

SHADOW REPORT FOR THE FOURTH REPORTING CYCLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA



Platform
of Organizations for
Cooperation with UN
Human Rights Mechanisms

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I Introduction

The Platform of Organizations for Cooperation with UN Human Rights Mechanisms has the honour to submit its contribution to UN Human Committee for the occasion of the adoption of the Concluding Observations for the fourth reporting cycle of the Republic of Serbia. We hope our submission will be valuable for discussions before the Committee and for preparing the Concluding Observations.

[The Platform of Organizations for Cooperation with UN Human Rights Mechanisms](#) was established in July 2018 with the aim of ensuring a common and standardized approach to thematic, timely, and quality reporting to the UN human rights mechanisms. The Platform operates within eight thematic groups and is coordinated by the [Belgrade Center for Human Rights](#). It was founded by civil society organizations with substantial experience reporting to UN human rights mechanisms and monitoring recommendations. Platform members recognize the need for and importance of continual and evidence-based reporting, monitoring the implementation of the recommendations issued to the Government of Serbia, and interacting with the Governmental bodies to monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the UN human rights mechanism.

II Freedom of Peaceful Assembly

In [Replies](#) to the [List of Issues](#) pertaining to Serbia's fourth periodic report, the Serbian government failed to address whether the Law on Public Assembly (2016) aligns with General Comments no. 37. This query, previously raised by the Committee in Concluding Observations on Serbia's third periodic report, remains unanswered.

Furthermore, the government omitted any timeframe for the Administrative Court's judicial review in explaining the procedure to appeal the prohibition of public gatherings, as the Law does not stipulate one.



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In practical terms, the Administrative Court rendered decisions within a reasonable timeframe only on two occasions, resulting in upholding the bans.

Likewise, the administrative process preceding the judicial review appears ineffective, as the Ministry of Internal Affairs has overturned only one decision, nullifying a ban imposed by a local police station.

Over the last eight years, the Constitutional Court has failed to render a single substantiated decision in appeals related to Freedom of Public Assembly, dismissing three complaints. This trend serves as an impediment for citizens seeking recourse with the UN Human Rights Committee. Moreover, the likelihood of a recurrence of the Constitutional Court's [ex officio decision](#) in 2015, declaring the previous Law on Gathering of Citizens (1992) unconstitutional, looms over the current Law. The persistent shortcomings of the current legislation seem to replicate the conditions that led to the earlier constitutional ruling. Considering all aspects, it is evident that the Law on Public Assembly of Serbia does not align with General Comments No. 37 and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

The critical issue with the Freedom of Public Assembly revolves around the unjust application of unfounded criminal charges to suppress peaceful protesters, reinforcing the narratives in smear campaigns that label them as "foreign agents," "spies," and "fascists." These campaigns, led by top public officials, falsely depict nonviolent protesters as destructive and violent while minimizing attacks against them by masked assailants, all aimed at dissuading citizens from participating in the protests.

Despite the absence of evidence, individuals are coerced into accepting plea bargains, such as suspended sentences, to sidestep prolonged trials and detention. Notably, a [protester](#) displaying a banner depicting the president was compelled into a plea deal for the crime of sedition, receiving a suspended sentence. Unfortunately, the courts assessing these deals often maintain a non-interventionist stance, routinely approving them without thorough scrutiny.

Crucial information was omitted in response to the Committee's request for the Government to provide details regarding disciplinary proceedings and investigations into instances of excessive force during protests. Criminal procedures in the cases of the excessive use of force by the police at the [2020 July protests](#) could not advance due to the challenge of identifying police officers in riot gear, despite the presence of substantial video evidence. Although the Ombudsperson of Serbia proposed a solution involving a combination of letters and numbers for identification, the government introduced a more ambiguous [draft of the Law on Internal Affairs](#). Notably, this draft excluded a mandatory requirement for police officers to wear name tags on their uniforms.

It's crucial to highlight that the incident mentioned in paragraph 160 of the Government's response entails police officers throwing an autistic boy off a bicycle near the protest area and subsequently assaulting him—a distressing event that was [broadcast](#) on TV. Police officers involved were absolved of any criminal and disciplinary responsibility.



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The potential application of biometric video surveillance represents a significant concern. Thousands of biometric video cameras are installed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Belgrade, and the trend is catching up in other cities. Despite the absence of formal usage in court proceedings, there have been numerous [claims](#) that this technology has been used to identify demonstrators. Government officials have often boasted about their capability to precisely number protesters through technological means, which understandably creates a chilling effect on public demonstrations.

The employment of artificial intelligence in this context has, to date, been primarily limited to the generation of deepfake videos featuring [opposition leaders](#), which were used in a parody TV show without appropriate disclosure. Moreover, given the prevalent trend of disseminating fake news to portray protesters in a negative light, it seems increasingly plausible that AI could soon be harnessed to fabricate convincing images and videos to further these aims.

Recommendations

Serbia should:

- a) urgently address deficiencies in its Law on Public Assembly, ensuring alignment with General Comments No. 37 and the ICCPR.**
- b) refrain from unjust application of criminal charges against peaceful protesters and enhance accountability for excessive use of force by law enforcement.**
- c) should reconsider the widespread use of biometric video surveillance and ensure safeguards to protect citizens' rights and freedoms.**
- d) should closely monitor the potential misuse of artificial intelligence, emphasizing the importance of protecting citizens' rights and freedoms in the context of public demonstrations.**

III Rights of Persons with Disabilities

While the Committee notes that the State party has made some progress in terms of promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities, it is concerned that persons with disabilities still face many challenges in getting access to justice, education, employment, and political participation. The Committee notes with concern the forced placement in medical institutions, isolation and forced treatment of large



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numbers of persons with mental, intellectual, and psychosocial disabilities; the inadequacy of the current legal frameworks to achieve deinstitutionalization and enhance appropriate community-based support; the reported tendency to resort to the deprivation of legal capacity, including full legal capacity, which disproportionately affects the rights of persons with disabilities; and the limited scope of protections against discrimination on grounds of disability (arts. 2, 7, 14, 16 and 25-26).

17. The State party should:

(a) take appropriate measures to ensure that persons with disabilities are not discriminated against in the enjoyment of their rights.

In Serbia, the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination and the Law on Prevention of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities are in force. Also, many other laws in the fields of education, healthcare, employment, and social protection prohibit discrimination against persons with disabilities. However, children and people with disabilities face various forms of discrimination in all areas of life.

(b) take all measures necessary to implement a policy of deinstitutionalization of persons with disabilities accompanied by appropriate community-based support.

There are two important policy documents: The Strategy for Improving the Status of Persons with Disabilities 2020 to 2024 (March 2020) and the Strategy for Deinstitutionalization and Development of Social Welfare Services in the Community for the period 2022-2026 (February 2022). Two action plans were developed for the first strategy, covering 2021-2022 and 2023-2024. According to reports from the Ministry of Labor, Employment, Veterans, and Social Affairs, it is observed that the number of users of social welfare services in the community, especially key services such as personal assistance and supported housing, is extremely low (296 – personal assistance; 20 - supported housing). There is also a limited number of licensed service providers. Unfortunately, the implementation of the Deinstitutionalization Strategy has not yet begun, and the action plan has not been adopted.

In late 2021, the Law on the Rights of Users of Temporary Accommodation Services in Social Welfare was enacted as part of a strategic solution for transitioning users from institutional care to community living. However, the effective implementation of this Law is still pending due to the absence of by-laws.

(c) ensure that any decision to isolate, place, or treat persons with mental, intellectual, and psychosocial disabilities is made after a thorough medical assessment, that any restrictions are legal, necessary, and proportionate to the individual circumstances, and include guarantees of an effective remedy, that any abuse is effectively investigated, and that criminal liability is imposed.

In Serbia, despite international recommendations, the Law on the Protection of Persons with Mental Disorders remains in effect without necessary amendments. This Law allows the deprivation of liberty based on disability and the involuntary placement of children and adults with developmental disorders in healthcare and residential institutions. Not only has this legislation not been amended in accordance with



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the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other bodies, but after a tragic incident involving a student from the "Vladislav Ribnikar" Elementary School in Belgrade who was under the age of criminal responsibility, the Ministry of Health drafted amendments to the Law on the Protection of Persons with Mental Disorders. These amendments set conditions for the involuntary detention of children who, due to their age, are not criminally responsible but have committed acts punishable by imprisonment for at least ten years in a specific section of a psychiatric institution. The proposed legal solutions are inconsistent with the Constitution of Serbia and affirmed international human rights treaties, especially the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment. The proposed changes do not improve the protection of persons with mental disorders; instead, they contribute to the discrimination and stigmatization of individuals with mental health problems. The draft amendments have not entered parliamentary proceedings.

(d) pursue legal amendments in order to eliminate the tendency to resort to the full deprivation of legal capacity and strengthen its efforts to restore the legal capacity of persons with disabilities.

Despite being announced several times, amendments to the Family Law have yet to be enacted, and note that the deprivation of legal capacity in Serbia is still in effect.

(e) recognize the denial of reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities as a form of discrimination.

Proposed changes recognizing denial of reasonable accommodation for persons with disability as a form of discrimination have not been implemented.

(f) include disability as a ground for prosecuting those allegedly responsible for hate crimes.

The Criminal Code, last updated in May 2019, does not include disability as a basis for hate crime

Recommendations

Serbia should:

- a) strengthen the enforcement of existing anti-discrimination laws to comprehensively address discrimination faced by children and individuals with disabilities in various life domains.**
- b) expedite the implementation of the Deinstitutionalization Strategy, with a specific focus on increasing the provision of key community-based services such as personal assistance and supported housing.**
- c) urgently amend the Law on the Protection of Persons with Mental Disorders to align with international recommendations, ensuring that decisions regarding persons with mental disabilities are proportionate, based on thorough medical assessments, and incorporate effective remedies.**
- d) pursue legal amendments to eliminate the tendency to fully deprive individuals with disabilities of legal capacity, emphasizing the enactment of overdue amendments to the Family Law.**



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IV Violence against children

Violence against children (VAC) remains a major concern. There is a **lack of efficient cooperation, coordination, and data sharing among various sectors, particularly social protection, police, justice, health, and education.**

The 2020 Strategy for Prevention and Protection of Children from Violence for the period 2020-2023, with the accompanying Action Plan for 2020 and 2021, adopted immediately before the elections took place, was supposed to be an important step in the process of strategic improvement of the protection of children from violence in Serbia. However, it **has not been implemented in practice. The General Protocol for the protection of children from violence was adopted in 2022.** Reports on monitoring of its implementation and related data are missing or are not accessible to the public.

The **Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence**, which entered into force in 2017, has been implemented in practice, but a stronger emphasis should be put on the protection of children as victims and witnesses of domestic violence in the work of established coordination mechanisms through the development of individual protection plans. Also, the fragmented capacity building of professionals provided by the Judicial Academy has not focused on the aspect of the rights of the child and the provision of these children with adequate individualized support.

An explicit ban on corporal punishment of children is still not foreseen by the law. It is necessary to amend the Family Law to foresee the explicit prohibition of corporal punishment in all communities, including the family. The amendment should be in line with General Comment 8 of the CRC Committee, relevant to the right of the child to protection from corporal punishment and other cruel or degrading forms of punishment.

Overview of major anti-trafficking trends and responses

The prevention and suppression of trafficking in human beings (THB) in Serbia during reporting period continues to be outside the focus of the competent authorities and the public, especially since there is a lack of political will to deal with certain important issues as follows: the trend of a small number of identified victims continues (especially among the migrant population); the issue of urgent accommodation for victims of THB has not been permanently resolved, but cases are usually resolved ad hoc; in relation to the position of victims in court proceedings, no significant progress and improvement can be seen, but the opposite; the formal procedure of identifying victims of THB and deciding on the status of the victim and her/his rights should be improved, implicating the need for the institution that deals with the formal identification of victims of THB to find its place and role in the social protection system formally; the



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inequality of services available to victims, as well as their quality, remains one of the most important issues, especially to children as one of the most vulnerable categories.

All these are just some of the burning questions. Unfortunately, the list is not short.

The Strategy for the prevention and fight against trafficking in human beings, especially women and children, and the protection of victims (2017-2022) has expired, while a new one has not been adopted, nor does it seem that this will happen soon, bearing in mind that it is already the first quarter of 2023 and that none of the authorities announced. Although the process of creating the Action Plan (2021-2022) was delayed, the final document was never officially adopted.

In Serbia, there is **no comprehensive review of implemented training programs** for professionals involved in the identification of child victims of human trafficking. Many training courses are conducted through institutional support programs supported by donors and projects financed by donors and implemented by CSOs. All this is not enough from the aspect of improving the rights of child victims of human trafficking because there is no in-depth analysis of the needs and effects of this training.

Access to Justice for Children

Child Offenders

Various **regulations** that were supposed to follow the adoption of the Juvenile Justice Law in 2005 have been pending more than 15 years since its adoption, hampering increased protection of and access to adequate support for children in conflict with the law.

There are still **no adequate alternative measures to pre-trial detention, diversionary measures are scarcely implemented**, and there are **no adequate programs at the community level** to work with child offenders as well as with children under 14 who are not criminally responsible.

In addition, **institutions where children are deprived of liberty**, including pre-trial detention centers, and closed and semi-open child justice institutions, still **lack quality treatment programs** aiming at prevention of re-offending and reintegration of children upon discharge. **Reported cases of use of force and imposed violence by security guards are not properly addressed and investigated**. Children **lack access to quality education programs, adequate health care services and independent complaint mechanisms**. Even though there is a growing number of child offenders with complex and combined mental health problems, they rarely have **access to mental health and psychosocial support services** in local communities, according to the 2022 Research on Conditions and Quality of Treatment of Children in Conflict with the Law in Serbia, conducted by RISP and UNICEF. Sometimes they leave this institution without even completing primary education.



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The Juvenile Justice Law provides that child offenders are always represented by a lawyer, either of his/her own choosing or appointed by the relevant body (police/prosecutor/judge), from the first questioning of the child. The lawyers representing a child in criminal justice proceedings must be certified attorneys specializing in child justice. However, this **training should be improved** to provide attorneys with specific knowledge, skills, and attitudes to deal with vulnerable children. Even though according to the Juvenile Justice Law, all professionals (police officers, prosecutors, judges, attorneys) should be specialized to work with child offenders. Currently, **available training does not focus on child-sensitive communication**. Hence, all child justice professionals should have access to continuous education and adjust their communication with the child according to his/her age and maturity. The training should also be gender sensitive and provide special protection for children with disabilities.

Recommendations

Serbia should:

- a) **amend the Family Law to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all communities, aligning with General Comment 8 of the CRC Committee and prioritizing protecting children's rights.**
- b) **strengthen the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence to emphasize child protection, integrating individual protection plans and enhancing capacity building for professionals with a focus on children's rights.**
- c) **urgently adopt a new comprehensive strategy to combat human trafficking, especially women and children, addressing identified issues and ensuring a holistic approach.**
- d) **develop alternative measures to pre-trial detention, increase the implementation of diversionary measures, and establish quality treatment programs in institutions to promote reintegration and prevent re-offending by child offenders.**
- e) **address the lack of access to quality education programs, healthcare services, and mental health support for child offenders in institutions, ensuring comprehensive treatment and education during their stay.**
- f) **improve specialized training for professionals in juvenile justice, emphasizing child-sensitive communication, gender sensitivity, and special protection for children with disabilities following the Juvenile Justice Law.**



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V Implementation of the Law on Gender Equality

According to the Law on Gender Equality, one of the most crucial obligations is the publication of reports detailing the progress in achieving gender equality. This requirement facilitates the compilation of data from local to national levels, categorizing and presenting it by gender and age.¹ The objective is to provide an accurate depiction of the state of gender equality within a specific institution. The collected information plays a vital role in narrowing the existing gender gap and fostering continuous development in democracy and equal rights for both men and women. Monitoring gender differences also aids in crafting effective policies and contributes to the enhancement of gender equality in the Republic of Serbia.

Despite the importance of these reports, there have been delays in their publication, with the report for 2022 being postponed for nine months and finally published only in December 2023. In the third year of implementation, the private sector's inadequate participation is evident, with about half a million businesses failing to comply with reporting obligations.²

Despite two consecutive years of the low quality of the collected data, the relevant ministry still hesitates to enforce misdemeanour provisions. This lack of implementation undermines gender equality, reflected in Serbia's drop from 54th to 77th place on the WEF list regarding women's involvement in economic life.³

Further analysis of the abovementioned reports reveals the lack of actions undertaken to initiate recording unpaid work and applying gender-sensitive language from January 2024. While the report concludes the necessity of publishing already collected data on unpaid work from 2024, it remains unclear how much relevant data has been amassed so far. The relevant ministry emphasizes the need for more personnel, digitalization of data collection methods, and a different collection methodology, but it is unclear if the resources have been allocated for these purposes.

In 2022, only 28.5% of budget funds designated for gender equality activities were utilized, indicating insufficient implementation. Political reluctance and external pressures, such as those from some religious communities and the right-wing political parties, hinder the fulfilment of the Law on Gender Equality.

¹ The Government's report on achieving gender equality in the Republic of Serbia serves as a synthesis of data collected in 16 areas, outlining general and specific measures aligned with Articles 65 and 66 of the Law on Gender Equality. This legislation mandates data recording and reporting to the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue by public authorities, employers, gender equality bodies in local self-government units, political parties, and trade union organizations.

² Report on the achievement of gender equality in the Republic of Serbia for 2022, available at: <https://www.minjimpdd.gov.rs/doc/izvestaji/Izvestaj-o-ostvarivanju-rodne-ravnopravnosti-uRSza2022.godinu.pdf>

³ Global Gender Gap Report 2023, World Economic Forum, <https://www.weforum.org/publications/global-gender-gap-report-2023/in-full/benchmarking-gender-gaps-2023/>

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Recommendation

Serbia should:

- a) undertake necessary measures to strengthen the implementation of the Law on Gender Equality.**

VI Electoral Integrity

In Serbia, early parliamentary elections, provincial elections in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, and local elections in one-third of local self-government units (municipalities and cities) were held on December 17, 2023. Numerous irregularities of a systemic nature marked the electoral processes at all three levels. Considering the mandate of the Human Rights Committee, the following text will outline some of the systemic irregularities that characterized the electoral process for the Members of Parliament of the Republic of Serbia.

During the phase of candidate lists' submission for Members of Parliament, the Republic Electoral Commission (hereinafter: REC) determined in November 2023 that two electoral lists had submitted nearly six thousand falsified signatures of support from citizens (voters), allegedly certified by certifiers from municipal administrations. These two electoral lists did not further participate in the electoral process - but for another reason related to their minority status. Falsified signatures of support from voters on these electoral lists were discovered entirely by chance - by the fact that statements of the majority of voters who allegedly supported these two minority lists were certified before one or two municipal administrations in Serbia, which raised suspicion before the REC. The REC requested information from municipal administrations about certified statements, when it turned out that nearly six thousand statements were invalid (falsified). What is problematic is that no verification of the validity of certified statements of support from voters was conducted for the remaining electoral lists that participated in the parliamentary elections, and, on the other hand, citizens (voters) did not have an effective way to check before the declaration of electoral lists whether their certified statements were among the supporting voters. In this context, it is important to emphasize that the phenomenon of falsifying signatures and statements of support from voters was widespread in 2023 electoral procedures in Serbia. Namely, at the same time, during local elections for members of the Belgrade City Assembly, several representatives of the Belgrade City Electoral Commission (hereinafter: BBCEC) discovered that even eight electoral lists had submitted falsified statements of support from voters to those lists (signatures of known actors, university professors, journalists, activists from NGOs, police officers, lawyers, etc., who were known to members of the BBCEC, and all these certifications were made in municipal administrations). Even seven electoral lists that submitted falsified statements of support from voters were declared and participated in the elections on December 17, 2023. Objections and appeals of voters whose signatures were falsified were rejected by the BBCEC and the competent court with the explanation that this

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issue is irrelevant to the legality of the electoral process, which is why eight of these voters submitted constitutional complaints to the Constitutional Court in January 2024.

Three lists that participated in the parliamentary elections on December 17, 2023, received significantly fewer votes from voters than the certified statements of support from voters they had submitted when applying for participation in the elections (statements from voters who allegedly supported the candidacy of these lists were dominantly or exclusively certified by municipal certifiers). Thus, the electoral list "Serbia in the West" submitted 11,397 certified statements of support from voters during the candidacy, while it won 5,462 votes in the elections; the electoral list "Cedomir Jovanovic - It Must Be Different" submitted 12,057 certified statements of support from voters during the candidacy, while it won 9,243 votes in the elections; the electoral list "Albanian Democratic Alternative" submitted 5,578 certified statements of support from voters during the candidacy, while it won 3,235 votes in the elections. These circumstances seriously call into question the support of these electoral lists and the validity of the certified statements of support from voters submitted during their candidacy.

There is suspicion that the existence of a large number of electoral lists with falsified statements of support from voters served - among other things - to ensure the necessary majority in the electoral commissions by the ruling party, to prevent the activities of members of electoral commissions proposed by opposition electoral lists that would be directed towards controlling the electoral process. The impossibility of citizens (voters) to obtain information during the relevant period from the submission of the electoral list to its declaration (which is up to 48 hours) about whether their certified statement is among the supporting voters prevented the detection of this type of organized systemic electoral irregularity (falsification of statements of support from voters for electoral lists), which the REC did not check. Criminal charges filed with the prosecutor's office due to discovered falsified statements of support from voters have not been investigated to this day, and the prosecutor's office has announced that a "case has been formed."

In addition, during the phase of submitting electoral lists, the REC acted unevenly in the procedures for declaring minority lists where there was the same or similar level of suspicion regarding their minority status. The declaration of two electoral lists that requested to be declared as minority lists was rejected due to subsequent checks conducted by the REC, while such checks were completely absent in the case of the declaration of the Russian Party, to which, according to the Overall Report and the decision on the allocation of mandates, one mandate in the National Assembly belonged.

The electoral process was also marked by numerous testimonies of pressure on voters. This was done through pressure on employees in public authorities, blackmail, and bribery of [socially vulnerable populations](#), buying votes accompanied by photographing ballot papers, and organized transportation of voters to polling stations to ensure their turnout in elections and control of their vote. Several weeks before the elections, [investigative journalists from CINS reported](#) that they had discovered a large call center of the ruling party in Belgrade, where - among other things - the purchase of a large number of votes was organized. A criminal complaint was filed with the prosecutor's office on this occasion, but until the submission of this report, no information about the findings of the prosecutor's office has been announced.



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The joint observation mission of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), and the European Parliament (EP) noted in [Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions](#) that it had found that there were still numerous issues to be addressed, that observers noted abuse of public resources, lack of distinction between official functions and activities in the campaign, intimidation and pressure on voters, including cases of vote-buying. In assessing the legal framework, the mission concluded that there are no effective legal mechanisms to prevent intimidation and pressure on voters, including vote-buying, while part of the report on election day implementation states that measures to ensure the secrecy of voting were not adequate, that so-called family voting was recorded at as many as 19% of polling stations, that serious irregularities were observed, including cases of vote-buying, insertion of ballot papers into the ballot box, pressure on voters during voting, photographing of ballot papers, as well as the presence of unauthorized persons monitoring voters' turnout for elections. At the time of submitting this report, procedures initiated by opposition lists seeking the annulment of electoral procedures at all levels were ongoing before the Constitutional Court.

Recommendations

Serbia should:

- a) **establish a more robust and transparent verification process for electoral lists, systematically checking the validity of statements of support from voters, particularly focusing on minority lists, to prevent widespread falsification.**
- b) **promptly investigate and prosecute cases of falsified statements of support from voters, taking criminal charges seriously, and collaborating closely with the prosecutor's office to thoroughly examine allegations of pressure on voters, vote-buying, and abuse of public resources.**
- c) **collaborate closely with international observers, including the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), and the European Parliament (EP), to implement their recommendations and improve the electoral process in line with international standards.**
- d) **Serbia should take immediate measures to ensure the secrecy of voting, address family voting concerns, and implement effective measures to prevent irregularities such as the insertion of ballot papers, unauthorized persons monitoring voters, and other observed irregularities reported by the joint observation mission.**