

Ethnic Cleansing Replaced Lustration in Croatia

Belgrade. Yesterday, at the conference „Past and Future: Impacts on Democracy“ held in Belgrade, Žarko Puhovski, Professor at the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb, stated that ethnic cleansing replaced lustration, Beta reports.

„In the very beginning of democratic changes in Croatia there was ideological disqualification, which was replaced with ethnic disqualification“, Puhovski said.

The Director of the Center for Human Rights in Belgrade, Vojin Dimitrijevic, thought that a process of truth and reconciliation should precede the procedure of lustration. He reminded the audience that Vojislav Koštunica as President of the FRY formed a Committee for truth and reconciliation in March 2001 and that this committee never produced any results „because of disagreements about its makeup, working method and program.“

The conference in Belgrade is part of the project „Lustration in the Western Balkans“, started by the Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe based in Thessaloniki in collaboration with organizations from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia and Montenegro.