Background

The McCloskey Fund was established in 2005 through the efforts of Frank McCloskey's late wife Roberta and the McCloskeys' friends and colleagues. The program is supported by the generous contributions of more than one hundred donors from the Bloomington area, Washington, DC, and overseas.

Frank McCloskey represented Indiana’s 8th District in Congress from 1983 to 1995. As a congressman, he took a passionate interest in the tragic conflicts of the former Yugoslavia. Withstanding the resistance of his party and the White House, McCloskey persistently advocated for US action to stop the genocide in former Yugoslavia. His efforts in large part spurred US involvement in the diplomatic process that eventually led to the signing of the Dayton Accords in 1995. After an unsuccessful re-election campaign in 1994, McCloskey devoted all of his energies to the cause of ending ethnic strife in the Balkans, making six trips to Bosnia and serving as Kosovo Director of the National Democratic Institute.

The McCloskey Fund honors and perpetuates Frank McCloskey’s memory through the McCloskey Fellowship, an exchange program between the United States and countries of the former Yugoslavia for scholars and civil activists who are committed to his vision of peace and freedom in the Balkans. McCloskey Fellows from the Balkans travel to the United States, where they work on a project that addresses democratic change in the Balkans as scholars-in-residence at Indiana University. McCloskey Fellows from Indiana University travel to the Balkans to pursue internships or field research in the area. The McCloskey Fellowship is jointly administered by the National Democratic Institute and the Russian and East European Institute (REEI) at Indiana University.

Previous McCloskey Fellows

Shqipe Pantina—Spring 2012: The founder and executive director of the Center for Policy and Advocacy in Prishtina (Kosovo), Shqipe conducted research on the relationship between electoral systems, party politics, and democracy during two months on the IU-Bloomington campus as a McCloskey Fellow. In addition to consultations with IU faculty, city and government officials, and local politicians, Shqipe’s research also encompassed a week-long series of meetings in Washington, DC with representatives of the National Democratic Institute, the US State Department, Democracy International, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, USAID, and the World Justice Project, and the National Albanian American Council.

Austin Kellogg—Summer 2011: As a recipient of the McCloskey Fellowship, Austin travelled to the Balkans to pursue an independent research project as part of her MA essay on microfinance in Bosnia. Focusing on a microcredit organization located outside of Sarajevo, Austin conducted interviews designed to elicit information regarding the health of the Bosnian microcredit sector with a focus on borrowing and lending habits as well as the issues of repayment practices and over-indebtedness. She plans to use this information to form policy-related recommendations for implementation at the government and organizational level once she completes her dual MA/MPA degree.

Bosko Stankovski—Spring 2010: A young Macedonian lawyer who co-founded and served as first president for the Center for Intercultural Dialogue before serving in the Cabinet of the Macedonian Prime Minister to promote international cooperation among political institutions, Bosko devoted his McCloskey Fellowship to research on youth involvement in politics while in residence at IU-Bloomington. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Politics and International Studies at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he recently organized a conference to mark the 10th anniversary of the Ohrid Framework Agreement. In the spring of
The McCloskey Fellowship

2012 he was a visiting scholar at the Sydney Centre for International Law, where his research addressed Australian involvement in the Bougainville peace process.

Lauren Butt—Summer 2009: Lauren graduated from IU in 2010 with an MA in Russian and East European studies, receiving the Daniel Armstrong Award for her thesis “Authentic Bosnia: (Re) Constructing Nostalgia in Post-War Bosnia and Herzegovina.” As a McCloskey Fellow, she interned in the Public Affairs Section of the US Embassy in Sarajevo, working on civic-education programs including the creation of an English-language website for the Bosnian non-profit Civitas. After presenting her paper “Stari Most: (Re) Building Authenticity and Nostalgia in Post-War Bosnia and Herzegovina” at the Royal Geographical Society conference in London, she took a position at the Peace Operations Training Institute, coordinating e-courses for soldiers, civilians, and diplomats involved in UN peace missions and earning promotion to Chief of Content in July, 2011.

Milica Matijević—Spring 2008: In the course of her McCloskey Fellowship, Milica spent three months as a scholar-in-residence at IU, investigating affirmative action and other anti-discrimination educational policies in the US. Upon returning to Serbia, Milica disseminated the fruits of her fellowship research by publishing two articles in Serbian legal journals and delivering a series of lectures about mechanisms for human rights protection in the European Union, at the University of Belgrade law school. She has since prepared a SIGMA survey on civil-service professionalization in Serbia and a Methodology Document for the Danish Refugee Council regarding displaced persons and entered a doctoral program in Law at University of Leicester where her research will continue to focus on anti-discrimination.

Ramajana Hidic Demirovic—Summer 2007: A doctoral student in the IU History Department, Ramajana was born and raised in Doboj, Bosnia and Herzegovina. From 1992-1995, she lived in Zagreb, Croatia as a refugee from the Bosnian War, then emigrated to San Francisco. As a McCloskey Fellow, she traveled to Croatia and Bosnia in 2007 to research her dissertation, which examines the struggles of Sephardi women to maintain their communal identity in interwar Bosnia. Since passing her qualifying exams, Ramajana has spent parts of 2010 and 2011 in Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia researching archival sources, supported by IREX/IARO and ACTR grants. In Fall 2011, she taught “Women from the Margins” at Indiana University-Purdue University Columbus in 2012-2013.

Jelena (Savanovic) Zlojutro—Spring 2006: As a law student at the University of Banja Luka, Jelena used her McCloskey Fellowship to study local government and youth policy as a scholar-in-residence at IU. In the course of her research, she met frequently with young people in Bloomington schools and clubs, and conferred with representatives of the National Democratic Institute in Washington, DC. Upon her return to Bosnia and Herzegovina, she completed her law degree and has since consulted on the Balkan Youth Health Project and apprenticed in the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Serbia. She is now employed by the Department of Higher Education as a senior officer for licensing and standardization.

For more information on making a gift to the McCloskey Fund, please go to [http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/giving/mccloskey.shtml](http://www.indiana.edu/~reeiweb/giving/mccloskey.shtml) or contact Mark Trotter at martrott@indiana.edu.

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