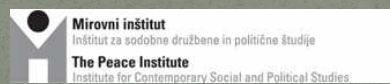


# ABOUT „ERASURE“ AND THE ERASED PEOPLE IN SLOVENIA

Peace Institute's strategy and contribution to solving the problem



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## WHAT HAPPENED?

- Slovenia part of SFRY since 1945  
(„dual citizenship“ – SFRY citizenship & citizenship of one of the SFRY republics)
- 23 December 1990 – referendum on the independence of Slovenia
- 25 June 1991 – independent Republic of Slovenia
- 25 December 1991 – deadline for applying for Slovenian citizenship
- 26 February 1992 – the erasure!



## THE ERASURE

- 25.671 people erased from the register of permanent residents (20% of the erased persons were children)
- People were unlawfully deprived of their legal status  
-they lost all social and economic rights (employment, housing, healthcare, education)



By 2009:

1.302 persons died

10.943 persons have regulated their status in Slovenia  
(7.313 of these have Slovenian citizenship)

13.426 persons still without regulated status in Slovenia

In 2010: “new” Legal status Act – ZUSDDD-B (permanent residence permit only)

2010 – 2011:

211 applications filed

55 approved

80 not approved

76 still processing



# PEACE INSTITUTE

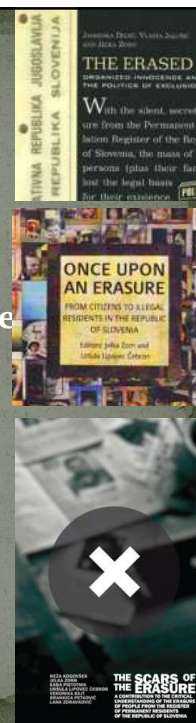
- since 2002 (books, articles, events)
- projects since 2007

2 projects:

**The Erased People of Slovenia – a challenge of a young nation-state** (1.1.2007 – 31.12.2009)

**The Erased: Remediating Human Rights Violations** (1.1.2010 – 31.12.2012)

Sponsor: Open Society Foundations  
(Human Rights & Governance Program)



## ACTIVITIES:

1. „**field work**“: identifying the erased persons, interviews, needs-assessment
2. **Free legal aid**: regulating legal status of the erased – permanent residence permit (direct insight in procedures)
3. **Raising awareness**: the media, public events, lectures, website, brochures, articles, books, etc. (influencing public opinion)
4. **Advocacy**: pressuring the authorities, national legislation (amendments to Legal Status Act in 2010), ECHR case (final ruling in June 2012)



## Results:

- 2010 Legal Status Act  
but still exclusive; doesn't solve the problem; long, expensive (95 eur) and difficult procedures
- Free legal aid for about 400 erased people, representing more than 130 people (45 got permanent residence permit, about 80 procedures still open)
- ECHR case *Kurić and others vs. Slovenia* – final ruling on 26 June 2012 (a pilot judgement – strategic litigation)  
→ compensations (but also exclusive – like 2010 Legal Status Act)
- The media & public opinion changed