

# NEWSLETTER

*July 2023*



FONDACIJA  
HASTOR

# SUMMER VACATION IN HOLLAND 2023

In addition to many successful projects, the Hastor Foundation can also boast of the "Summer Vacation in the Netherlands" project, which it implements with particular pleasure every year in cooperation with the Dutch organization "Stichting Kinderhulp Bosnië". The idea of the project is to give children from rural areas and with poor socio-economic status the opportunity to visit the Netherlands, make lifelong friendships and gain memorable experiences. This year, the project was implemented in June and 28 children from Kaćuni, Novi Travnik and Opara were given the opportunity to visit the wonderful land of tulips.

Considering that a large number of applications arrived, the administration of the Hastor Foundation had a difficult task to choose those students who would travel to the Netherlands. After careful selection, she decided to entrust her scholarship students, Amila Glamočak and Edna Porča, who enthusiastically took on the role of accompanying our little travelers. Amila says that she eagerly sent the motivational letter and eagerly awaited the email with the answer:

***I was overjoyed when they chose me and I was impatiently waiting to meet the colleague I was going with. Due to lack of time, we met via video call. Edna and I had many questions and doubts about how we would overcome the various challenges on this trip because there were more children involved, but with the advice of the students who went on this trip last year, we prepared very well. The 9th of June came, the day of departure, when Edna and I saw each other live for the first time, we got along great and at the same time took on the role of leaders. I knew right away that this would be an unforgettable experience because I had a great colleague.***

Amila points out that the moment of departure was very emotional both for the children who are leaving their home for the first time for such a long period and for the parents. However, as soon as everyone settled in the bus, she and Edna did their best to entertain the children and awaken in them the adventurous spirit necessary for the trip. Edna says that she enjoyed watching the children's curiosity and need for socializing grow day by day:

***The trip started with a lot of excitement and curiosity among the children as well as myself and my colleague Amila. We knew that this experience brought great responsibility, but with the support of the administration of the Hastor Foundation, we felt ready for this special challenge.***





Every moment spent with the children was priceless. From activity to activity, every day they became more and more relaxed, open and curious. I was delighted to see how quickly they made connections with each other and how readily they shared their stories with me and the other participants. It was especially emotional to see how the children were impressed by their arrival in the Netherlands. Their enthusiasm and curiosity towards the new culture was simply incredible. The guide's role was not only to provide information and guide them through the activities, but also to be there as a support and guiding hand during their journey.

Although they had a lot of time to get to know and socialize with the families they stayed with in the Netherlands, the children had workshops and activities planned every day that will make their stay unforgettable and which, among other things, were an opportunity to develop empathy and other positive trait. Amila briefly presented all these activities to us:

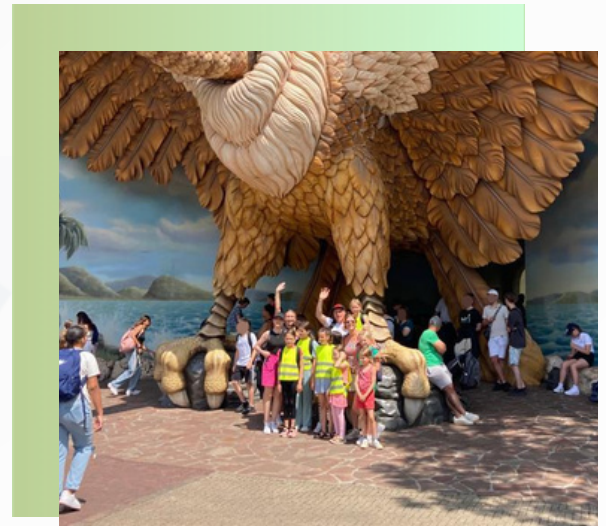
**On Sunday, June 11, we had our first workshop where the children painted animal figurines, after which we were all given special gifts. All our activities lasted quite a long time and I enjoyed spending time with the children. The next day we went to visit the families where the children are spending their summer vacation. I admired their caring and generous attitude towards children. I saw how hard they try to provide the children with an incredible summer vacation that they will remember for a lifetime, and through it they learn the best human qualities. On Tuesday, June 11, we went to the Hulie playground, where we spent seven hours. Children had fun on various trampolines, slides, and also in the pool. On Thursday, June 15, followed the Corn Maze, Maisdoolhof. The children had a lot to experience, play and learn. Some of the activities were: a maze, a go-kart with a speedometer, a cornhole, a bocce court, 3 types of stacking blocks that were particularly interesting to some, so they competed to build the biggest structure. They also saw various animals here. Already on June 18, we had a picnic, we enjoyed a variety of food and games with the children. The next day we played Bingo, where all the children got prizes, it was interesting to watch them waiting for each next number that might bring them one of the prizes. After Bingo we went horse riding. The days passed, and it was getting more and more interesting for us, in the second week the children got used to being separated from their parents very well.**



On Wednesday, June 21, we spent the whole day at Efteling, a fantasy theme park in Kaatsheuvel. In this park, attractions reflect elements of ancient myths and legends, fairy tales, fables and folklore. We went to numerous attractions, alternated with some of the scariest ones such as the Dive coaster free fall with a height of 30 m and a speed of 90 km/h, and then relaxing attractions would follow. Park Efteling was definitely the children's favorite, as we found out from the survey at the end of the trip.

When it comes to the families that hosted the children, Edna says that they delighted her with their treatment of the children and that many of the children wanted to stay in contact with their chosen families for a long time and even visit them sometime in the future:

The host families also deserve praise. Their warmth, openness and desire to provide the children with the best possible vacation through various activities, delicious food and introduction to Dutch culture was incredible. Ending the trip brought a mix of emotions – joy at the new friendships we made and sadness at having to say goodbye. But I know that the memories of this trip will remain deeply embedded in my heart forever.



Although she and her colleague Amila assumed a great responsibility and obligation by going on this trip, they pointed out that this was a great opportunity for them to visit a wonderful country and gain new unforgettable experiences. During the second week of their stay in the Netherlands, they had more time for themselves and decided to use it in the best possible way. They toured the cities, went for a walk, went shopping, rode bicycles, met new people, and in the meantime they moved to another family, where they were also supposed to stay. Staying in Amsterdam for the whole day is a special experience that they decided to treat themselves to, they were delighted by the long ride on the canals of Amsterdam as well as learning about the history of the city and a guided tour of the State Museum. They say that there is still a lot left for them to visit in Amsterdam and that they definitely decided to return to that beautiful city at the first opportunity in the future.



Amila shared with us her impressions from her last evening in the Netherlands, as well as some of her emotions from her return to Bosnia and Herzegovina:

*The last, and at the same time, farewell night was on June 23, it was something special that I will remember for a long time, each of us had to prepare choreographies, the children did very well and we enjoyed ourselves, sang and danced the whole night. It was especially emotional at the end of the evening when the children thanked the families who hosted them and gave them flowers. All the activities for the 16 days spent in the Netherlands were very well organized and interesting for the children, they looked forward to every next activity. The morning before returning to Bosnia was very emotional, tears were visible on our faces, greeting everyone in front of the bus took a long time. After 16 wonderful days we had to leave. The trip went without a hitch. The parents in Bosnia welcomed them with hugs, and the children were impatiently waiting to show them all the gifts from the Netherlands. At the end of this trip, the children said that it was much better than they expected, they said that they would like to stay in touch with the families they stayed with, and some even wanted to live in the Netherlands.*

They especially thanked the Hastor Foundation for this opportunity, but also the wonderful members of the "Stichting Kinderhulp Bosnië" organization who worked diligently with the aim of helping the children and therefore showed them the strength and importance of the community and enabled them to be part of an unforgettable experience for children from Bosnia and Herzegovina. They point out that on this trip they gained many skills and got to know a new culture, and in addition, they had the opportunity to look at the happy faces of the younger scholars and admire the children's joy because of the trip and the new experience, which, they say, particularly fulfilled them. They pointed out that through this trip they saw for the umpteenth time that the Hastor Foundation contributed to the children's happiness, which they will undoubtedly remember forever.

Through the example of Edna and Amila, the Hastor Foundation once again confirmed the importance of its mission in our country and how young are the bearers of the future.

**You can find more photos from this exciting trip in our Lens section!**

# MALE PRIČE VELIKIH VOLONTERA

Stories worth reading are often hidden in the lives of people who are sometimes unaware of how inspiring they really are. Scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation contribute to the creation of a better and happier today with their continuous volunteer activities. By talking about important topics, they help high school and elementary school students to create great ambitions and learn true values. One wonderful volunteer story comes from Maglaj and it is told to us by Edin Šahbaz, a student mentor who regularly designs creative activities that he implements with his volunteer group at monthly meetings.

The volunteer group in which Edin is a mentor consists of 10 high school students, and the schools the students attend are Edhem Mulabdić Gymnasium, Mixed High School, Maglaj and Žepče Mixed High School. They most often volunteer at the premises of the Red Cross in Maglaj, but they are very happy to take advantage of these summer days to socialize in nature. Nature is certainly the starting point for every inspiration that is born in the mind of a person. She definitely inspired our scholarship holder, who this month handled the planned topics with his volunteer group in an interesting way.

They started the meeting with the planned topic, and the introduction to the topic was a conversation with the students about their talents, what talents and skills they possess and in what ways they use them. From the informative part of that conversation, they moved on to the conversation about discovering personal maximum. They talked about how to recognize the talents we possess, how to work on them and how to use these talents for useful purposes. They also watched Steve Harvey's short video "Steve Harvey Talks About How You Can Identify Your God Given Gift", which focuses on that topic, as well as "Follow Your Gift, Not Your Passion", which talks about using our skills.

Although every success requires effort and work, there are other things that make the path to achieving your goals easier. Edin discussed with his group of students about the keys to success and what measures we should take in order to be more successful people. They watched a 10-minute video on that topic and then had a short discussion about the views expressed in the video. One very interesting takeaway from their discussion is that fear is one of the main obstacles to success. In order to get rid of fears, it is important to know how we can reduce them and, if possible, completely remove them from our lives. After the exchange of information that easily fills the students, the mentor opened an interesting session in which the students shared with each other what they want to achieve in their future, taking into account the talents they possess.



The answers were interesting and showed the creativity and individuality of each scholar. The end of the meeting was scheduled for a more dynamic aspect of the topic discussed, and they discussed how to turn your hobby into a source of income. This topic opened the door to various ideas and ways of making money by using your own skills. The students mentioned some of the most popular skills today, but the emphasis was placed on the fact that any skill/talent can be profitable and useful if channeled in the right way.

What additionally contributed to the beauty of this meeting was certainly the fortress in Maglaj, which gave our scholars the opportunity to embrace the pearl of their city and gain knowledge while enjoying the beauty of their hometown. The final part of the meeting was an escape from everyday reality and the students spent it playing social games and admiring the view of the city.

***In the month of April, this hard-working group carried out an ecological cleanup in the area of Maglaj, in order to mark the World Day of Doing Good.***



Edin Šahbaz is a successful student at the Faculty of Traffic and Communications, as well as a successful scholarship holder, volunteer and mentor, which we had the opportunity to see before because his successes enriched the pages of our newsletter. Speaking about his way of communicating with the volunteer group, Edin says the following: ***I see mentoring as an opportunity to facilitate someone's path to realizing their dreams. Our meetings exude freedom, which has always been my goal. I look forward to our gatherings, and I feel that the students also like to fulfill their volunteer obligations. This is my confirmation that I am doing the right thing and I plan to continue trying to organize successful and interesting meetings that we will all remember fondly.***

Throughout history, Maglaj has given birth to great people, and our scholarship recipients are proof that this practice did not remain in the past, but extends far into our days and has the potential to reach far into the future. Their meetings at the fortress will build great fortresses of knowledge that no wind can shake and that neither time nor years can destroy.

***Prepared by: Nedžma Latić***

# SELMA MAHMUTOVIĆ



"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention" - Oscar Wilde reminds us of the importance of good deeds, and this is the message that the Hastor Foundation has been spreading through its philanthropic activities promoting significant life values for many years. One of the main values of the Hastor Foundation is to encourage positive changes in society. Its scholarship recipients are the best examples of such changes as they actively live its vision and goals through their volunteer activities. In our section "Scholar of the Month," we want to introduce scholarship recipients who contribute to our mission and vision through their engagement within the Hastor Foundation.

They are examples of responsibility, solidarity, and success that inspire us daily. Thanks to her continuous work and significant contribution to the Hastor Foundation, **Selma Mahmutović** has rightfully earned the honorary title of Scholar of the Month this month.

Selma Mahmutović, originally from Sarajevo, is an outstanding scholarship recipient whose individual work promotes innovation among young people. She is a second-year student at the Faculty of Economics, University of Sarajevo, Department of Business Management, majoring in Marketing. Her main area of interest during education has been economics, which influenced her choice of study, and she states:

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Selma has a wide range of interests and skills she developed during her upbringing. In elementary school, she excelled in her literary works, both in poetry and prose. Additionally, she had achievements in sports, especially in cross-country and athletics competitions. English language was just one of her interests and paths of improvement, so she always sought to enhance her knowledge in that field. Besides that, she cultivated a love for the Turkish language, their traditions, and culture. Selma strives for progress within the Hastor Foundation by articulating her goals. The initial instance of her voluntary engagement was mentoring, and she says:

***When I became a mentor at the Hastor Foundation, I was not aware of how much effort, dedication, and responsibility this title carries. However, from the beginning of my mentoring, I tried to fulfill my duties on time and with the utmost care. I got my role as a mentor during the pandemic, which was a significant challenge for me. Besides that, I consider my role to be that of an advisor. I have always wanted to encourage their talents through games, so I often insisted that they tell me about themselves, to understand what each of them is gifted for through quizzes. I think the role of a mentor is precisely to find the best in them, to help them channel that best towards a direction that will open new doors to success.***



After her voluntary work as a mentor, Selma got the opportunity to join the administrative team, where she met new friends and gained meaningful experience. Selma emphasizes that she performs every assigned task with great enthusiasm, dedication, and a desire to contribute to her team. She also believes in the importance of being responsible and committed to her work. She believes that the Hastor Foundation has improved her individual growth through various activities within the administrative team. In addition to her voluntary engagement in the administrative team, she is actively involved in improving the lives of her local community. Furthermore, she initiated an initiative for cleaning up the neighborhood where she lives and strives to show that environmental preservation is an extremely important commitment and that everyone can contribute to a better community life.



Her dedicated resolution of doubts or forwarding of important information is a daily practice by which she provides support and assistance to Hastor Foundation scholarship holders. Selma points out that she performs every volunteer task assigned to her with great enthusiasm, dedication and desire to contribute to this team. He also points out that it is important to be responsible and dedicated in your work. She believes that the Hastor Foundation has improved her individual growth through various activities within the administrative team. In addition to volunteering in the administrative team, she is actively involved in improving life in her local community. Encouraged by the volunteer activities of the scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation, Selma also starts an initiative to clean up the neighborhood where she lives and tries to show that preserving the environment is an extremely important commitment and that everyone can contribute to a better life in the community.

Selma recognizes the importance of the Hastor Foundation as the foundation for creating positive social changes:

***The Hastor Foundation has been a lifesaver for me, both financially and in all other aspects of life. It has opened numerous opportunities for me to fulfill my desires and dreams. It has been my guide when I did not know where I should be heading. It helped me realize that I am worth much more and that I have the right to dream, feel, and want.***

***Prepared by: Semina Sadiković***



## AJLA VREBO

The rubric of active youth is a space where each month we present the most hard-working scholarship holders of our Hastor Foundation. In a small place, big and significant stories are written of those who use up every spare moment to do beautiful and useful things in an effort to make the society they live in better, more beautiful, and healthier. RAY is a rubric dedicated to those who work daily to improve their society and themselves. Therefore, we are delighted to talk about some of them. The rows of this month's "Rubric of Active Youth" will be enriched with the story of Ajla Vrebo, a final-year student of the Faculty of Health Studies. Ajla decided to major in Laboratory Technologies, and her life story begins to intertwine with the Hastor Foundation already in the fifth grade of elementary school.



The Foundation plays a major role in Ajla's life. Throughout the years of volunteering, she saw the Foundation as a guardian who was awarded to her by her teacher because she was a hard-working and exemplary child. That same guardian is still following her closely and gives her motivation. Ajla has always loved to learn, explore, and she never saw it as an obligation.

She was introduced to the term volunteer work after she had become part of the Hastor Foundation family, and since then, her volunteer biography has taken on many colors. Volunteer work became a daily part of her routine, so she joined various non-governmental organizations, and one of them is the "Bravo" organization, where she is a member of the steering committee and project assistant.

When she was about to become a mentor, she was fearful of how well was she going to manage and if she would become a good-enough leader of a group. Still, with the help of her then-mentors, Ajla realized how much of a new experience each volunteering was and that it makes our lives more beautiful.

I have been volunteering at the Hastor Foundation since the fifth grade of elementary school. I will remember my first meetings for my mentor Belma, with whom I am still in contact today. I would single out that as the most beautiful part of every volunteer group I have been a member of over the past years. When I became a mentor myself, I knew what I wanted to achieve by doing so – to transfer as many positive experiences as possible to the group. Volunteering brought me numerous advantages, acquired new knowledge and skills. Every year, the Hastor Foundation instructs the mentors which topics should be the focus of the meetings, which is very good for the scholarship holders. Anything new you learn is always welcome and you never know when it might come in handy.



Furthermore, when you try your hand at the role of a mentor, you develop skills that, among other things, served me as a support for further development. I perceive all the volunteering and experiences I have gained as a puzzle that I put together in order to create a final picture that I will be satisfied with. Working with young people as a project assistant, I found the most inspiration. It helps me plan my next steps and create plans for the future. Thanks to volunteering at the Center for Healthy Aging, I realized how beautiful life can be, but also challenging. I think that by working with the elderly you can learn the most about life.

Ajla believes that it is very hard to balance university and private obligations with volunteer work. It often happens that some happenings exhaust her both physically and mentally, so those situations create additional challenges. However, with more obligations, she pushed her own boundaries which allowed her to develop her skills even further, but mostly to be able to work under pressure.

Sometimes throughout my college education, volunteering required a lot of time and energy, which often led to the question: **Why do I volunteer so much?** When someone asks me why I am so active, I never know how to give an answer in one sentence, so I somehow try to explain it using examples. Thanks to the volunteer work at the Hastor Foundation, I have learned how much influence we can have on others and why it is so important that young people have good role models.



Thanks to the Retirement home, I realized how beautiful life can be, but also challenging. I think that by working with the elderly you can learn the most about life. Working as a project assistant with the youth, I have found the greatest inspiration. That helps me to plan my next steps and create plans for the future. All of the volunteer work and experiences I have acquired I see as pieces of a puzzle that I am solving so that I can create the final picture I will be satisfied with.



Furthermore, what is a special advantage of volunteering at the Hastor Foundation is the fact that when you get student status, you have the option to join some of the teams such as administration, monitoring team, etc. As someone who is a member of the monitoring team, I must say that such a team gives a new perspective to the word volunteering and through it you are able to acquire numerous new skills.

Besides her parents, she considers the Foundation to be the biggest support throughout the entire period of schooling, because it helped her and her parents a lot financially, and so it strengthened the wind in her back.

Young people are certainly the initiators of change. The best example of this is precisely the Hastor Foundation. We have a structured system through which we can influence an individual from a very young age and in that way help in forming beliefs that can result in initiating changes in society. After all, to initiate change, we need a healthy society that will succeed in doing it, and the Hastor Foundation is doing exactly that – IT CREATES HEALTHY SOCIETY.

Ajla will continue her Master's studies in Portugal as she was granted the Erasmus Mundus scholarship. She is looking forward the most to the libraries with which she had been fascinated since she was a child, and which she will soon have a chance to see in person. She says that the Erasmus scholarship is the realization of all of her dreams because she had been working hard the previous year so that she could continue her studies abroad and make her biggest dream come true.

Her message to the scholarship holders is:

**We are moving through time too swiftly to be afraid of challenges and consequences, so set goals that will bring pleasure to you and follow them, because nothing is impossible.**

***Prepared by: Adelisa Begić***

# ADMIR HRNJIČIĆ

The Hastor Foundation is a friend and companion throughout our entire lives! The experiences, qualities and professional skills acquired through volunteering at the Foundation skillfully accompany us every step of the way and serve as a tool in the world that awaits us when we leave its fold after graduation. During the period of schooling, while we are building ourselves and our personality, it is a great advantage to be part of the Hastor Foundation family, which encourages and motivates us to achieve the best possible results and which teaches us true human values. However, we appreciate these values even more after we move into new spheres of life, meet new people and dedicate ourselves to new events. At that time, every mention of the Foundation reminds us that our hearts are still firmly attached to it and that we are still part of that big family.

The connection between the Foundation and each scholar is intertwined with interesting events, strong emotions and sincere, long-lasting friendships that undoubtedly last a lifetime. No matter how faded our memories that we build during schooling, the attachment of each scholarship recipient to the Foundation at any age remains and as the years pass, it grows nostalgically. Below we bring you the inspiring story of former scholarship holder **Admir Hrnjičić**.

Our alumni this month, Admir Hrnjičić, was born in Travnik, and he spent his childhood, elementary and high school education in Novi Travnik, and during the entire period of his education he was an excellent student.

Admir tells us how his further educational path went:

***After finishing high school, I entered the Faculty of Philosophy, Department of Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian Language and Literature. Thank God, I finished all four years on time. At the beginning of the third year of study, I learned about the Hastor Foundation through a friend. I really had no idea about the enormous efforts, financial support and time that the Foundation invests in the education of young people until I became a proud member of it. I then had a really emotional interview with our teacher Ramo and Nermin. Given that I was in a difficult financial situation at the time, that contributed even more to everything being like that.***

During the period of volunteering, the volunteer meetings and workshops of different character, trainings and trainings that helped him to build himself as a person were the most etched in Admir's memory. Meetings with school-age scholarship holders contributed to the additional rapprochement of all members of this large family!



Considering that Admir became a scholarship holder in the first years of the establishment of the Hastor Foundation itself, his memories bear the fragrance of the beginnings of the positive story that the Foundation has been writing throughout all these years, which, as he points out, makes him particularly happy, fulfilled and proud. We all know that the life path after college is very dynamic and challenging, where the job market represents an open field with many opportunities, but also storms that can further encourage and strengthen us for the future, or hinder us in realizing our dreams. How Admir fared after his higher education, we learn below:



***After graduating from university, I worked for one year as an intern in an elementary school in Opara, near Novi Travnik, however, taking into account our situation related to the state sector, I gave up the mentioned job. After that, I started working in the real sector in the company UTD BEST d.o.o. Travnik. I had many engagements within the company and started from the beginning. I worked in a warehouse for the first year, followed by three years in procurement as a procurement salesperson and five years as sales director for Bosnia and Herzegovina.***

Through the conversation with Admir, we were happy to remember the basic values that the Hastor Foundation teaches us every day – effort, work and the desire for progress are impeccably appreciated, but our morals have no price! We should look for the opportunity to make our dreams come true every day, even when it seems to us that the circumstances are not what we imagined.

Dear readers, we believe that Admir's story will be very inspiring for you as well as for us! Last year, after less than 9 years of engagement, Admir left the company UTD BEST and continued his business career in the company DDI d.o.o. Zenica, where he holds the position of director of the same! Admir's story teaches us that even when our life paths do not go as we imagined, we should not give up, on the contrary, we should just move forward even more strongly and believe that the best for us is waiting for us in the end.

We are grateful to Admir for sharing with us the answer to the question of what is his greatest success:

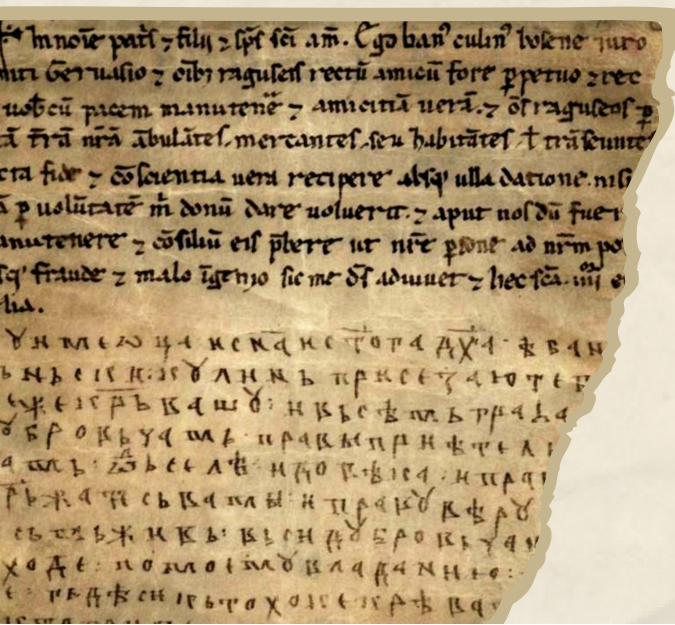
***In the end, the biggest success is my family, for which I am immensely grateful to God. I want to greet and once again thank all the valuable people from the Hastor Foundation who selflessly gave us their knowledge, experience, financial and other support.***

# CHARTER OF BAN KULIN

There are parts of the cultural heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina that are more or less covered in public discourse. Among the more famous legacies from the history of our country is the Charter of Ban Kulin signed on August 29, 1189. However, the importance of this charter as the "birth certificate of Bosnian statehood" is mainly emphasized, which is absolutely wrong if you consider that Bosnia was not created in 1189, when the Ban Kulin Charter was signed, but existed much earlier, as evidenced by its mention in the work *De administrando imperio* (On State Administration) from the middle of the 10th century, authored by the Roman Emperor Constantine VII Porphyrogenet. By claiming that Bosnia was created with the Ban Kulin Charter, the history of Bosnia, which goes back at least two centuries, is annulled.

Ban Kulin's charter should first of all be seen in the context of establishing official trade ties with Dubrovnik, an act that was of interest to both Dubrovnik and Bosnia. It is not known how the negotiations went, but it is assumed that the Latin text was first written in the Dubrovnik office, placed on top of the leather sheet, which was then sent to Bosnia so that the scribe Ban Kulin could write his translation underneath it and ratify the contract with the correct date and signature. The fact that the dijak Radoje is mentioned in the text of this charter speaks of the fact that there was an organized scribe's office in Bosnia as one of the important segments of the interior of the palace.

From the content of the charter itself, it can be learned that the Bosnian ban Kulin swore to the Dubrovnik prince Krvaš and all the citizens of Dubrovnik to be a true friend and that he would keep true peace and true faith with them until the end of his life.

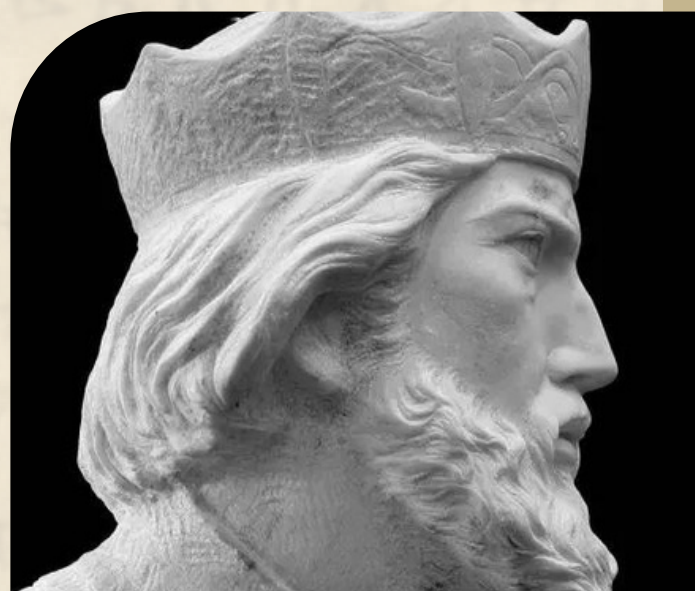


Zoran Perović, an employee of the State Archives in Dubrovnik, said that the Ban Kulin Charter mentions the residents of this city for the first time. Therefore, the aforementioned charter is of great importance for the history of the city of Dubrovnik. In addition to the aforementioned promises, Ban Kulin gave the people of Dubrovnik wide trade privileges.



He guaranteed full freedom and security to every Dubrovnik citizen, that he can move freely and trade in Bosnia without any taxes.

Exempting merchants from paying trade fees was a major concession, so Ban Kulin probably tried to attract Dubrovnik citizens to trade and travel in Bosnian territory with this diplomatic procedure. In the continuation of the charter, it is stated that the officials of Ban Kulin will not cause problems for the people of Dubrovnik who come to Bosnia to trade. In the entire charter, ban Kulin stands out in the foreground as a large, strong, and independent ruler who has absolute power and control over his country.



Ban Kulin's charter is preserved in three copies in Dubrovnik, but one of them is kept in the Library of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Saint Petersburg. This charter is of great importance because it represents the oldest evidence of trade relations between Bosnia and Dubrovnik that continued in the following period. Also, the aforementioned charter is one of the oldest documents written in the Slavic language. However, Ban Kulin's Charter should first of all be seen in the context of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Bosnia and Dubrovnik, which continued until the fall of medieval Bosnia under Ottoman rule in 1463.

***Prepared by: Amina Abaspahić***



# SUMMER VACATION IN HOLLAND 2023





## Poet corner

While books are covered by a thin layer of dust  
Even at the university, only the sound of silence can  
be heard,

The joy of vacation is growing  
And it's as if happiness is piling up everywhere.

Crowded beaches, lakes, and rivers  
They show how much summer is eagerly awaited.  
Looking for a place higher in the shade,  
And we are often refreshed by short summer rains.

From student dormitories and distant cities  
After many exams and seminar papers,  
Carrying new stories, experiences, and knowledge,  
Societies meet, and care is less and less.

There is more happiness in the air than heat  
Summer reminds of rest and togetherness  
Loved ones are here from all over the world  
Family and love against all evil.

**Nikolina Stanar**



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