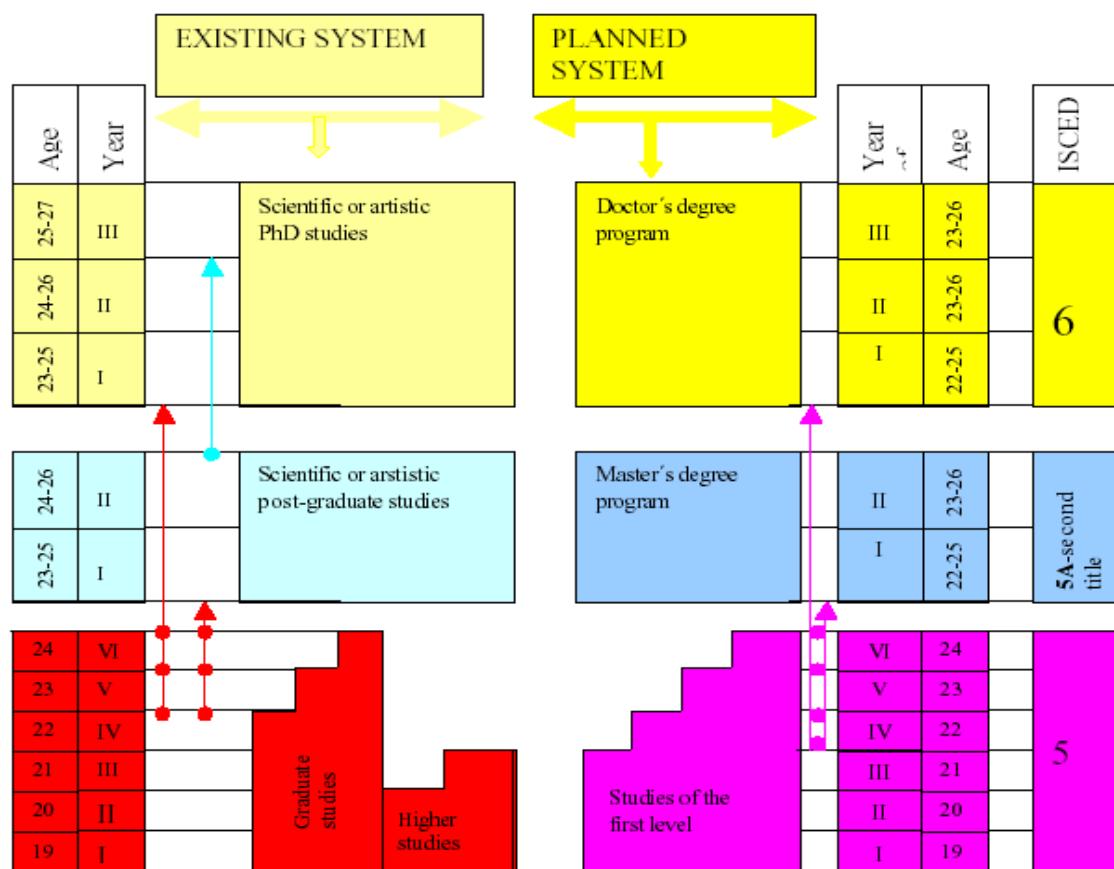
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- Authority:** Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
- Law:** UNMIK Regulation No. 2002/19 of 31 October 2002. Features:
- Adopts the UNESCO International Standard Classification of Education 1997 (ISCED) and its definitions
 - Provides for the Ministry to license private educational institutions.
- Structure:** 5 (primary) + 4 (lower secondary) + 3 (upper secondary, academic and vocational)
- Compulsory:** Years 1 through 9 (ages 6 to 15)
- Documents:** *Diplomë për Kryerjen e Shkollës së Mesmet të Përgjithshme-Gjimnazin* (Diploma of Completion of General Secondary School-Gymnasium)
Diplomë për Kryerjen e Shkollës së Mesme Profesionale (Diploma of Completion of Professional Secondary School)
Dëftesë (Certificate) – annual grade report, given at the end of each school year
- Grade scale:** Academic: *shkëlqyeshëm* (excellent), 5; *shumë mire* (very good), 4; *mirë* (good), 3; *mjaftueshëm* (sufficient), 2; *pamjaftueshëm* (insufficient), 1.
Behavior: *shembulllore* (exemplary); *e mirë* (good); *jo mirë* (not good).

5. KOSOVA/O: HIGHER EDUCATION

Source: *Education in Kosova 2000/01*, Kosova Education Center

http://www.see-educoop.net/portal/id_kosovo.htm - Basic Information and Database



Exhibition 2. The existing and the planned structure of the higher education system

Authority: Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

Laws: UNMIK Administrative Direction No. 2002/2 (14 Feb. 2002) established North Kosovo University, renamed University of Mitrovica in December 2002
UNMIK Regulation No. 2003/14: Promulgation of a Law Adopted by the Assembly of Kosovo on Higher Education in Kosovo, signed by the SRSG on 12 May 2003.

- Provides incentives for increased quality and accountability in higher ed.
- Creates the Kosovo Accreditation Agency (KAA), responsible for licensing of institutions, inspection, auditing, quality assessment, and recognition of academic and professional qualifications.
- Provides for the accreditation of private higher education providers.
- Adopts the relevant European and international standards of higher education; supports the aims of creating a European Higher Education Area through the "Bologna Process"; creates conditions for reform in curricula and teaching.

Institutions: Public institutions are established and licensed by the Ministry; private must apply to be licensed by the Ministry. Institutions currently licensed:

- University of Prishtina (instruction in Albanian language) - public
- University of Mitrovica (instruction in Slavic languages) - public
- American University in Kosovo (in partnership with Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, USA) - private

5.1. University of Prishtina – <http://www.uni-pr.edu/>

Established in 1970 with instruction in Serbo-Croatian and Albanian languages. Split in 1990's when ethnic Albanian administration and student body were purged from the University by Serbian administration. Ethnic Albanian University of Prishtina continued activities in private quarters ("underground", "parallel", "home schooling") until NATO bombing of Prishtina in spring 1999. Serbian administration then fled to northern Kosovo city of Mitrovica; ethnic Albanian administration took over UP facilities in Prishtina and are currently rebuilding UP as an Albanian-language institution. Licensed by UNMIK as an official degree-granting institution.

Currently the University of Prishtina offers Albanian language instruction only and has 23,175 students enrolled in 15 faculties and 7 higher schools:

| Faculty (<i>Fakultet</i>) | Location |
|--|------------------|
| Agriculture | Prishtina |
| Arts (Fine Arts) | Prishtina |
| Civil Engineering, Construction and Architecture | Prishtina |
| Economics | Prishtina |
| Education | Prishtina |
| Electrical Engineering | Prishtina |
| Law | Prishtina |
| Mechanical Engineering | Prishtina |
| Mathematical-Natural Sciences | Prishtina |
| Medicine | Prishtina |
| Mining and Metallurgy | Mitrovica |
| Philology | Prishtina |
| Philosophy | Prishtina |
| Physical Education | Prishtina |
| Education * | See note below.* |

| Higher School (<i>Shkollë e Lartë</i>) | Location |
|--|-----------|
| Economics | Peja |
| Pedagogical | Prishtina |
| Pedagogical "Bajram Curri" * | Gjakova |
| Pedagogical "Skenderbeu" * | Gjilan |
| Pedagogical "Xhevdet Doda" * | Prizren |
| Engineering | Ferizaj |
| Engineering | Mitrovica |

* Note: With the establishment of the Faculty of Education, the higher pedagogical schools will cease to exist and will be transformed into regional centers of the Faculty of Education. They will not admit any new students, but they will graduate their current students.

Admission: Official documentation of completion of secondary education representing at least 12 years of education; certification of proficiency in Albanian language (or application for admission to Albanian language program).

Degree Structure: *Through 2002-03:* Diploma (4, 5 or 6 years) + Magister (2 years) + Doctor (3 years)
Beginning Academic Year 2003-04:
Undergraduate:
Bachelor -180 ECTS credits (Engineering - 210; Albanian, Music - 240)
Diploma in Teaching - 240
Diploma in Pharmacy or Dentistry - 300 ECTS credits
Diploma in Medicine - 360 ECTS credits
Postgraduate:
Master - 300 ECTS credits
Doctorate - 420 ECTS credits

University of Prishtina (continued)

Grade scale:

| Univ. of Prishtina Grades | ECTS Grades | ECTS Descriptors |
|---------------------------|-------------|---|
| 10 | A | EXCELLENT - outstanding performance with only minor errors |
| 9 | B | VERY GOOD - above the average standard but with some errors |
| 8 | C | GOOD - generally sound work with a number of notable errors |
| 7 | D | SATISFACTORY - fair but with significant shortcomings |
| 6 | E | SUFFICIENT - performance meets the minimum criteria |
| 5 | FX | FAIL - some more work required before credit can be awarded |
| 5 | F | FAIL - with no further opportunity of reassessment |

Documentation:

SFR Yugoslavia era: *Diploma e kualifikimit superior shkollor / Diploma o visokoj školskoj spremi* (Diploma of higher education qualification) – bilingual Albanian and Serbo-Croatian issued under the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

“Parallel” era (1991-99):

Diploma e kualifikimit superior shkollor and other documents issued in Albanian under the *Republika e Kosovës* (“Republic of Kosovo”); Serbian-run University of Prishtina issues documents in Serbian under the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

UNMIK, to June 2001: *Diplomë e Kualifikimit Universitar* (Diploma of University Qualification) issued bilingually: blue document; left side shows heading of “United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo” with U.N. logo and English text; right side shows “Universiteti I Prishtinës, *University of Prishtina*” with new University of Prishtina compass logo and Albanian text. Diploma signed by the Dean, the International Administrator, and the Rector. Work toward centralizing student records in the Rectorate.

Starting Acad. Yr. 02: International Administrator no longer signs diploma. Student record-keeping function moved to the University Rectorate.

Starting Acad. Yr. 03: Procedures for verification of student records are established.

Verification of Records:

Issued before Sept. 2001: Verified by the Faculties.
Issued starting Sept. 2001: Verified by the Rectorate.

Reform Activity of the University of Prishtina

- Establishment of a centralized University administration (for student admission and registration, issuing of university documents, verification of documents)
- Reinforcement of the International Relations Office
- Introduction of new teaching and assessment methods, curriculum reform, etc.
- Bologna Agreement and Process
 - 3 + 2 Cycle system instituted beginning academic year 2002-03
 - ECTS adopted on 19.07.01. Implementation began with the introduction of ECTS to first year studies the academic year 2001-02. Achievements to date:
 - Assignment of credits to each course unit
 - Establishment of criteria for grading system
 - Creation of information packs for the reformed curricula
 - Establishment of ECTS commission and designation of ECTS coordinators
 - Accreditation of summer courses
 - Establishment of bilateral agreements for student exchange
- Summer University at the University of Prishtina – co-sponsored by Academic Training Association - <http://www.academictraining.org/>

5.2. University of Mitrovica

Background: Formed from the Serbian-language faculties of the University of Prishtina that moved to the northern Kosova/o city of Mitrovica in 1999. The “University of Prishtina in exile” continued to function there with support from the government of Yugoslavia (now Serbia), and expanded by “relocating” some faculties to the cities of Zubin Potok and Leposavic, which are totally Serbian municipalities. Meanwhile the University of Prishtina in Prishtina was rebuilding and developing as an institution without offerings in Serbian language, and neither the Kosovar Albanian administration of the University nor the Kosova/o Assembly had included provisions for Serbian-language offerings in their higher education reform activities, despite UNMIK’s goal that higher education be available and accessible to all in Kosova/o.

Legal Basis: In order to provide recognized higher education in Slavic languages in Kosovo, UNMIK established “North Kosovo University” on 14 February 2002 by UNMIK Administrative Direction No. 2002/2, thus creating the legal basis for the second public provider of higher education in Kosovo. Belgrade continues to finance it, though the goal is that it will be supported from the Kosovo budget in the future. By Executive Decision No. 2002/15 (6 December 2002), the institution was renamed “University of Mitrovica” and its accreditation extended through 31 August 2003.

Current Profile: In the academic year 2002-03, the University of Mitrovica had approximately 11,500 students. For 2003, there are about 8,500, about 75% of whom are Serbian.

The University currently has 10 faculties offering undergraduate and postgraduate studies:

| Faculty | Location | Fields of Study (UG: Undergraduate; PG: Postgraduate) |
|------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Economics | Zubin Potok | UG: General, Finance & Foreign Trade, Entrepreneurship; PG: Transition Economy Management |
| Law | Mitrovica | UG: Law PG: Admin. Law, Felony Law, Civil Law, Business Law, Law & Economics |
| Medicine | Mitrovica | UG: General Medicine, Dental Medicine PG: General Practice |
| Natural Science & Math | Mitrovica | UG: Math, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Geography PG: Biology |
| Technical Sciences | Mitrovica | UG: Metallurgy, Mining, Civil Engg-Construction, Architecture, Electrical Engg, Machinery, Technology PG: Mining (2), Electrical Engg. (2), Civil Engg-Construction (1) |
| Philosophy | Mitrovica | UG: History, Philosophy, Sociology, Pedagogy, History of Arts, Psychology, Language & Literature (Serbian, Russian, English, French, Japanese) PG: History, Pedagogy, Language Studies, Literature Studies, Methodology of Serbian Language & Literature. |
| Agriculture | Lesak | UG: Agriculture, Fruit & Viticulture; Cattle Breeding PG: Biotechnical Sciences (14), Biological Sciences-Environmental Protection |
| Teacher Training | Leposavic | UG: Teacher Training |
| Physical Education. & Sports | Mitrovica | UG: Physical Education & Sports PG: Methodology of Scientific Research |
| Arts (Fine Arts) | Zvecan | UG: Vocal Music, General Music Pedagogy, Composition, Conducting, Piano, Brass Instruments, Stringed Instruments, Graphic Design, Graphics, Sculpting, Painting, Acting PG: all UG fields except Acting |

Source: *Status Report on the University of Mitrovica, Kosovo, Current Structure, Development Perspectives.* Georg Woeber, February 2003

University of Mitrovica (continued)

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------|
| Degree Structure: | Diploma with Professional Title (Level VII ₁) | 4, 5 or 6 years |
| | Title of Specialist (Level VII ₂) | 1-2 years |
| | Degree of Master (Level VII ₂) | 2 years |
| | Degree of Doctor (Level VIII) | 2-4 years |

Grade Scale: 5 (lowest pass mark) through 10 (highest mark)

Reform Activity of the University of Mitrovica

- Consultant's study and report (*Status Report on the University of Mitrovica, Kosovo, Current Structure, Development Perspectives*. Georg Woeber, February 2003). Some of the initial recommendations:
 - Develop institutional statute, a clear mission and strategic plan in line with European university standards, and the tools needed to manage the institution accordingly.
 - Integrate and reduce the number of faculties as appropriate to reduce redundancy and support interdisciplinary study. Two-phase plan with implementation by 2005.
 - Adjust human resources as appropriate.
 - Revise and resize study programs – to complement those of University of Prishtina, rather than compete with them; to better meet the demands of students and the labor market; to achieve a sustainable increase in student numbers; to fully participate in the Bologna process. Two-phase plan with implementation by 2005.
 - Develop principles and systems of accountability in all areas, including academics.
 - Strengthen research activity.
- Implementation of Bologna process:
 - First phase to be completely implemented in academic year 2003-04.
 - Full implementation in academic year 2004-05: Bachelor (3-4 yrs), Master (4-6 yrs)

5.3. American University in Kosovo (AUK) - <http://www.rit.edu/~aukadmin/>

Established through partnership with the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), Rochester, NY, USA – <http://www.rit.edu> – and the American University of Kosovo Foundation - <http://www.aukf.org>. Will open in October 2003.

Recognition: Kosovo: Licensed by the Kosova/o Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. USA: As an RIT program, AUK is included in RIT's accreditation by the Middle States Association Commission on Higher Education - <http://www.msache.org/>.

Admission: Official documentation of completion of secondary school, English and mathematics proficiency (tested by AUK or alternative measures, such as SAT, ACT, TOEFL), personal interview.

Degree

Structure: Academic programs are “managed” by RIT - RIT faculty will teach RIT courses, students will earn RIT credits documented by an official transcript issued by RIT. For information on RIT academic policies: <http://www.rit.edu/%7E620www/Manual/> First academic program will be an Associate Degree (2-year degree focusing on business, economics and computers, including practical experience in the business environment). One full-time year of study equals 45 quarter credits.

Grade Scale: A (Excellent) = 4.00 quality points; B (Good) = 3.00 quality points; C (Satisfactory) = 2.00 quality points; D (Minimum Passing) = 1.00 quality points; E (Conditional Failure) = 0.00 quality points; F (Failure) = 0.00 quality points. See RIT academic policies for further details: <http://www.rit.edu/%7E620www/Manual/>

Documents: Graduates will receive two degrees: one from AUK as a licensed degree-granting higher education institution in Kosovo/a, and one from RIT as a regionally-accredited university in the United States. Transcripts are issued by RIT.

6. KOSOVA/O: SELECTED RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

United Nations Interim Administrative Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)

UNMIK Home Page - <http://www.unmikonline.org/>

UNMIK Regulations - <http://www.unmikonline.org/regulations/index.htm>

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Higher Education Division

For issues involving Albanian-language higher education:

Ms. Kimete Jakupaj – kjukupaj@uni-pr.edu

University of Prishtina, International Relations Office - <http://www.uni-pr.edu/>

University of Mitrovica

Rectorate

Filipa Visnjica b.b.

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Phone: +381 28 422-426 / 422-429 / 422-340

Fax: +381 28 422-320

Mr. Ranko Dokic, Secretary General

Ms. Pepa Gorgieva, Assistant to the Secretary General

UNMIK representative for Mitrovica higher education:

Mr. Patrick Duong - duong@un.org

University of Mitrovica, Report of EUA site visit, 10-13 December 2002

http://www.unige.ch/eua/En/Activities/South_East_Europe/Mitrovica-EUareport.pdf

Status Report on the University of Mitrovica, Kosovo, Current Structure, Development Perspectives. Georg Woeber, February 2003 – georg.woeber@chello.at

American University in Kosovo - <http://www.rit.edu/~aukadmin/>

American University of Kosovo Foundation - <http://www.aukf.org>

Southeast European Educational Cooperation Network –

http://www.see-educoop.net/portal/id_kosovo.htm

Extensive documentation from many sources. Choose language of documentation (Albanian, English, Serbian). The majority of the documentation is available in English.

European University Association (EUA) - <http://www.unige.ch/eua/>

From home page, click on “Activities”, then “South-East Europe”, then “Activities” and “2 year project (June 2000-December 2002) with the University of Prishtina”

7. BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA: HIGHER EDUCATION TIMELINE

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 1945 – 80 | Tito era. 1980: Death of Tito, new Serb-dominated government. |
| 1989 | Election of Milošević. |
| June 1991 | Croatia and Slovenia declare independence from Yugoslavia; Serbs and Croats begin fighting in Croatia. |
| Feb. 1992 | Bosnia-Herzegovina declares independence from Yugoslavia; Bosnian Muslims (Bosniaks) proclaim their own separate state. |
| 1991-95 | War that lasts for close to 4 years; many university facilities sustain damage. Centralized system of education breaks down; 3 parallel systems emerge and instruction continues, despite barriers: Croats, Bosnian Serbs, and Bosniak. |
| Aug. 1995 | NATO bombing of Sarajevo; university facilities on or near the front line are destroyed or heavily damaged. |
| Late 1995 | Dayton Peace Accords brokered and signed; NATO begins peacekeeping duties; Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) is given main responsibility for rebuilding of civic institutions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, including education. Education authority decentralized among the entities and cantons. |
| 1996-2003 | Higher education institutions in process of rebuilding. |
| 2003-2010 | Plans for reform formulated and implementation begun. |

8. ADMINISTRATION IN BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA SINCE 1995

Legal Basis: Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina
(Annex 4 of Dayton Peace Agreement, December 1995)

One State: Bosnia and Herzegovina (Three main ethnic groups: Croats, Bosniaks, and Serbs)
Two entities: 1. Republika Srpska (Serbs)
2. Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Bosniaks and Croats)
10 Cantons: The Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina consists of 10 cantons.
One district: District of Brčko (international administrative district under sovereignty of Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Office of the High Representative (OHR) established by agreement of parties signing the Dayton Peace Accord, to coordinate and facilitate civilian aspects of the peace settlement.

8.1. Administration of Education

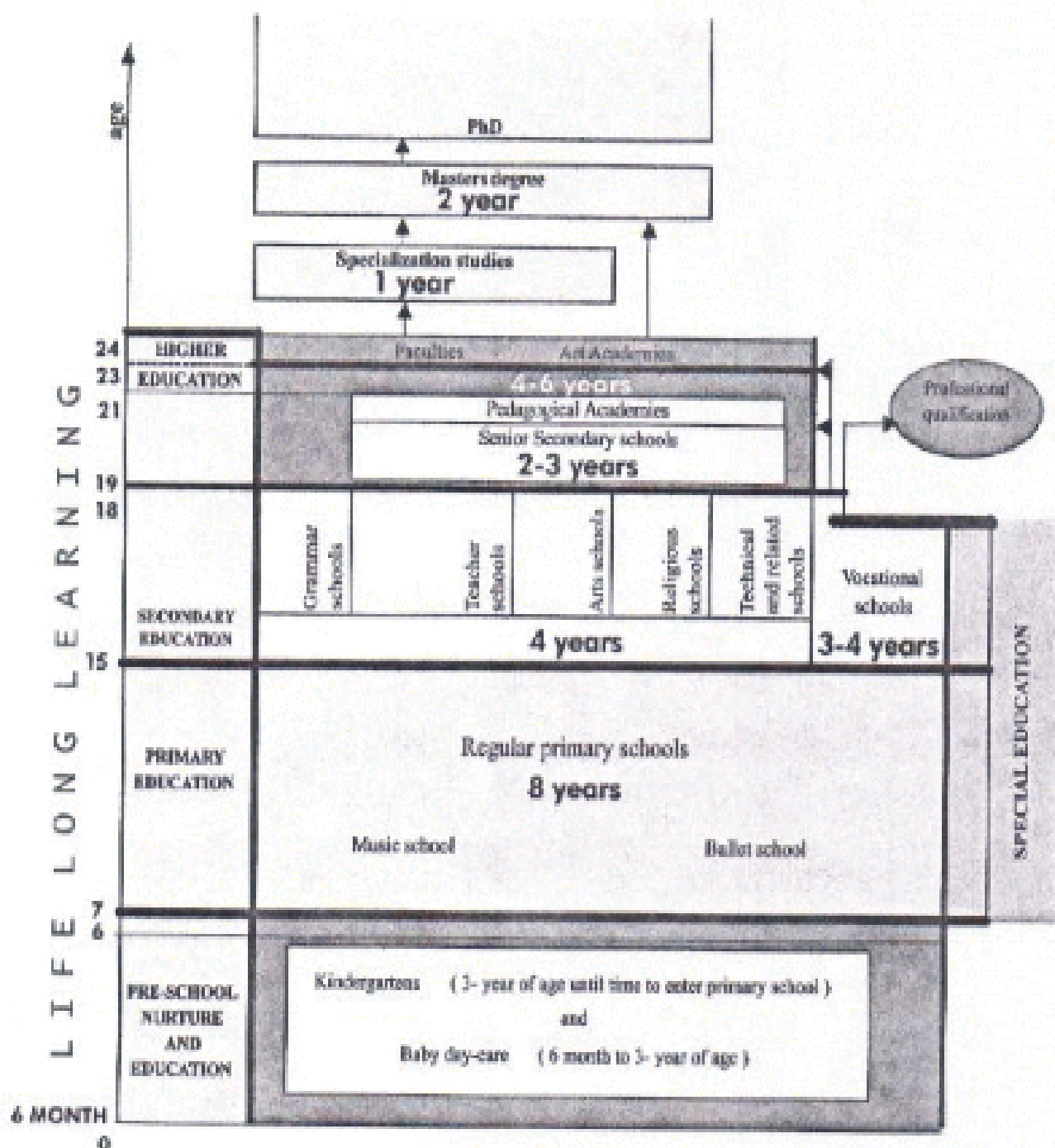
Bosnia and Herzegovina (“The State”) - The Ministry of Education for the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (An “Entity”) – Administration at four levels:

- Federal Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports, Department of Education
- Cantonal Ministries of Education
- Municipalities
- Schools

Republika Srpska (An “Entity”) – Ministry of Education and Culture, responsible for all levels of education - <http://www.vladars.net/en/min/mp.html>

9. STRUCTURE OF EDUCATION IN BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA



Source: *Education in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina – A Brief Description*, Federal Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sport, 2000
http://www.see-educoop.net/portal/id_bih.htm

9.1. Primary and Secondary Education

- Structure:** 8 years (primary) + 3 or 4 (secondary, vocational [3] or specialized [4])
- Compulsory:** Primary education (currently through grade 8) is compulsory (starting at age 6).
- Documents:** Republika Srpska and each of the Cantons design their own documents. Format and wording must be approved by the state Ministry of Education.
- Grade scale:** 5 (*odlican/excellent*); 4 (*vrlo dobar/very good*); 3 (*dobar/good*); 2 (*dovoljan/fair*); 1 (*nedovoljan* (insufficient/fail)

9.2. Higher Education

- Universities:** There are now 7 universities within Bosnia and Herzegovina, each including faculties, institutes, higher schools, and other facilities:

Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Univerzitet u Bihaću (University of Bihac)

Univerzitet "Džemal Bijedić" Mostar ("Dzemal Bijedic" University of Mostar)

<http://www.unmo.ba/>

Sveučilište u Mostaru (University of Mostar) - new

<http://www.sve-mo.ba/>

Univerzitet u Sarajevu (University of Sarajevo)

<http://www.unsa.ba/>

Univerzitet u Tuzli (University of Tuzla)

<http://www.untz.ba/>

Republika Srpska

Univerzitet u Banja Luci (University of Banja Luca)

<http://www.urc.bl.ac.yu/uni>

Univerzitet u Srpskom Sarajevu (University of Serbian Sarajevo) - new

<http://www.unssa.rs.ba/>

- Admission:** Completion of secondary education in an appropriate stream of education; other requirements as determined by the institutions.

Structure of

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Studies: | Higher schools (Level VI) | 2 or 3 years |
| | Universities / Faculties | |
| | Diploma with Professional Title (Level VII ₁) | 4, 5 or 6 years |
| | Title of Specialist (Level VII ₂) | 1-2 years |
| | Degree of Master (Level VII ₂) | 2 years |
| | Degree of Doctor of Science (Level VIII) | 2-4 years |

Transition to European bachelor (3 years) + master (2 years) + doctorate (3 years) structure planned for 2003-2010.

- Grade scale:** 6 (lowest pass mark) through 10 (highest mark)

- Documents:** *Diploma* for completed programs; *Index* (student enrollment booklet); *Uvjerjenje* (Certificate showing examinations passed and grades achieved).

Verification

- of documents:** Student records are kept in the faculties; contact the faculty directly. OSCE representatives recommend seeking authentication of documents.

10. EDUCATION REFORM PLANS IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

10.1. Goals for Primary and Secondary Education

Create a strong legal basis for education; decrease segregation and discrimination; unify “two schools under one roof” (52 schools buildings used separately and sometimes simultaneously by Bosniaks and Croats in the Federation); increase accessibility of primary education to returnee children and ethnic minorities; increase enrollment rates; update curriculum; improve quality of teacher training; establish systems of assessment and certification of students and teachers; improve physical facilities; develop secondary-level vocational training to meet economic needs; train education managers for effective leadership; eliminate bureaucratic duplication and inefficiency; establish systems of pre-school and adult education; promote life-long learning; develop appropriate quality assurance mechanisms.

10.2. Goals for Higher Education

“Plan for Institutional Development of the Universities in 2003-2010” adopted by the universities. Each university has adopted its own reform plan; progress will vary.

- Establish a legal basis for integration of all constituent bodies into one legal entity, “university”, as an autonomous, self-governing institution.
- Create stable and transparent systems of fiscal management and accountability, centralize administrative functions, provide training for managers and staff, include students, staff and faculty in decision-making.
- Modernize curricula to meet European standards and the needs of the labor market and economic development. Promote lifelong learning and attract more adult learners through appropriate academic and professional development programs.
- Develop new teaching and learning methods; improve rate of “time-to-graduation”; strengthen student support services and other infrastructures.
- Establish transparent quality assurance mechanisms.
- Improve facilities, develop new libraries, technology centers, etc.
- Participate fully in the Bologna process and Lisbon Convention: implement 3 + 2 + 3 structure, ECTS, diploma supplement, transparency and accessibility of curriculum information, center for information and academic recognition of foreign credentials, and promote student mobility and exchange within Bosnia and Herzegovina and abroad.

10.3. Pending Legislation

- Framework Law on Primary and Secondary Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina, draft of May 2003 - http://www.oscebih.org/education/download/school_law_eng.pdf
- Draft Framework Law on Higher Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina, May 2003 http://www.oscebih.org/education/download/draft_education_law_eng.pdf

10.4. Further Resources on Reform Activities:

A Message to the People of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Education Reform, OSCE, November 2002 -

http://www.oscebih.org/education/download/final_reform_strategy.pdf

Education Reform Agenda

<http://www.oscebih.org/education/eagenda.asp>

Strategy and Conception of Changes in the System of Education in the Republic of Srpska

http://www.see-educoop.net/portal/id_serbrepublic.htm

11. BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA:

SELECTED RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina
(Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe)
http://www.oscebih.org/oscebih_eng.asp

A Message to the People of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Education Reform, OSCE,
November 2002 - http://www.oscebih.org/education/download/final_reform_strategy.pdf

South East European Education Cooperation Network

Several documents on Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Republika Srpska
http://www.see-educoop.net/portal/id_bih.htm

Education in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina – A Brief Description, Federal
Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sport, 2000 –

http://www.see-educoop.net/portal/id_bih.htm - Click on “English”, then “Basic
Information and Database”, then find title and click on “English”.

*Strategy and Conception of Changes in the System of Education in the Republic of
Srpska*, Republika Srpska, Ministry of Education –

http://www.see-educoop.net/portal/id_serbrepublic.htm - Click on “English”, then
“National policy documents”, then find title and click on “English”.

Education in Republika Srpska, Repatriation and Information Centre, International Centre
for Migration and Policy Development, July 1999

[http://www.icmpd-
ric.org/main/tifs/e_tifs_Education%20in%20Republika%20Srpska.html](http://www.icmpd-ric.org/main/tifs/e_tifs_Education%20in%20Republika%20Srpska.html)