

## **Brain Drain**

### **Bosnian transcript in Latin:**

Pa jeste, jeste, i to što je najžalosnije, mnogo veći broj ljudi, akademskog osoblja je otišao poslije rata, nego tokom rata. Znači, ogroman broj ljudi, onih koji su istrpili i preživjeli sve to što se preživjelo tokom rata, su vjerovatno očekivali da će, kad dođe mir, sve odjednom da se brzo popravi. I kako se stvari nisu popravile, čak ni do dana današnjeg u onom smislu kako se, kako očekujemo, oni su odlazili. Mnogi od njih čak poslije 2000. godine, između '95. i 2000. ih je puno otišlo, ali i poslije 2000. su otišli. Naročito sad idu mladi, novozavršeni studenti, koji ovdje ne nalaze prostor za sebe. Znači, prvo, nema novih poslova, naprotiv; taj, taj procenat, statistički procenat, bez obzira što statistika ovdje nije pouzdana, nezaposlenih je permanentan: 16 godina poslije rata je to uvijek 40 i koji procenat. Ništa od toga se ne popravља, i zato mladi ljudi masovno odlaze. Starih što je otišlo, otišlo je, je li, ovih iz nekakvih ranijih generacija; oni su otišli masovno poslije, poslije, ovaj, rata, i ja sam tad pravila neke procjene, recimo, koliko je to mojih kolega otišlo, i došla sam do poražavajućeg broja, da je taj broj između 60 i 70 posto. Znači, sa našeg univerziteta ovdje, otišlo je između 60 i 70 posto kadrova. Tako da je taj odliv mozгова jedan od vjerovatno, jedna od negativnih činjenica, kao posljedica rata.

### **Bosnian transcript in Cyrillic:**

Па јесте, јесте, и то што је најжалосније, много већи број људи, академског особља је отишао послје рата, него током рата. Значи, огroman број људи, оних који су истрпили и преживјели све то што се преживјело током рата, су вјероватно очекивали да ће, кад дође мир, све одједном да се брзо поправи. И како се ствари нису поправиле, чак ни до дана данашњег у оном смислу како се, како очекујемо, они су одлазили. Многи од њих чак послје 2000. године, између '95. и 2000. их је пуно отишло, али и послје 2000. су отишли. Нарочито сад иду млади, новозавршени студенти, који оvdје не налазе простор за себе. Значи, прво, нема нових послова, напротив; тај, тај проценат, статистички проценат, без обзира што статистика оvdје није поуздана, незапослених је перманентан: 16 година послје рата је то увијек 40 и који проценат. Ништа од тога се не поправља, и зато млади људи масовно одлазе. Старих што је отишло, отишло је, је ли, ових из некаквих ранијих генерација; они су отишли масовно послје, послје, овај, рата, и ја сам тад правила неке процјене, рецимо, колико је то мојих колега отишло, и дошла сам до поражавајућег броја, да је тај број између 60 и 70 посто. Значи, са нашег универзитета оvdје, отишло је између 60 и 70 посто кадрова. Тако да је тај одлив мозгова један од вјероватно, једна од негативних чињеница, као посљедица рата.

## English translation:

Well, yes, yes, [brain drain is an issue], and what's even worse is that a much larger number of people, of academic staff, left after the war<sup>1</sup> than they did during the war. So, a huge number of people, those who went through the war and survived everything that they were put through, probably expected things to quickly return to normal once the war was over. So, as things did not improve – not even today – in terms of what was expected, people simply left. Many of them left even after 2000; a large number left between 1995 and 2000, but some left even after 2000. Young students fresh out of college are the ones leaving now, because they can't find a place for themselves. First of all, there are no new jobs on the market – quite to the contrary: this percentage, statistical percentage of unemployment, is constant, despite statistics here being unreliable. Sixteen years after the war, it is still somewhere around 40 percent. It's not improving, and that's why young people are leaving in numbers. Those from older generations left earlier, right after the war. I made some estimates then of how many of my colleagues left the country, and the numbers were staggering, ranging between 60 and 70 percent. Between 60 and 70 percent of our faculty here at the University [of Sarajevo] left. So, as a consequence of war, brain drain is one of the negative facts.

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<sup>1</sup> The speaker here refers to the Bosnian War. The Bosnian War took place in Bosnia and Herzegovina between April 1992 and December 1995. The main sides involved were the forces of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and those of the self-proclaimed Bosnian Serb and Bosnian Croat entities within Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republika Srpska and Herceg-Bosna, who were led and supplied by Serbia and Croatia, respectively.

The war came about as a result of the breakup of Yugoslavia. Following the Slovenian and Croatian secessions from Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in 1991, the multiethnic Socialist Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which was inhabited by mainly Muslims, Orthodox Christians and Catholics, passed a referendum for independence on February 29, 1992. This was rejected by Bosnian Serb (Orthodox Christians claiming roots in Serbia) political representatives, who had boycotted the referendum and established their own republic. Following the declaration of independence, Bosnian Serb forces, supported by the Serbian government of Slobodan Milošević and the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) attacked the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to gain territory which was planned to be annexed by Serbia. At the same time, Bosnian Croats (Catholics claiming roots in Croatia) organized into military units in those parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina where they were a majority with a similar intent – to gain territory for Croatia. War soon broke out across Bosnia between the three sides, with the death toll estimated at 250.000 people, most of which were civilians. Most of Bosnia and Herzegovina also suffered catastrophic damage to its infrastructure and industry.

It is also important to note that the speaker comes from Sarajevo, the capital city of Bosnia and Herzegovina which was besieged throughout the war, making it the longest siege in modern warfare. It is estimated that at least a quarter of its population (around 150.000 people) have left Sarajevo during or immediately after the war.

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