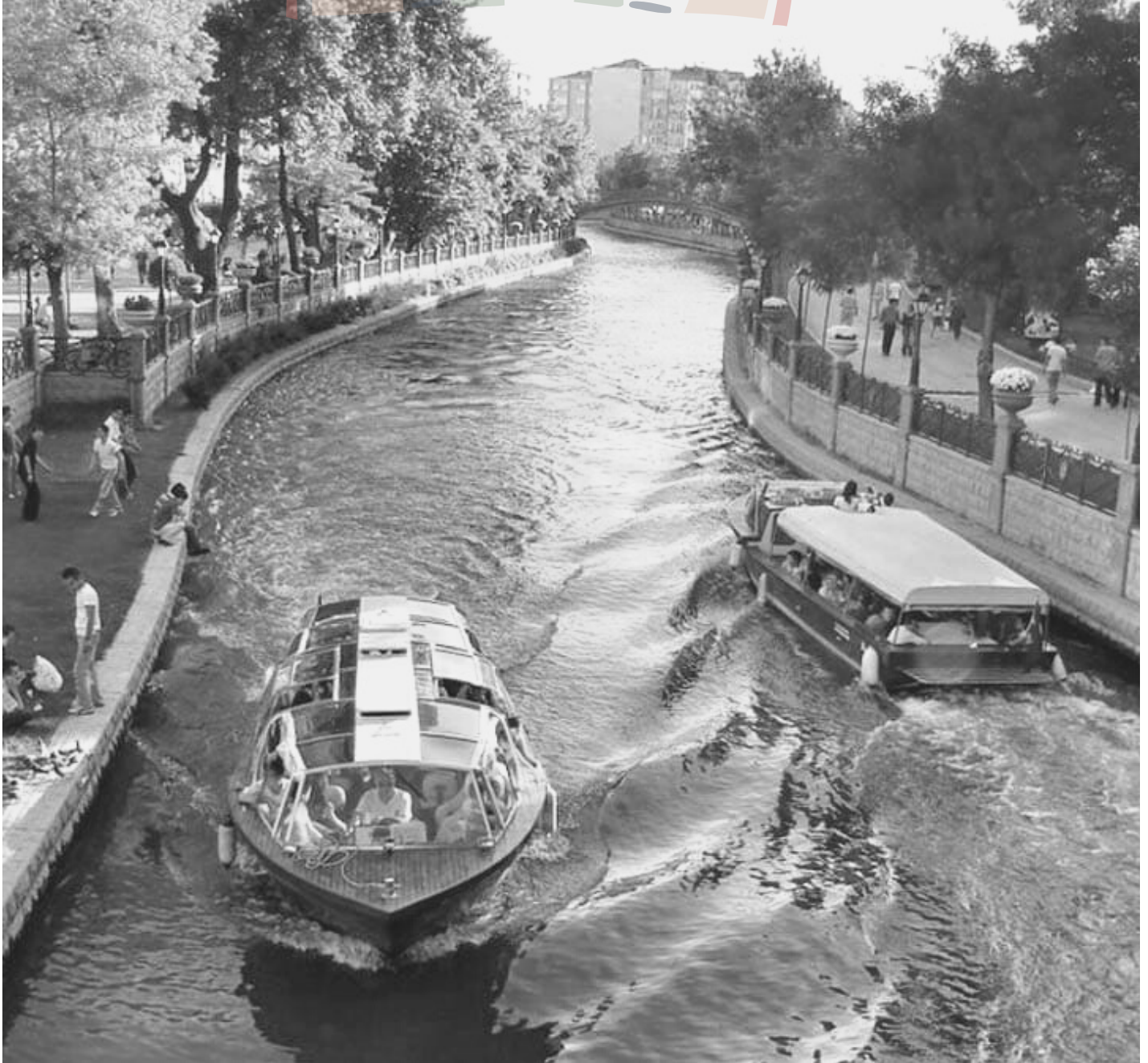


MICC School

Eskişehir, Turkey



MICC TRIALS

Flick: The Man Who Obeys Hitler
Erdemovic: Innocent or Guilty?
Bikindi found guilty

PRESENTED BY

MICC PRESS TEAM
October, 2022

FLICK: THE MAN WHO OBEYS HITLER

BY DEFNE UCAR & MELIS DEMIRTOPUZ

In the MICC trial on the 5th of December, a verdict was made by the judges of the Friedrich Flick case. After a suspenseful waiting, a verdict was announced and I think we can all agree that this trial has been tense with its ups and downs. Here is a quick history of the case:

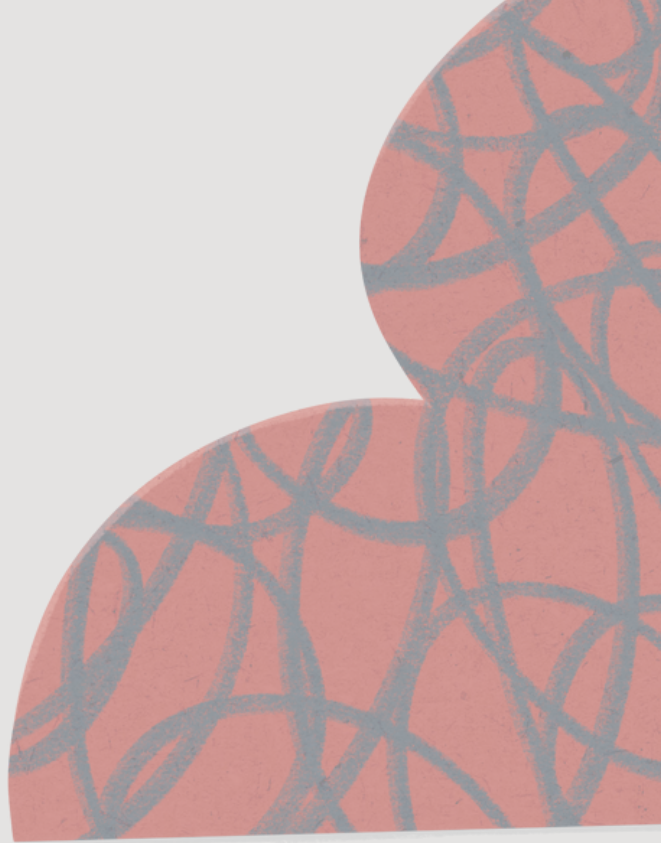
Friedrich Flick was a German industrialist who had become very wealthy during the Weimar Republic through coal and steel industries. He was bold and capable. At that time he additionally was a member of the "Deutsche Volkspartei" and supported many political parties with donations. The already present party NSDAP with Hitler leading it, wasn't very interesting for him until the time that the party had become more powerful.

He started donating to the National Socialist and end up becoming a member, as well as a close colleague to Hitler. He got to be in charge of the companies in different Industries. Due to the World War 1 and the Situation Germany was in, there wasn't enough men to work for Flick. To be able to expand his work, he decided to employ prisoners of war or inmates of concentration camps.

The people worked under poor working conditions and were treated horribly and 10.000 of 120.000 forced workers died. For these actions, Friedrich Flick was accused of being responsible for the commission of the crime against humanity of enslavement as a superior civilian commander.

During the trial both teams presented their arguments. Prosecution stated that they want Flick to be found guilty and that Flick employed those workers, knew about their situations, had to do intervene with this predicament. Defence then proceeded to state that Flick was not aware of the situation, he did not visit the workers. Prosecution argued there wasn't enough measures taken about the situation and that he did not inform himself about the situation because he supported the Nazi ideology. Opposition to this, the workers' preference about staying in the facility and German government's superiority over the industry and public was mentioned by the defence. Closing marks were made, prosecution wants the accused to be found responsible for his actions. Defence pleads guilty with the demand of a sentence no more than 3 years with mitigating factors.

After the pleas were done, the verdict was not in favour of the defence. The judges decided that, with aggravating factors Friedrich Flick would get a sentence of 18 years and would give 55 per cent of his possessions to the families of the victims. With the informations we heard about the poor conditions and the cruelty imposed on the innocent persons, in the end there wasn't anything done to stop this diabolicalness. Therefore it is easy to say that the sentence demanded by the defence was hardly even a sentence for the crimes committed and that the judges made the right decision by sentencing the perpetrator for almost 2 decades. The court was a success.



ERDEMOVIC: INNOCENT OR GUILTY?

Everyone attending the MICC trial was shocked when the judges announced the verdict.

WRITTEN BY
MARINA KOROSOGLOU &
CHRISTOS SALONIKIDIS

Everyone attending the MICC trial was shocked when the judges announced the verdict. Erdemovic is INNOCENT. The judges team decided that according to the article 31 of Rome Statue Erdemovic was under duress and was threatened with his life by his superiors, thus he can not be found guilty. Prosecution was very disappointed by the decision of the court and everybody was wondering how someone that killed 70 people no matter the circumstances can be found completely innocent and pay no charges.

During the war that broke out in Bosnia-Herzegovina due to the heterogenous population (Bosnian Croats, Bosnian Serbs and Bosnians), many people were obliged to join the battle.

Dražen Erdemovic, a Bosnian Croat, served in the army of Bosnia-Herzegovina and later on in the Bosnian Croat army, which he had to abdicate afterwards owing to the help he granted some Serbs to flee to Republika Srpska and to his denial of killing them. Being a Bosnian-Herzegovina citizen, it was mandatory for him to enlist in the army again. Thus, he joined the 10th Sabotage Detachment of the Bosnian



Serb Army in April 1994 as a sergeant seeing that soldiers from different nationalities were involved in this Detachment and its task was intelligence gathering. But, later on he was degraded to a soldier because he refused to execute civilians.

On the 11th of July 1995, the Detachment went to Srebrenica where it was empty at first but then buses with male civilians arrived. The 70 men were shot by 8 soldiers. One of them was Drazen who was not aware about what was going to happen. He was later ordered to execute more people but he refused. Nonetheless, the shootings still happened. Erdemovic

then started drinking and got shot in a bar in the lungs and stomach by a former member of the Detachment. Luckily, he survived and was able to testify in the court. During Erdemovic's trial both defense and prosecution stated their points.

Prosecution was very disappointed by the decision of the court.

Prosecution underlined that the crime was defined and hence it is considered as a mass murder. Consequently, prosecution asked that the accused is found guilty and convicted to 15 years prison. This request is based on Erdemovic testimony that he would kill his commander due to his dislike towards his actions. He also executed 70 people by himself. Dražen did not use his principle as a soldier to protect civilians, instead he harmed them.

After the prosecution stated their arguments, the Defence Team continued with their own points.

Defense also said that Erdemovic committed the crime. But then they alleged that the accused is not criminally responsible because he was under the threat of his commander. In addition, the crime would have happened even if Dražen refused to do it. Also, considering he did not know about the crime, it was only sensible to stay otherwise he would get killed. Therefore, the defense asked that Erdemovic is found innocent but even if not, they asked for an imprisonment that does not exceed 5 years. Another significant thing is that Erdemovic tried to save lives and avoid hurting people whenever he could, so he is a good man under terrible circumstances.

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BIKINDI FOUND GUILTY

BY ANTONINA SOKOŁOWSKA & OLA FECIUCH

Simon Bikindi was found guilty. Rwanda, a country in Africa where everything happened. Violent struggles broke out, because of the abolished Tutsi dominated monarchy and put of power a new President- Habyarimana, who was a member of the Hutu group. After the plane crash and death of the President the violence broke out, but to this day it is unclear who was responsible for this incident. After all the brutality, about 70% of Tutsis population were killed. In the background of the Hutus and Tutsis conflict, we have a well-known Singer and composer of popular music known as Simon Bikindi. He was also a member of the MRND (Republican national movement for democracy and development). Simon had the right to ban or order his songs to be played publicly. The lyrics were about Hutu solidarity and promoted special perspective of Rwanda politics and history. Among his most popular songs the „Twasezereye” (We said goodbye to the feudal regime) was the most known. Calls to attack the enemy in broadcasts RTLM were often preceded or followed after these songs composed and performed by Simon Bikindi. It has been established that

Interahamwe groups listened to Bikindi's songs before starting massacres. The arguments on the defence side was as strong as the prosecution. The song, published by Simon Bikindi, is intended to promote the murder of the Tutsi population. But the defence said that Bikindi wrote these song about his feelings and he wanted to share those with it. Another accusing argument is that Bikindi's songs encouraged the murder of the Tutsi . He knew exactly what the consequences of his propaganda songs would be and what his songs meant. According to the defences opinion, Simon can't be blamed for his songs because he only described the events and political-historical situation and spoke of peace between Tutsi and Hutu. Bikindi's songs had a big impact on the fact that 70% of the Tutsi population is extinct.. The lyrics were too complex to understand for people. Prosecutors say that, Bikindi never wanted to stop his actions, but according to the defense, Simon had no control over the radio journalists who played his songs. He was sentenced to four years in prison and compensation for the victims families.



BUILDING FRIENDSHIPS

BY ALEYNA AKARSU &
ODYSSEAS OIKONOMOU

Did you know that this is the first time that MICC took place in Eskisehir, Turkey?! MICC (Model International Criminal Court) is an organized simulation of trials where Students from all over the world come together and learn and discuss about Human Rights and laws. To communicate with one another, English is used. They are

Eskisehir is known as the university town and has a population of almost 800.000 people. It has many great museums that are worth to see as well as the beautiful natural environment.

Figure 1
MICC Mutual Evening



separated in prosecution, defense, judge and the press team which are going to work on specific cases. The goal of this event is to encourage the Students to act against the violence of Human Rights and to strengthen their intercultural dialogue. It was also actually the first time that a school hosted us in this process. Yeni Yol Schools welcomed us from the 1st to 7th December and provided us access to workspace in it. The other half of the work phases took place in the Capella Hotel, which we are both thankful for. Besides the Turks in Eskisehir that kindly hosted us, one had the chance to interact from people of Poland, Greece and Germany. But more about the City: Eskisehir is known as the university town and has a population of almost 800.000 people. It has many great museums that are worth to see as well as the beautiful

natural environment. From our perspectives the people were very friendly, social and welcoming.

The Mutual Evening:

To get to know each other and the different cultures of each country, we had a mutual evening. Polish, Greek, German and Turkish participants brought their local and cultural food with them and prepared short presentations about the festivals they celebrate or the most popular sights. The best part of the evening was when each country presented their cultural dances. Everyone learned from each other and we ended up having a lot of fun dancing and singing with each other. Later on, we got to try different foods that the participants have brought with them. There were many kinds of biscuits, pastries and candies. Each of them were diverse and all of them were very delicious! The Mutual Evening was the

perfect opportunity to exchange ideas and get more comfortable.

Many participants knew more than just their native language and English. If we count all of the languages, there are more than 20 different languages that are spoken by the Students and Teachers that participate at the MICC. We also had a great time teaching our languages to each other.

On the mutual evening Polish, Greek, German and Turkish participants brought their local food and prepared short Presentations.

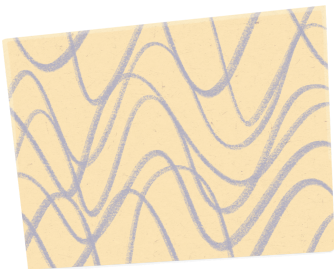


That's why we asked some people to tell us a word they learned from their new friends;

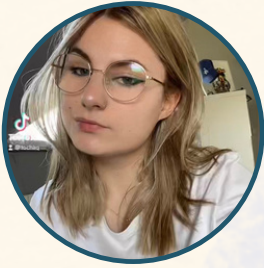
"Hund" - dog, in German (Weronika Kapela, Polish)

"Kalimera" - good morning, in Greek (Kalina Kampf, German)

"Görüşürüz"- see you, in Turkish (Marina Korosoglou, Greek)



PRESS TEAM



Hi, my name is **Tosia**, i'm sixteen years old and i'm in the press team. I'm from Poland so maybe i can say hi in polish- Cześć! I play volleyball and I want to become psychologist.



My name is **Aleyna Akarsu**. I'm 17 years old and im joining from Germany, Cologne. Taking pictures, doing arts and petting cats must be my favourite things in this world :)



My name is **Odysseas**. I'm 16 years old. I love going out with friends and having fun. I also love photography and thats the reason i joined the press team.



Hello, my name is **Defne Uçar**. I`m a 16 year old Turkish student. I like singing, drawing and photography. I love the creative work we did here in the press team!



My name is **Marina Korosoglou**. I'm 17 years old and I'm from Thessaloniki, Greece. I study a lot because my goal is to get into university. I also enjoy watching movies in my free time.



Hello, I am m **Melis** from the Press Team. I am m 16 years old and from Turkiye. I hope you enjoyed MICC program!!



Hello my name is **Christos Salonikidis** and I come from Greece and specifically Thessaloniki. I am 17 years old and I like to read history books and I am interested in politics.



Hi! My full name is **Aleksandra Feciuch**,but everyone call me **Ola**. I'm 16 years old and I'm from Poland . I'm studying in high school in Trzcianka . I love singing and I have my own band at school.



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