The former Yugoslavia is one of the most incredible and diverse regions of Europe. During its time Yugoslavia was a multi-ethnic state working to break down religious divisions to form a Union of Southern Slavs. In the early 1990s, the Balkans erupted into war. Bosnia & Herzegovina in particular, a nation made up of three primary religious ethnic groups, went from peace to violence in a matter of days. Now, less than 30 years later, the wars are over, but divisions between different communities still remain.

On this one week summer travel program we will meet as a group in Croatia and travel together to Mostar and Sarajevo both in Bosnia & Herzegovina. We will begin to unravel the complex reverberations of conflict, and importantly how communities can be brought together and pulled apart by talking with members of different organizations, generations, and ethnic groups. We’ll get a sense for the divisions and debates that still linger, and expand our own perspectives as we look for our own tools and connections to intercultural dialogue in the region and beyond.

This program is being offered to members of the GEBG community. This one-week summer travel program will focus on the concept of intercultural dialogue, both as the subject of travel as a global pedagogy that can be used across disciplines and at all grade levels.
WORKING ITINERARY

July 28 - Dubrovnik
Arrive on your own. We will gather at our hotel in Dubrovnik in the afternoon.
Meet for an orientation to intercultural dialogue led by Chad Detloff of GEBG. We will also be able to form smaller groups and begin to explore our goals for the program.
Enjoy a group dinner on the Croatian Coast.

July 29 - Sarajevo
Depart from Croatia by minibus and cross the border to Bosnia & Herzegovina as a group.
Along the drive, stop for lunch and visit specific historical sites connected to the origins of the different national identities and to see the first signs of war and lingering post-conflict divisions.
Arrive in Sarajevo for dinner with locals.

July 30 - Sarajevo
Take the morning to split up for local mini tours/meetings of Sarajevo from different perspectives, and a chance to learn about the catalyst for WWI at the Latin Bridge.
Enjoy some free time to choose your own museum or explore Sarajevo.
Come back together for dinner and a meeting with a regional expert.

July 31 - Sarajevo
Join the group for a morning introduction to the start of the war in the 1990s and the siege of Sarajevo.
Visit the War Childhood Museum for a workshop.
Connect with local educators in Sarajevo with an evening meetup and dinner.

August 1 - Mostar
Depart for Mostar, making some stops along the way.
On one of the stops, visit Tito’s bunker turned modern art museum. Experience a gateway to Yugoslavia and ideas around modern art and communication.
Arrival in Mostar and take an evening walk through the old city with local community members.

August 2 - Mostar
Meet with locals for an introduction to front lines of the war and post-war symbolism.
Learn more about the school system in Mostar and join local NGOs working on cross-cultural issues today.
Celebrate our last night in Mostar with a Bosnian style group dinner.

August 3 - Dubrovnik
Drive from Mostar to back to the Dalmatian Coast and Croatia.
Wrap up the program with a closing session/activity based on our location before our final dinner in the old town of Dubrovnik.

August 4 - Departure
Enjoy a final breakfast.
Program concludes. Hotel check out in the late morning. We can help with airport transfers or onward travel.