Iceland’s Constitutional Reform Process: An Example of Civic Participation in Constitutional Reform

August 15, 2013, 9:00 – 12:00
PILPG Office, Podgaj 15, Sarajevo

Draft Agenda

9:00 Welcome/Introduction

9:05 – 10:00 Overview of Iceland’s CR process – Silja Omarsdottir

- Review of political situation
- Review of process
- Bridging online tools and “real world” activism
- Bringing the proposal to Parliament; advocacy
- Current status
- Lessons to be learned

10:00 – 11/12:00 Discussion

- Relevance of Iceland case to BiH
- Open discussion and brainstorming of possibilities and options
- How to strengthen use of online tools? Review available sites
- How to bridge online and real world activism?
- Advocacy options
- Discussion of current CR efforts and potential to learn from the Iceland experience

Speaker

Silja Bára Ómarsdóttir is adjunct lecturer at the Faculty of Political Science at the University of Iceland. Her research focuses on Icelandic foreign and security policy and feminism in international relations. She completed a BA, with honors, in international affairs from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, an MA in international relations from the University of Southern California, and postgraduate certificates in methodology and university teaching from the University of Iceland. She is a women’s rights activist and has served on the boards of the Icelandic Feminist Association, The Icelandic Women’s Rights Association, the UNIFEM National Committee in Iceland, and the Icelandic Gender Equality Council. In the summer of 2011 Silja served on Iceland’s Constitutional Council and chaired the committee addressing human rights and natural resources. Since then, she has spoken widely around lessons learned from the process.