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# **COMBATING INTOLERANCE AND DISCRIMINATION BY COUNTERING HATE SPEECH: THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS**

**National seminar**

**Organised by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe  
in cooperation with  
the National Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

15 December 2016

## **DRAFT PROGRAMME**

### **Venue**

National Assembly  
of Bosnia and Herzegovina  
“White room”

Address: Trg Bosne i Hercegovine 1  
71000 Sarajevo

## **Background and rationale**

In the road map for activities for the period 2016-2017, the No Hate Alliance decided to hold a series of national seminars aiming on one hand to take stock of the situation in specific Council of Europe member States as regards hatred, racism and intolerance, and on the other hand to discuss measures to counter these phenomena. National seminars would ideally involve, in addition to national members of the No Hate Alliance, also representatives of the Council of Europe Youth Sector's No Hate Speech Movement campaign and the member of ECRI in respect of the country concerned. This would help to consolidate synergies between different bodies of the Council of Europe working to combat racism and intolerance, and to reach out to civil society organisations active in this field.

On 25 May 2016, the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina voted a declaration condemning hate speech, formalising the commitment to fight against it and calling all authorities to step up efforts to prevent it and sanction it. This text also identifies civil society organisations as partner in combating hate speech.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina agreed that a number of seminars would be organised for national parliamentarians during the period of 2016-2017 within the Council of Europe Action Plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2015-2017.

Against this background, a national seminar of the No Hate Alliance in Bosnia and Herzegovina would be in line with the commitments solemnly taken by national parliamentarians through the mentioned declaration. It may help to define the role of parliamentarians in the fight against racism, intolerance and hatred, and to open avenues for cooperation with civil society organisations. In addition, in view of the main task of parliamentarians as legislators, the seminar may inspire initiatives to fill gaps in national antidiscrimination legislation.

This seminar is organised in co-operation between the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance and the Council of Europe project "*Strengthening the Human Rights Ombudsman to fight discrimination*" within the framework a Horizontal Facility: a co-operation programme jointly funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Council of Europe.

### **1. Participants**

Members of the House of Representatives and the House of Peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ombudsmen, Representatives of PACE, ECRI, Members of the No Hate Alliance, representatives of the Office of the Council of Europe in Sarajevo and the Council of Europe School of Political Studies. Representatives of media and civil society

### **2. Languages**

The documents for the seminar will be available in English, French and B.C.S. Working languages will be English, French and B.C.S. with simultaneous interpretation provided.

### **3. Background documents**

- PACE Recommendation 2025 ( 2013) on the functioning of democratic institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Declaration adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 25 May 2016;
- Activity report of the No Hate Alliance 2016;
- Newsletter 2016, Activity of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance.

## **PROGRAMME**

**15 December 2016**

8:45 – 9:00    **Registration of participants**

9:00 – 9:20

### **Opening session**

**Mr Saša MAGAZINOVIĆ**, Member of the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, member of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance

**Ms Semiha BOROVIĆ**, Minister of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Mr Sefik DZAFEROVIĆ**, Speaker of the House of the Representatives, Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Mr Matjaž HANŽEK**, Member of the delegation of the Republic of Slovenia to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, member of the No Hate parliamentary Alliance

9:20 – 10:30

### **Session 1: INTOLERANCE AND DISCRIMINATION: THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

Moderator: **Mr Saša MAGAZINOVIĆ**, Member of the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, member of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance

Speakers: **Mr Predrag RAOSAVLJEVIĆ**, Head, Anti-Discrimination Department, Office of the Ombudsman for Human Rights, member of ECRI in respect of Bosnia and Herzegovina (tbc)

**Ms Sevima SALI-TERZIC**, Senior Legal Adviser, Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Ms Halisa SKOPJAK** National Legal Officer, Rule of Law Section, OSCE BiH: *Bias-motivated incidents and hate crimes in BiH: monitoring findings of the OSCE Mission to BiH*

Discussion

10:30 – 10:45 *Coffee break*

10:45 – 12:00

**Session 2: COUNTERING HATE SPEECH AND DISCRIMINATION. THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS**

Moderator: **Mr Matjaž HANŽEK**, Member of the delegation of the Republic of Slovenia to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, member of the No Hate parliamentary Alliance

Speakers: **Mr Matjaž HANŽEK**, Member of the delegation of the Republic of Slovenia to the parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, member of the No Hate parliamentary Alliance

**Ms Maja GASAL-VRAZALICA**, member of the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, Committee on Gender Equality and Joint Committee on Human Rights

**Ms Ljiljana MIJOVIĆ**, Professor, Former judge of the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Ms Nikolina KATIĆ**, Legal Advisor to the Government Agent of the Republic of Croatia before the European Court of Human Rights

Discussion

12:00 – 12:15 *Coffee break*

12:15 – 13:30

**Session 3: COOPERATION BETWEEN PARLIAMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY**

**Mr Borislav BOJIĆ**, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, Committee on Gender Equality and Joint Committee on Human Rights

**Mr Ratko SAVIĆ**, Representative of the No Hate Speech Movement campaign, Ministry of Family, Youth and Sport

**Ms Ljiljana ZUROVAC**, Executive Director, Press Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Ms Vladana VASIĆ**, Sarajevo Open Centre (NGO)

**Ms Dajana BAKIĆ**, “Turla Open Centre” (NGO)

**Ms Memnuna ZVIZDIĆ**, CEO of the Association “Woman to woman”

13:30 - 13:45 **Conclusions**

13:45 – 15.15 *Lunch at the invitation of the Parliamentary Assembly*