

The Centro per l'Europa Centro-Orientale e Balcanica of the Department of Political and Social Science welcomes a new research fellow, **prof. Mykhaylo Komarnytskyy** (mykhayl.komarnytskyy@unibo.it), who is visiting us under the Erasmus Mundus Program Post-Doc Fellowship, Department of Political and Social Sciences, University of Bologna

The title of his research Project is as follows: **"Educational Dimension of Peace-Building in Post-Conflict Ukraine: Lessons Learnt from Balkan Societies"**

The overall goal of the project is focused on the engagement of higher education institutions in the Western Balkans in peace-building processes, advancing post-conflict reconstruction and promoting basic principles of living together. In particular, how higher education system of Western Balkans countries develop mutual respect and understanding as well as intercultural dialogue, which may be regarded as key aspects to combat intolerance and effective tool for making sustainable peace. This project will also put emphasis on developing a more cohesive picture of institutional arrangements, organizational models and pedagogic methods of post-conflict reconstruction as a country/regionally-based program in different settings. Another important specific feature of the project is to analyze and reflect on how the Western Balkans experience can be applied in the Ukrainian context taking into account current situation in Ukraine, prepare recommendations how post-conflict reconstruction educational programs can be improved and brought to the attention of a larger Ukrainian audience.

Mykhaylo Komarnytskyy is an Associate Professor at the Department of International Relations and Diplomacy at Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (Ukraine). Prior to joining university, he has worked as a foreign affairs consultant and head of the Department of Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church Relations (UGCC) with EU institutions in Kyiv, Ukraine.

He obtained as a Fulbright Scholar MA in International Relations from Maxwell School of Syracuse University, USA (2008), MA in International Relations (2006) and PhD in Political Science from Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (2010). Mr. Komarnytskyy previous experience also included training in conflict management on creating peace zones at the Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy (IMTD) in Washington D.C., and internship at the UN Office at Geneva. He is Promoting Tolerance Program Alumni of Friedrich Naumann Foundation (2014). Mykhaylo is also contributing as an editor-in-chief of the book series "Global Development" at Litopys Publishing House (Lviv, Ukraine).