



FEMYSO

SREBRENICA GENOCIDE



Toolkit 2026



1. Who are we?

FEMYSO is the only pan-European Muslim youth organisation, representing the interests and concerns of young Muslims. We utilise our voice to fight for the rights and civil liberties of young Muslims, working and collaborating with key stakeholders, regularly consulting on issues pertaining to Muslim youth. We have developed relationships with various civil society organisations, governments, and international institutions and agencies, such as the European Parliament, the European Commission, the Council of Europe, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation (OSCE), the United Nations, and many more.



2. Context of the Srebrenica Genocide

In July 1995, more than **8000 Bosniak men and boys** were systematically executed in an UN-designated safe zone during the Bosnian genocide. This atrocity, part of a broader campaign of ethnic cleansing targeting Bosniaks (predominantly Bosnian Muslims), was the result of years of dehumanisation, propaganda, and systemic violence. It remains the largest massacre on European soil since the Holocaust in World War II and a clear reminder of the catastrophic consequences of hatred, intolerance, and unchecked power.

2.1 #WeRemember95 FEMYSO Campaign

Since 2022, FEMYSO launched the #WeRemember95 campaign, a campaign focused on awareness-raising including advocating for the inclusion of the Srebrenica genocide in education systems. Commemorating the genocide highlights the need for accountability and justice while fostering understanding of how genocides unfold through systemic and institutional discrimination as well as societal neglect. Importantly, the Bosnian genocide urges a broader reflection on the European accountability and responsibility in atrocities against racialised people as well as the dehumanising conditions in which such atrocities occur.

2.2 Why is it important to commemorate this?

In May 2024, the UN General Assembly designated **11 July as the International Day of Reflection and Commemoration of the 1995 Genocide of Srebrenica**. Not only was a resolution adopted with the same title, but the Assembly asked the Secretary General to establish an outreach programme in preparation for the 30-year anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide. Along with awareness-raising efforts, the denial of the Srebrenica genocide was condemned with calls on Member States to preserve this historical event through educational systems to prevent denial and distortion as well as future genocides.



From 1995 to Today:

- Dayton Peace Agreement signed in **November 1995** which officially ended the Bosnian genocide and established Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) as a single state with two entities: Republika Srpska (RS) and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH).
- In **February 2007**, the International Court of Justice formally recognised the Srebrenica genocide. That same year, in June, survivors and family members filed a complaint against the UN and the Netherlands for failing to report war crimes or protect civilians in Srebrenica.
- Two key figures responsible for the Srebrenica genocide, Republika Srpska leader Radovan Karadžić and military commander Ratko Mladić, were finally caught in **2008 and 2011**. They and several accomplices have been sentenced to life imprisonment by the International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia (ICTY). However, many other perpetrators remain free to this day and live in Republika Srpska and Serbia.
- In **June 2017**, the Hague Court of Appeal ruled that the Dutch government was partly responsible for the deaths of 350 Bosniak men and boys during the Srebrenica genocide.
- In **July 2021**, the international High Representative for BiH, Valentin Inzko, amended the state Criminal Code to criminalise the denial of genocide and ban the glorification of war criminals. Less than two years after these amendments, on **21 February 2023**, Milorad Dodik, ultra-nationalist president of RS stated publicly, "Over there (in Srebrenica) genocide did not happen and we all in Republika Srpska know it."
- **2025**: The sentencing of Milorad Dodik in **March 2025** to one year in prison with a six-year ban from holding presidential office has further exposed security tensions. Dodik's refusal to accept the verdict and his threats to "radicalise the situation" have been followed by unconstitutional separatist laws enacted by the Republika Srpska National Assembly. The rise in security threats, reminiscent of the 1990s, is exacerbated by the normalisation of escalating rhetoric including Islamophobia among media, politicians and the public at the local and national levels which is alarming within the context of genocide denial and triumphalism.
- **2026: Today**, the consequences of the genocide remain an open wound. Families continue to search for their loved ones across primary, secondary, and tertiary mass graves. Approximately 1,000 victims are still missing. The Mothers of Srebrenica have spent over three decades leading this pursuit of truth, ensuring that the world does not forget, and fighting against systemic denial.



General Objectives of #WeRemember95 Campaign

1. **Raise awareness about the Srebrenica genocide:** Ensure the anniversary serves as a platform to amplify understanding of the genocide's causes, events, and consequences, focusing on the dehumanisation of Bosniaks and the role of systemic racism in enabling the atrocities.
2. **Foster historical accountability and justice:** Advocate for the inclusion of the Bosnian genocide in European curricula, promoting a decolonised approach to education that recognises this as part of Europe's history.
3. **Promote solidarity and systemic change:** Use the remembrance of Srebrenica to foster solidarity among diverse communities, to advocate for institutional change within EU institutions, member states, and wider European countries towards combating Islamophobia and systemic racism through effective prevention and accountability mechanisms.
4. **Empower young people to become advocates for justice:** Equip Muslim youth across Europe with the knowledge and tools to draw connections between historical and present systemic violence, enabling them to advocate effectively for structural change.

FEMYSO Previous Activities

- **Awareness-raising campaign** online using social media platforms, educational webinars and incorporating storytelling initiatives since 2022.
- In 2025, we organised a **delegation** visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina, including to the Srebrenica Memorial Centre, that was comprised of FEMYSO member organisations, volunteers, a British MP and partner civil society organisations.

FEMYSO Future Activities

Host a **roundtable** at the European Parliament in Brussels to present a policy brief, urging Ministries of Education to include the Srebrenica genocide in national curricula, supported by FEMYSO member organisations' advocacy.



What can you do?

As an individual

- Educate yourself
 - Read personal testimonies to understand the historical context and the ongoing human impact of the genocide today
- Engage with UK-based organisation, Remembering Srebrenica – [Survivor Stories](#)
- Read women's testimonies (e.g. [Mothers of Srebrenica](#))
- Learn more from survivors' stories e.g. [Nedžad Avdic](#), [Smajo Beso](#)
- Read about the advocacy and research work of the [Post Conflict Research Center](#) | [Dedicated to restoring a culture of peace](#)
- Review the [timeline](#) of events
- Watch educative films e.g. [Quo Vadis, Aida?](#)
- Listen to podcasts e.g. [Untold Killing](#)
- Promote knowledge-share within your circle including among family and friends

As a FEMYSO Member Organisation and civil society

- Join the #WeRemember95 social media campaign
- Post on your social media platform, e.g. create educational Instagram posts, interview your representatives, write a blog about the importance of commemorating this date
- Amplify personal testimonies with a survivor-centred approach
- Advocate to your Ministry of Education for the inclusion of the Srebrenica genocide in the national curriculum

As a journalist

- Write an opinion piece e.g. amplify survivors' stories through personal testimonies, report on the current political context in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and reflect on the legacy of the genocide
- Call out Islamophobia and anti-Muslim racism within the EU institutions and broader European discourse

As a Member of the European Parliament (MEP)

- Provide a platform for survivors/Bosnian diaspora to share personal testimonies related to the Bosnian genocide in a survivor-centred approach
- Support organisations working to raise awareness about the Bosnian genocide
- Publicly denounce Islamophobia and anti-Muslim racism within EU institutions and call for greater institutional accountability.
- Call for sanctions against Milorad Dodik, in response to his ongoing actions that undermine peace, justice, and democratic stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina

As an organisation

- Amplify personal testimonies with a survivor-centred approach
- Join the #WeRemember95 social media campaign
- Organise an awareness-raising event e.g. film screening, book club event, panel discussion with academics, journalists
- Write and publish articles or blogs highlighting the importance of remembrance
- Advocate to your Ministry of Education or EU institutions for the inclusion of the Srebrenica genocide in the curricula



Key Messaging

Below are key messages that you can include within your social media posts to commemorate the 31-year anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide.

1. Memory is not the past – it is a safeguard against forgetting and a guarantee it won't happen again.

Srebrenica teaches us that forgetting is not an empty space, but a place where hatred can be reborn. Remembering is the most powerful form of resistance to repetition. Memory culture is not a burden – it is the foundation on which we build a society that knows where it has been, so it can know where it is going.

Focus: *remembrance, educational curricula, intergenerational transmission of truth*

2. Srebrenica fell under the UN flag – but the truth must not fall with it.

The genocide occurred inside a protected zone. In front of the eyes of the world. Today, 31 years later, it is time to remind everyone: the international community failed to prevent the crime where over 8,000 men and boys were killed. That is a historical fact, confirmed by international court rulings. The truth is not negotiable.

Focus: *international responsibility, the UN, ICTY and ICJ rulings*

3. Denial is the continuation of genocide – and silence is complicity.

Every message that downplays, denies, or justifies the crime in Srebrenica is an insult to the victims, to justice, and to civilisation. We oppose revisionism and triumphalism today with truth, evidence, and the UN Resolution. That is why we do not stay silent. Every verdict and every fact speak the truth they try to hide – that genocide was committed in Srebrenica. And that cannot be debated.

Focus: *revisionism, denial, political triumphalism, the UN Resolution*

4. Without truth there can be no reconciliation. Without justice – no peace.

Srebrenica is not a matter of the past, but a present-day choice: will we build a society founded on truth, or bury it under lies? The truth about genocide must be present in schools, institutions, media, and daily speech – because that is the only way to ensure it never happens again.

Focus: *the need for institutional memory, opposing systemic amnesia, justice as the foundation of reconciliation*





FEMYSO

Working for a diverse, cohesive,
and vibrant Europe.

Get in touch.

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