
BOSNA I HERCEGOVINA

Ministarstvo za ljudska prava i izbjeglice

*Agencija za ravnopravnost spolova
Bosne i Hercegovine*



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees

*Gender Equality Agency of
Bosnia and Herzegovina*

Gender equality developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina - update

Kika Babić-Svetlin

Agency for Gender Equality

Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees

Contents

1

- Introduction – Gender architecture

2

- Current situation at the gender equality body

3

- Key changes in gender equality policies and legislation

4

- Summary of evaluation from the most recent EU Progress report on gender equality issues & your perspective on EU's views

5

- Gender equality body's involvement in the government response to the migration crisis (if any)

6

- Interest and progress in producing a national Gender Equality Index based on EIGE's methodology

7

- Donor situation, willingness to support cooperation with EIGE (Index, other EIGE's work outcomes)

8

- Key conclusions

FIGAP PROGRAM

Financial instrument for GAP BiH implem.

GENDER ACTION PLAN BIH (GAP BiH)
Overall strategy for gender mainstreaming

Nacional Action Plan on
UNSCR 1325 (WPS)

Other sectoral strategies and
action plans at lower levels
of gov. (rural women, GRB)....

National Strategy for
implementation of
Istanbul Convention (GBV)

Gender institutional structure

Gender Equality Law in BiH (GEL BiH)

International legal documents and commitments

INSTITUTION STRUCTURE

- **Strong network** of gender institutional mechanism in BiH (GIM)
- STATE LEVEL - **Agency for Gender Equality** of BiH
- ENTITY LEVEL-**Gender centres**
- **Parliamentary Committees** on Gender Equality
- Coordination between AGE i GCs
- Coordination with MPs
- Coordination with other institutions
- Partnership with civil sector

HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- **AGE BIH** – still understaffed
- **Slightly increased regular budget**
- **FIGAP programme** - financial instrument

RECENT POLITICAL CHANGES AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE “MACHINERY”

- **BiH - constant unstable political situation**
- **Complex administrative structure**
- **Problem of coordination between state and entity institutions**
- **Impact on GM processes**

Key changes in gender equality policies and legislation

- **GAP BiH and AP UNSCR 1325** – drafting new documents
- **Commitment of institutions** is increasing
- **Harmonization of legal documents** with GEL
- **Law on Providing Free Legal Assistance in BiH** adopted
- **Low percentage of women's participation** in the labor market
- **Process of drafting the Action Plan for Equality of LGBTI** -started

Summary of evaluation from the most recent EU Progress report on gender equality issues & your perspective on EU's views

- **Lack of implementation of gender equality legislation** in place
– long term proces-change of attitude
- **Lack of harmonized legislation** with Istanbul convention-
analyses and harmonized legislation
- **Lack of statistical data and harmonized system** of data collection- many initiaives but no political will
- **Entities' domestic violence laws are not harmonised**-many initiaives but no political will
- **Access to free legal aid** is limited-Law on free legal aid adopted
- **Existing safe houses** remain underfunded with some having closed down- support from the Agency

Gender equality body's involvement in the government response to the migration crisis (if any)

- **The Strategy on Migration and Asylum and the Action Plan (2016-2020) harmonized with GEL BiH**
- **The introduction of the concept of human security in UNSCR 1325 opens up the possibility of acting in case of some emerging issues like: natural disasters, migration (support women-migrants from Syria in Serbia), the phenomenon of violent extremism and radicalism.**

Interest and progress in producing a national Gender Equality Index based on EIGE's methodology

- Introduction of the **Gender Equality Index for BiH** –great interest
- BiH still **lacks some of the data** necessary for calculating the indicators for the Index
- Request for **EIGE technical assistance**
- The key set of missing data is data drawn from the **European Working Conditions Survey** (BiH was not included).
- Plan to conduct a **“light (or mini)” EWCS** in BiH with essential variables to calculate the index (by end of 2018).
- Close cooperation with **EUROFOUND** and **EIGE**
- Addressing relevant stakeholders **to be included in the 2020 EWCS Survey.**

Donor situation, willingness to support cooperation with EIGE (Index, other EIGE's work outcomes)

- Establishment of **FIGAP II financial mechanism** is at the final phase and it is expected that agreement will be in place till August.
- **Support to additional researches needed for GEI** is planned to be financed from the FIGAP II fund.

Key conclusions

- **EIGE, UN WOMEN advocate for strengthening and sustainability of GMI in the member countries.**
- **IMPORTANCE OF GE INDEX - in order to be able to see where we are and track the change; a lot has been done but results are not visible and hard to be measured.**