The International Network of Genocide Scholars (INoGS) emerged from a conference in Berlin in January 2005 with the goal to provide Genocide Studies with a non-partisan forum through which to present research and analysis on any aspect of genocide and other forms of collective violence. Recent symposia on genocide and mass violence, as manifested in the series of Global Conferences organized by INoGS since 2009 in Sheffield (2009), Brighton (2010), San Francisco (2012), Cape Town (2014), Jerusalem (2016), and Marseilles (2018) have witnessed scholarly engagement with, and debates around, a range of issues of fundamental importance to the field.

For more than 70 years, practitioners and researchers from a variety of disciplines have addressed the issue of genocide and mass violence using a wide range of empirical and theoretical approaches to explore case studies throughout history. Interdisciplinary research across the humanities, legal and social sciences, as well as comparative approaches, characterize genocide studies. The 6th Global Conference on INoGS, which was held in Marseilles in 2018, focused on stimulating interdisciplinary exchanges between the humanities, social sciences, and medical sciences, with particular emphasis on the early detection and prevention of mass violence.

The 7th Global Conference of INoGS, which will be held at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Kosovo (previously known as the American University in Kosovo), will continue the established tradition of interdisciplinary research in Genocide Studies. It will focus on the relationship between collective violence, including genocide, transitional justice, and reconciliation in societies in Europe and in former European colonies and postcolonial states. The conference will deal with a range of related subjects, such as the legal, political, psychological, and sociological aspects of transitional justice and genocide and reconstruction of multi-ethnic and multi-religious societies in the aftermath of conflict.

The conference will be held in Prishtina, Kosovo, where ethnic conflict and collective violence in the past still overshadow present efforts of reconciliation and state building. People in
Kosovo have experienced different manifestations of collective violence in the context of ethnic conflict, ranging from “ethnic cleansing” to sexual violence. People faced similar experiences throughout the Balkans, such as in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, since the break-up of the former Yugoslavia in 1992, Kosovo being the most recent case. The different ethnic groups of the former Yugoslavia, which now have established their own states, are still struggling with inter-ethnic reconciliation as a key aspect of their state-building efforts and the normalization of relations with each other. This applies in particular to relations between Kosovo and Serbia, where an unresolved conflict constitutes the main roadblock for both states to join the European Union. Weak rule of law institutions, politicization of judicial mechanisms and efforts to deal with collective violence, and a plethora of different national and international judicial bodies that deal with international crimes related to collective violence, add to the complexity of achieving reconciliation. The case of Kosovo is of particular interest, as Kosovo came under international administration by the United Nations since 1999 and even after its declaration of independence in 2008, international actors continue to influence the development of rule of law and transitional justice mechanisms to deal with past collective violence and efforts to achieve reconciliation. In this context, different methods of dealing with collective violence and reconciliation were tested in Kosovo, which offer opportunities for assessment and analysis.

The conference will feature two plenary roundtable panels:

(1) “Re-building Societies after Genocide and other Forms of Collective Violence” will include papers on cases throughout the world of national and international mechanisms and processes of bringing together societies that have experienced various forms of collective violence as perpetrators and victims.

(2) “Addressing Sexual Violence during Armed Conflict in Transitional Justice and Reconciliation Processes – Balkan Experiences and Responses” will include papers on cases, mechanisms, and processes related to ethnically motivated sexual violence during armed conflict from the perspective of different ethnic groups in the Balkans, and applying an interdisciplinary approach.

Subjects of interest to the conference also include, but are not limited to:

- Individual cases of genocide and mass violence
- Comparative analyses of genocide and mass violence
- Colonialism and mass violence
- Deportations, expulsions, and other forms of violent population transfer
- Writing the history of victims
- Transitional justice procedures and mechanisms, reconciliation, and restitution
- International law and the International Criminal Court
- Gender and genocide
- Post-genocide societies
The conference will also include performances by local artists, which will be related to the central themes of the conference and have a multi-ethnic dimension. Participants will also have the opportunity to participate in a trip throughout Kosovo to historic and cultural sites of different epochs and cultures, which have shaped Kosovo’s and the region’s multi-ethnic and multi-cultural characteristics.

**Submission procedure**
Participation is not restricted to INoGS members. We welcome interdisciplinary and theoretically-informed approaches as well as trans-disciplinary dialogue. Submissions from scholars, postgraduate students, as well as practitioners and researchers working in government, the NGO sector and other institutions are invited. Submissions must be in English. Submissions in other languages are subject to prior approval.

From mid-October 2019, prospective participants will be able to upload proposals in the form of abstracts of no more than 250 words via the conference website at [https://kosovo.rit.edu/inogs.html](https://kosovo.rit.edu/inogs.html). A biographical sketch of no more than 100 words will also be required. Panel and roundtable submissions need, in addition, to explain the rationale behind the panel proposal. Queries about this process may be sent to [inogs@auk.org](mailto:inogs@auk.org). Applicants can expect to learn the outcome of their proposals within four weeks of submission.

Participants whose proposal will be accepted, will need to register online at [https://kosovo.rit.edu/inogs.html](https://kosovo.rit.edu/inogs.html) which will contain further information about the conference, fees, accommodation options, travel advice, and other relevant matters. Participants registering before 15th February 2020 will receive a 10% discount for early registration.

The closing date for paper, panel and roundtable submissions is 15th March 2020.

**Funding Opportunities**
INoGS is pleased to announce that funding will be available to subsidize the attendance of scholars and students from countries experiencing major financial difficulties. The number of grants available will be limited.
The closing date for applications is 15th March 2020 and awards will be announced before the end of May 2020. Please refer to the conference website for details.

Queries relating to the conference and funding may be sent to inogs@auk.org.