

European & Eurasian Studies Program

Brown Bag Lecture Series

Sever Not Their Heads, But Take Them Prisoner

Military Captivity and the Rules of
War at the Ottoman-Montenegrin
Frontier (1853-1862)

Thursday, April 3
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Green School Seminar Room
(SIPA I, Room 502)

Florida International University
Modesto A. Maidique Campus
11200 SW 8th St, Miami 33199

Co-sponsors:

Ruth K. & Shepard Broad
Distinguished Lecture Series

Dorothea Green Lecture Series

Department of History

To RSVP, please
send and email to:
calyc@fiu.edu



Professor Vladislav Lilić will present a paper examining the imperial origins of international laws of war and the overlooked role of Ottoman Europe in global legal history. By the early 1860s, the Ottomans adopted the Europe-centered law of nations to regulate counterinsurgency campaigns against the renegade Christians of Montenegro. Why did the Ottoman Empire substitute foreign legal regimes for centuries-old Islamic laws of rebellion? Why did the Ottomans use laws of external war to deal with domestic enemies? How did the shifting treatment of military captives at the Ottoman-Montenegrin frontier interact with modern discourses of civilized statehood and humane warfare? By answering these questions, Professor Lilić repositions the Ottoman-Montenegrin conflicts as a legal terrain where old and new practices of war and sovereignty intersected, reshaping the imperial order in Southeastern Europe.



SPEAKER

Professor Vladislav Lilić is a scholar of Eurasian empires whose research focuses on the social and legal histories of statecraft, diplomacy, and identity building in the nineteenth-century Balkans. His first book (in progress), *Empire of States: Law and Interpolity Order in Ottoman Europe, 1830-1878*, traces how a wide array of elite and non-elite Ottomans in the Balkans used the law to navigate the turbulent transition from the world of empires to the world of nationalizing states.