



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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REFERENCE: BJ/follow-up/74/BosniaandHerzegovina/80

25 November 2021

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur on follow-up to concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honor to refer to the examination of the sixth periodic report of Bosnia and Herzegovina, at the Committee's seventy-fourth session, held in November 2019. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations ([CEDAW/C/BIH/CO/6](#)) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 51 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested Bosnia and Herzegovina to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 12 (a), 16 (d), 18 (b) and 24 (c) of the concluding observations, namely:

“12. In line with its general recommendation No. 28 (2010) on the core obligations of States parties under article 2 of the Convention, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(a) Without further delay, amend its legislation to incorporate a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women that covers direct and indirect discrimination in the public and private spheres and intersecting forms of discrimination, in line with article 1 of the Convention, as recommended in the Committee's previous concluding observations ([CEDAW/C/BIH/CO/4-5](#), para. 14);”

“16. In line with its general recommendation No. 30 (2013) on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations and with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions on women and peace and security, the Committee recommends that the State party:

(d) Adopt, without delay, the revised national war crimes processing strategy, in which a timeline is defined for the prosecution of all war crimes by 2023, so as to accelerate the prosecution of crimes of sexual violence committed during the conflict of the 1990s;”

“18. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(b) Provide adequate human and financial resources to the Gender Equality Agency of the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees and other gender equality bodies, including through the financial instrument programme for the implementation of the gender action plan for the period 2018–2021;”

“24. The Committee recommends that the State party:

(c) Establish a mechanism to monitor the use of sexist and misogynistic language and hate speech in public discourse and sexist portrayals of women in the media, and raise

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awareness among journalists and media professionals of the importance of positive portrayals of women as active agents of change;”

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in November 2021, it has not been received to date. Accordingly, I would be grateful for clarification as to the current status of your Government’s response on the matters.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder within one month of the date of this correspondence.

Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of **3,500 words**, including footnotes. You may attach a limited number of annexes containing statistical data only which are not counted for the word limit. Please also send a **Word electronic version** of the information requested to the Secretariat of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women by email to [ohchr-cedaw@un.org](mailto:ohchr-cedaw@un.org).

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Louiza Chalal  
Rapporteur on follow-up  
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women