



### International Guest Lecture

Wednesday, 07th June 2023  
EB708 (Lansdowne, Business Centre) 12:00 – 14:00

### “Kosovo Dark Heritage”:

### unheard voices of the Kosovo war and its aftermath

Guest speakers: **Gëzim Selaci and Artan Krasniqi, University of Prishtina (Kosovo)**



**Abstract:** war reporting in the media tend to focus on events of large proportions such as fierce battles, mass killings, or the expulsions of entire populations. In the case of the 1998-99 Kosovo war, all warring parties, including Kosovo Albanians, Serbia, and NATO, shaped the dominant narratives. Reflecting the respective agendas of their authors, the underpinning sources (such as personal testimonies about war events) were typically chosen for their usefulness in creating or confirming the dominant narratives, intended meanings and interpretations, including regarding the role of the wider context and specific war events. Political and social actors generated political legitimacy out of these narratives both during and after the war.

Despite all contradictions between the respective reports, these narratives have in common that they overshadow those events and testimonies which do not serve ideological purposes. It is precisely the unheard testimonies of ordinary people and their lived, everyday war experiences in ordinary places which the speakers' recently commenced study, called “Kosovo Dark Heritage”, aims to address, using oral histories and visual methodology to explore the alternative stories of the 1998-1999 Kosovo war.

**Gëzim Selaci**, PhD, assistant professor in the Sociology Department, University of Prishtina, Kosovo, is a political sociologist who specialises in the study of legitimacy of political authority.

**Artan Krasniqi**, PhD, is a teaching assistant in the same department with a background in media and communication studies with a research focus on the transformation of the means of communication.

ALL STAFF & STUDENTS WELCOME!

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