

## Reviews

This book, "Torture in War, Consequences and Rehabilitation of Victims – the Yugoslav Experience" comes as the result of yearlong work of professionals in the Centre for Rehabilitation of Torture Victims, which specialises in providing comprehensive assistance to torture survivors and victims of war trauma, primarily from the area of former Yugoslavia. The Centre was established in 2000, with financial assistance of the European Commission, within IAN (International Aid Network), local NGO whose mission is to provide psychological and other related assistance to refugees, internally displaced and other vulnerable groups, particularly those who have survived the worst ill treatment and torture in captivity.

The authors of this book, its editors in particular, have invested an enormous human, emotional, psychological, intellectual and moral effort to provide help to torture victims and rekindle their faith that there will always be people who fight against evil and human destruction.

This monograph is significant in many ways (anthropological, historical, psychological and psychiatric) and will be highly useful for present and future generations in the complex Balkan region. It presents an important message that we should always be alert in combating destruction and evil. As Dostoyevsky has said it long time ago: "We're all responsible for everything to everybody."

Prof. Dr Sc. med. Mirko Pejovic

The text we have before us can be seen from various aspects. Firstly, this is a kind of expert report on many activities of the non governmental organisation IAN (International Aid Network). Secondly, this is a rare written document about types and consequences of torture during wars in former Yugoslavia. Thirdly, this is a complex multi-disciplinary study that has brought together many prominent experts who have highlighted the issue of torture from the theoretical, therapeutic and research perspectives. It is important to mention that this is the first and so far the only study that comprehensively debates the problem of torture during wars in former Yugoslavia and the consequences of such torture on the biological, social and psychological functioning of the victims.

Who is this book intended for? In my opinion, this book is equally meant for experts in various fields (psychologists, psychiatrists, as well as physicians and lawyers), wider intellectual public, for associations working with victims and consequences of war, as well as for the state administration. Due to its comprehensive scope and uniqueness, this book will be a welcome addition to the academic literature for students of all faculties that train young people in the helping professions. In any case, this book is a good example of how a group of experts under the auspices of an NGO can do some very unique work worthy of praise.

Prof. Dr. Jelena Vlajkovic