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University of Dayton to Give Honorary Degree to Holbrooke, Host Prime Minister of Bosnia, Convene Workshop as Part of Anniversary of Dayton Peace Accords

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UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON TO GIVE HONORARY DEGREE TO HOLBROOKE, HOST PRIME MINISTER OF BOSNIA, CONVENE WORKSHOP AS PART OF ANNIVERSARY OF DAYTON PEACE ACCORDS

Most of the Nov. 20-22 events to commemorate the third anniversary of the Dayton Peace Accords are open to the media. However, media are asked to register in advance with UD's public relations office and bring press credentials to campus events. Please call (937) 229-3241 and indicate which events you will be covering. Diplomat Richard Holbrooke, chief architect of the Dayton Peace Accords, and Haris Silajdic, prime minister of Bosnia, are available for advance telephone interviews. To schedule, call Teri Rizvi at (937) 229-3241.

Friday, Nov. 20

9 a.m.: Ten college students from Bosnia will give their perspectives of the current state of affairs in the Balkans as well as talk about their lives during and since the war at a forum in room 470 of the Jesse Philips Humanities Center. The forum is open to the public. Two attend UD, four attend Grand Valley State University in Michigan and the other four study at Heidelberg College in northern Ohio. They’re studying in the U.S. with the help of the U.S. Information Agency and its Bosnia Undergraduate Development Program.

11:30 a.m. Robert Gelbard, special representative of the president and the secretary of state for implementation of the Dayton Peace Accords, will oversee a U.S. State Department town meeting in the Hope Hotel at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. The session is open to the public, but registration is required. For registration materials, call (937) 257-6593.

3 p.m. Richard Holbrooke will sign copies of his book, To End a War, in the atrium of Joseph E. Keller Hall (the new law school at the University of Dayton).

4 p.m. Richard Holbrooke will be available to meet with the media in room 101 of Joseph E. Keller Hall.

4:30 p.m. Haris Silajdic, prime minister of Bosnia, will be available to meet with the media in room 101 of Joseph E. Keller Hall. He is expected to give a status report on the implementation of the Dayton Peace Accords.

8 p.m. Richard Holbrooke will be awarded a doctor of humane letters following a private dinner in the Kennedy Union Ballroom. He will be honored for “his relentless, principled and imaginative pursuit of lasting peace” in Bosnia. Haris Silajdic, prime minister of Bosnia who nominated Holbrooke for the Nobel Peace Prize, will speak. Holbrooke will offer remarks. The ceremony and remarks are expected to begin between 8 and 8:30 p.m.

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Saturday, Nov. 21

8:30 a.m.  It's been three years since the Dayton Peace Accords called a halt to the war in Bosnia. But the violence continues, with Kosovo on the front line and threats to the security of Macedonia, Albania and perhaps Montenegro waiting in the wings. International experts on the region will gather to recommend a strategic concept for NATO in the Balkans in "The Dayton Peace Accords and Beyond," a workshop organized by the University of Dayton Center for International Programs and funded by a $50,000 grant from the Packard Humanities Institute. A roundtable session, open to the public and media, will be held from 8:30 to 11:45 a.m. in the Kennedy Union Ballroom on campus. Seating is limited. Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. The afternoon and wrap-up sessions on Sunday, Nov. 22, are closed to the media and public.

7 p.m.  "Nocturne," Thomas Newbolt's oil painting that depicts a single fallen figure carried by three other figures, will be dedicated at the Dayton Art Institute to commemorate the end of the war and the beginning of an uncertain peace. U.S. Rep. Tony Hall, DAI and UD officials will be on hand for the dedication ceremony. Nenad Dizdarevic, Bosnian filmmaker and director of Igman Productions in Paris, will be the guest speaker. The University of Dayton's Center for International Programs purchased the painting with the help of private donors.

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For media interviews, contact Bruce Hitchner at (937) 229-3652 or via e-mail at hitchner@trinity.udayton.edu. For full news releases about any of the events, call (937) 229-3241 or go to http://www.udayton.edu/news/nr/newest.html