



University for Peace Université pour la Paix



Geneva, 16 November 2012

Prof. dr Žarko Obradović
Minister of Education and Science
Government of the Republic of Serbia
Nemanjina 24
11000 Belgrade
Republic of Serbia

Dear Minister Obradović,

I am writing to inform you personally of the activities of the European Center for Peace and Development (ECPD), an affiliated institution of the United Nations-mandated University for Peace (UPEACE). These activities are expanding throughout the Western Balkans, and I would like to ensure that you are aware of this valuable asset for your government and your country. I very much hope that you and your colleagues will encourage and support the work of the ECPD, and that the ECPD can cooperate with your government on projects and programs of common interest.

As you may know, the University for Peace (“UPEACE”) was established by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1980, as a treaty organization with its own Charter and with its headquarters in Costa Rica. UPEACE was authorized at that time to grant degrees and to develop programs and subsidiary organizations in pursuit of its mandate to offer education for peace “to humanity.” The founder of UPEACE, President Rodrigo Carazo of Costa Rica, personally oversaw the creation of the ECPD, extending to this affiliated organization UPEACE’s mandate from the United Nations to conduct academic activities and to grant degrees. The ECPD is thus UPEACE’s principal European affiliate and campus, and has a long and distinguished history of activities relating to peace throughout the region of South East Europe.

UPEACE is supervised by an independent Council which includes personal representatives of both the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of UNESCO. Every three years the Secretary General of the United Nations reports to the General Assembly on the activities and progress of UPEACE and its associated institutions, and the General Assembly passes a resolution, which normally commends the activities of UPEACE and its affiliates, and encourages member states to give their full support to these activities. I attach the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly, No 64/83 of January 19, 2010 and the current draft General Assembly Resolution, A/C.4/67/L.6 of October 2012.

As the principal European affiliate of UPEACE, the ECPD carries out a variety of activities in the region, including academic studies and granting of academic degrees, as well as conferences and research projects. UPEACE and ECPD degrees are accredited by the UN General Assembly through the unique authorization to grant degrees which is contained in the original Charter. UPEACE maintains a distinguished International Academic Council which

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continuously reviews and validates all of its academic programs. All of this is explained in detail on our website, at www.upeace.org and the ECPD website, www.ecpd.org.rs.

I hope this explanation is useful. Should you have any questions about UPEACE or our affiliated institutions around the world, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best personal regards.

Sincerely,

John J. Maresca
Rector

Attachments:

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly, No 64/83 of January 19, 2010,
Draft General Assembly Resolution, A/C.4/67/L.6 of October 2012