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The second lecture of the Dubravka Ugrešić Lecture Series: „Dignity and Historical Injustice: An Albanian family’s history“

By Professor Lea Ypi, LSE London | 11 April 2024, 17:00 | Sky Lounge,
University of Vienna, Oskar Morgenstern Platz 1, 1090 Vienna (12th floor)



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Abstract

Lea Ypi will be working on her new book project, titled *Indignity*, which is under contract with Penguin Press. The book will follow the journey of a woman from Ottoman Salonica to a life under surveillance in post-war Communist Albania. The book explores the moral and political meanings of dignity, individual and collective, in connection to questions of truth and reconciliation, historical injustice and the relationship between fact and fiction.

Bio

Lea Ypi is Professor of Political Theory at the London School of Economics and Political Science and an Honorary Professor in Philosophy at the Australian National University. A native of Albania, she has degrees in Philosophy and in Literature from the University of Rome La Sapienza, a PhD from the European University Institute and was a Post-Doctoral Prize Research Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford University.

She is the author of *Global Justice and Avant-Garde Political Agency*, *The Meaning of Partisanship* (with Jonathan White), and *The Architectonic of Reason*, all published by Oxford University Press. Her latest book, a philosophical memoir entitled *Free: Coming of Age at the End of History*, published by Penguin Press in the UK and W.W. Norton & Company in North America, won the 2022 Royal Society of Literature Ondaatje Prize and the Slightly Foxed First Biography Prize and is being translated in thirty languages.

Her academic work has been recognised with the British Academy Prize for Excellence in Political Science and the Leverhulme Prize for Outstanding Research Achievement. She coedits the journal *Political Philosophy* and occasionally writes for *The Guardian* and *Financial Times*.

The Dubravka Ugrešić Lecture Series is dedicated to the memory of the writer and thinker Dubravka Ugrešić from former Yugoslavia, who left us in the spring of 2023. She was a woman, an intellectual, a writer of special charisma, courage and sense of justice, whose literary work is not only important as art, but as creative political thinking and an example to follow in social responsibility of the intellectual in the best Arendtian way. In the lecture series, we aim to remember Dubravka and her work through acknowledging scholarship and art by and about women in Eastern and Central Europe.

Partners of the Dubravka Ugrešić Lecture Series: Professor for South Slavic Literature and the Key Research Area of Women's and Gender History at the University of Vienna, SOG (Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft) Zweigstelle Wien, the Department of Gender Studies and the Yugo-Region Research Group of the Central European University.

Organising committee:

Elissa Helms, Miranda Jakiša, Claudia Kraft, Jasmina Lukić, Zsófia Lóránd

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