

INVITATION
18 December 2019

**Brown Bag Lecture and discussion \ The road less travelled:
Voluntary return migration to Bosnia and Herzegovina—
Motivation, obstacles, strategies and sustainability**

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By Aida Ibričević

9 January 2020

13.00–14.00 hrs

at BICC, Pfarrer-Byns-Str. 1, 53121 Bonn

In her talk, Aida Ibričević will present her study based on the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) looking at voluntary return migration to a post-conflict society. Based on a thematic analysis of 35 in-depth interviews conducted with returning diaspora members throughout BiH, her paper first attempts to understand the main drivers behind peoples' decisions to return. Second, for a better understanding of their reintegration processes, Aida Ibričević examines the obstacles the returnees faced and the coping-strategies they developed. Finally, the study deals with the question, how people perceive the success of their return and what this could mean for the sustainability of return migration in post-conflict societies in general.

Aida Ibričević is a social science researcher based in Sarajevo, BiH with a BA in Economics from Middlebury College, United States, an Economics MA from Central European University, United States/Hungary and a PhD in Political Science from Istanbul Bilgi University, Turkey. Her work focusses on voluntary return migration, reintegration, transnationalism and diaspora, and recently diaspora engagement policies. This presentation is part of the author's PhD dissertation entitled *Searching for Home and Belonging: A Qualitative Study to Understand the "Emotional Citizenship" of Diaspora Returning to Bosnia and Herzegovina*.

The talk on 9 January 2020 is taking place in the framework of BICC's Brown Bag Lecture Series "Displacement and Development" which aims to interlink conflict and displacement studies on the one hand and development respectively humanitarian aid-oriented analyses on the other.

Please register at pr@bicc.de

(By participating in the talk on 9 January 2020, you agree that any photo of you taken at the event may be used on BICC's homepage, social media and print publications.)