In the wake of the violence in the Balkans at the end of the twentieth century, scholars of Southeastern Europe have concentrated on the past, present, and imagined future of the three largest communities within the former Yugoslavia—the Serbs, Croats, and Muslims, while the smaller ethnic groups within that shattered country have elicited minimal scrutiny. Nevertheless, those minorities have been very involved in the events of the past few decades. Professor Friedman’s lecture will focus on one of those minority communities, the Jews of Bosnia and Herzegovina, who played a unique role during the Bosnian war by providing assistance to their Bosnian neighbors and thus belying the common historical situation of Jewish victimhood.

Francine Friedman is Professor of Political Science at Ball State University, where she teaches international relations and the politics of Russian and Eastern Europe. A specialist on the former Yugoslavia, she is the author of *Bosnia and Herzegovina: A Polity on the Brink* (Routledge, 2004), *The Bosnian Muslims: Denial of a Nation* (Westview Press), as well as numerous articles and book chapters. She edited *Bosnia and Herzegovina: Evolution of Its Political and Legal Institutions*, by Mustafa Imamovic (“Magistrat” Sarajevo, 2006), winner of the prize for best foreign language book at the Sarajevo Book Fair in 2006. Her current book project is entitled *Like Salt for Bread: The Jews of Bosnia and Herzegovina.*

The annual McCloskey Lecture honors the memory of the late Frank McCloskey (photo to right), who represented Indiana’s 8th District in Congress from 1983 to 1995. As a congressman who took a passionate interest in the Balkan conflicts of the 1990s, he withstood the resistance of his party and the White House by persistently advocating for US action to stop the genocide in former Yugoslavia. His efforts spurred US involvement in the diplomatic process that eventually led to the Dayton Accords of 1995. After an unsuccessful re-election campaign in 1994, McCloskey devoted his energies to the cause of ending ethnic strife in the Balkans, making numerous trips to Bosnia and serving the National Democratic Institute as Kosovo Director.

Sponsors: Horizons of Knowledge, Russian and East European Institute, Borns Jewish Studies Program, Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures, Department of Political Science, Department of Religious Studies, Department of History.

Persons with disabilities who wish to attend the lecture and would like to request assistance should contact the REEI office (812-855-7309 or reei@indiana.edu).