International Conference

Human nature, national character, ethnicity and the future of war

7 and 8 June 2014
Aero Klub
Uzun Mirkova 4/2, Belgrade

Preliminary Programme

Saturday 7 June 2014

09.00 – 10.45  **Session 1:** Wars for Yugoslav Succession (WfYS) – a case study
- Causes of WfYS: ‘century-old hatred’ or collapse of an authoritarian polity?
- Identity and WfYS: religion and ethnicity as components of the WfYS
- Economy and cultural components and WfYS

10.45 – 11.15  *Coffee break*

11.15 – 12.45  **Session 2:** Is humanity hardwired to be aggressive?

12.45 – 14.15  *Lunch break*

14.15 – 15.45  **Session 3:** Does culture/nurture promote in-group violence against the out-group (group selection thesis)?

15.45 – 16.15  *Coffee break*

16.15 – 17.45  **Session 4:** Tribalism: Is ethnicity/nationality an extension of Stone Age tribal systems (evolutionary psychology thesis)?

20.00  *Dinner*

Sunday 8 June 2014

09.15 – 10.45  **Session 5:** Is there a ‘national character’?

10.45 – 11.15  *Coffee break*

11.15 – 12.45  **Session 6:** War
- Is war ‘pathological’?
- Is ethnic warfare (Balkans 1990s etc.) a ‘degenerative form of warfare’ or the ‘remnants of war’ (John Mueller thesis?)

12.45 – 14.15  *Lunch break*