

FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY IN SARAJEVO

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Centre for Scientific Research and Expert Activities (NIRSA CENTRE)  
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Pursuant to the decision of the Academic Council of the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo from December 8, 2010 (Decision number: 02-01/858, date: 30.12.2010), the Centre for Scientific Research and Activities (hereinafter NIRSA Centre) has been established and made operational. Prof. Dr. Nijaz Ibrulj has been appointed as the Head of the NIRSA Centre. Until the necessary conditions for employing the Centre's Secretary are created, the administrative and technical services of the Faculty of Philosophy shall support the work of the Centre.

The Centre is intended to function as a

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE - INSTITUTIONAL PLATFORM  
FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND ACTIVITIES  
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The Centre for Scientific Research and Activities of the Faculty of Philosophy (NIRSA Centre) shall provide employees of the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo with an intellectual, technical, communication, information, IT, reference and administrative platform for conducting scientific research and activities.

This will create conditions for the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo to function independently and in an organized manner, not only in teaching activities, but also in activities of scientific research.

The establishment of the NIRSA Centre at the Faculty of Philosophy provides its employees with a unique environment for conducting scientific research and activities and strengthens the basis for the establishment of leadership (academic excellence) in the BiH academic environment.

In terms of organization and material resources, the NIRSA Centre should integrate all staff resources, all fields of scientific research and all forms of scientific activities and should also support all aspects of their work.

As a result of these activities of the NIRSA Centre, the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo shall receive an open platform for an institutional, interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approach to scientific research and activities, as well as an opportunity for designing integrated projects and networks of excellence.

The Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo, through the work of this organization, shall be recognized by scientific research institutions in the EU, Southeast Europe and the region as a capable and valid partner in international academic communication.

This act shall also establish an internal infrastructure for researchers at the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo. Cooperation, ideas, people and capacities for scientific and research activities shall all be integrated at a single place and on a single platform.

The Head of the NIRSA Centre shall prepare a development project for equipping the Centre and shall also submit applications of the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo for competitions announced by the FBiH Ministry of Education and Science and the Sarajevo Canton Ministry of Education and Science in 2011 in order to ensure funds for equipping and developing the NIRSA Centre.

The NIRSA Centre is planned to include the following organizational entities:

**Scientific Research Institutes**

- Institute for Humanistic Research
- Institute for Social Research
- Institute for Linguistic Research
- Institute for Interdisciplinary Research
- Scientific Research Incubator

**Education Centers**

- Centre for Education and Pedagogical Specialization
- Centre for Psychological Research, Education and Consulting
- Centre for Learning Languages
- Centre for Translation

**Infrastructural Units**

- Unit for Library-Information Support
- Unity for IT-Communication Support
- Unit for Administrative Support
- Unit for Publishing Support

The NIRSA Centre shall function in accordance with European standards as a centre of excellence for humanistic and social sciences. By integrating all the relevant aspects of scientific research activities, the CENTRE wishes to position researchers from the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo as leaders in this field and to be recognized as a centre of excellence in BiH and the region.

By doing so, the Faculty of Philosophy, as a scientific research institution, will contribute to the establishment of the European Research Area (ERA) and the development of social sectors based on knowledge.

In order to achieve these objectives based on standards in the international and European scientific and academic community, the NIRSA Centre, being an open academic platform, shall integrate the following aspects:

**RESOURCES: PEOPLE, IDEAS, COOPERATION, CAPACITIES**  
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The NIRSA Centre shall bring together a critical mass of scientists, researchers and experts in the fields of social and humanistic sciences who are capable of preparing integrated projects and applying consortiums of methodologies necessary for interdisciplinary research.

88 PhDs, 43 masters of science, 30 scientific associates-assistants and 15 lecturers shall cooperate through the NIRSA Centre. The NIRSA Centre will bring together a total of 170 employees whose academic work in the field of humanistic and social sciences represents the basis for national research projects, as well as transnational projects implemented through collaborative projects, networks of excellence, coordination and support activities, research at the limits of science, support for training and advancement of researchers' careers and research aimed at supporting specific groups.

The NIRSA Centre will allow young researchers-assistants who lack the sufficient number of hours in teaching to put in additional hours and achieve a full teaching load by engaging in scientific research and taking part in the development of the Centre's platform based on their specific fields of expertise.

The NIRSA Centre shall work on

- structural activities concerning scientific research and the networking of people, ideas, projects and capacities. This shall provide conditions for designing integrated projects (interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary projects);
- mobility of researchers by actively supporting outgoing international exchanges, incoming international exchanges and partnerships between international research organizations in Europe and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

#### COMMUNICATION HUB

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Premises provided to the NIRSA Centre (room nr. 8/ground floor) shall act as an office from which the Head of the Centre and the Secretary, together with young researchers-assistants, scientific advisors, expert associates and assistants shall organize the functioning of the system for supporting scientific research and activities.

The NIRSA Centre shall function as

- a communication hub for coordination and planning;
- a place for discussion between teams in interdisciplinary projects;
- a place for discussion and signing agreement between the project teams of the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo and foreign partners;
- a space for educating research teams by the project leaders, or organizations (ministries, foundations, clients requesting the research) announcing competitions;
- a space for presentations and preparation of project documentation;
- a place for depositing electronic applications for projects;
- a terminal for official application of projects;
- a space for the presentation of scientific research programs offered by relevant state institutions, foundations and organizations to the academic community;

- a place for negotiating and closing contracts on the provision of education services by education centers that shall be organized as part of the NIRSA Centre;
- an audio and video room for holding internet video conferences between participants in projects via video link, i.e. internet consultations with partners in European and regional, i.e. national and multinational projects.

INFORMATION HUB  
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The NIRSA Centre shall function as

- a reference centre for library units for NIRSA Centre associates (who are also the teaching staff and associates in the teaching process);
- a reference centre for programs based on which the project teams and individuals shall design project documentation;
- a terminal for accessing scientific and reference databases which are accessible only through computers of a research institution;
- a terminal for installing and the use of translation software;
- a terminal for the use of IBM SPSS or statistical software in empirical research in the field of social science;
- a terminal for gathering, storing and using electronic books;
- a database on scientific activities in the field of social and humanistic sciences;
- a database on scientific research competitions in BiH, Europe and the world.

ADMINISTRATIVE-TECHNICAL TERMINAL  
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To support scientific research and activities performed by employees at the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo the NIRSA Centre shall integrate various forms of support, people and capacities that have so far remained outside of projects in a financial and organizational sense. Support provided by employees of the administrative and technical services shall now become more visible, not only in organizing teaching, but also in organizing support for scientific research and activities. In addition to scientific research institutes and education centers, infrastructural units will also function as part of the NIRSA Centre.

The NIRSA Centre's Infrastructural Unit shall include the following units:

- *Unit for Library-Information Support* – where researchers and research teams shall be able to establish and use specific databases, use information, search scientific databases, access printed reference material, access electronic reference compilations, etc.
- *Unit for IT-Communication Support* - where researchers and research teams shall be able to process data relevant for their research and research projects, use statistical software, use

communication technologies for holding video conferences, disseminate research results, etc.

- *Unit for Administrative Support* – where researchers and research teams shall be able to receive assistance concerning documents necessary for submitting applications for projects, the administrative-financial framework of scientific research projects, logging and registration of projects, planning space and time for education projects, financial framework for commercial projects in education centers, etc.
- *Unit for Publishing Activities* – where research results will be published.

Prof. Dr. Ivo Komsic, signature

Prof. Dr. Nijaz Ibrulj, signature

DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY IN SARAJEVO

HEAD OF NIRSA CENTRE