

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE
“Child in Focus – A Multidisciplinary Approach”
Mostar, 7-8 October 2021

Plenary speakers

1. **Prof. dr. Dubravka Hrabar**, tenured full professor, Department head of Family Law, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb
Topic: *Children’s Rights and Contemporary Challenges – Children as a Means or an End?*
2. **Irma Kovčo Vukadin**, tenured full professor, Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation University of Zagreb
Topic: *Cyberbullying in New Normal Times – a Global and Regional Perspective*
3. **Prof. dr. Gordana Buljan Flander**, Zagreb Polyclinic for Children and Youth Protection
Topic: *Between a Rock and a Hard Place – Children of Divorced Parents*
4. **Lilja Cajvert**, Senior Lecturer in Social Work, Department of Social Work, Göteborg University
Topic: *Process Supervision of Experts Who Work with Children, Young Adults and Parents*

Dubravka Hrabar



Dubravka Hrabar graduated at the Faculty of Law in Zagreb in 1979, received her MA in 1986 and PhD in 1991 by defending her thesis “Children’s Rights in Family Relations.” Upon completion of her studies, she worked as a court trainee, and since 1980, she has been employed at the Faculty of Law at the University of Zagreb in the Department of Family Law, where she was an assistant from 1987, an assistant professor from 1992, associate professor from 1997, full professor from 2001 and has been a tenured full professor since 2007. In 2001 she was appointed head of the Department of Civil Rights and Family Law, and since 1998, she has been the head of the Family Law Department. During the academic year of 2015/16 and 2016/17 she was the Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Zagreb. From 2005 to 2009 she was the president and from 2009 to 2013 a member of the Parent Board for Social Sciences in the field of the Ministry of Science, Education and Sport Law. She was a member/leader of

work groups in different ministries in Croatia which dealt with the several law proposals and regulations (Family Law, medical laws, Children's Rights Law, Ethical Research Codex, evaluation of sexual education in schools, the application of the Hague Convention on Kidnapping Children, amendments to Criminal Law, amendments to discrimination prevention laws, etc.). For a term, she was a member of the Children's Council with the State Department for Family, Motherhood and Youth Protection, and on three occasions a member of the Croatian delegation for the defense of the children's rights report (as well as the primary expert in the drafting of the first report on the state of children's affairs in Croatia) before the Department of Children's Rights in Geneva. She also participated in several government work groups in constructing the national program for the Roma people, and for the protection of children and youth from the adverse effects of media, etc. During her scientific career, she furthered her professional training at the London School of Economics, Asser Institute – Haag, and Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in München. In 2000, she was appointed the permanent external scientific advisor to the Supreme Court of the Republic of Croatia. She is the external associate of the Croatian Lexicography Foundation Miroslav Krleža for its legal editions, as well as the editor of the "family law" section. She has published more than 120 papers – scientific and professional – both in domestic and foreign publications. She has participated in almost 70 international and domestic conferences with original contributions. From 2004 to 2012, she was the general editor of the Journal of the Faculty of Law in Zagreb. Since 2000, she has been a member of the Croatian Academy of Legal Sciences. She is a member of the Ethics Committee for Election of Members to the Croatian Parliament and the Committee of the Croatian Bishops' Conference "Iustitia et Pax". She is the founder and head of the Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Studies Programme "Children's Rights" at the University of Zagreb. She was awarded by the Republic of Croatia for her promotion of children's rights in 2005.

Irma Kovčo Vukadin



Prof. dr. sc. Irma Kovčo Vukadin, a social pedagogue, completed her graduate and postgraduate studies at the Educational-Rehabilitation Faculty at the University of Zagreb. From 1991 to 1996, she worked as a research novice at the Educational-Rehabilitation Faculty and from 1996 to 2006, she worked at the Senior Police Academy in Zagreb, where she taught courses in criminology and was the vice dean of that institution for several terms. Since 2006, she has been employed at the Criminology Department of the Educational-Rehabilitation Faculty, where she was also the head of the department and head of the Lifelong Education Department. She is the president of the Ethics Committee of the Educational-Rehabilitation Faculty and chief

editor of the journal *Criminology and Social Integration*. She is active in the Counselling Training at the Educational-Rehabilitation Faculty. Her scientific interests lie in the areas of Criminology, Victimology and Penology. She has published more than 90 scientific and professional papers and has led and participated in numerous scientific and research projects.

Gordana Buljan-Flander



Prof. dr. sc. Gordana Buljan Flander is a clinical psychologist, integrative psychotherapist, university professor, expert court witness and director of the Children and Youth Protection Polyclinic of Zagreb. She is a Council of Europe expert in numerous European projects and is a UNICEF consultant for Croatia, Slovenia, Serbia and Montenegro. In 1997, she founded Brave Phone, a hotline to help abused and neglected children. In 2002, she initiated the founding of the Children and Youth Protection Polyclinic of Zagreb, which is still the only specialised institution for the comprehensive protection of abused and neglected children in this part of Europe. She coordinates, educates and supervises numerous projects for the promotion of children's welfare and experts from child protection institutions. As a university professor, she is dedicated to imparting her knowledge to future generations; she works at multiple faculties and mentors graduate and postgraduate students who are specializing in child integrative psychology. She is the recipient of numerous awards for her work, including awards from the International Society for the Prevention of Abuse and Neglect of Children (ISPCAN) multidisciplinary polyclinic team (2008), the City of Zagreb's award for her contribution to theoretical and practical work in psychosocial and health protection (2011), the Golden Crest award of the Croatian Association of Psychologists (2012) as well as the "Snježana Biga Friganović" award of the Croatian Psychological Society for special contribution to its organization, work and development (2010). Other notable awards include those from the Ministry of Demographics, Family, Youth and Social Policy in 2018; she also received a lifetime award for promoting children's rights and is the recipient of the state award for science in 2019. Besides her clinical work with children and families, she is also active in academic areas. In cooperation with Children and Youth Protection Polyclinic of Zagreb and the Brave Phone, she has organised multiple national research projects dealing with the abuse and neglect of children. She has authored and co-authored multiple scientific and expert papers, eleven books as well as numerous contributions to expert literary and academic journals. She is the president of the Committee for the Protection of Mental Health of Children and Youth of the city of Zagreb during the COVID19 crisis. For over forty years she has been working with children and families, and has been publicly acclaimed as the supporter and promotor of child's rights and protection from abuse and neglect. She has been cooperating with media from both Croatia and neighboring countries in raising public awareness about children's rights for a life without abuse.

Lilja Cajvert



Lilja Cajvert is a social worker, Ph. lic., senior lecturer in Social Work, a registered psychotherapist, supervisor and author. Since 1983, she has worked as a supervisor in therapeutic and other related professional areas in Sweden. From 1988 until her retirement in 2020, she was employed as a teacher and supervisor in the Department of Social Work at the University of Göteborg. During this time, she worked in post-conflict countries in EU international projects from time to time. The BiH Association of Supervisors is responsible for ensuring that standards of education are in accordance with those defined by the Association of National Supervisors of Europe (ANSE), as well as hiring competent educators and metasupervisors/trainers of practical education. Prof. fil. lic. Lilja Cajvert from Göteborg is a member of BiH Association of Supervisors and has 40 years of experience in heading the supervision and education for supervisors themselves at the Department of Social Work at the University of Göteborg. She is one of the key figures responsible for the successful implementation of supervision in the social work system in Croatia and is one of the founders of the first department of social work in the Republic of Srpska, established in 2000 at the Faculty of Philosophy in Banja Luka. In addition, she is experienced in managing projects of the Swedish organization SIDA, under the auspices of which the first education for supervisors was organised in RS and BiH. She has extensive international experience in supervisory education throughout Europe.