

# ***GPACS Colloquium Series***

**Presents**

## **Vlasta Jalusic**

Professor, Peace Institute, University of Primorska, Slovenia

### ***“Violence and power and why is it important to differentiate them”***

Violence, like most concepts connected to the realm of politics, is still an essentially contested and also unclear concept that has been depicted and explained in the most various ways. At the experiential level, we all “know” what violence is, and, yet, one cannot simply make a checklist to objectify and quantify it. Violence is often grasped as an ever present feature of human power over others, as a continuum of the “biological essence” of the human (expression of aggressiveness), or as a physical or historical creative process that supports the evolution of species. As Hannah Arendt maintained, violence and power seem to be so much intertwined that their separation appears impossible. Politics seems to be experienced as violence to the extent that a conceptual differentiation between both seems completely unrealistic and artificial. In the lecture I put such equations into question and try to indicate and summarize some of the main arguments supporting the claim that in order to understand contemporary power structures, it is important to differentiate between power and violence and to disentangle the “power-and-violence” couple.

**Thursday, January 26, 2017**

**12:30 – 1:45pm**

**SST 777**

(Light lunch served)