

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Non-discrimination

Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified Protocol 12 to the European Convention on 29 July 2003.

The BiH Law on Prohibition of Discrimination (published in the BiH Official Gazette no. 59/09 on 28 July 2009 and entered into force on 5 August 2009) provides a framework for implementation of equal rights and opportunities to all persons in BiH and define a system of protection from discrimination. The Central institution competent for protection from discrimination is the Ombudsman for Human Rights of BiH.

Right to social protection

Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified European Social Charter on 7 October 2008. It entered into force on 1 December 2008. BiH is bound by Article 23 (Right to social protection of older persons)

According to the BiH Constitution, the policy of social protection generally falls under the competencies of the Entities, the Federation of BiH and the Republika Srpska. Nevertheless, the United Nations Population Fund BiH (UNFPA) and the Council of Ministers of BiH have signed the first fully fledged BiH Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) for the period 2010-2014. The Council of Ministers of BiH adopted the Action plan on 6 July 2010, where one chapter entirely concerns elderly persons.

Implementation of the CPAP 2010-2014 is underway, with coordination provided by the governmental institutions in collaboration with non-governmental organisations, private sector, media with technical support provision by UNFPA.

Under the Action plan, the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BiH is in charge of coordinating the activities on policy development, particularly with a view of creating the legal framework for the old age care on state level.

The BiH Framework policy for the age care would serve as a backbone for the creation of the BiH Strategy for active, healthy ageing and old age care with an aim of improving the status of elderly and their human rights protection in accordance with the Mediterranean International Plan of Action for the promotion of old age care.