



DRAGOLJUB ACKOVIĆ

(Osipaonica, Serbia, November 23, 1952)



Photo published in the book: Acković, Dragoljub. 1997. Roma genocide in Jasenovac camp. Belgrade: The Museum of the Victims of Genocide – Rromintepress.
© Dragoljub Acković

Dragoljub Acković was born on November 23, 1952, in Osipaonica near Smederevo (Republic of Serbia). He attended the Palanka Gymnasium in Smederevska Palanka, after which he graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences in Belgrade, and, thereafter, the Faculty of Philosophy at the Department of Ethnology. He continued his postgraduate studies at the Faculty of Law in Belgrade. He received his doctorate from the United Nations Faculty of Peace.

Acković is distinguished for his work on the promotion of Roma culture in the media. He started several **Roma newspapers, hosted radio shows in the Romani language**, and became editor of the Roma program on Radio Belgrade. He was a member of both the Commission for the Study of Roma Life and Customs at the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts and the Yugoslav PEN Club.

Acković is the **author of numerous scientific papers on the suffering of Roma in Croatia and Serbia during World War II: *Stradanje Roma u Jasenovcu*** (The suffering of the Roma in Jasenovac; Belgrade: ABC Glas, 1994), and *Ubili su istinu o nama* (They killed the truth about us; Belgrade: Rrominterpress, 2001). Since 2007 he has been a member of the International Commission for the Truth about Jasenovac, and the president of the Genocide Research Fund *Dr. Milan Bulajić*, since 2010.

Active in the Roma movement, Acković has held several prominent roles including **Deputy President of the International Roma Academy of Arts and Sciences** (2011), **member of the National Committee for Intangible Culture of the Serbian Ministry of Culture and Information Society**, and **President of the World Roma Parliament** (2013).

Finally, Acković is the **founder and director of the Museum of Roma Culture in Belgrade**, the independent Radio Television “Khrlo e Romengo”, and the initiator of numerous media in the Romani language. He became involved in politics, and was **the first president of the Roma Congress Party**, and was appointed **Deputy Director of the Office for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia** in 2012.

Sources:

1. Acković, Dragoljub. 2009. *Romi u Beogradu: Istorija, kultura i tradicija Roma u Beogradu od naseljavanja do kraja XX veka*. Beograd: Romninterpres.
2. Acković, Dragoljub. 1997. *Roma genocide in Jasenovac camp*. Belgrade: The Museum of the Victims of Genocide – Rromintepress.

This biography has been written by Daniel Vojak