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**Human Rights Council**

**Fifty-ninth session**

16 June–11 July 2025

Agenda item 6

**Universal periodic review**

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its forty-eighth session from 20 to 31 January 2025. The review of Bosnia and Herzegovina was held at the 15th meeting, on 29 January 2025. The delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina was headed by H.E Sevlid Hurtić, Minister of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina. At its 17th meeting, held on 31 January 2025, the Working Group adopted the report on Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2. On 8 January 2025, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Germany, Malawi and Republic of Korea.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Bosnia and Herzegovina:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a);[[1]](#footnote-2)

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b);[[2]](#footnote-3)

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c).[[3]](#footnote-4)

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, members of the core group of sponsors of the resolutions on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment (Costa Rica, Maldives and Slovenia), Germany, Liechtenstein, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and United States of America was transmitted to Bosnia and Herzegovina through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The Delegation of Bosnia Herzegovina informed that the UPR fourth cycle had been prepared in accordance with the UN Human Rights Council guidelines, with representatives of relevant bodies from the state level, entities and district Brcko who had all been involved. Also, consultations with representatives of civil society had been possible through the e-consultation system.

6. Within the framework of the fourth cycle of the UPR there had been information on the progress that had been achieved within the country BiH, primarily on the activities that had been carried out on the implementation of recommendations.

7. Bosnia and Herzegovina had been strongly committed to freedom of speech and freedom of access to information under Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which had been a constituent part of the constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and which had priority in application over positive legal regulations. The Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina had adopted a document titled “Mapping the Hate Speech in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Situational Analysis.”

8. The human rights Ombudsman institution of Bosnia and Herzegovina had been a central independent human rights institution with a central role in anti-discrimination prevention and protection of human rights. Amendments to the law on the human rights Ombudsman had been adopted, ensuring the financial independence of the ombudsman institution and the adequate application of the Paris Principles.

9 The Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees had been a coordinating line ministry that had a mandate for reporting, follow-up, and monitoring of human rights. Most of the reporting activities had been implemented in cooperation with various institutions, including cooperation with civil society organizations and international organizations.

10. Bosnia Herzegovina had planned to develop a midterm program for combating discrimination, which would also include a training program in the area of human rights for the period 2020–2025.There had been extensive work on the establishment of an information system for collecting data for the purpose of more efficient preparation of reports in the area of human rights.

11. Bosnia and Herzegovina had reached a certain level of preparedness for the implementation of European legal standards in key areas in human rights, although there had still been challenges related to the harmonization of the of the constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina and electoral legislation.

12. Amendments to the law on the prohibition of discrimination had improved the anti-discrimination framework. Some progress had also been achieved in the judiciary. The High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council had adopted a detailed action plan for the implementation of the recommendations of the European Commission.

13. Particularly important had been amendments to the criminal procedure code that had been in line with international standards to increase the capacity of institutions to solve cases of serious organized crime, corruption, and other challenges related to the rule of law. There had been a certain level of preparedness of institutions also in terms of combating corruption and organized crime.

14. Bosnia and Herzegovina has been strongly committed to freedom of speech and access to information under Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which had been a part of its Constitution. The country BiH has appointed a contact point for the Council of Europe’s “Journalists Matter” campaign.

15. Legislation on gender-based violence, particularly domestic violence, had been improved. The third action plan for the implementation of the UN SCR 1325, Women, Peace and Security Resolution, had been adopted for the period 2018–2022.

16. The adoption of the law providing free legal aid in Bosnia and Herzegovina had ensured that victims of domestic or gender-based violence received support.

17. Strategic documents such as the gender action plan for 2018–2022, the action plan for UN Resolution 1325, and the Istanbul Convention action plan had been implemented, alongside activities from the previous gender action plan. Governments in the Federation, Republic of Srpska, and the Brcko district had adopted and implemented numerous strategies and plans aimed at improving the rights of women and protecting vulnerable groups.

18. Progress had also been made in human rights for minorities, particularly through the adoption of the action plan for the social inclusion of Roma and Roma women (2021–2025) and the framework plan on the educational needs of Roma (2018–2022), which had aligned with annual budget allocations.

19. Unfortunately, no new action plan for children had been adopted. However, in cooperation with UNICEF, the Council of Children of Bosnia and Herzegovina had been involved in the adoption of a new action plan for children.

20. Bosnia and Herzegovina has committed to improving environmental protection and sustainable development. The strategy focused on aligning Bosnia and Herzegovina's environmental regulations with European Union standards, involving sectors like water management, waste management, air quality, climate change, industrial pollution, chemicals, nature protection, and environmental noise. The United Nations Development Programme supported Bosnia and Herzegovina in preparing the fourth national communication on climate change and the third biannual update report on greenhouse gas emissions in line with the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

21. Additionally, Bosnia and Herzegovina had submitted follow-up information to the Human Rights Council after the third cycle of its Universal Periodic Review. The country BiH fully supported the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and had begun activities to implement the SDG goals. Bosnia and Herzegovina has also planned to develop a roadmap for the SDGs, supported by the active engagement of business, academia, and civil society.

22. The country BiH had adopted guidelines on business and human rights in 2022.Given these actions, Bosnia and Herzegovina remained strongly committed to respecting and promoting human rights, as guaranteed by the international treaties it had ratified, in its pursuit of a democratic society and European integration.

23. Bosnia-Herzegovina’s Parliamentary Assembly passed the law on the prevention of conflicts of interest and the law on preventing money laundering and financing of terrorism.

24. Despite the legacy of the 1990s wars, which created unique difficulties, the Federation passed a new law in 2023 recognizing victims of sexual abuse and children conceived through wartime sexual violence, offering them legal rights and subsidies. The Federation also tackled inequality in disability funding by increasing financial support for persons with disabilities, war victims, and veterans.

25. Regarding other age groups, federal labour law has been amended in 2024 giving students the right to work and earn income which was earlier not possible. For the first time federal government has secured direct financial support for mothers of newborns and stipulated that 20 per cent of the funds allocated to lower administrative units must be implemented for demographic measures.

26. Due to the war and its aftermath, several population groups in Bosnia-Herzegovina, particularly returnees, still faced challenge in securing full integration and access to public services. The Federation government addressed this by providing additional support for returnees, including job opportunities in local administration and public companies, as well as legal assistance for their status and rights.

27. Republic Srpska has also reported significant progress in combating corruption, human trafficking, and discrimination. The country BiH adopted a strategy to combat corruption, including an action plan and a reporting channel, and implemented a referral mechanism for human trafficking. The abolition of the death penalty was a significant milestone, alongside efforts to eliminate ethnic discrimination, particularly in relation to wartime crimes and the status of victims of wartime torture. In April 2023, the government of the Republic of Serbia adopted an action plan to prevent the sexual abuse and exploitation of child. The government has also adopted the employment strategy as well as a youth strategy.

28. In the Brčko District the assembly took steps to strengthen human rights and civil rights protections. The law on peaceful assembly was adopted, and a Council of National Minorities was established. Brčko District enacted a law focused on preventing corruption and coordinating efforts to combat it. The district also passed a declaration in 2019 to fight hate speech and demonstrated a commitment to tightening criminal code provisions against hate-motivated crimes. Legal support in Brčko District was enhanced through the office providing free legal aid to those in need.

29. The youth strategy 2022/2026 as well as education of students provides for education of students who have psychophysical development disabilities.

30. Brčko District’s commitment to inclusivity was also evident in its handling of LGBT rights issues, with several claims filed in 2020–2022, reflecting ongoing attention to this important area.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

31. During the interactive dialogue, 65 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

32. The Niger commended Bosnia and Herzegovina's cooperation with the United Nations system and its human rights mechanisms and noted with satisfaction its efforts in strengthening its own human rights legislative framework.

33. Norway welcomed the adoption of the LGBTI action plan but expressed remaining concerns.

34. Oman commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for its efforts in promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and their effective integration into society, particularly through employment initiatives from 2021 to 2023, implemented via the Vocational Rehabilitation, Training, and Employment Fund.

35. Pakistan noted with appreciation Bosnia and Herzegovina’s positive engagement with the UPR mechanism and continued efforts to strengthen the institutional and legislative framework for the protection and promotion of human rights.

36. The Philippines welcomed Bosnia and Herzegovina’s continuing efforts to harmonise domestic frameworks with international human rights obligations as evidenced by its adoption of the Migration and Asylum Strategy, the Fourth Comprehensive Strategy on Gender Equality, and the General Protocol on Dealing with Domestic Violence Cases.

37. Portugal commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for the adoption of the Action Plan for the Promotion of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of LGBTI Persons and the adoption of the Strategy on Domestic Violence 2020–2024.

38. Qatar commended Bosnia and Herzegovina’s efforts in implementing past UPR recommendations, appreciated its actions against corruption and human trafficking, and welcomed measures to enhance the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities.

39. The Republic of Moldova appreciated efforts to tackle hate speech, improve gender equality in the judiciary and protect human trafficking victims. It commended the establishment of the National Preventive Mechanism for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment and acknowledged efforts to harmonise regulations with EU legislation.

40. The Russian Federation was concerned about the worsening human situation, asserting that foreign interference undermined self-governance and the High Representative, lacking UN legitimacy, imposed decisions unilaterally. Russian Federation further stated that neocolonial control violated sovereignty, and urged ending external rule to restore democratic self-determination.

41. Senegal commended the adoption of the Strategy for Improving the Social Position of Persons with Disabilities and the implementation of the Strategy for Improving the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It welcomed the actions to consolidate the legislative and institutional framework for combating social inequalities.

42. Slovakia took positive note of the efforts to bring legislation closer to European standards including those in the area of discrimination but noted with regret that European court judgments had not been implemented, prohibiting minorities from standing as equal candidates in electoral processes.

43. Slovenia commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for the adoption of the fourth national Gender Action Plan for the period 2023–2027 and for the adoption, by the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council, of the Strategy for Improvement of Gender Equality in the Judiciary of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

44. Spain welcomed the adoption of the Gender Action Plan 2023–2027, the amendments to the Criminal Code harmonising national legislation with the Istanbul Convention and the Action Plan for the Promotion of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of LGTBI Persons. It suggested that these instruments be provided sufficient funding for their implementation.

45. Switzerland welcomed the delegation from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

46. Togo congratulated Bosnia-Herzegovina on the presentation of their national report and on the progress made, in particular the government's commitment to quality education at all levels.

47. Tunisia commended Bosnia and Herzegovina’s efforts to strengthen human rights and improve its legislative framework. It also welcomed progress in economic, social, and cultural rights, along with advancements in health, education, and social care, as well as legislation on gender equality, anti-discrimination, and human trafficking.

48. Türkiye supported the efforts to strengthen democratic institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina. However, it remained concerned with secessionist and divisive narratives in Bosnia Herzegovina's domestic politics. Despite all difficulties, Turkey considered that Bosnia Herzegovina has the potential to set a unique example for the peaceful co-existence of different ethnic and religious groups and will continue to support its efforts to this end.

49. Ukraine commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for the progress made in the field of human rights, particularly the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), and the continued efforts to improve the rights of vulnerable groups. It also noted the progress made in implementing inclusive education and the emphasis on combating discrimination through national strategies.

50. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland welcomed Bosnia and Herzegovina’s commitment to human rights and its engagement with the UPR process. They praised the fact that Bosnia and Herzegovina accepted the majority of the recommendations from 2018. However, urgent action was required to deliver meaningful progress in implementation. It encouraged the prioritisation of reforms strengthening legislation and institutions to protect LGBT+ communities and victims of gender-based violence.

51. Uruguay welcomed the presentation of the national report by Bosnia and Herzegovina and praised the efforts made by the country.

52. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela took note of the progress made in promoting, protecting and enjoying human rights and urged Bosnia and Herzegovina to intensify efforts in areas such as the elimination of discrimination in all its forms, housing and the right to education.

53. Viet Nam commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for its continued commitment to human rights, including progress in combating discrimination, promoting gender equality and supporting vulnerable groups.

54. Armenia appreciated the efforts made by Bosnia and Herzegovina in the establishment of the Council for Persons with Disabilities, the adoption of strategies and action plans to improve the rights and social inclusion of persons with disabilities. Armenia attached particular importance to actions in areas of the harmonization of anti-discrimination legislation, the efforts to address the segregation in the education system and the measures to improve the situation of minority groups.

55. Australia acknowledged Bosnia and Herzegovina’s introduction of national action plans to promote and protect the rights of women, Roma and LGBTQIA+ persons but was concerned by the decline of Bosnia and Herzegovina in global rankings on corruption, media and civil society freedoms.

56. Austria commended the progress achieved since the last cycle, notably for the adoption of the 2023–2027 Gender Action Plan and the 2021–2024 Action Plan for the Improvement of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of LGBTI Persons. However, Austria expressed concerned over the shrinking space for civil society actors and that legislative action was needed to address discriminatory provisions

57. Belgium welcomed the efforts and positive steps made by Bosnia and Herzegovina since its previous UPR but noted that efforts, room for progress remained, in particular regarding gender-based violence, ethnic discrimination and LGBTQI+ rights.

58. Brazil acknowledged progress made in combating gender-based violence, including establishing crisis centres for rape victims in Tuzla, Mostar, and Sarajevo. It also commended efforts made to improve health coverage. Brazil encouraged Bosnia and Herzegovina to ensure that immigration detention was applied only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest period of time.

59. Bulgaria encouraged Bosnia and Herzegovina to continue its efforts to strengthen its legislative, institutional and policy framework in the field of protection of human rights. It noted positively the measures adopted to fight hate speech and welcomed the establishment of a Council for Persons with Disabilities.

60. Canada welcomed the abolition of the death penalty in Republika Srpska and the establishment of focal points for hate crimes against LGBTQI+ persons in cantonal prosecutors' offices in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

61. Chile congratulated Bosnia and Herzegovina for the adoption of the Action Plan for the Promotion of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of LGBTI Persons, approved in 2022 and highlighted the adoption of the Law on the Higher Council of the Judiciary and the Prosecutor's Office aiming to guaranteeing an independent, impartial and professional judiciary.

62. China appreciated the country's progress in promoting and protecting human rights and noted the commitment to sustainable economic and social development including fighting corruption, promoting gender equality, combating human trafficking, enhancing social protection and protecting the rights of minorities such as women, children and people with disabilities.

63. Colombia welcomed the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and wished success for the 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

64. Costa Rica congratulated Bosnia and Herzegovina for establishing the Council for Persons with Disabilities and mechanisms for cooperating with civil society.

65. Croatia noted the adoption of the amendments to the law relating to the Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which enabled the establishment of a national preventive mechanism as part of the institution’s mandate but was concerned that the mechanism was not fully operationalized.

66. The delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina took the floor to explain the efforts to combat organized crime, corruption, and strengthen the rule of law. In September 2023, the country BiH had adopted amendments to the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina’s law. In 2024, it had passed laws aimed at preventing conflicts of interest in state-level institutions and combating money laundering and financing of terrorism.

67. The new law on preventing conflicts of interest was designed to ensure public duties were carried out without personal interference or private influence. This legislation aimed to enhance integrity, transparency, and the public’s trust in government institutions in response to the need for judicial reforms.

68. In addition to these efforts, the country BiH worked on a draft law concerning the confiscation of criminal assets, aiming to establish a special procedure for asset seizure when criminal charges could not be pursued.

69. Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to address war crimes from the 1992–1995 conflict, revising its national war crime strategy and setting up a supervisory body. It also signed a memorandum of understanding with the Residual Mechanism for Criminal Courts, allowing Bosnia to incorporate final ICTY judgments into its domestic criminal records.

70. Bosnia remained committed to human rights protections within its prison system, taking steps to implement recommendations from the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture. The Bosnia and Herzegovina’s new law on access to information further promoted transparency.

71. Bosnia’s communications regulatory agency has acted to curb hate speech, imposing fines and warnings on broadcasters for violations. The regulatory agency for communication has been continuously conducting activities related to overseeing and implementation of rules and regulations in the field of broadcasting which prohibit the content containing hate speech. New regulations were adopted to increase accessibility for people with disabilities in the media, and a working group was formed to draft laws on media ownership transparency.

72. On the topic of migration and refugee protection, Bosnia had harmonized its legislative framework with EU standards. The amendments to the law on aliens brought Bosnia’s regulations in line with EU directives, ensuring better protection for migrants and refugees.

73. The migration and asylum strategy for the 2021–2025 period aimed for a comprehensive approach, with clearly defined measures and activities. In line with this, the Council of Ministers adopted a rulebook setting standards for the operation of reception centres, ensuring humane and legal conditions for housing asylum seekers and migrants.

74. As of the latest update, four reception centres were operating in the country BiH, with a total capacity of 4,600 places. These centres were specifically designed to accommodate vulnerable groups, including families, women, and children.

75. Special attention was given to the rights of minor foreigners, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Unaccompanied minors were housed in centers designated for vulnerable individuals, with temporary guardians appointed to ensure their rights and welfare. The use of these centers for minors was considered a last resort and for the shortest period necessary.

76. The Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees had increased its staff to focus on individual cases and maintain a presence in the field, ensuring direct contact with refugees.

77. In the education sector, Bosnia-Herzegovina ensured the right to education and equal access for all individuals, regardless of sex, race, religion, political opinion, or national origin. The Bosnia and Hezegovina's legal and strategic frameworks promoted a tolerant, multi-ethnic environment in schools. The implementation of these frameworks aimed to improve the position of socially vulnerable groups and foster inclusive education policies.

78. In October 2019, the Council of Ministers adopted recommendations for inclusive education, which were made publicly available on the Ministry's website. The country BiH also carried out several programs and projects to enhance social inclusion for vulnerable groups and protect families, such as the IPA 2020 project, which focused on strengthening social child protection and education systems, and another project aimed at enhancing the human potential of centres for social work.

79. In 2023, Bosnia and Herzegovina launched a UNICEF programme focused on the transformation of childcare institutions and the prevention of family separation.

80. Regarding statelessness, Bosnia and Herzegovina has made efforts to address this issue through regular cooperation with various ministries and authorities. The Law on Citizenship allows stateless individuals or those with refugee status to acquire Bosnian citizenship if they have lived in the country BiH for at least five years.

81. The Ministry of Civil Affairs also highlighted Bosnia’s efforts in cooperation with international organizations to prevent statelessness and ensure that individuals have access to legal recognition and protection under the Bosnia and Herzegovinia's laws.

82. Cuba recognized the commitment made by Bosnia and Herzegovina to the universal periodic review mechanism. it took positive note of the establishment of the Council for Persons with Disabilities and the adoption of a national strategy to improve the social conditions of persons with disabilities.

83. Cyprus welcomed the adoption of numerous measures to promote and protect human rights, including the establishment of the Council for Persons with Disabilities, the adoption of the Gender Action Plan, and the amendments to the law on the Human Rights Ombudsman.

84. Czechia commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for the ongoing process of harmonizing legislation with international human rights standards. It appreciated the continued determination to protect vulnerable and marginalized groups, including women, persons with disabilities, LGBTQI+ persons and the Roma communities.

85. Egypt commended Bosnia and Herzegovina’s progress in establishing the Council for Persons with Disabilities and adopting its National Strategy. Egypt welcomed amendments to the Anti-Discrimination Law, the National Strategy for Combating Corruption, and efforts to promote minority rights.

86. Eritrea commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for adopting the Migration and Asylum Strategy and Action Plan for 2021–2025, which demonstrated its strong commitment to improving migration and asylum management. It also welcomed the adoption of the Development Strategy for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2021–2027.

87. Estonia welcomed the improvements made in the legislative and institutional framework to enhance the protection of human rights. It was concerned about reported attempts to restrict freedom of expression and media freedom, and about restrictions imposed on civil society.

88. Finland commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for adopting the Gender Action Plan and for its commitment to address gender-based violence. It noted with concern the deteriorating environment for civil society in the country.

89. France commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for the establishment of a national prevention mechanism against torture in 2023. It encouraged Bosnia and Herzegovina to strengthen the human rights system.

90. The Gambia commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for its efforts to strengthen the human rights framework, including the abolition of the death penalty.

91. Georgia commended Bosna and Herzegovina for the efforts taken to implement the recommendations from its previous review. It welcomed the steps taken to strengthen the national human rights protection framework, including through the adoption of relevant legal and policy documents. Georgia took positive note of the measures taken to improve the quality of education and ensure equal access to education.

92. Germany welcomed recent steps, in particular the draft laws on reparation to civilian victims of the 1992/95 war, including the recognition of the rights of children born as a result of conflict-related sexual violence. But it noted the lack of implementation of legislation to protect the rights of minorities and vulnerable groups. Germany was particularly concerned that LGBTQ+ persons lacked legal protection and continued to face discrimination and violence, and that journalists faced violence and other forms of pressure limiting their independence.

93. Iceland welcomed the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina took positive note of the presentation its national report.

94. India acknowledged the initiatives taken by Bosnia and Herzegovina to protect and promote human rights and commended the adoption of the Law on Prevention of Conflict of Interest and the amendments to the Law on the Human Rights Ombudsman.

95. Indonesia valued the unwavering commitment of Bosnia and Herzegovina to improve the protection of human rights in the country. It acknowledged the progress made in several areas, including in strengthening the rule of law and combating hate speech, but noted that significant challenges remained.

96. The Islamic Republic of Iran took positive note of the significant steps taken by Bosnia and Herzegovina since its previous review and country's commitment to promoting and protecting human rights.

97. Iraq welcomed Bosnia and Herzegovina’s progress in legislative development to promote human rights and commended its efforts to eliminate discrimination against minorities.

98. Ireland encouraged the establishment of a national preventive mechanism and expressed regret over challenges to civic space, including threats and intimidation against journalists and human rights defenders, particularly women.

99. Italy welcomed the amendments to the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination, the adoption of the law enabling the registration of migrant and asylum-seeker children, and the decision to establish the Council for Persons with Disabilities, further strengthening the anti-discrimination framework.

100. Jordan commended Bosnia and Herzegovina’s efforts in implementing UPR recommendations, including amending the Anti-Discrimination Law (2006 and 2023), updating the judicial information system, and establishing the Council for Persons with Disabilities.

101. Lithuania commended progress in human rights based on past UPR recommendations, including child rights and journalist safety. It acknowledged the establishment of focal points for journalist safety and encouraged further measures in line with international standards.

102. Luxembourg thanked Bosnia and Herzegovina for its efforts to implement the third-cycle recommendations, including the inclusion of sexual orientation among the grounds for discrimination in the Anti-Discrimination Law.

103. Malawi commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for its progress in human rights since the last review, including the adoption of the Law on Peaceful Assembly and guidelines to prevent workplace harassment and sexual harassment.

104. Malaysia recognized Bosnia and Herzegovina’s progress in promoting gender equality, combating human trafficking, and advancing education. It commended efforts to integrate all children into the education system and eliminate practices that may lead to segregation.

105. Maldives commended Bosnia and Herzegovina for legislative changes supporting gender equality, including the action plan for combating domestic violence and the establishment of three crisis centres for rape victims in medical institutions with trained staff.

106. Mauritania appreciated Bosnia and Herzegovina’s Culture Development Strategy (2023–2030) and funding for cultural creativity projects. It commended the Cultural Creativity Festival, welcomed the national strategy to combat climate change, and acknowledged efforts to align environmental laws with international agreements.

107. Mexico acknowledged the progress made in protection against domestic violence and violence against women through draft laws and amendments to the Penal Code.

108. Montenegro noted that the education system remains segregated, with most schools being mono-ethnic. It commended Bosnia and Herzegovina's efforts to strengthen human rights institutions, welcomed key legislation, updates to the Ombudsman's mandate and judicial system, as well as initiatives for inclusive education and combating discrimination.

109. Morocco commended Bosnia and Herzegovina’s efforts to strengthen its legal arsenal for promoting human rights, particularly through the adoption of strong legislative measures against discrimination.

110. Nepal noted the establishment of institutions and policies on gender equality, non-discrimination, and social inclusion. It commended the Environmental Protection Strategy for climate change and appreciated efforts to address unemployment and enhance social protection.

111. Sweden welcomed abolition of the death penalty in Republika Srpska and the establishment of a new mechanism for the prevention of torture. However, it noted that concerns remained concerning electoral rights, the right to freedom of expression, the ability of journalists and civil society to function efficiently and the lack of efforts to combat high-level corruption.

112. The Kingdom of the Netherlands commended the abolition of the death penalty within Bosnia and Herzegovina but noted that its Constitution continues to contain a discriminatory character in terms of political rights.

113. The delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina thanked the Vice President and members of the Human Rights Council for their contribution and their knowledge of the situation in the country BiH and its complexity.

114. The delegation was pleased to see that Bosnia and Herzegovina had a broad circle of friends around the world. Their concerns, aimed to ensure that the country BiH remained among those that promoted human rights and freedoms, holding itself to the highest democratic standards.

115. Bosnia and Herzegovina had a complex structure defined by its Constitution, but it aimed at implementing recommendations, to meet its obligations and commitments under the international treaties it had ratified or acceded to.

116. Bosnia had set up mechanisms, and they are working, so it planned to continue working with their support. The recommendations of this session have contributed to raise awareness about the necessity to uphold human rights as an integral element of the rule of law and a democratic society and further influence positive changes in creating accountability at all levels of government.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

117. **The following recommendations will be examined by Bosnia and Herzegovina, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the fifty-ninth session of the Human Rights Council:**

117.1 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Gambia);**

117.2 **Continue efforts to complete comprehensive legislation and an integrated strategy to combat cybercrime (Iraq);**

117.3 **Adopt a comprehensive policy framework on transitional justice to address the legacy of the past, foster reconciliation, and promote inclusivity and understanding (Slovakia);**

117.4 **Continue efforts at social dialogue and transitional justice that contribute to creating a culture of peace and violence prevention (Costa Rica);**

117.5 **Ensure the full implementation of the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights in Bosnia Herzegovina (France);**

117.6 **Continue concrete measures aimed at fully implementing the judgements of the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Court of Human Rights (Republic of Moldova);**

117.7 **Undertake constitutional and electoral reforms in line with the Sejdić-Finci and related case law of the European Court of Human Rights (Czechia);**

117.8 **Adopt further changes to the electoral processes to bring them closer to international standards and implement rulings of the European Court of Human Rights (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

117.9 **Revise, on the basis of inclusive consultations, the Constitution and the electoral law, in accordance with the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights and the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina, so as to ensure equality of all citizens in the exercise of their political rights (Switzerland);**

117.10 **Engage in a meaningful dialogue with all stakeholders to implement reforms to ensure equality of all citizens in exercising their electoral rights, in accordance with the associated European Court of Human Rights judgments (Sweden);**

117.11 **Undertake necessary revisions of the Constitution and the Election Law, inter alia by removing discriminatory provisions and by implementing judgements of the European Court of Human Rights, notably the Sejdic/Finci judgement (Austria);**

117.12 **Ensure free and fair elections by providing sufficient and timely financing and implementation of measures improving their integrity (Norway);**

117.13 **Strengthen the independence, resources, and effectiveness of the Institution of the Human Rights Ombudsman, enabling it to fulfill its mandate and have its recommendations systematically implemented by the authorities, especially in addressing the concerns of marginalized groups (Armenia);**

117.14 **Strengthen the independence of the Human Rights Ombudsman through impartiality in selection and appointment, and increase financial autonomy of the Institution (Chile);**

117.15 **Ensure the impartiality of the selection and appointment of the Ombudsman, financial autonomy of the office and systematic and timely enforcement of its recommendations (Czechia);**

117.16 **Create a national mechanism to follow up on the recommendations of the universal human rights system that includes ongoing consultation with civil society (Uruguay);**

117.17 **Further bolster the implementation of the legislation prohibiting discrimination (Philippines);**

117.18 **Take measures to combat discrimination that are based on gender, sexual orientation or disability (France);**

117.19 **Implement fully national action plans to address inequalities faced by women, Roma and LGBTQIA+ persons (Australia);**

117.20 **Continue the efforts already initiated to harmonise the legal framework relating to the prohibition of racial discrimination (Senegal);**

117.21 **Intensify efforts to harmonize the national legal framework on racial discrimination with international standards, in order to ensure that all persons enjoy the same level of protection and enjoyment of rights, regardless of their ethnic origin, place of residence and other causes (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

117.22 **Ensure the harmonization of the legal framework prohibiting racial discrimination at the State and entity levels by including all prohibited grounds for racial discrimination and addressing discrimination in access to sustainable formal employment, particularly for Roma and persons with disabilities (Brazil);**

117.23 **Intensify efforts to harmonize the legal framework against racial discrimination in order to ensure that all persons enjoy the same level of protection and enjoyment of rights (Colombia);**

117.24 **Take necessary steps to prevent hate crimes committed against returnees, religious institutions and cemeteries throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina (Türkiye);**

117.25 **Ensure that the judiciary and law enforcement agencies systematically, swiftly and adequately respond to incidents of discrimination, hate crimes and hate speech on all grounds, in accordance with international human rights standards (Montenegro);**

117.26 **Strengthen efforts to prevent and address discrimination and hate speech in all forms by enforcing comprehensive legislation that explicitly prohibits hate speech and aligns with international human rights standards (Indonesia);**

117.27 **Continue efforts to combat discrimination and hate speech (Tunisia);**

117.28 **Continue efforts to combat intolerance, hate speech and all forms of discrimination (Egypt);**

117.29 **Continue efforts to combat all forms of discrimination, inequality and violence (Bulgaria);**

117.30 **Prevent and address discrimination and hate speech on all grounds, at all levels of governance and across the public sector, with a special attention to an inclusion-oriented reform of education system, including the abolishment of the so called “two schools under one roof” phenomenon, and strengthen anti-discrimination laws with regard to intersectional discrimination, while supporting participation and representation of vulnerable and marginalized groups in political and public life (Czechia);**

117.31 **Implement measures to end ethnic discrimination within political and societal structures (Germany);**

117.32 **Amend without further delay the Constitution so as to eliminate discrimination based upon belonging to an ethnic group in public political life and in terms of access to employment in the public sector, in accordance with the relevant jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights (Belgium);**

117.33 **Ensure the right to equality and non-discrimination for all citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in particular through the implementation of the European Court of Human Rights decision in the Sejdić and Finci case and other related rulings (Netherlands (Kingdom of the));**

117.34 **Take all necessary measures to foster intercultural dialogue, tolerance, and understanding among communities, to promote reconciliation and protect vulnerable groups by avoiding divisive rhetoric, removing discriminatory laws, and implementing European Court of Human Rights judgments (Italy);**

117.35 **Prevent practices that exclude, stigmatise, or discriminate against minority students and their communities (Senegal);**

117.36 **Continue efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination in education, ensuring equal access and opportunities for all (India);**

117.37 **Strengthen efforts for the search and identification of missing persons without discrimination, while ensuring complete access to information for the families (Republic of Moldova);**

117.38 **Expedite the search for and identification of missing persons, based on objective and transparent criteria, and regardless of the circumstances in which the victims disappeared (Colombia);**

117.39 **Accelerate the operationalization of the national mechanism for the prevention of torture based on the amendments adopted in 2023, and in accordance with the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Costa Rica);**

117.40 **Provide the necessary human and financial resources to the National Mechanism for the prevention of torture and ill-treatment (Morocco);**

117.41 **Pursue efforts to adopt the Strategy for the Fight against Corruption and its Action Plan (Morocco);**

117.42 **Strengthen the national strategy for fighting against corruption to reduce such acts (Cuba);**

117.43 **Establish a harmonized legal framework, both on preventive measures and law enforcement, on the fight against corruption (Sweden);**

117.44 **Adopt or amend legislation at the federal level to provide for judicial protection of individuals reporting corruption (Slovenia);**

117.45 **Ensure that access to justice is guaranteed to every citizen; further strengthen the independence and efficiency of the judiciary and the implementation of anti-corruption policies (Italy);**

117.46 **Repeal legal provisions that allow the granting of pardons or amnesties for international crimes (Colombia);**

117.47 **Ensure the implementation of laws regarding victims of war protection and combat hate speech, negationism, revisionism and the glorification of war criminals (France);**

117.48 **Fully implement its laws and regulations against the glorification of war criminals and genocide perpetrators (Türkiye);**

117.49 **Address the genocide legacy by countering the manipulation of past grievances, denial of past atrocity crimes and glorification of convicted war criminals, by establishing a state-level reparation system for all victims of war, and by supporting social ties between ethnic groups (Czechia);**

117.50 **Renew efforts on dealing with the past by prioritizing justice and reconciliation through a victim-centred approach, including by acceleration of the prosecution of war crimes, establishment of a comprehensive state-level reparation system, and implementation of the criminal law provisions related to genocide and war crimes denial (Austria);**

117.51 **Complete prosecutions for war crimes and establish a system of reparations accessible to all victims, alongside reconciliation efforts (Luxembourg);**

117.52 **Establish a comprehensive state level reparation system easily accessible to all victims of war without any discrimination (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

117.53 **Strengthen the enforcement of international and European standards in the prosecution of war crimes, while ensuring the independence of the judiciary system (Croatia);**

117.54 **Ensure financial, material and human resources for the judiciary in order to facilitate effective, timely and adequate investigations and prosecutions in cases of war crimes (Chile);**

117.55 **Strengthen access to, as well as impartiality and independence of the justice system, particularly with regard to hate and war crimes, and corruption (Luxembourg);**

117.56 **Implement the August 2019 decision of the United Nations Committee against Torture that will ensure access to rights and services for survivors of sexual violence in conflicts (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

117.57 **Adopt, in consultation with civil society, including victims' associations, a comprehensive, human rights and victim-centred approach to the search for truth, justice, reparations and guarantees of non-repetition (Colombia);**

117.58 **Abandon restrictive laws and measures targeting civil society, such as the criminalization of defamation and “foreign agent” legislation (Norway);**

117.59 **Enhance the protection of civil society actors, journalists and human rights defenders and uphold their fundamental rights to freedom of expression, association, peaceful assembly and participation (Czechia);**

117.60 **Take all necessary measures to protect and promote civic space, online and offline, and ensure a safe and enabling environment free from political pressure, threats and intimidation for journalists, activists, human rights defenders and civil society (Estonia);**

117.61 **Respect the right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly and ensure the protection of human rights defenders, journalists, and whistleblowers from intimidation, harassment and attacks (Norway);**

117.62 **Repeal amendments to the Republika Srpska Criminal Code that criminalise defamation and adopt measures to ensure a safe and enabling environment for independent journalists and human rights defenders (Portugal);**

117.63 **Take measures to ensure in all circumstances respect for freedom of expression and press freedom and to combat acts of intimidation or pressure exerted upon journalists (France);**

117.64 **Respect the European standards regarding freedom of assembly and association and ensuring a favourable environment for civil society (France);**

117.65 **Guarantee freedom of association and peaceful assembly, including by ensuring that legislation does not impose discriminatory regulatory requirements and excessive administrative obligations on media and civil society organizations (Switzerland);**

117.66 **Guarantee freedom of the press by strengthening the protection of journalists against violence, harassment and the misuse of defamation lawsuits, while ensuring effective and impartial investigations into these offences (Switzerland);**

117.67 **Establish mechanisms to ensure prompt and systematic investigation of intimidation and threats against human rights defenders, and develop legislation to strengthen their protection (Spain);**

117.68 **Establish mechanisms to strengthen the protection of human rights defenders and journalists (Uruguay);**

117.69 **Set up mechanisms to strengthen the protection of women, journalists and human rights defenders from violence and intimidation, including through financial support (Austria);**

117.70 **Improve enforcement of legal protections for media freedom by investigating and prosecuting any attacks or other criminal acts against journalists (Canada);**

117.71 **Adopt comprehensive legislation to protect journalists and ensure accountability for any acts of intimidation or violence against media workers, both offline and online (Germany);**

117.72 **Align laws protecting freedom of expression with international standards (Estonia);**

117.73 **Refrain from imposing foreign agent style legislation and other measures that will hinder or obstruct the work of independent civil society organizations, activists and media (Lithuania);**

117.74 **Ensure an enabling environment for civil society, including through an inclusive policy dialogue, and transparent funding (Finland);**

117.75 **Create more inclusive platforms for civic engagement, with a focus on youth, to strengthen democratic processes, ensure that their voices shape the country's future, and help counter the rising trend of emigration (Slovakia);**

117.76 **Take effective measures to protect media freedom and guarantee the independence of media organisations and the safety of journalists, in particular by adopting a law on transparency of media ownership in line with international human rights standards (Netherlands (Kingdom of the));**

117.77 **Bring national legislation in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, particularly in relation to the rights to freedom of assembly and association and freedom of opinion and expression, to ensure a safe and enabling environment for civil society, human rights defenders and journalists (Ireland);**

117.78 **Repeal legislation, including the new law on defamation, that restricts the right to freedom of expression and assembly for civil society, journalists and human rights defenders (Sweden);**

117.79 **Provide protection and support to the family as the natural and basic unit of society (Egypt);**

117.80 **Work on adopting the draft proposal for the strategy to combat human trafficking (Jordan);**

117.81 **Continue efforts to adopt the Strategy for Combating Human Trafficking (Malaysia);**

117.82 **Adopt the proposed National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking and ensure its implementation (Gambia);**

117.83 **Further strengthen its efforts in capacity-building to detect and investigate the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings (India);**

117.84 **Implement further action to combat trafficking in persons, particularly children and women (Italy);**

117.85 **Continue improving economic and social conditions for vulnerable groups ensuring their full access to essential services (Ukraine);**

117.86 **Continue efforts aimed at reducing poverty (Mauritania);**

117.87 **Increase investment in education, health and other public sectors to better protect the people's right to life and development (China);**

117.88 **Continue to take measures to enhance access to housing, education and health care for families, particularly those with multiple children (Pakistan);**

117.89 **Redouble efforts to provide affordable and adequate housing, especially to disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

117.90 **Intensify efforts to provide affordable and adequate housing, especially to disadvantaged and marginalised individuals and groups (Maldives);**

117.91 **Continue efforts to improve the housing sector with the aim of providing adequate housing (Iraq);**

117.92 **Continue to strengthen the capabilities of the healthcare system and develop medical infrastructure throughout the country (Oman);**

117.93 **Continue its work on enhancing the access to healthcare and social protection services, including by the effective implementation of the Development Strategy for 2021–2027 (Georgia);**

117.94 **Take additional measures to ensure equitable access to healthcare, including immunization services, for all communities, with particular attention to accessibility, non-discriminatory practices, and cultural considerations (Eritrea);**

117.95 **Ensure access to quality universal healthcare for all including immunization, particularly access to health services for persons with disabilities (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

117.96 **Ensure access to quality universal physical and mental health services, particularly for persons with psychosocial disabilities (Portugal);**

117.97 **Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health services for all at all levels of governance (Estonia);**

117.98 **Ensure safe and legal access to abortion services across the country (Iceland);**

117.99 **Continue to improve and support special health programs (Mauritania);**

117.100 **Scale up measures to ensure access to quality education for all (Nepal);**

117.101 **Continue efforts in improving the inclusivity of education (Republic of Moldova);**

117.102 **Continue to ensure adequate resources for the effective implementation of the 2020 Recommendations for Policies of Action with a Roadmap for Improving Inclusive Education, with particular focus on Roma children, children with disabilities, and other children from disadvantaged groups (Philippines);**

117.103 **Adopt measures to strengthen the inclusiveness of the education system, by facilitating access to education for Roma and migrant children as well as children with disabilities (Italy);**

117.104 **Take further steps to end segregation and discrimination in education, by ensuring access to quality education for children from all ethnic backgrounds, including Roma children and those with disabilities (Indonesia);**

117.105 **Strengthen access to quality education at all levels, especially for children with disabilities, Roma, refugees, asylum seekers and migrants and prevent school dropout (Niger);**

117.106 **Continue to strengthen educational measures dedicated to children and enhancing their social inclusion (Oman);**

117.107 **Increase efforts to end all forms of discrimination and segregation in education (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of));**

117.108 **End divided education systems (Slovakia);**

117.109 **Provide access to education while respecting the right of education in the mother tongue and respecting the constitutional competences regarding the education, in a tolerant and inclusive education system (Croatia);**

117.110 **Continue efforts to achieve inclusive and equitable education, with a focus on cultural and linguistic diversity in curricula and ensuring access to a discrimination-free school environment (Qatar);**

117.111 **Continue to improve the educational system at all levels (Cuba);**

117.112 **Incorporate mandatory comprehensive sexuality education into public school curricula (Estonia);**

117.113 **Ensure the provision of comprehensive sexuality education in and out of school settings (Iceland);**

117.114 **Continue efforts aimed to mitigate the effects of climate change and adapt to its repercussions (Oman);**

117.115 **Strengthen environmental protection initiatives by implementing measures under the Environmental Protection Strategy to reduce the impacts of climate change on local communities (Viet Nam);**

117.116 **Promote and respect the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment by reducing air pollution levels in cities and regularly informing citizens about air quality, and preparing action plans and enforcing air quality standards (Costa Rica);**

117.117 **Continue to promote sustainable economic and social development, so as to provide a solid foundation for the better enjoyment of human rights by the people (China);**

117.118 **Guarantee access to drinking water for all and strengthen waste management systems (Togo);**

117.119 **Increase the employability of women through adequate labour market policies, improved parental leave schemes and concrete measures to close the gender wage gap (Portugal);**

117.120 **Increase the employability of women through comprehensive labour market policies, targeted training programs, and the development of accessible, quality social and healthcare services (India);**

117.121 **Increase the employability of women through adequate labour market policies, training and the development of accessible quality social and healthcare services (Iran (Islamic Republic of));**

117.122 **Improve the employability of women through the adoption of appropriate labour market policies, the use of training and the provision of accessible and quality social and healthcare services (Togo);**

117.123 **Enhance women employability through effective labour market policies while addressing the gender wage gap (Ukraine);**

117.124 **Take measures to close the gender gap, including by encouraging women's employment (Republic of Moldova);**

117.125 **Promote gender equality in the workforce by formulating and implementing national strategies aimed at closing the gender pay gap and increasing women’s participation (Indonesia);**

117.126 **Further strengthen measures for the economic empowerment of women, including through support for women entrepreneurs and enhanced access to education and skills development (Pakistan);**

117.127 **Strengthen campaigns for women’s political participation and encourage parties to prioritize gender parity (Cyprus);**

117.128 **Further promote women's participation in the economic and political spheres by ensuring equal leadership opportunities and expanding training and support initiatives, among other measures (Philippines);**

117.129 **Continue with efforts to increase female representation in legislative and executive arms of Government and in local self-governance units (Malawi);**

117.130 **Take concrete steps to ensure stronger participation of women in executive power (Slovenia);**

117.131 **Implement targeted measures to increase women's representation in leadership roles across all sectors (Malaysia);**

117.132 **Take all necessary measures, including at the legislative level, to sustain public policies with a human rights-based approach in favour of equality between women and men, and that effectively combat gender-based violence, discrimination and gender stereotypes (Costa Rica);**

117.133 **Allocate adequate resources for the implementation of the Strategy for the Improvement of Gender Equality in the Judiciary (Morocco);**

117.134 **Strengthen women’s rights and combat domestic violence by ensuring full alignment with the Istanbul Convention (Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence) (Norway);**

117.135 **Ensure that domestic legislation is in conformity with the Istanbul Convention (the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence) (Estonia);**

117.136 **Harmonize and strengthen laws across both entities and at the state level to ensure uniform, effective protection against gender-based violence, aligned with the Istanbul Convention (the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence) (Germany);**

117.137 **Fully align criminal codes and laws against domestic violence and violence against women with the Istanbul Convention (the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence) across the country (Cyprus);**

117.138 **Harmonize all criminal legislation with the Istanbul Convention (the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence to comprehensively address all forms of gender-based violence) (Iceland);**

117.139 **Bring legislation and national policies on gender-based violence in line with international obligations under the Istanbul Convention (Switzerland);**

117.140 **Harmonise across all levels of government criminal legislation with the Istanbul Convention and develop a new action plan on Women, Peace and Security (Spain);**

117.141 **Fully harmonize laws and policies on gender-based violence, including domestic violence (Armenia);**

117.142 **Strengthen the implementation of the Istanbul Convention [Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) to ensure comprehensive measures to combat violence against women and domestic violence (Ukraine);**

117.143 **Ensure the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) is fully implemented across the country (Ireland);**

117.144 **Introduce stricter sanctions for perpetrators of domestic violence and improve support services for victim-survivors of domestic violence (Australia);**

117.145 **Continue its efforts to strengthen laws, policies, and measures to sanction violence against women, as well as ensuring comprehensive support and protection for survivors of all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, as recommended by GREVIO (Belgium);**

117.146 **Continue to develop government policies and programmes to prevent and fight against domestic violence and violence against women (Cuba);**

117.147 **Harmonize and fully implement the laws related to wartime victims of rape and sexual violence, including accelerating prosecution of crimes of sexual violence as well as ensuring the rights of victims, and adequate reparations (Finland);**

117.148 **Proceed with measures aimed at combating and preventing gender-based and domestic violence (Georgia);**

117.149 **Strengthen and expand access to adequately funded support services for gender-based violence survivors (Iceland);**

117.150 **Advance the fight against sexual and gender-based violence and provide reparations to all survivors, regardless of their gender or sexual orientation (Luxembourg);**

117.151 **Classify femicide as a specific crime and harmonize national legislation, including laws at the entity and canton levels, with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and Istanbul Convention (the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence) (Mexico);**

117.152 **Continue working on strengthening measures to prevent and combat domestic violence and violence against women (Jordan);**

117.153 **Step up efforts to combat all forms of violence against women and girls (Nepal);**

117.154 **Harmonize laws and policies related to gender-based violence with international standards, strengthening access to justice and prevention measures, and taking specific measures to ensure the protection of Roma women (Chile);**

117.155 **Advance the prevention of violence against children including sexual abuse, early marriage and corporal punishment, and ensure justice for children (Luxembourg);**

117.156 **Increase efforts to stop all forms of violence against children, such as child marriage, corporal punishment and sexual abuse (Maldives);**

117.157 **Take measures to prohibit all forms of violence against children, including sexual abuse, child marriage and corporal punishment (Cyprus);**

117.158 **Strengthen measures for the protection of children, the rights of the child, and the prevention of violence against minors (Cuba);**

117.159 **Strengthen efforts to develop the Children’s Action Plan for the period 2025–2029, with a focus on preventing violence against children and providing social support for child victims and their families (Qatar);**

117.160 **Continue efforts made to promote children's rights and protect them from violence, neglect and exploitation (Tunisia);**

117.161 **Continue strengthening child protection services, ensuring effective response to acts of violence against children (Lithuania);**

117.162 **Adopt legislative measures to prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including in the family (Costa Rica);**

117.163 **Consider adopting and implementing a comprehensive national strategy for children’s rights (Malawi);**

117.164 **Adopt concrete measures to protect the right of persons with disabilities to information and inclusive participation in political, economic and cultural life, and develop a de-institutionalisation strategy to advance their inclusion (Spain);**

117.165 **Take further measures to guarantee the meaningful inclusive participation of persons with disabilities in political, economic and cultural life (Bulgaria);**

117.166 **Take concrete measures to ensure access to information and meaningful inclusive participation of persons with disabilities in political, economic and cultural life (Cyprus);**

117.167 **Continue efforts made to promote the rights of persons with disabilities (Tunisia);**

117.168 **Continue efforts to enhance inclusion of the persons with disabilities (Nepal);**

117.169 **Strengthen the capacity of public officials to effectively implement laws and policies relating to people with disability (Australia);**

117.170 **Strengthen the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, including through financial support and by developing an action plan, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and with the participation of persons with disabilities (Austria);**

117.171 **Strengthen efforts aimed at protecting persons with disabilities, especially children with disabilities, through effective implementation of the relevant strategy (Egypt);**

117.172 **Take further steps to ensure equal treatment of persons with disabilities, including access to justice, education, healthcare, employment and social assistance, through dedicated budgetary measures (Finland);**

117.173 **Reinforce measures to ensure the special needs of persons with disabilities, to provide better access to education, health care, employment and information (Lithuania);**

117.174 **Incorporate a comprehensive, rights-based approach into disability provisions, including a definition of disability harmonized with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), as well as reasonable accommodation in all areas of life, ensuring that health services are tailored to the specific needs of women and girls (Mexico);**

117.175 **Adopt constitutional and electoral reforms to align with the European Court of Human Rights and Constitutional Court judgments, ensuring the political equality and non-discrimination of all citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly addressing the rights of persons belonging to national minorities and constituent peoples and their equal access to public office and full democratic participation (Slovakia);**

117.176 **Amend the Election Law in accordance with the relevant ruling of the Constitutional Court to ensure full equality of the constituent peoples and the rights of all citizens, and ensure the principle of legitimate political representation at all government levels (Croatia);**

117.177 **Promote reforms to the Electoral Law that guarantee full equality of constituent peoples and other national minorities at all levels (Chile);**

117.178 **Increase efforts to combat discrimination based on ethnicity, including and in particular ethnic minorities such as Roma, by strengthening the capacities of the judiciary and legal professionals to interpret and apply the Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination and increase awareness-raising activities (Belgium);**

117.179 **Intensify efforts to promote social inclusion by developing programmes that support the integration of minority groups into education, employment and health care systems, ensuring equal opportunities for all (Viet Nam);**

117.180 **Combat ethnic divisions, including by condemning political rhetoric that accentuates them (Canada);**

117.181 **Fully implement the Action Plan for the Promotion of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of LGBTI Persons (Uruguay);**

117.182 **Fully implement the Action Plan for the Promotion of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of LGBTI Persons (Ireland);**

117.183 **Fully implement the Gender Action Plan and the Action Plan for the Improvement of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of LGBTI Persons, including by allocating sufficient funding and establishing robust monitoring mechanisms (Austria);**

117.184 **Further improve legislation and make operational the National Protective Mechanisms for better protection and inclusion of the LGBT+ community (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

117.185 **Take further steps to implement the plan of action for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Brazil);**

117.186 **Protect the rights of LGBT+ persons including from hate crimes by fully implementing the 2021–2024 Action Plan to Improve the State of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of LGBTI People in Bosnia and Herzegovina and recognizing same sex marriage (Norway);**

117.187 **Legalize same-sex marriage and amend family law provisions to guarantee equal rights for all couples (Iceland);**

117.188 **Legalize same-sex unions (Estonia);**

117.189 **Guarantee the enjoyment of economic and social rights of same-sex couples in order to avoid any discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Spain);**

117.190 **Increase training for the judiciary, police and prosecutors on hate crimes against LGBTQI+ people, including incitement to hatred and violence (Canada);**

117.191 **Introduce a transparent administrative self-identification process for legal gender recognition free from intrusive requirements (Iceland);**

117.192 **Ensure humane and lawful treatment of migrants and refugees, with special attention to ending the immigration detention of children and improving conditions in border areas (Gambia);**

117.193 **Strengthen and improve mechanisms for identification, protection and assistance to migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, including training of officials in possible cases of human trafficking, adopting a rights-based approach, focused on victims and guaranteeing the best interests of children (Mexico);**

117.194 **Make further efforts to address the remaining gaps in the implementation of best interest determination procedures (Eritrea);**

117.195 **Ensure that refugees applicants are able to register a claim, and those who qualify are granted refugee status allowing them to gain access to travel documents, family reunification and local integration pathways (Uruguay);**

117.196 **Expedite the closure of the remaining collective centres and the provision of adequate housing to returnees and internally displaced persons (Montenegro).**

118. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina was headed by H.E Sevlid HURTIĆ, Minister of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and composed of the following members:

• Jasmin Handžić, Head of Cabinet of the Minister, Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Rejhana Dervišević, Member of the House of Representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Joint Committee on Human Rights of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Aida Kreho - Vrhovčić, Secretary, Joint Commission for Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Kemo Sarač, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Željka Marković – Sekulić, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees;

• Vanja Vujadin, Expert Advisor, Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Amina Malićbegović, Expert Advisor, Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Nina Šantić, Head of the Department, Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Darko Vidović, Minister-Counselor, Head of the Human Rights Department at Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Danijela Babić, Minister-Counselor, Human Rights Department at Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Ljiljana Jurak, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Dino Borovina, Expert Advisor, Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Nerin Dizdar, Minister, Federal Ministry of Displaced Persons and Refugees;

• Azra Maslo, Head of Sector, Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Miroslav Geljić, Head of Department, Department for European Integration and International Cooperation of the BD Government;

• Nataša Slagalo, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Aleksandra Jošilo, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Novak Vukajlović, Chief of Cabinet of the Minister, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

• Bojan Vujić, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;

• Lucija Ljubić, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva.

1. A/HRC/WG.6/48/BIH/1. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. A/HRC/WG.6/48/BIH/2. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. A/HRC/WG.6/48/BIH/3. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)