



## **Monitoring Committee**

Strasbourg, 5 April 2019

Dear Mr Speaker,

As co-rapporteurs on the honouring of obligations and commitments by Bosnia and Herzegovina, we are very concerned about the high possibility that the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina might not send a delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe within the statutory deadline. If credentials are not submitted before 6 April 2019 at midnight, no Bosnian delegation will be accredited to the Assembly for the whole year of 2019.

This regrettable event would come after the adoption on 8 January 2018 of Resolution 2201 (2018) on the honouring of commitments and obligations by Bosnia and Herzegovina. You will recall that the Bosnian authorities failed to make any comment on the preliminary draft report on which this resolution was based and gave no explanation for this omission. This failing, which was a serious breach of the country's obligation to co-operate fully with the Monitoring Committee, raised at that time serious doubts about the willingness of the Bosnian authorities to honour their commitments.

The co-rapporteurs are well aware of the political context in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the fact that negotiations to form a government at State level may have an impact on the appointment of the parliamentary delegation to the Assembly. However, at a time when the Bosnian authorities are highlighting the importance of strengthening the negotiations to accede to the European Union, the co-rapporteurs are convinced that the absence of a Bosnian parliamentary delegation to the Assembly is a very bad signal on the ability of your country to honour its commitments in the fields of democracy, the rule of law and human rights.

Consequently, we call on the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as all political leaders of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to reiterate their commitments to the Council of Europe and present the credentials of a parliamentary delegation before 6 April 2019, midnight.

Dialogue is one of the core values of the Assembly, but it cannot cultivate it alone.

Yours sincerely.

Tiny Kox

Serhiy Sobolev

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