



**ENTAN - the European Non - Territorial Autonomy Network**

in collaboration with the **Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory**

**of the University of Belgrade**

organize a webinar on:

# NTA IN PRACTICE: HUNGARIAN AND ALBANIAN MINORITY COUNCILS IN SERBIA

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**14 September 2022**

**at 12.00 pm Central European Time**

Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZludeuupzMSE9AcUXVquEdKrlPAqlJ1jp8y>

Please kindly register in advance

Language: English

Speakers:

12:00 – 13:15

### Session 1

Introduction: From Political Mobilization to Hungarian and Albanian National Minority Councils  
**Aleksandar Pavlović**, Senior Researcher, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, Belgrade

The Child of Agreement, or Disagreement: National Councils in the Legal and Political System of Serbia

**Tamás Korhecz**, Full Professor, Faculty for Legal and Business Studies "dr Lazar Vrkatic", Novi Sad, University UNION

Systematic and Evidence-Based Monitoring of the Work of National Minority Councils

**Ljubica Djordjević**, Senior Researcher, European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI), Flensburg, Germany

Strategic planning as implicit public authorization of national minority councils in Serbia – the case of the Hungarian National Minority Council

**Katinka Beretka**, Associate Professor, Faculty for Legal and Business Studies "dr Lazar Vrkatic", Novi Sad/University of Szeged

Can National Councils of National Minorities be Effective Channels for Greater Political Participation of Women from National Minority Communities in Serbia?

**Jelena Čeriman**, Research Associate, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, Belgrade

13:30 – 14:30

### Session 2

Discussants:

**Belgzim Kamberi**, Institute Musine Kokalari, Albanian minority representative

**Mark Losoncz**, Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory, Hungarian minority representative

With possible interventions by:

**Ragmi Mustafa**, President of the National Council of the Albanian National Minority in Serbia

**David Losoncz**, National Council of the Hungarian National Minority in Serbia

**Milica Rodić**, National Programme Officer, OEBS office for National Minorities

**Danijela Ristovski**, Independent Advisor at Commissioner for Protection of Equality of the Republic of Serbia

## DESCRIPTION:

Since the 2000 overthrow of Slobodan Milošević's autocratic regime, Serbia made several important laws and constitutional changes and established national minority councils to safeguard the rights of its minorities that were oppressed throughout the 1990s. Having potentially high powers in securing language, educational and cultural (although not territorial) autonomy, Serbian NCs have been readily recognized in recent scholarship as a safeguard for protecting minority rights, that 'could potentially offer a template for addressing ethnic tensions in other Central and East European countries' (Smith & Semenyshyn, 2016) and resulted in a lasting positive trend in Serbian-Hungarian relations and minority rights. However, while the history, activities and effects of the Hungarian national council has been relatively well studied, NCs of other ethnic groups in Serbia, such as Albanians, attracted less attention.

The goal of this webinar is to discuss and compare the effects of these two national councils in protecting their minority rights in Serbia. The webinar gathers several scholars and experts on the issue of the national councils in Serbia, and Hungarian and Albanian NC and Serbian officials institutions' representatives. They will share their views about the results and achievements of the National Council in practice and their effectiveness in promoting minorities' participation in political life, both at the local and national levels. According to their Statute, Councils' proclaimed goals and values, as well as their actions, are focused on solidarity, and have democratic and inclusive character oriented towards collective problems of public interest. They have a goal to make a social impact through long-term activities coordinated with other political actors. Therefore this webinar aims to examine the possibilities of the National Councils of the Hungarian and Albanian National Minority in Serbia to be efficient channels for greater participation of minorities in political life in areas where these Councils have predominant role — sectors relating to cultural identity, education, language and the preservation of cultural history.



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