



HRSP NEWSLETTER

U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division, Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section

February 2018

Justice Department Seeks to Obtain Denaturalization of Man with Alleged Participation in Extrajudicial Killings during the Balkans Conflict

On January 18, 2018, the United States filed a civil denaturalization complaint in the Northern District of Iowa against a 51-year old man who allegedly obtained his naturalized U.S. citizenship by fraud, the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) announced.

Eso Razic, a native of the former Yugoslavia and subsequently a citizen of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, allegedly concealed his service in multiple paramilitary organizations during the conflict in the Balkans in the early 1990s. The United States alleges that while serving as a member of those combatant groups, Razic participated in the extrajudicial killing of three individuals, including a wounded prisoner of war. The complaint alleges that Razic fraudulently obtained permanent resident status and citizenship by misrepresenting and concealing his membership in and conduct with these groups.

The case was investigated by ICE's Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Human Rights Violator and War Crimes Unit (HRVWCU) and the Civil Division's Office of Immigration Litigation, District Court Section (OIL-DCS), with support from the Criminal Division's Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section and ICE's Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA) Human Rights Law Section (HRLS). The case is being jointly prosecuted by Counsel for National Security Aaron Petty of OIL-DCS's National Security and Affirmative Litigation Unit (NS/A Unit) and Assistant U.S. Attorney Jacob Schunk of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Iowa, with support from Assistant Chief Counsel Abby Meyer of ICE OPLA, Omaha Office.

The claims made in the complaint are allegations only, and there have been no determinations of liability.

People with information about former human rights violators in the United States should contact U.S. law enforcement: Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section at 1-800-813-5863; HSI at 1-866-347-2423 or HRV.ICE@ice.dhs.gov and the FBI's International Human Rights Unit Tips Form at <https://tips/fbi.gov>.

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