



EMWOSE
Women from ethnic minorities in social enterprise

Interview form

Overview

Name: Jasmina Ppric

Company: Lawyer Women Without Frontiers

Website: <https://www.anwaeltinnen-ohne-grenzen.de/english/>



So my name is Jasmina Ppric. I came to Germany in 1992 as a war refugee after the disintegration of the former Yugoslavia and after the outbreak of the Bosnian war. I came together with my family, with my husband and our ten- and twelve-year-old daughters. For me, at that time, it was very difficult to understand that such a thing was even possible in the run-up to the 21st century. In the middle of Europe, that a war was being created, and what is even worse, that it was tolerated. That the war was not stopped. That disappointed me very very much. And I have known from the beginning, although I am not a pessimist, I am an optimist, but I have known from the beginning that this war, unfortunately, will not be short, but it will be longer, because there have been set certain objectives of warfare.

I worked in Bosnia as a judge for ten years, so two years before the war broke out, all non-Serbs were dismissed in our court in Bosnia and Herzegovina. My hometown, Banja Luka, is a Serb stronghold. And then only Serb judges were elected. All other judges could no longer do this job. Then I settled down as a lawyer. That lasted two years, then the war broke out, then I had to flee with my family. So, as a lawyer, of course, I couldn't start in Germany. Not only as a lawyer, because I didn't speak German. I only acquired all my first German skills here. That took a while because German is not an easy language and especially at such an age, I was almost 40, so it was not easy to learn a foreign language in such a way that you can practice a law profession. So maybe for other purposes a certain level is enough, but as a lawyer or let alone that my studies were not recognized, but that's another topic now

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Keywords:

Former Yugoslavia, Bosnia, refugee, judge, lawyer, 2007, equality and equal rights, against all forms of discrimination against women, Arab Spring conference

I am a passionate lawyer and I wanted to help in my own way somehow, that's why through my many travels and conversations in different women's groups, I always realized that women are very often oppressed in different societies. That equality and equal rights in many other countries is far from what we can talk about let alone in European countries where officially men and women have equal rights. There is still a long way to go before that becomes a reality. That's why I had the idea of founding an association, Lawyer Women Without Borders, in 2007. We were eleven at the time, together with ten colleagues we founded the association and today, twelve years later, there are about 70 of us from 31 different countries. We stand up for equality and equal rights and against all forms of discrimination against women. Of course, it is very difficult to do these different projects that we would like to do, so to work more intensively in this area, but with only voluntary work it is not possible. Nevertheless, as far as we can, we are active. We so far have three major projects. We have developed a project, in the form of international conferences, which we plan to hold every second year. So, this project started with the first Arab Spring conference, when women in Arab countries went out to the streets. They also wanted to claim, through this movement, that they are not just objects, but subjects.

Full video [here](#)

