



## HUMAN AND MINORITY RIGHTS IN THE LIFE- CYCLE OF ETHNIC CONFLICTS

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- >node<: “European Integration and its effects on minority protection in the Western Balkan countries”
  - ETF: “Access to Education, Training and Employment of Ethnic Minorities in the Western Balkans”
  - FP6: “Human and Minority Rights in the Life Cycle of Ethnic Conflicts” (MIRICO)
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developing a specific European concept of “Unity in Diversity” based on concepts and laws which balance individual human rights and minority group rights in ethnically and culturally diverse societies that are going through the process of reconstruction and reconciliation.

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## MIRICO focuses on ...



5 countries of the Western Balkans as case studies for how human and minority rights were implemented in all the phases of the conflicts as well as in the phases of reconstruction and reconciliation.

Countries: Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, and Serbia

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# MIRICO's objectives are ...



- to develop substantive and procedural concepts for the management of diversity in ethnically and culturally diverse states.
  - to develop an approach to ethnic minority accommodation based on the European concept of "Unity in Diversity" which recognizes and respects difference while also ensuring effective and efficient governance.
  - to devise policy recommendations for a coherent EU-policy for the European Neighbourhood Area based on lessons learned in the Balkans.
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# MIRICO's goals are ...



to help prevent and overcome conflicts with a view to making our research results guiding horizontal issues in all common EU policies through mainstreaming conflict mitigation into the programming of EU foreign policy and external aid programmes.

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# MIRICO's methods are ...



- *Multilateral partnerships applying inter-disciplinary functional-structural research*
  - *Trans-national comparative analyses and explanations, including a mapping of the status of human and minority rights in all phases of ethnic conflicts in the Western Balkans as well as in the phase of re-construction and reconciliation*
  - *Flexible, value-based institutional analyses, including the developments in the EU foreign policy and its shift from re-active crisis management to regional stabilization and association*
  - *Participatory approach at the local levels*
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*WP1 - International instruments and the role of international actors*

*WP2 - Yugoslavia and the resulting conflict*

*WP3 - Conflict-settlements*

*WP4 - Reconstruction and reconciliation phases*

*WP5 – EU Foreign Policy, prevention and resolution of ethnically based conflicts*

# MIRICO's expected impact ...



- Providing coherence for EU policy in the area of conflict mitigation
- Enhancing the EU's capabilities to prevent conflict, as well as to offer viable policies in post-conflict or post-war situations.

*[www.eurac.edu/mirico](http://www.eurac.edu/mirico)*

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