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in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

**FOURTH PERIODIC REPORT OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEASURES AND PRINCIPLES ESTABLISHED BY THE
EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES**

Sarajevo, September 2024

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I INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with Article 15 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, and in line with the programs of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Fourth Periodic Report on the implementation of the measures and principles established by the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages has been prepared, in accordance with CM/RecChL(2022)4, adopted at the 1445th meeting held on 5 October 2022.

2. Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter: BiH) signed the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages on 7 September 2005, and officially ratified it on 21 September 2010. To date, three periodic reports have been prepared (in 2011, 2015, and 2020), and the Fourth Periodic Report has been reviewed and adopted on 7.4.2025. at the 75. meeting of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This report covers data from 2020 to 2023.

3. The first, second, and third periodic reports were published on the Ministry's website at www.mhrr.gov.ba, and the Fourth Periodic Report will also be published on the Ministry's website after its adoption by the Council of Ministers of BiH.

4. During the preparation of the Fourth Periodic Report, the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as the coordinating Ministry, sent questionnaires to all relevant institutions in order to prepare the Fourth Report, and the responses were received from the following institutions:

1. Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina
2. Agency for Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary Education
3. Ministry of European Integration and International Cooperation of the Republic of Srpska
4. Federal Ministry of Education and Science
5. Federal Ministry of Culture and Sports
6. Department of Education of the Government of Brčko District of BiH
7. Ministry of Education of Sarajevo Canton
8. Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Youth of the Sarajevo Canton
9. University of Sarajevo – Institute of Language
10. University of Sarajevo - Institute of History
11. University of Sarajevo – Faculty of Philosophy
12. Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth of Tuzla Canton
13. Ministry of Education and Science of Tuzla Canton
14. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Zenica-Doboj Canton
15. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Una-Sana Canton
16. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports - West Herzegovina Canton

17. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Posavina Canton
18. Ministry of Education, Youth, Science, Culture and Sports of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton of Goražde
19. Republic Pedagogical Institute of the Republika Srpska
20. Institute for the Development of Pre-University Education of Sarajevo Canton
21. Pedagogical Institute of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Goražde
22. Pedagogical Institute Zenica
23. Pedagogical Institute Mostar
24. High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina
25. Constitutional Court of BiH
26. Prosecutor's Office of the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina
27. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Sarajevo Canton
28. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Tuzla Canton
29. Municipal Court in Kakanj
30. Municipal Court in Zavidovići
31. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Zenica-Doboj Canton
32. Ministry of Justice, Administration and Employment of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton of Goražde
33. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton
34. Ministry of Justice, Administration and Local Self-Government of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton
35. Ministry of Justice and Administration of the Una - Sana Canton
36. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Central Bosnia Canton
37. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Una - Sana Canton
38. Judicial Commission of the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina
39. Ministry of Justice and Administration of the Central Bosnia Canton
40. Municipal Court in Jajce
41. Ministry of Justice and Administration of the West Herzegovina Canton
42. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the West Herzegovina Canton
43. Ministry of Justice and Administration of the Posavina Canton
44. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Canton 10 Livno
45. Ministry of Justice and Administration of Canton 10
46. Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina
47. Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics
48. FBiH Statistics Institute
49. Digital National and University Library of the Republika Srpska
50. Radio and Television of Bosnia and Herzegovina
51. Radio and Television of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
52. Sarajevo Canton Television – TVSA
53. Radio and Television of Una-Sana Canton

54. Communications Regulatory Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina
55. Council of National Minorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina
56. Council of National Minorities of the Republic of Srpska
57. Council of National Minorities of Sarajevo Canton
58. Institution of Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina
59. Jewish community in Bosnia and Herzegovina
60. City of Tuzla
61. Municipality of Stari Grad Sarajevo
62. City of Prnjavor
63. City of Banja Luka
64. Municipality of Novo Sarajevo
65. City of Laktaši
66. City of Doboj
67. Municipality of Ilidža Sarajevo
68. City of Gradiška
69. City of Prijedor
70. City of Sarajevo
71. Municipality of Travnik
72. Municipality of Modriča
73. Municipality of Kakanj
74. City of Visoko
75. Municipality of Srbac

Institutions that did not submit responses:

1. Department for Economic Development, Sport and Culture of the Government of Brčko District of BiH
2. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports Herzegovina-Neretva Canton
3. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Central Bosnia Canton
4. Ministry of Science, Education, Culture and Sports of Canton 10
5. Pedagogical Institute of Una-Sana Canton
6. Pedagogical Institute Tuzla
7. Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina
8. Federal Ministry of Justice
9. Ministry of Justice and Administration of Sarajevo Canton
10. Ministry of Justice and Administration of Zenica-Doboj Canton
11. Ministry of Justice and Administration of Tuzla Canton
12. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton
13. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Posavina Canton

14. National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina
15. Council of National Minorities of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
16. Council of National Minorities of Brčko District BiH
17. Council of National Minorities of Una-Sana Canton
18. Press Council in Bosnia and Herzegovina
19. Radio and Television of Tuzla Canton
20. Radio and Television of Zenica
21. Radio and Television of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton
22. City of Bijeljina
23. City of Trebinje
24. City of Bihać
25. City of Zenica
26. Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina
27. Municipality of Centar Sarajevo
28. City of Mostar

II GENERAL INFORMATION

5. The Law on Protection of the Rights of Persons Belonging to National Minorities of BiH, as well as the laws on the protection of national minorities in the Republika Srpska, the Federation of BiH, the Brčko District of BiH, as well as the cantonal laws, prescribe the manner in which the right to use minority languages is exercised.

6. In accordance with the Law on Protection of the Rights of Persons Belonging to National Minorities of BiH, Article 3 states that there are 17 officially recognized national minorities in BiH, and the most numerous and most endangered minority is Roma minority. In addition to the above, the BiH Parliamentary Assembly subsequently decided to recognize the status of a national minority for Austrians, so that it can now be said that there are 18 officially recognized national minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, whose position and equality is protected with this Law..

7. In order to exercise the rights of the largest minority, the Roma, in 2020, BiH developed an Action Plan for the Social Inclusion of Roma for the period 2021-2025. The Action Plan builds upon the European Union Strategic Framework for Equality, Inclusion, and Participation of Roma for the period 2020-2030 and the Declaration on the Integration of Roma in the European Union Enlargement Process. Based on the analysis of the implementation of all these plans, we assess that visible progress has been made in the area of Roma integration in BiH. During 2020, in order to develop the new plan, the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees

of BiH collected new baseline indicators on the status of Roma families in the areas of employment, healthcare, housing, education, and discrimination. Based on the analysis of the collected indicators, conducted by local self-government units, we assessed that there is still a long-term need for actions aimed at improving the equality and social inclusion of Roma men and women in Bosnia and Hercegovina society. In accordance with this, every year, the Council of Ministers of BiH allocates annual budget funds within the Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees' budget, intended for the implementation of the goals and measures outlined in the Action Plan for Roma. Further details on these allocations are provided in the continuation of the report.

8. During 2023, in order to establish the foundation for cooperation with national minorities, the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of BiH included in its Work Program—adopted by the Council of Ministers of BiH—the development of a Program for the Promotion of Minority Rights in BiH. This program includes a calendar of joint activities with the governments and institutions of relevant states, as well as with international institutions. The program is intended for all relevant institutions at all levels, local self-government units, international and domestic non-governmental organizations, and institutions of interested countries. The program is currently in the phase of collecting feedback from relevant governments, after which it will be forwarded to the Council of Ministers of BiH for adoption.

9. Given the complex constitutional structure of BiH, when it comes to the number of national minorities and speakers of minority languages, the data was collected from the Institute for Statistics of BiH, the Federal Institute for Statistics of the Federation of BiH, and the Republic Institute for Statistics of the Republika Srpska.

10. According to the population census in **BiH**¹ conducted on 2013, it was found that there are : Albanians – 2.659; Montenegrins - 1.883; Czechs – 279; Hungarians – 350; Macedonians – 738; Germans – 365; Poles – 258; Roma –12.583; Romanians - 109; Russians – 276; Ruthenians – 32; Slovaks -173; Slovenians – 937; Turks –1.108; Italians –391; Ukrainians –2.331, Jews -262 and Austrians – 62, which, in relation to the total population, amounts to less than 0.73%.

11. When it comes to the **Federation of BiH**, according to the 2013 census, the data on national affiliation are as follows: Roma – 10.036, Albanians – 2.404, Turks – 1.097, Montenegrins – 696, Slovenians – 398, Macedonians 301, Germans – 249, Jews – 200, Hungarians – 169, Italians -110, Czechs – 60, Poles – 58, Romanians – 36, Russians – 71, Ruthenians – 7, Slovaks – 59 i Ukrainians -78.

¹ The Republika Srpska did not accept the results of the 2013 Population Census of Bosnia and Herzegovina

12. According to the 2013 population census in the Republic of Srpska, the following data were obtained:

National minority	Total number	M	F	National minority	Total number	M	F
Albanians	140	97	43	Romanians	62	19	43
Montenegrins	1116	622	494	Russians	177	47	130
Czechs	218	101	117	Ruthenians	19	7	12
Italians	248	109	139	Slovaks	109	46	63
Jews	59	34	25	Slovenians	504	205	299
Hungarians	166	45	121	Turks	8	4	4
Macedonians	341	148	193	Ukrainians	2197	1103	1094
Germans	95	54	41	Others	7022	3463	3559
Poles	186	91	95	Does not declare	7861	3202	4659
Roma	1974	1012	962	Unknown	1997	916	1081

According to the 2013 Census data, the Agency for Statistics of Bosnia and Herzegovina provided data on the number of population by mother tongue: Romani language – 5.766, Albanian language – 2.420, Turkish language – 1.233, Ukrainian language – 1.081, German language – 632, Czech language – 1 , Hungarian language – 245, Italian language – 277, Polish language – 131, Romanian language – 320, Ruthenian language – 21, Slovak language – 116, Slovenian language – 560 and Yiddish language – 1.

13. Data on the number of population by mother tongue, when it comes to data from the **Federal Institute of Statistics** of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, are as follows: Romani language – 4.138, Albanian language - 2.299, Turkish language – 1.222, German language – 440, Slovenian language – 294, Macedonian language – 271, Montenegrin language – 255, Hungarian language – 140, Russian language – 137, Italian language – 98, Polish language – 74, Romanian language – 64, Slovak language -59, Ukrainian language – 54, Czech language – 37 and Ruthenian language -8.

14. When it comes to mother tongue, the data in Republika Srpska are as follows:

Mother tongue	Total number	M	F	Mother tongue	Total number	M	F
Albanian	133	94	39	Romanian	224	106	118
Montenegrin	99	53	46	Russian	197	41	156
Czech	56	20	36	Ruthenian	12	4	8
Italian	153	70	83	Slovak	52	9	43
Hungarian	92	16	76	Slovenian	238	61	177
Macedonian	220	82	138	Turkish	7	1	6
German	136	76	60	Ukrainian	987	481	506
Polish	51	15	36	Other	13807	6171	7363
Romani	1360	717	643	Unknown	2502	1156	1346

15. Since **the implementation of the Yiddish and Ladino languages was not assessed** in the last cycle, the Jewish community in Bosnia and Herzegovina was consulted for information on the number of speakers of these languages. According to the data received, only three people speak Ladino, while no members of the Jewish community in Bosnia and Herzegovina use or speak Yiddish.

16. Considering the complex constitutional structure of BiH, below are the responses received from the relevant institutions for the preparation of the Report. The Council of National Minorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina did not provide information as an advisory body; instead, it was provided individually by representatives of national minorities who participate in this advisory body.

17. **Digital National and University Library of the Republika Srpska** - Public libraries in the Republika Srpska include books in the languages of national minorities in their collections. These books do not form separate collections or units but are typically placed on designated shelves with appropriate labeling, ensuring accessibility for readers. The books available include works in German, English, Italian, Russian, Slovenian, Polish, and Turkish. In addition to literature, the collection also encompasses books on history, art, social sciences, law, economics, and more. Some of the libraries with a larger number of books in the languages of national minorities include: Public Institution National and University Library of the Republika Srpska (about 3,000 titles), the National Library "Filip Višnjić" in Bijeljina (several hundred books in nine minority languages, with the majority in German and Russian, and somewhat less in Romanian, Italian, Slovenian, Slovak, Hungarian, Czech, and Polish), the Central Library of East Sarajevo (910 titles in German, and 200 titles in other languages), the National Library of Srebrenica (about 1,800 titles), and the National Library "Ivo Andrić" in Čelinac (magazines in Esperanto)

Translated from the original language or bilingual editions	Number	Translated from the original language or bilingual editions	Number
German	15	Romani	0
Italian	27	Czech	3
Polish	4	Hungarian	1
Slovak	0	Romanian	0
Slovenian	6	Ruthenian	0
Ladino (Judeo-Spanish)	0	Turkish	1
Albanian	0	Yiddish	0
Ukrainian	1		

18. The **representative of the Jewish national minority in the Council of National Minorities of BiH** provided information that there are no Yiddish speakers in BiH, and that there are a few individuals who use the Ladino language.

19. Council of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska – The fourth convocation of the Council was appointed on 16 May 2020, at the proposal of the Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska and had 12 members. In the period from 2020 to 2023, 11 sessions were held. Activities in which the Council participated include the adoption of the Strategy for the Improvement and Protection of the Rights of Members of National Minorities in the Republika Srpska for the period 2020-2024, which was adopted on 3 March 2020. On 25 March 2021, the Government of the Republika Srpska appointed a special Coordination Body for Monitoring the Implementation of the Strategy for the Improvement and Protection of the Rights of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in the Republika Srpska for the Period 2020-2024. The Council appointed two of its representatives to this working body. In 2022, the Council submitted comments and proposals to the relevant ministry regarding the Draft Law on Primary Education. Additionally, in 2020 and 2022, the Council presented its proposals to the Government of Republika Srpska for an increase in the current cultural grant for national minorities, which were accepted.

20. Council of National Minorities of Sarajevo Canton - through opinions and advice to the competent authorities of the Sarajevo Canton, the Council actively contributed to shaping of the project and securing the space needed for the cultural activities of national minorities. Primarily, the Council's activity was reflected in providing opinions and advice regarding the implementation of the project for the reconstruction of the building, i.e., the establishment of the "European House of Culture and National Minorities" (formerly the "Austrian House"). In accordance with the Agreement on Regulating Mutual Rights and Obligations for the Purpose of Achieving the Right to Build for the Reconstruction of the "Austrian House" ("Official Gazette of the Sarajevo Canton" no. 21/18), the Municipality of Centar has been granted the right to use the land on which the „European House of Culture and National Minorities“ is located from the Sarajevo Canton for a period of 99 years. In return, the Municipality of Centar Sarajevo is obligated to lease part of the office space in the newly constructed building to the Ministry of Justice and Administration of the Sarajevo Canton, for the same period of 99 years. Taking this into account, the Council has been very active in the past period in providing opinions and advice concerning the needs of national minorities for the space necessary for the implementation of cultural activities.

III Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education

21. Regarding structured policy in BiH on regional or minority languages, Bosnia and Herzegovina does not have specific policies dedicated to these languages. Below, we provide information received from the relevant educational authorities:

22. Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska: The Law on Primary Education of the Republika Srpska ("Official Gazette of the Republika Srpska" No. 81/22) stipulates that the language and culture of national minorities in the Republika Srpska shall be respected and used in schools to the greatest

extent possible, in accordance with the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the law that regulates the protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. The language and culture of national minorities are studied as part of optional classes. For students belonging to national minorities who do not use the official languages of the constituent peoples, the school is required, with prior consent from the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska, to hire a person with the necessary language competence to provide support to the student. In the event that the language and culture of a national minority are studied as a part of optional classes, students are graded with numerical grades from one to five. In accordance with Article 49, paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Law on Secondary Education ("Official Gazette of the Republika Srpska", No. 41/18, 35/20, 92/20 and 55/23), optional classes are:

- 1) Language classes for national minorities, incorporating elements of their national culture,
- 2) Teaching a second foreign language in schools where students study one foreign language in vocational schools, and a third foreign language in high schools and schools where students study two foreign languages,
- 3) Teaching of subjects essential for further education, vocational training, or student development.

Optional classes are mandatory for students who opt for them. In the secondary school system of the Republika Srpska, foreign languages are not studied as languages of national minorities, but rather as a second foreign language. The first foreign language is English while the second foreign language is chosen by students themselves. In secondary schools, the purpose of the teaching modules of optional classes is to provide students with practical communication skills in a foreign language, from the following topics:

- reading and listening with comprehension,
- the ability to understand the main idea or information from a text,
- the ability to express opinions and attitudes orally and in writing in a foreign language.

In addition to teachers of Italian and Ukrainian, there are 39 teachers teaching Russian in the Republika Srpska. For the secondary education in Russian language, 34 textbooks are available.

The Committee requested information on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy for the Improvement and Protection of the Rights of People Belonging to National Minorities 2020-2024, as well as for the authorities to amend the Law on Preschool Education of the Republika Srpska. The Action Plan has not yet been adopted, and the aforementioned Law has not been amended.

23. Republic Pedagogical Institute of the Republika Srpska - From 2020 to 2023, no training programs for teaching staff focused on the preservation of the culture, history, and language of national minorities were implemented in the education system of the Republika Srpska. Teachers do not teach the language and culture of national minorities, except in cases when it comes to optional classes of the Ukrainian and Italian languages in elementary schools. The education system of the Republika Srpska does not use textbooks and manuals in

the languages of national minorities that have been approved for use by the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska. There are no schools where classes are held in the languages of national minorities alongside the languages of the constituent peoples, except in the cases of optional classes of the Ukrainian and Italian languages. In preschool institutions, education is not provided in minority languages, and there have been no requests for bilingual education. Bilingual education is not present in secondary, technical, or vocational schools. Optional classes of Ukrainian language and Ukrainian religious education are offered in three elementary schools with about 20 students, while Italian is taught optionally to 6 students in one elementary school. Ukrainian language classes are conducted by a professor of Ukrainian language, while Italian language classes are taught by a professor of Serbian language and literature who has additional knowledge of Italian language and literature. Additionally, there are no private preschool institutions in the Republika Srpska where education is conducted in minority languages.

24. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Zenica-Doboj Canton - In primary and secondary schools in the Zenica-Doboj Canton, classes are conducted according to a unified curriculum in Bosnian, that is, Croatian, and Serbian languages. In high schools, as part of the history subject, teaching content is included with the goal of familiarizing students with the history and culture of national minorities, specifically: "Minority Nations and Their Position in Bosnia and Herzegovina," and "Social Relations and the Position of National Minorities in the Kingdom of SCS/Yugoslavia." It is planned to introduce content that will address the needs of national minorities within the curricula of primary schools. Through other subjects at various levels of education, students have the opportunity to learn about diversity (e.g., the concept from the Education for Peace program - Unity in Diversity), which enables them to study social phenomena and processes at both the local and global levels, to respect and develop the personal and group identities of each individual and social group, to foster unity in diversity, empathy, tolerance, as well as other socially acceptable forms of behavior that individuals need to master in order to effectively and constructively participate in social life and solve problems when necessary. As a result, students can more easily challenge prejudices by promoting empathy (identification), the values contained in diversity, and intercultural understanding. Textbooks are used in primary schools in the Zenica-Doboj Canton, given that the Decision on the Use of Textbooks/Workbooks in Regular Primary Schools whose founder is the Assembly of Zenica-Doboj Canton for the 2023/2024 school year, No.: 10-34-10429-03/23, was adopted on 30 June 2023. The decision includes an established list of textbooks/workbooks in regular primary schools founded by the Assembly of the Zenica-Doboj Canton ("Official Gazette of the Zenica-Doboj Canton", No. 11/23). This list is in accordance with the selection made by the teaching staff of regular primary schools and aligns with the List of approved textbooks, workbooks, manuals, worksheets, and collections of test questions for primary schools, high schools, and secondary technical and vocational schools for the 2023/2024 school year. In secondary schools, textbooks are used in accordance with the List of approved workbooks, textbooks, manuals, worksheets and collections of test questions for primary schools, gymnasiums and secondary technical and vocational schools for the 2023/2024 school year. There are no primary and secondary schools in the Zenica-Doboj Canton where classes

are held in minority languages. In the Zenica-Doboj Canton, there are no primary and secondary schools where classes are conducted in minority languages. At the University of Zenica, there is no program for studying of the Romani language, nor are there adult education institutions where classes are conducted solely in the Romani language. In some study programs of the Faculty of Philosophy (Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, Language and Literature, Cultural Studies), the culture, language and literature of minority groups is partially introduced through the syllabi of individual subjects.

25. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the West Herzegovina Canton – There are no minority or regional languages represented in the territory of the Canton.

26. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Posavina Canton - The culture, history, and languages of national minorities are topics that are addressed in homeroom class and are nurtured through extracurricular activities of pupils. The teaching staff have not undergone additional training that is significant for nurturing the culture, history, and languages of national minorities. In primary and secondary schools, textbooks and manuals in the languages and scripts of national minorities are not in use, as there have been no requests for teaching in minority languages in preschool institutions, primary, and secondary schools. There are no institutions for adult education that operate exclusively in the Romani language, and there are no faculties for the study of the Romani language.

27. Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Youth of the Sarajevo Canton – at the International Burch University, a project funded by the Erasmus+ KA220-SCH - Cooperation Partnerships in School Education/2022 program, titled Counteracting Accent Discrimination pRactiCes in Education (CIRCE), is coordinated by the University of Siena, Italy. As part of this project and a part of work package, the team 2 from International Burch University, led by Associate Professor Dr. Amna Brdarević Čeljo, will conduct research on attitudes toward minorities who are speakers of the Bosnian language, specifically regarding their accent. The research results will be documented with video material.

28. Ministry of Education of Sarajevo Canton - The school system in Sarajevo Canton enables the integration of members of national minorities. The Ministry has adopted the Rulebook on Recognition, Prevention and Protection from Discrimination in Primary Schools (Official Gazette of Sarajevo Canton, No. 52/19). Topics related to the culture, history and language of national minorities are covered through various teaching subjects, school events and extracurricular activities. There are no teachers in the schools of Sarajevo Canton who teach the language and culture of national minorities. Preschool education in minority languages is not provided for children in preschool institutions, as there has been no expressed interest or desire from parents for it. Regarding classes in the minority language (German), data can be found in the rest of the report.

29. **University of Sarajevo – Faculty of Philosophy:** The following section of the report contains data on the students of languages ratified by this Convention. Additionally, 10 students in the 2023/2024 academic year are enrolled in the Russian language course.

30. **University of Sarajevo – Institute of Language** – One chapter of the book "Language in Bosnia and Herzegovina" (Institute for Language, Sarajevo 2005) is titled Languages of National Minorities. This chapter contains three papers: Milan Šipla – Languages of National Minorities, Muhamed Nežirović – Judeo-Spanish Language of Bosnian Sephardim, and Sven Monesland – The Language of Bosnian-Herzegovinian Roma. Additionally, in the Special Publications registry, the Institute has published a study titled Judeo-Spanish Language in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2015) prepared by Eli Tauber, which is a book containing twenty-six inputs from sixteen different authors.

31. **Pedagogical Institute of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton Goražde** - The Law on Preschool Education, the Law on Primary Education, and the Law on Secondary Education stipulate that the language and culture of each minority living in the Canton shall be respected and integrated into the school to the greatest extent possible, in accordance with the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Rights of National Minorities and the Law on the Protection of the Rights of Persons Belonging to National Minorities. The general goals of education at all levels arise from the generally accepted, universal values of a democratic society, as well as their own value systems based on the specificities of the national, historical, cultural and religious traditions of the peoples and national minorities living in the territory of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton of Goražde. However, despite the legal provisions, there have been no requests or initiatives from legal or natural persons in any segment of the potential implementation of these legal provisions through the study of minority languages in the educational system of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton of Goražde. As a result, only Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian are taught as mother tongues, while English, German, Turkish, and French are taught as foreign languages. Additionally, the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton of Goražde follows the list of textbooks approved by the Federal Ministry of Education and Science, and the Ministry of Education, Youth, Science, Culture, and Sport has not made decisions that deviate from the Federal Textbook Policy regarding educational materials.

32. **Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Una-Sana Canton** - In accordance with the Law on Primary Education and Upbringing ("Official Gazette of the Una-Sana Canton", number 19/23), the language and culture of each minority living in Bosnia and Herzegovina shall be respected and integrated into schools to the greatest extent possible, in line with the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. If a person wishes to attend classes in their mother tongue, they will inform the school of their minority status upon enrollment, and the school will accept this as a fact without requesting further verification or proof. Classes in the mother tongue can take place in the regular class, a separate class, as a part of a group,

or individually. If the person responsible for teaching does not have the qualifications required to teach the given language, they must have at least completed the first cycle of the Bologna higher education process or its equivalent, along with sufficient knowledge of the language, ensuring they can teach it to the required standard. The Minister is responsible for adopting the curriculum for mother tongue teaching and for ensuring the teaching materials for such education. The teaching materials must meet the needs of the specific minority and include literature, history, geography, and culture of that minority. Before adopting the curriculum and teaching materials, discussions will be held with representatives of the minority. The Ministry shall ensure financial resources, funding for training of teachers who will teach in the language of the national minority, as well as the necessary space and other conditions for conducting classes as well as printing of textbooks in the languages of national minorities. The relevant Ministry does not have teachers who teach the language and culture of national minorities, as only a very small number of children from national minorities (approximately 89 children from the Roma national minority) are enrolled in the educational system of our Canton (primary and secondary schools). In accordance with the Law on Preschool Education ("Official Gazette of the Una-Sana Canton", number: 3/1997, 6/2005, 23/2011, and 17/2019), every child can be included in preschool education programs under equal conditions and opportunities, including children who belong to national minorities. Preschool institutions, in accordance with their work programs and positive legal regulations, will develop, improve, and respect the rights of all children, including those of national minorities. Given that a very small number (or none at all) of children belonging to national minorities are included in preschool education programs, institutions are unable to provide educational work in the languages of national minorities, and one of the reasons for this is certainly the lack of qualified personnel. In accordance with the Law on Secondary Education ("Official Gazette of the Una-Sana Canton", number: 17/12), citizens of BiH who are considered to be members of a national minority, based on the Law on the Protection of the Rights of People Belonging to National Minorities, shall be provided with classes in their mother tongues at the school in which they are enrolled. A person who wishes to attend classes in their native language must inform the school upon enrollment that he/she is a member of a minority, and the school will accept this as a fact without further verification or evidence. Teachers who teach the language and culture of national minorities must have at least a VI level of professional qualification or completed the first cycle of the Bologna higher education process, as well as appropriate knowledge of the given language, which ensures that they can teach it to the required standard, as regulated by the Law on Secondary Education. In secondary schools in the Una-Sana Canton, there are currently no teachers who teach the language and culture of national minorities, as the number of students from national minorities in secondary schools is very small. Currently, there are no schools in the Una-Sana Canton where classes are conducted in any of the languages of national minorities, as the total number of students from national minorities is approximately 90 across both primary and secondary schools. Additionally, there are no students attending technical and vocational schools who have informed the school upon enrollment that they are members of a national minority and wish to attend classes in their mother tongue. At the Faculty of Pedagogy in Bihać, there is no department where future students can study Roma

language, nor are there institutions for adult education offering classes in any of the national minority languages.

33. Institute for the Development of Pre-University Education of Sarajevo Canton - Within the subjects of History, Society, Culture, and Religion, there are learning outcomes or indicators that emphasize the preservation of the cultures and histories of national minorities. However, there are no specialized training programs for teaching staff, nor are there teachers dedicated to teaching the languages and cultures of national minorities. Additionally, there are no supplementary training programs aimed at improving the language skills of teachers who instruct in minority languages.

34. Ministarstvo obrazovanja i nauke Tuzlanskog kantona - When it comes to fostering the culture, history, and language of national minorities through the content of curricula, this is a continuous process that begins in primary school and continues throughout to the end of secondary school. In the curriculum for the 4th grade of the nine-year primary school, within the subject of Music Culture, students are introduced to Sephardic and Roma traditions through lullabies, as well as Russian tradition through Russian dance. In the curriculum for the 5th grade of the nine-year primary school, students gain knowledge about the cultural-historical landmarks of their homeland through the subject of Society, learning about the national, religious, and cultural characteristics and peculiarities of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Similarly, students learn about the nations and ethnic groups that live in our homeland and beyond. Through the subject of Music Culture, students also learn the following songs: *Marko skače po zelenoj travi* (a folk song from Slovenia); *Tu hanina, jo hanino* (a Sephardic romance); *Dželem, dželem* (a Roma song). In the 6th grade of the nine-year primary school, the following contents are also included: *Kad se pjeva* (a folk song from Poland); *Podmoskovske večeri* (from Russia); *Shalom Chaverim* (a Jewish song). In the 9th grade, students learn about the biological, ethnic, religious, educational, and economic structure of the population of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as that of national minorities. Through reading assignments, they are also introduced to the culture and history of national minorities. The Ministry of Education and Science of the Tuzla Canton has been providing scholarships for secondary school students of Roma nationality and other national minorities for the third year in a row. In the 2023/2024 school year, 50 scholarships were awarded in the amount of 1,000 KM each (a total of 50,000 KM).

35. Government of Brčko District of BiH - Department of Education – Only the curriculum for the subject of history mentions content that may, to a certain extent, foster the culture, history and language of national minorities. However, there are no teachers who teach the language and culture of national minorities, nor are there textbooks and teaching materials in the languages of national minorities. In the educational system of the Brčko District of BiH, there are no primary or secondary schools in which classes are conducted in the languages and scripts of national minorities. Also, in the Brcko District, neither preschool nor primary education in minority languages is provided.

36. **Federal Ministry of Education and Science** - The study of languages of national minorities in preschool institutions, primary and secondary schools is an issue that is addressed and regulated by the Framework Laws at the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina:

- Framework Law on Primary and Secondary Education in BiH
- Framework Law on Preschool Education and Upbringing in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- The Framework Law on Secondary Vocational Education and Training in BiH

Cantonal ministries of education are obligated to align their laws with the framework laws adopted at the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Framework Law on Primary and Secondary Education in BiH, in Article 8, prescribes the following: " The language and culture of any significant minority in BiH shall be respected and accommodated within the school to the greatest extent practicable, in accordance with the Framework Convention for Protection of National Minorities." According to the data, in the Federation of BiH, the most widely taught foreign language in regular education is German.

37. **Institution of Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina** - The Ombudsmen point out to an example of good practice, namely, the Romani language with elements of national culture has been introduced in primary schools in the Tuzla Canton. In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Tuzla Canton and Roma non-governmental organizations, a proposal of a curriculum for the subject Romani Language with Elements of National Culture has been developed, which will be used in primary schools in the Tuzla Canton.

IV Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities

38. Below is data collected from the relevant judicial authorities with statistical data on the number of criminal proceedings related to the criminal offence of violation of equality on the basis of national or ethnic origin or language difference, as well as on the use of language in court proceedings.

39. **Ministry of Justice and Administration of the Posavina Canton** – there were no criminal proceedings related to the criminal offence of violation of equality on the grounds of national or ethnic origin or language difference. Also, there were no appeals filed with the Municipal Court in Orašje for violations of freedom of expression and freedom to receive or impart information in minority languages. As for the exercise of the right to use a minority language, there were no requests from defendants, witnesses and other participants before the Municipal Court in Orašje in either criminal or civil proceedings, nor was there any need for translations, engagement of a court interpreter, and thus no need for reimbursement of costs on that basis.

40. **Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Posavina Canton Orašje** – there were no cases related to the criminal offense of violation of equality based on national or ethnic affiliation or difference in language, nor the use of minority languages in court proceedings.

41. **Prosecutor's Office of the Central Bosnia Canton** – during the reporting period, there were no cases filed relating to criminal offenses of violation of equality and prohibition of discrimination based on ethnicity and language of persons who do not belong to the constituent peoples.

42. **Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Canton 10** – during the reporting period, two cases related to the criminal offense of Violation of Equality of People and Citizens under Article 117 of the Criminal Code of FBiH. One case was completed by transferring jurisdiction to another competent prosecutor's office, while the other is still in the reporting phase. Ten cases related to the criminal offense of Inciting National, Racial, and Religious Hatred, Discord, and Hostility under Article 163, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Criminal Code of FBiH. Out of the 10 reports/notifications of committed criminal offenses, a verdict was issued in three cases, an order to conduct an investigation was issued in five cases, one case was concluded with an order not to conduct an investigation, and in one case, a proposal for the transfer of territorial jurisdiction was submitted.

43. **Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Sarajevo Canton** - For the criminal offense of Inciting National, Racial, and Religious Hatred, Discord, and Hostility under Article 163 of the Criminal Code of FBiH, 24 reports were recorded during the reporting period. Of these, an investigation was ordered in five cases, an order not to conduct an investigation was issued in nine cases, an order to suspend the investigation was issued in three cases, while indictments were filed in two cases. For the criminal offense of Unauthorized Possession or Violation of the Public Order through Radio or Television Station under Article 363 of the Criminal Code of FBiH, one order was issued not to conduct an investigation.

44. **Ministry of Justice of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton:** there were no criminal cases in the Cantonal Court of Goražde for the criminal offense of violation of ethnic affiliation or language difference, nor there were any first/second instance criminal and civil proceedings in which there were requests for the use of a minority language.

45. **Ministry of Justice, Administration and Local Self-Government of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton:** There were no complaints or requests for the use of minority languages in first and second instance criminal or civil proceedings. Data on the use of court interpreters in courts are provided below in the report, categorized by language.

46. **Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the West Herzegovina Canton:** during the specified period, a total of 10 reports were filed for the criminal offense of Inciting National, Racial, and Religious Hatred, Discord, and

Hostility under Article 163 of the Criminal Code of FBiH. For these cases, an order for investigation was issued. In one case, the investigation was suspended, and indictments were raised in seven cases. These cases were concluded as follows: in six cases, a final conviction was issued, while in one case, an acquittal was rendered. Two cases are still in the investigation phase.

47. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Zenica-Doboj Canton - In the reporting period, a case number T040KT___19 was conducted in which, on 24 February 2022, the Cantonal Prosecutor of the Zenica-Doboj Canton issued an order not to conduct an investigation against one person for a criminal offense under Article 177, paragraph (2) of the Criminal Code of the Federation of BiH (Infringement of the Equality of Individuals and Citizens). Part of the content of the Order not to conduct an investigation by the acting prosecutor: "... The commentary to the Criminal Code of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina analyzes the above provision, by stating that this paragraph addresses a distinct form of violation of citizen equality. Unlike the criminal offense described in paragraph 1, this violation pertains specifically to the right to use language and script and it is not based on differences in nationality, race, or other characteristics between citizens.... Any violation of the equality of language and script use does not constitute a criminal offense. It is necessary for the denial or restriction of the use of language and script to occur in the exercise of a citizen's rights or when addressing authorities, companies, or other legal entities..." "In accordance with the above, it can be concluded that the actions of the reported individual do not constitute an obstruction of the complainant's ability to use her language or script when exercising her rights or addressing authorities, companies, or other legal entities, as she is an employee of the mentioned company and does not have the status of a party. Therefore, her right as a citizen in communication with institutions has not been violated, and consequently, the essential elements of this criminal offense are not fulfilled". Data on the exercise of the right to use minority languages in first-instance criminal proceedings are contained in the report itself. In addition to the languages listed in the report, Russian was also used in two first-instance criminal proceedings for the translation of documents. A court interpreter was appointed for these proceedings, and the amount of 2,048.50 BAM was covered by the Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Zenica-Doboj Canton.

48. Ministry of Justice and Administration of Central Bosnia Canton – During the aforementioned period, no criminal or civil proceedings were conducted before the Municipal Courts in Travnik, Bugojno, Kiseljak, and Jajce that involved requests for the use of minority languages. The Municipal Court in Jajce did not receive any cases related to minority languages. There was no use of minority languages in administrative proceedings. The Municipal Court in Travnik provided data on the exercise of the right to use a minority language, and this information is included in the continuation of the report.

49. Prosecutor's Office of the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina – in the reporting period, two criminal reports were filed for the criminal offense of hate speech.

50. Institution of Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Regarding complaints of discrimination based on ethnic affiliation, the Ombudsmen addressed one complaint from 2020, in addition to those from the constituent peoples. In this case, the Council of National Minorities of the Una-Sana Canton Assembly approached the Ombudsman for Human Rights of Bosnia and Herzegovina concerning the representation of national minorities in the primary electoral unit 002, Cazin. The complainants stated that, by the Decision on the Announcement and Holding of Local Elections in 2020, the Central Election Commission failed to ensure the representation of national minorities when determining the number of councilors. In its response, the Central Election Commission noted that the data provided by the City Council of Cazin indicated that a total of 30 councilors were to be elected, and that no guaranteed seats had been allocated for members of national minorities. Furthermore, according to the last population census, national minorities in the Cazin electoral unit make up less than 3 percent of the total population, which is why they are not guaranteed a mandate in the Cazin City Council. After conducting an investigation, the Ombudsmen determined that there is a discrepancy regarding the percentage of national minorities in the area of the City of Cazin based on the latest population census, and that this data affects the existence of guaranteed seats for their representatives in the upcoming elections. Based on this, the Ombudsmen issued a Recommendation (P- 172/20) to the Central Election Commission to independently and unambiguously verify the data on the composition of the population in the primary electoral unit 002 Cazin, to determine the list of councilors for the upcoming elections, and to certify the final list in accordance with the collected data, the findings of the Recommendation, and primarily with Article 13.14, paragraphs (1) and (2) of the Election Law of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Regarding complaints of discrimination on the grounds of language and script, aside from those concerning the language and script of the constituent peoples, the Institution of Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina initiated a case ex officio on 30 May 2022. The case concerns the registration of personal names of members of national minorities in Republika Srpska. On 19 April 2022, the Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina, through a conclusion, established cooperation with the Association of National Minorities of Republika Srpska to develop legal solutions addressing the legal issues of national minorities. After holding several working meetings with representatives of the aforementioned Association, the Ombudsmen of Bosnia and Herzegovina identified certain problems faced by members of this population group. After analyzing the mentioned facts, one of the most pressing issues identified was the method of registering personal names for members of national minorities. Specifically, the provisions of the Law on Personal Names of the Republic of Srpska do not provide for the possibility of registering a personal name in the birth registry in the language or script of the national minority to which the individual belongs. Based on the above and following an analysis of the relevant legal regulations in this area, the Ombudsmen of Bosnia and Herzegovina concluded that there are no valid reasons to deny national minorities the right to choose their preferred method of registering their personal names. On 14 June 2022, the Ombudsmen submitted an initiative to the National Assembly of the Republika Srpska for amendments to the Law on Personal Names of the Republika Srpska. By Act No. 02/1-021-705/22, dated 1 July 2022, the National Assembly responded to the aforementioned initiative, stating that, in accordance with procedural rules, it had forwarded the initiative

to the Legislative Committee, the Committee for Local Self-Government, the Committee for the Political System, Judiciary, and Administration, and the Government of Republika Srpska for consideration and positioning.

On 14 April 2022, the institution received a complaint from the Roma Women Association 'Bolja budućnost' in Tuzla, filed on behalf of both the Roma Women Association 'Bolja budućnost' and the Roma Women Network. The complaint concerned what they considered to be an irregular manner of electing members to the Council of National Minorities of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. A procedure was initiated to assess the validity of the complaint's claims. In this regard, an act from the Federal Ministry of Justice, No. 09-45-1272-1/22, dated 12 May 2022, was received. It was sent to the complainants on 24 May 2022, with a request for them to submit their statement by the specified deadline, along with a warning about the consequences of failing to do so. Since no written response from the complainants was received within the specified deadline, the case was concluded with a decision.

51. Ministry of Justice and Administration of Zenica-Doboj Canton - according to the records, there were no requests related for the use of regional or minority languages in the Municipal Court of Zavidovići. In accordance with Article 10 of the Law on Courts in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina ("Official Gazette of FBiH no. 38/05, 22/06, 63/10, 72/10, 7/13, 52/14, and 85/21"), all parties in the proceedings are allowed to use a language they understand. Article 10 of the Law on Courts in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina: "The official languages of the courts shall be Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian and the official scripts shall be Latin and Cyrillic. Decisions shall be issued and hearings shall be held in the language of the individual judge in the proceedings or as decided by the president of a panel, and, upon the party's request, he or she shall be provided with the translation of the hearing or decision in the language the party uses in the proceedings at the expense of the court in criminal proceedings and at the expense of the requesting party in all other proceedings. Parties may file documents in any of the official languages".

52. Judicial Commission of the Brčko District of BiH - A review of the CMS database of the District Courts revealed that no criminal cases were found related to the violation of equality on the grounds of national or ethnic origin, language differences, violations of freedom of expression, or the freedom to receive and impart information in minority languages, or the establishment of media in those languages. During the requested period, there was no use of minority languages in first and second instance civil and criminal proceedings, nor in administrative dispute proceedings. The accused is allowed to use the minority language in criminal and civil proceedings, with the assistance of a court interpreter and translation, at no additional cost to the individuals concerned. Furthermore, requests and evidence, whether written or oral, may be submitted in the minority language in both criminal and civil proceedings, with the assistance of court interpreters and translation, also at no additional cost to the individuals concerned. Additionally, it was ensured that a party in a civil procedure who is required to appear personally before the court may use a minority language without

additional costs, with the presence of an interpreter and translation. The List of Permanent Court Interpreters for the Brčko District of BiH is publicly available on the website of the Judicial Commission of Brčko District (www.pkbd.ba, under the Lists and Registers section). The website also provides a table with data on the number of court interpreters for the Brčko District of BiH.

Language and script	Number of certified interpreters
Albanian	/
Czech	/
Italian	Two
Hungarian	/
Macedonian	/
German	16
Polish	/
Romani	/
Romanian	/
Russian	One
Ruthenian	/
Slovak	/
Slovenian	Three
Turkish	Two
Ukrainian	/
Yiddish	/
Ladino	/

53. Ministry of Justice of the Republika Srpska - Based on the data from the Directory and the List of Permanent Court Interpreters for Minority Languages, the following interpreters have been appointed:

- 3 permanent court interpreters for the Czech language,
- 91 permanent court interpreters for the Italian language,
- 2 permanent interpreters for the Hungarian language,
- 239 permanent interpreters for the German language,
- 1 permanent interpreter for the Polish language,
- 37 permanent interpreters for the Russian language,
- 2 permanent interpreters for the Slovak language,
- 18 permanent interpreters for the Slovenian language and
- 20 permanent interpreters for the Turkish language.

The Rulebook on Permanent Court Interpreters ("Official Gazette of the Republika Srpska", No. 115/05) stipulates that a court interpreter is entitled to a fee for their services, reimbursement for translation costs, as well as compensation for lost earnings. These amounts are determined by the Tariff, which is an integral part of the Rulebook.

54. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Tuzla Canton - During the mentioned period, there were no cases of the criminal offense of Infringement of Equality of Individuals and Citizens under Article 177 of the Criminal Code of FBiH on the grounds of national or ethnic origin or language differences. Regarding data on the exercise of the right to use minority languages in criminal proceedings, the case management database in the judiciary (TCMS) does not have the functionality to process data on participants at different stages of criminal proceedings, in which the mentioned minority languages were used. It is not possible to reliably and exclusively determine from the services of court interpreters and cost statements whether they relate to the use of minority languages by the accused, suspects, defendants, or foreign witnesses in the proceedings. This is due to the fact that the translations of documents included in various prosecutorial files involved all of the aforementioned categories, i.e., individuals with different statuses, especially in cases involving foreign nationals who use the mentioned languages. According to the data provided by the prosecutors for the mentioned period, the mentioned minority languages were used in 16 cases, and experts services for these languages were also utilized. The data are presented by languages in the rest of Report. In addition to the ratified languages, a court interpreter for the Russian language was used in one (1) case. The total cost of court interpreters in all cases amounted to 37,793.10 KM, and the costs were paid from the Budget of the Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Tuzla Canton, which is part of the Tuzla Canton Budget.

55. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Una-Sana Canton – A total of six criminal reports were filed during the reporting period for the criminal offense of hate speech based on ethnicity and/or language. Of these, two are in the reporting phase, one is in the investigation phase (with an order for investigation dated 15.06.2023), two cases have been concluded, and one case has been reclassified with its legal grounds changed to Article 222 of the Criminal Code of FBiH. During the reporting period, there were six criminal charges related to hate speech based on ethnicity and/or language. Of these, two are in the reporting phase, two have been concluded, one is in the investigation phase, and one has changed its legal basis in the meantime.

56. Ministry of Justice and Administration of the Una-Sana Canton - data was requested from the Cantonal Court in Bihać, the Municipal Court in Velika Kladuša, and the Municipal Court in Bihać. No criminal proceedings were conducted before these courts regarding violations of equality based on national or ethnic affiliation or language differences. Additionally, no appeals were filed concerning violations of the freedom of expression, or the freedom to receive and impart information and ideas in minority languages, or the establishment of media in those languages. Data related to the exercise of the right to use minority

languages in first-instance criminal and civil proceedings before the Municipal Courts in Bihać, Bosanska Krupa, and Velika Kladuša are provided by language in the continuation of the Report.

57. Ministry of Justice and Administration of Canton 10– Based on the data collected from the Municipal Court and Cantonal Court in Livno, no criminal proceedings were conducted for the criminal offense of violating of equality on the grounds of national or ethnic origin or language difference. No appeals were filed in cases involving violations of the freedom of expression, the freedom to receive and impart information and ideas in minority languages, or the establishment of media in those languages. Before the Municipal Court of Livno, in first-instance criminal proceedings, there were no cases in which individuals using a minority language or script appeared as defendants, witnesses, experts, or interpreters. However, two documents were translated, both into the German language. The details of this can be found in the continuation of the Report.

58. Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina - There were no cases related to minority languages.

59. Ministry of Justice and Administration of the West Herzegovina Canton – Data were requested from the Cantonal Court in Široki Brijeg, the Municipal Court in Široki Brijeg, the Municipal Court in Ljubuški, and the Cantonal Prosecutor's Offices of the West Herzegovina Canton. The data can be found in the Report, organized by languages. In second-instance civil cases, as well as in administrative dispute cases, no minority languages were used.

60. Ministry of Justice, Administration and Labor Relations of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton - data were collected by the Cantonal and Municipal Courts in Goražde. During the specified period, no criminal cases were filed for the offense of violating equality based on national or ethnic affiliation or language differences. Additionally, before these authorities, there were no first-instance or second-instance criminal or civil cases involving requests for the use of minority languages.

61. Federal Ministry of Justice – According to the data in the Directory of Permanent Court Interpreters and the List of Appointed Court Interpreters for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, maintained by this Ministry in accordance with the Regulation on Permanent Court Experts (Official Gazette of the Federation of BiH, No. 29/11 and 32/14), the following total number of court interpreters for the languages of national minorities has been recorded:

- Albanian language: 5,
- Czech language: 6,
- Italian language: 48,
- Hebrew language: 1,

- Hungarian language: 2,
- Macedonian language: 5,
- German language: 273,
- Polish language: 3,
- Russian language: 5,
- Slovak language: 1,
- Slovenian language: 25,
- Turkish language: 41,
- Ukrainian language: 1.

V Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

62. The Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina sent questionnaires to 24 local self-government units that, according to the census, have a significant number of national minorities. Responses were submitted by the following local self-government units:

63. **Municipality of Travnik** - Article 38 of the Law on Civil Registry Books ("Official Gazette of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina" No. 37/12 and 80/14) stipulates that the entry of data in civil registry books shall be carried out in one of the official languages and scripts of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The entry of a personal name in the civil registry books for individuals belonging to national minorities may be made in the language and script of the national minority to which they belong, if requested by the individual, or in the language or script of the country of which the individual was a citizen before acquiring Bosnian and Herzegovinian citizenship or the citizenship of the Federation. Given the above, employees of civil registry offices are obligated to act in accordance with the request of the individual and in compliance with the aforementioned provision.

64. **City of Sarajevo** - On an annual basis, designated funds are planned and allocated in the budget for the needs of national minorities, amounting to 10,000 BAM. This amount is distributed in accordance with relevant regulations and acts, with 5,000 BAM allocated to the Alliance of National Minorities of the Sarajevo Canton for the traditional project „Days of National Minorities“, the MINORITY festival. The Jewish national minority is supported with the amount of 3,000 BAM, and the Roma minority with 2,000 BAM, for the cultural needs of these populations. More information about the cooperation between the City and national minorities can be found in the Report on the Cooperation and Relations of the City of Sarajevo with National Minorities, which is included in the Work Program of the City Council of Sarajevo and is submitted and reviewed on an annual basis. The Kali Sara Association — Roma Information Center Sarajevo and the

Association for the Support and Promotion of Jewish Culture, Tradition, and Tourist Potential "Hagada" have achieved the status of associations of special significance for the City of Sarajevo. With the attainment of this status, budget co-financing of the associations' activities for a longer period (5,000 BAM) is foreseen, thus providing permanent and partnership support.

65. City of Prijedor - The City of Prijedor allocates significant funds for financing the programmatic and project activities of national minority associations, specifically for:

- Association of Ukrainians "Kozak",
- Association of Slovenians "Lipa",
- Association of Czechs "Česka Beseda",
- Association of Roma Prijedor and
- Association "Bolja budućnost Roma"

Associations that gather this population in the City of Prijedor, through their activities and work, aim to preserve their language, cultural heritage, traditions, and customs. The funds allocated for the associations are used for regular program activities based on their general importance and for stimulating national and cultural contributions to social development, as well as for promoting and affirming economic and cultural-artistic creativity and coexistence as a whole. The City of Prijedor publishes an annual Public Call for co-financing programmatic and project activities of national minority associations from the City of Prijedor's budget, through a budget line titled: Co-financing of National Minority Projects, in accordance with the Regulation on the Criteria, Manner, and Procedure for the Distribution of Funds to National Minority Associations. The distribution of funds for the requested years totals:

- in 2020, a total of 22,500 BAM,
- in 2021, a total of 22.500 BAM,
- in 2022, a total of 22.500 BAM
- in 2023, a total of 22.500 BAM.

A portion of the funds from the mentioned budget was used to finance the event „Evening of National Minorities in the City of Prijedor.“ Over the past four years, national minority associations have not submitted requests to the City of Prijedor to hold the mentioned event and the planned funds for this period were not spent. In 2021, the City of Prijedor used part of the allocated funds for the 'Evening of National Minorities' event to additionally support national minority associations with 1,000 BAM per request. This amounted to 250 BAM for each of the four national minority associations to support the education of their members and organized gatherings. On the official website of the City of Prijedor (www.prijedorgrad.org), information about the work of city authorities is available in all minority languages. According to Article 14, paragraph 3 of the Statute of the City of Prijedor, it is stated: „The City authorities, when addressing requests from parties, shall conduct the procedure, prepare records, and issue official acts in the official language and script used by the authorized official of the City authority. However, at the request of the party, an official act shall be issued in the language and script used by the party in the proceeding“.

66. **City of Gradiška** – From 2020 to 2023, associations that are direct beneficiaries of the City of Gradiška received 5,000 BAM annually for their regular activities, as well as for the preservation of tradition and cultural development (Association of Roma, Association of Poles, Association of Ukrainians). In addition to the above, during this period, the Department for Development and International Projects of the City of Gradiška also implemented two projects: "Roma Housing Project" with a total amount of 48,990 BAM and "Promotion of Diversity and Equality" in the total amount of 15,000 BAM). The competition for the distribution of funds to associations in the field of culture does not define separate financing for national minority associations. Instead all associations that meet the competition requirements are considered in the distribution of funds, i.e., based on the submitted project proposals. The budget of the City of Gradiška ("Official Gazette of the City of Gradiška" no. 16/22 for 2023 and 18/21 for 2022). In the City of Gradiška, signs and symbols representing some national minorities are displayed, as detailed in the continuation of the Report. However, this is not regulated by the local self-government unit's regulations. The same applies to the display and printing of plaques, labels, signs, and inscriptions for businesses and shops.

67. **City of Prnjavor** – Projects focused on cultural creativity, the preservation and development of culture, and the safeguarding of the traditions and intangible cultural heritage of national minorities have been financed through a dedicated budget line created for the direct support of national minority associations. During events organized by members of national minorities, symbols and signs characteristic of these minorities (such as flags, anthems, etc.) are displayed. In the City of Prnjavor, from 6 December 2021 to 15 September 2022, a restaurant operated under a name in the language of a national minority (Ukrainian). However, in the local self-government, the use of minority languages is not enabled in interactions between the authorities and members of national minorities. Over the past three years, there have been several instances of communication with city authorities in one of the minority languages by administrative officials from partner cities in Poland, the Czech Republic, and Ukraine, as well as a smaller number of letters in German from certain agencies. Translations were managed by the expert associate for national minorities at the Department for Local Economic Development and Social Affairs. There are no street name signs in minority languages, but there is Boleslavječka Street, in honor of the historical significance and partnership with the Polish city of Boleslaviec. At the three traffic entrances to the city from the three main directions (Banja Luka, Derventa, and Doboj), large signs with the welcoming words "Welcome to Little Europe!" have been placed in the languages of all national minorities living in Prnjavor (13+1 languages). The budget line for assistance to national minority associations is created in such a way that, during meetings, representatives of the minorities negotiate priorities for the upcoming year and, based on that, create a distribution plan. The Finance department has data primarily related to housing and communal support for the Roma population. Funds from the City of Prnjavor budget allocated for members of national minorities are specified in the table:

Budget position	Amount of funds in BAM for 2020	Amount of funds in BAM for 2021	Amount of funds in BAM for 2022	Amount of funds in BAM for 2023
Action Plan for the Implementation of the Roma Inclusion Strategy	1.300,00	800,00	1.020,00	1.100,00
Assistance to associations of national minorities	24.302,38	11.590,00	22.000,00	25.000,00
Budget reserve	2.000,00	1.480,00	1.030,00	4.917,60
Festival of national minorities	0,00	5.000,00	0,00	5.000,00
Help for Roma during the pandemic	3.324,91	-	-	-
Council of Europe Grant to the Roma Community	-	-	-	9.779,15
Funds allocated for student scholarships	-	-	-	1.000,00
Total	30.927,29	18.870,00	24.050,00	46.796,75

The Report shows the funds allocated by national minority languages. In addition to funding national minority associations, the City has funded the Association of National Minorities of the Municipality of Prnjavor on an annual basis, as follows:

- in 2020 - financing of planned activities of the Alliance in the amount of 750 BAM,
- in 2021 - financing of planned activities of the Alliance in the amount of 450 BAM,
- in 2022 - financing of planned activities of the Alliance in the amount of 1.000 BAM,
- in 2023- financing of planned activities of the Alliance in the amount of 1.000 BAM.

68. Municipality of Ilidža - When issuing public calls for the allocation of funds, the services have clearly defined criteria, which are not specifically tailored for national minorities (i.e., the criteria are the same for all citizens). Additionally, there are no signs or symbols representing national minorities in the Municipality. The display and printing of plaques, signs, and inscriptions with the names of companies, shops, and other legal entities, as well as other signs and inscriptions, must be in the language officially used in the Federation of

BiH. A translation into a foreign language may only be used alongside the official language. The Statute of the Municipality does not permit the use of minority languages, and information on bulletin boards and other public notices is not published in minority languages. There are no settlement names, street names, or topographical names in minority languages, nor are there websites available in minority languages. The Municipality of Ilidža has not encountered any instances of communication in minority languages.

69. City of Banja Luka – The Mayor annually adopts the Plan for the distribution of funds to national minorities in the City of Banja Luka, based on the Rulebook on the Conditions and Criteria for Co-financing Associations Gathering Members of National Minorities ("Official Gazette of the City of Banja Luka" no. 6/22). The City Assembly adopts the Decision on the approval of the budget of the City of Banja Luka, which plans funds for assisting national minorities through the Department for Social Affairs. Therefore, for the period from 2020 to 2023, funds were allocated in the following amounts:

- in 2020, the funds allocated amount to 75.973 BAM,
- in 2021, the funds allocated amount to 59.230 BAM,
- in 2022, the funds allocated amount to 80.480 BAM
- in 2023, the funds allocated amount to 75.630 BAM

The funds are distributed based on the aforementioned procedure, as each national minority gathers its members in one association, except for the Montenegrin minority, which has two registered associations. Projects that promote culture, tradition, customs, language, education, and cooperation with the home country of the national minority members are co-financed. The financing of national minority associations is detailed in the continuation of the Report. Regarding the financing of the Association of National Minorities of Republika Srpska, the funds are allocated as follows:

- For the year 2020, funds were allocated for utility and other expenses of the National Minorities Club (equipment purchase), rental of municipal business space, and project activities in the amount of 28,400 BAM,
- For the year 2021, funds were allocated for utility and other expenses of the National Minorities Club (equipment purchase), rental of municipal business space in the amount of 23.000,00 BAM,
- For the year 2022, funds were allocated for utility and other expenses of the National Minorities Club (equipment purchase), rental of municipal business space, and other project activities in the amount of 26.000,00 BAM;
- For the year 2020, funds were allocated for utility and other expenses of the National Minorities Club (equipment purchase), rental of municipal business space, and other project activities in the amount of 26.000,00 BAM.

The following associations were also funded:

- 1. Cultural Society of Macedonians "Vardar"**

- In 2020, funds were allocated for literary evenings and an exhibition of artworks by members in the amount of 3,500 BAM,
- In 2021, funds were allocated for the celebration of the Independence Day of the Republic of Macedonia, decoupage workshops, participation in the Festival of Cultural Creativity of National Minorities and the Hunting and Fishing Fair in the amount of 1,500 BAM,
- In 2022, funds were allocated for literary evenings, an exhibition of folk costumes and artworks by members, projects within the framework of international cooperation with the home country, a Macedonian folklore festival "Zajednica u Jabici kod Pančeva" in the amount of 3,500 BAM,
- In 2023, funds were allocated for literary evenings, an exhibition of members' artworks, printing of magazines and international cooperation with Macedonian associations in Pančevo and Zagreb in the amount of 6,500 BAM.

2. Association of Citizens of Montenegrin Origin „Marko Miljanov“

- In 2020, funds were allocated for printing a newsletter and promoting of a book in the amount of 1,000 BAM,
- In 2021, funds were allocated for printing a magazines and publications in the amount of 750 BAM,
- In 2022, funds were allocated for printing a newsletter, promoting of a book, and projects within the framework of international cooperation with home countries in the amount of 4,000.00 BAM,
- In 2023, funds were allocated for printing a newsletter, promoting of a book, and a study trip to Montenegro in the amount of 4,000 BAM.

3. Association of Montenegrins and Friends of Montenegro „Lovćen“

- In 2020, funds were allocated for the preparation a magazine and an exhibition of paintings by a member, in the amount of 3,000 BAM,
- In 2021, funds were allocated for printing a magazine and an exhibition of members' tapestries in the amount of 2,500 BAM,
- In 2022, funds were allocated for the preparation of a magazine and brochure in the amount of 3,000 BAM,
- In 2023, funds were allocated for the preparation of an evening dedicated to Petar Petrović Njegoš, a multimedia exhibition by a member, and the promotion of a collection of poems by a member, in the amount of 3,500 BAM.

4. Society of Austrian Friends in Bosnia and Herzegovina „Dabih“

- In 2020, funds were allocated for a project within the framework of international cooperation with the homeland countries in the amount of 1,000 BAM.,
- In 2021, funds were allocated in the amount of 750 BAM,
- In 2022, funds were allocated for planned project activities within the framework of international cooperation with the countries of origin in the amount of 3,000 BAM,

- In 2023, funds were allocated for planned project activities within the framework of international cooperation with countries of origin in the amount of 1,000 BAM.
- 5. **Association of Russians in Republika Srpska „Romanovi“** funds in the amount of 1,500 BAM were allocated for the project "410 years of the Romanov dynasty, Maslenica, Day of Russia".

The City of Banja Luka collaborates with one Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska from Banja Luka and thirteen (13) associations that bring together members of twelve (12) national minorities (Montenegrins, Czechs, Italians, Jews, Hungarians, Macedonians, Austrians, Poles, Roma, Slovenes, Ukrainians and Russians). Members of national minorities are organized within the Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska, through their associations, or individually, with the aim of preserving their identity, national origin, nurturing their language, culture and religion. At the end of September 2023, this organization celebrated twenty years of work since its establishment. Since its inception, they have been publishing an annual bulletin titled "The Word of National Minorities," which is prepared in the languages of national minorities. In the last four years, the bulletin has included several bilingual texts. Since the foundation of the Association, cooperation has been ongoing with the Public Service Radio Television of the Republika Srpska, and since March 2019, the broadcast of the program about national minorities, in the languages of national minorities "Little Europe", began every second Monday. Since July 2022, the program "Little Europe" has been re-broadcast on the Radio of the Republika Srpska. Parallel to the television broadcast, the radio program "Korijeni" has also been aired. Since 2004, the Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska from Banja Luka has been organizing an event titled Festival of Cultural Creativity of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska. This event, in addition to other guests, is attended by ambassadors of the home countries of members of minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The city supports the work of these associations in preserving their culture, traditions, and customs, as well as in establishing cooperation between the City of Banja Luka and cities in their home countries. The Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska coordinates, while the city national minority associations create a cultural-artistic mosaic made up of authentic programs, including songs, folk dances, and short performances in their native languages. The common goal is to authentically present the culture and customs of their home countries, while simultaneously showcasing the customs that are characteristic for the local area and have been preserved from oblivion across generations. In the City of Banja Luka, there are streets named after prominent individuals who belonged to certain national minorities, including: Franz Schubert Street, Václav Havlík Vena Street, Tolstoy Street, Bitola Street, Lovćen Street, Cetinje Street, Njegoš Street, Taras Shevchenko Street, Podgorica Street, Italian Battalion Mateoti Street, Romanov Street, Sestre Levi Street, and others. There were no written initiatives to publish information and announcements on the notice boards of the City in minority languages. Members of national minorities also have the right to receive scholarships, in accordance with the prescribed conditions and criteria. When submitting applications, they do not declare their national affiliation.

70. Municipality of Stari Grad Sarajevo - The city continuously finances projects related to the culture, tradition, customs, education, and scholarships for members of the Roma national minority residing in the municipality. Additionally, other needs for this national minority are also addressed, such as the renovation of buildings, procurement of firewood, and provision of food packages, all in accordance with the municipality's responsibilities, budgetary capabilities, and in cooperation with other levels of government. In Article 5, paragraph 1 of the Statute of the Municipality of Stari Grad Sarajevo, which was adopted at the 36th regular session of the Municipal Council of Stari Grad Sarajevo on 30 April 2024, it is stated that the official languages in the municipality are Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian, and other languages may be used as a means of communication. During the reporting period, no public calls were issued for the allocation of funds for projects related to the cultural creativity of national minorities, projects for the preservation and development of the culture of national minorities, or projects for the preservation of traditions and intangible cultural heritage of national minorities. In the municipality, there are no prominent signs or symbols of national minorities. There are signs, labels, and inscriptions with the names of legal entities in minority languages.

71. City of Doboj - During the reported period, no budgetary funds were allocated for co-financing projects related to the cultural creation of national minorities, the preservation and development of culture of national minorities, or the preservation of tradition and intangible cultural heritage of national minorities. The city displays the symbols and signs of national minorities at their request, on dates that are significant for a particular national minority. Example: Displaying the Romani flag and symbol (a blue-green flag with a golden wheel symbol) on 8 April for the World Romani Day. The official languages in interaction between the local government bodies and members of national minorities in the City of Doboj are Serbian, Croatian, or the language of the Bosniak people, while the official scripts are Cyrillic or Latin. In the area of the City of Doboj, the names of companies, shops, and other legal entities may be displayed in all internationally recognized languages, while information about the activities of these companies, shops, and other legal entities must be displayed in Serbian, Croatian, or the language of the Bosniak people, and in Cyrillic or Latin script. The City of Doboj's budget allocated 20,000 BAM for national minorities during the reported period. Also, the City of Doboj, through a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Council of Europe, participated in the implementation of the Romacted II Program, where around 40,000 BAM was spent on various activities (procurement of firewood, school supplies, clothing for students, tablet computers, organization of educational round tables and scholarships for high school students).

72. City of Laktaši – Regarding the allocation of financial resources for national minorities, support was provided for the Slovenian Days in Slatina (1,000 BAM in both 2022 and 2023) and for the Ukrainian Association "Taras Shevchenko" from Banja Luka (1,500 BAM in both 2022 and 2023). Regarding the display of street name signs in minority languages, there is a sign for Alojz Adamič Street in Slatina, in both Cyrillic and Latin scripts (which can be considered as representing the Slovenian language). In 2022, as part of the project with the Council of Europe, directional signs and informational plaques were installed at four churches

(two Ukrainian churches in Devetine and Jablan, a German church in Aleksandrovac, and an Italian church in Mahovljani). The city has signed cooperation protocols with the Municipality of Budva (Montenegro), the City of Idrija (Slovenia), and the City of Lehavim (Israel).

73. Municipality of Novo Sarajevo - In the aforementioned reporting period, there were no reported projects or budget allocations for co-financing cultural creativity projects of national minorities, or for the preservation and development of national minority culture through a public competition. As part of the Public Call for associations/foundations (civil society organizations/non-governmental organizations) to submit project proposals in the areas of education, sports, culture, youth support, assistance for children and adults with developmental disabilities, assistance for the elderly, and environmental protection, „projects aimed at promoting the tradition and cultural heritage of national minorities“ were included under the „culture“ category. For the aforementioned, funds ranging from 5,000 to 10,000 BAM were allocated per project. However, these funds were not used as there were no applications submitted under the Public Call. Additionally, there were no other financial allocations for national minorities from our local community. Regarding scholarships, we receive a large number of applications each year, but we do not require national self-identification. Between 2020 and 2023, there were no requests for project support from associations of national minorities related to national minorities, in accordance with the Rulebook on the Criteria and Method of Approving Funds Planned in the Budget Line "Support for Projects, Events, and Programs upon Requests" ("Official Gazette of Sarajevo Canton, No. 04/22"). The Statute of the Municipality of Novo Sarajevo - consolidated text, Article 5 states: "In proceedings before administrative bodies, citizens may use another language, if they do not know any of the official languages referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, and an interpreter shall be provided." The official languages in the Municipality are Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian. The official scripts are Latin and Cyrillic. There were no requests filed to the municipal authorities in minority languages, nor were there any memorandums or protocols of cooperation signed between local government units in BiH where members of national minorities live. Since 2010, the Municipality of Novo Sarajevo has had a park named "Park of National Minorities," located in Pofalići

74. City of Tuzla - National minorities in the City of Tuzla operate within citizen associations and include associations of Roma, Italians, Albanians, Slovenes, Macedonians, and Jews, namely the Association of Citizens of Italian Origin "Rino Zandonai," the Albanian-Bosnian Association of Citizens "Dardania," the Association of Citizens of Slovenian Origin "Slovenska skupnost", the Association of Citizens of Macedonian Origin "Ilinden," the Jewish Community of Tuzla, the Roma Women's Association "Bolja Budućnost," the "Euro Rom" Association, the Association "Roma Youth Club", the Roma Cultural Center, and the Association "Happy Roma". Within its competencies, the Service for Culture, Sports, Youth, and Social Protection collaborates with associations of national minorities, and in 2018, the position of expert advisor for national minority issues was filled through the systematization process. For the purpose of preparing and reviewing proposals, decisions, and other acts, as well as for monitoring and addressing other issues before the

City Council, the Commission for the Protection of the Rights of National Minorities was formed as one of the working bodies. In accordance with the Election Law of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a member of a national minority has been elected to the City Council in local elections since 2008. This has been the case across four election cycles, with one councilor representing national minorities in each convocation of the City Council. This fact, in a political sense, reflects the highest standard of representation of national minorities in the legislative body of the City of Tuzla. Since 2012, a special line has been created in the Budget: "Grant for the Implementation of the Roma Action Plan", since 2017: "Grant for Other National Minorities", and since 2018: "Grant for the Jewish Municipality" Over the last three years, approximately 253,380 BAM has been allocated for the financing/co-financing of projects and events organized by associations of national minorities. According to the 2013 census, out of a total number of 110,979 citizens, the city of Tuzla has the following ethnic structure: Bosniaks 80,774, Croats 15,396, Serbs 3,378, Bosnians 4,505, Bosnians and Herzegovinians 1,542, Muslims 1,050, Roma 1,007, Albanians 214, Turks 35, Yugoslavs 97, Montenegrins 45, Herzegovinians 6, Slovenes 24, Macedonians 40, Others 560, Undeclared 2,151, Unknown 137. Given the large number of national minorities according to the 2013 census, signs and symbols of national minorities are not displayed in our local community. Plaques, symbols, and inscriptions in minority languages are neither displayed nor printed, and minority languages are not used in official communication. Information in minority languages is not available be obtained on the official website of the City of Tuzla. Regarding the financing of national minority associations, in the reporting period, funds were allocated to the **Association of Citizens of Macedonian Origin "Ilinden"** as follows:

- 1) In 2020, 3,00 BAM was allocated for the project "III Days of Macedonian Culture in Tuzla",
- 2) In 2023, 6,860 BAM was allocated for the project "IV Days of Macedonian Culture in Tuzla 2023".

Funds allocated to other associations are listed below in the Report by languages.

75. Municipality of Srbac - Public calls issued by the Municipality of Srbac allow all residents of the municipality, including national minorities, to apply for funding. During the reporting period, there were no applications submitted by national minorities, but funds were allocated to them on other bases. In the municipality, there are signs and symbols of national minorities, which are included in the Report by languages. There is no information about the display and printing of plaques, signs, and inscriptions with the names of companies, shops, and other legal entities, nor any other signs and inscriptions of a private nature in minority languages. The Statute of the Municipality does not contain provisions on the use of minority languages in interactions between authorities and members of national minorities. On notice boards and other public announcements, information is published in the official languages of BiH. During the reporting period, there were no instances in which a party addressed our authorities in a minority language. In the settlements of Nova Ves, Gornji Srđevići, Donji Srđevići, Sitneši, Selište, Novi Martinac, Rakovac, Grabašnica, and Kunova, there are signs with topographical names in both the official and minority languages. The government of Poland assisted in the restoration of the cemetery in Novi Martinac near Srbac, with the aim of preserving this settlement, which once had 4,000 Poles and was the largest Polish settlement in BiH during the first half of the

20th century, from being forgotten. In the budget of the Municipality of Srbac, all citizens exercise equal rights to the distribution of budgetary funds under the same conditions, regardless of their ethnic group or national minority affiliation.

VI Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media

76. Regulatory Agency for Communications of BiH – The agency has not encountered any cases where it was necessary to prohibit the reception or retransmission of audiovisual media services or radio media services, nor has it ordered the discontinuation of any of these services, as outlined in Article 3 of Rule 79/201 on permits for the distribution of audiovisual media services and radio media services. During the 2020 revision of the System License, the Agency established clear program quotas for Public Broadcasting Services, requiring them to broadcast programs intended for members of national minorities for at least one hour per week, taking into account equal representation. In the reporting period, the Agency did not receive a single complaint regarding the compliance of Public Broadcasting Services with this obligation. Additionally, we would also like to point out that the Agency plans to amend the Rules on Audiovisual Media Services and the Rules on Radio Broadcasting to include a requirement for other public broadcasting stations to broadcast programs intended for members of national minorities. This amendment aims to expand the media space for programs targeting national minorities in BiH. Since 2009, the Agency has provided the possibility of licensing a radio station intended for members of national minorities (as outlined in the former Rule 42/2009 on licenses for terrestrial broadcasting of radio and television programs). The same possibility was provided for television stations in 2011 through the granting of a license for television broadcasting via other electronic communication networks (as outlined in the former Rule 55/2011 on the provision of audiovisual media services). To date, the Agency has not received any requests for the issuance of licenses for media services for members of national minorities, as per the existing Rule 76/2015 on the Provision of Media Services, Radio, and Rule 95/2023 on Audiovisual Media Services.

77. Public Company Radio Television of Una-Sana Canton - In the Una-Sana Canton, apart from a small Roma community, there are no other significant members of other national minorities residing there. The Roma community primarily resides in the area of the city of Bihać, in the Ružica local community. According to available official data, there are about 170 households in this local community, with an approximate total population of around 700 people. In terms of culture and other needs of this community, we have developed substantial cooperation with the local "Roma" Association and several non-governmental organizations. Through various projects, they actively work on improving the social status and living conditions of the Roma, particularly children who attend primary and secondary schools. Recently, a number of Roma individuals have enrolled at the University of Bihać, which we consider one of the positive changes highlighted in our program. In the past, we have strived to promote this form of emancipation and integration of Roma children into the educational system in this region. However, the media outlet does not currently offer content in the Romani

language, although this remains one of our goals. Given that several students from the Roma community are currently enrolled at the University of Bihać, we anticipate that in the coming years, conditions will arise for some of them to contribute to program content in the Romani language, focusing on the social and cultural aspects of Roma life. Currently, the Radio Television of the Una-Sana Canton does not have a special weekly news program for national minorities in its programming schedule.

78. Radio Television of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Radio Television of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHRT), as a public service of all citizens, has the obligation and mission to report on issues important to national minorities and to contribute to the preservation of cultural and traditional values of various national minorities through diverse program content. In addition to the European standards that are embedded in the principles of functioning of the public service of BiH, our programming obligation to produce such programs also stems from legal acts that define the issue of national minorities in the media sector. Therefore, BHRT's obligations stem from the Law on the Public Broadcasting System of BiH (Article 26, paragraph 3), the Law on the Protection of the Rights of National Minorities in BiH (Article 16), and the latest System License issued by the Communications Regulatory Agency (valid from April 26, 2020), which more strongly emphasizes the obligations of Radio of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHR1) and Television of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHT1) regarding the production and broadcasting of programs intended for national minorities. As part of the regular programming schedule, the show 'Identities' is dedicated to national minorities. It airs twice a week, with the premiere on Saturdays and a rerun on Wednesdayss. The duration of the show is 30 minutes, and thematically, "Identities" focuses on an overview of the life and activities of registered national minorities, the issues they face, cultural activities, and more. Conceptually, the program includes at least one documentary segment, lasting between 6 and 10 minutes, while the remainder of the content features appearances by representatives or members of national minorities.

In addition, the Informative Program of BHT1 regularly produces stories covering the rights, demands, issues, and traditions of various national minorities. These stories are primarily aired in our central news program, Dnevnik 2. However, the most frequently covered topic is the issues faced by the largest national minority in our country, namely the Roma population. The Informative Program will continue to monitor national minorities, focusing primarily on current news relevant to these communities, as well as through thematic stories that highlight the challenges they face (employment, education in minority languages, promoting cultural values and traditions, etc.). The cultural segment of our Television occasionally reports on cultural and artistic events organized by minority communities, and we will continue to do so, opening programming space to highlight creative artists and content from these communities. As for complaints or perceptions of the said content, there have been no recorded complaints so far related to inappropriate media content about members of national minorities. Since 2018, BHR1 has been producing a regular show titled "Među nama o nama" (Among Us, About Us) for marginalized social groups, with a focus on national minorities. The show has a duration of 50 minutes, airs bi-weekly, every other Wednesday, with a rerun in the nighttime slot. Representatives of all official national minorities have been guests on this show and this cooperation will

continue. The thematic spectrum is wide, from problematic issues such as education and employment to cultural and traditional content. The show also seeks to incorporate the language of the national minority represented by the guest, either through a musical segment or a brief conversation (such as greetings, etc.). The issue of the languages of national minorities has become increasingly prominent in the production of the show about national minorities. Common topics include how, to what extent, and where the languages of national minorities are taught, both within institutions and outside of them, as well as regional and European experiences in the context of language. Frequently, guests also share a few words in the language of the national minority they belong to. In this show, special attention has been given to ways of preserving the Romani language and culture, models of institutional learning and studying of the Romani language and culture, and similar topics. In other BHR1 programs, such as daily editions, topics related to the work and life of national minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina are frequently covered. In the music segment of the radio program, musical pieces in minority languages are broadcast, and shows are produced about authors who belong to national minorities.

The show about national minorities, "Među nama o nama," can also be viewed on our internet portal, as well as on social media platforms and YouTube channels. Most of the content in the shows about national minorities is broadcast in one of the three official languages: Bosnian, Croatian, or Serbian. This is the language used by the hosts and guests, with efforts made to include a few words in the minority language and to feature music or songs in the language of the guest. Therefore, the Radio Television of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BHRT) currently lacks the capability to produce programs exclusively in the languages of national minorities but strives to introduce short segments where the minority language is briefly heard (introductions, greetings, music, etc.). There are several reasons why programs in minority languages are not produced, but it mainly comes down to the lack of a sufficient number of speakers and hosts fluent in the language(s) of some of the national minorities. Members of the associations often do not speak the language of the national minority to which they belong, as they are mostly descendants of third and fourth-generation immigrants. Those who are fluent and wish to speak their native language are few in number, resulting in the frequent repetition of the same speakers. A challenge is also that, for example, in our largest minority community, the Roma, there are very few speakers of the Romani language. In some other communities, such as the Italian or Polish, the language spoken is an archaic version of the language. To preserve the language, some associations and communities are making efforts to revitalize and promote modern versions of the languages of the national minorities to which they belong. For some of the minority languages, there are speakers who are not members of the minority groups, as well as professionals for whom this is their occupation. Engaging these individuals could enhance the presentation of content in minority languages, however, it would also require financial resources to hire these professionals. Special attention should be given to the Romani language, but it should be noted that this language is not standardized in our country. Different dialects and accents are spoken in Romani communities. As a result, we have opted to produce regular shows and series on national minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the official B/H/S languages, alongside daily current affairs content that addresses

issues related to national minorities. We hope that, in the near future, we will be able to financially and logistically support the implementation of programs in the languages of national minorities.

79. Radio Television of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina - The news program does not produce, and has not produced, separate news broadcasts in the languages of national minorities. This is mainly due to production limitations and a lack of staff capable of creating such content. Occasionally, based on journalistic and editorial judgment, the rights and lives of national minorities come into focus, and stories are produced that are broadcast as part of regular news programs. Alternatively, a dialogue format, interview, or show may be created to address a specific issue that is not regulated in Bosnian society but is of concern for national minorities, such as the right to vote and be elected.

80. Radio Television of the Republika Srpska - In accordance with its professional standards, as of 10 March 2019, the Television of the Republika Srpska included a specialized program called "Mala Evropa" (Little Europe) in its programming schedule. This show is dedicated to national minorities, focusing on the preservation of their traditions, culture, and language. To date, more than 400 members of national minorities have been interviewed through the content of the "Mala Evropa" program, where they discussed their activities. The topics of these conversations are based on the protection of one's own culture and tradition, the preservation of the language and plans for the future with an emphasis on caring for youth. Each episode features a central interview segment lasting 10 to 20 minutes. In this way, the following national minorities have been promoted: **Poles** - three associations from Banja Luka, Čelinovac and Prnjavor, **Czechs** - six associations from Banja Luka, Prijedor, Nova Ves, Maćino Brdo, Mostar and Sarajevo; **Roma** - five associations from Gradiška, Prijedor, Prnjavor, Bijeljina and Tuzla; **Italians** - three associations from Banja Luka, Štivor and Tuzla; **Hungarians** - two associations from Banja Luka and Sarajevo; **Slovaks** - the association from Bijeljina "Juraj Janošik"; **Ukrainians** - four associations from Banja Luka, Prnjavor, Gradiška and Prijedor; **Montenegrins** - two associations from Banja Luka and Trebinje; **Russians** - the association "Romanovi" Banja Luka; **Slovenians** - two associations from Banja Luka and Prijedor, **Jews** - two associations from Banja Luka and Doboj and **Macedonians** - the association "Vardar" Banja Luka. A lot of stories have been recorded about the work of the Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska, the Council of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska, as well as the Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina. These include reports on festivals, masquerades, various gatherings, customs, food festivals, Martinmas, balls, concerts, folk events, and other cultural manifestations, workshops, education, and other positive examples from the lives of members of national minorities in the Republika Srpska. Since September 2023, the program "Mala Evropa" has included a segment called Learning Languages (Slovenian, Italian, and Russian), thanks to the support of the Faculty of Philology in Banja Luka, which has provided us with adjunct professors. The goal is to gradually increase the percentage of content in the program dedicated to national minorities, providing information about their culture, concerns, language, and traditions, with the ultimate aim of producing programs specifically tailored for national minorities. An integral part of the RTRS program is

also the promotion of the positive values of these communities through dedicated feature stories, and the regular activities of associations of national minorities gathered within the Union of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska. Viewers are regularly informed about these topics through the RTRS News Program, including shows like "Vijesti," "Srpska danas," and "Dnevnik." In all of these programs, we inform the public about the importance and values of the national minority communities for the preservation of their tradition, language and culture. In this way, the needs of national minorities in the Republika Srpska are consolidated and thus, their activities are promoted and information about associations operating in this area is provided. The program "Korijeni" on the Radio of the Republika Srpska was broadcast from 3 April 2006, until September 2022. Since then, we have been re-broadcasting the program "Mala Evropa" along with an additional music segment where, in the languages of the national minorities, we promote the best national songs of all the national minorities in the Republika Srpska.

81. **Television Sarajevo** - During the mentioned period, the activities of the Roma minority in Sarajevo Canton were covered within the framework of the news programs, specifically the daily news. Reports were produced every 8 April, to mark International Romani Day. Every 6 May, coverage was provided on the celebration of St. George's day, which offered an opportunity to indirectly highlight some of the rights of the Romani minority. Given that these segments were part of the daily news, their average duration was 2 minutes and 30 seconds. In the program "Špica," Mr. Dervo Sejdić appeared as a guest three or four times. His appearances were prompted by the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights and the protests organized in recent years. Indirectly, these discussions also addressed the rights of minorities, particularly the Roma minority. Each of these appearances lasted 20 minutes in average. Regarding the morning show "Jutarnji program" in April 2023, the International Romani Day was marked with Ms Indira Bajramović, the president of "Bolja budućnost" Association. During the appearance, the discussion focused on the position of Roma in BiH, their needs, and opportunities in the educational and other systems. The duration of the appearance was 20 minutes. As for the obligation of public service broadcasters to air a special program dedicated to minorities at least once a week, there is no special informational program for national minorities in their language in the programming schedule.

82. - According to the Annual Report on the Activities of the Institution of Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2023, it is evident that minority languages are largely absent in public media, education, and administrative procedures. The Ombudsmen emphasize that learning minority languages raises awareness of their existence within the country, fostering acceptance of a coexistence model where linguistic diversity helps combat all forms of prejudice and discrimination, while also highlighting the value and richness of these languages. Schools play a key role in promoting and teaching minority languages.

VII Group information on the implementation of Article 12 – Cultural activities and benefits

83. In BiH, a system for financing cultural activities, affirmation of culture, customs, traditions, and languages of national minorities has been established through various budget lines. At the state level, financial resources are planned and allocated annually for these purposes and are granted to national minority associations through public calls. At other levels of government, financial resources are also planned and allocated in their budgets for projects in the aforementioned areas. The effectiveness of this system is demonstrated by the projects implemented in previous years, an overview of which is provided in the annexes of this Report.

84. **Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of BiH** - To support the associations of national minorities in BiH, the Ministry allocated a total of 230,000 BAM in its budget for the years 2020 and 2023. The goal of these grant funds is to co-finance and finance projects that enhance integration, promote, and increase the visibility of national minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, while also preventing their assimilation. The grant funds support projects focused on the following areas:

- 1) Development of a joint plan of activities for all recognized minorities in BiH, for the purpose of organizing the celebration of holidays and significant dates of national minorities,
- 2) Organization of festivals, fairs, cultural events, competitions, and other activities that have broader significance and enhance the visibility of minorities at the BiH level,
- 3) The creation of brochures, publication of magazines, and preparation of media content for members of national minorities in BiH, for the purpose of promoting the language, culture, tradition, literature, and history of national minorities in BiH.

The right to apply is exclusively reserved for associations of national minorities in BiH. Overview of allocated funds by year:

- In 2020

- 1) The Union of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska was awarded 25,000 BAM for the project "Preservation and Promotion of Cultural Creativity and Heritage of National Minorities." As part of the project, 300 newsletters titled "The Voice of National Minorities" were produced, the "17th Cultural Creativity Exhibition of National Minorities" was organized, three workshops on traditional costume making were held (in Banja Luka, Prijedor, and Prnjavor), and two traditional costume fashion shows took place in Mostar and Sarajevo.
- 2) The Union of National Minorities of Sarajevo Canton was awarded 22,850 BAM for the project "AKTIVNO!: Project for Improving the Integration, Affirmation, and Visibility of National Minorities in Sarajevo Canton and the FBiH". As part of the project, the magazine "National Minority Yearbook 2020-2021" was published, the Festival of Culture and Art of National Minorities "Minority" was realized, the exhibition "Famous Sarajevo Members of National Minorities" was presented, a concert of traditional Roma music and a concert of classical music

"Eine kleine minderheit music" were held, and the exhibition of artistic paintings and photographs "Ars Montenegro" was held.

- 3) The Union of National Minorities of Brčko District of BiH was awarded 14,840 BAM for the project "Festival of National Minorities." The project aimed to organize a roundtable on the rights of national minorities and hold the Festival of National Minorities.
- 4) The Union of National Minorities of the Municipality of Prnjavor SNOP was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Festival of National Minorities of the Municipality of Prnjavor "Little Europe",
- 5) The Association of Montenegrins and Friends of Montenegro "Lovćen" Banja Luka was awarded 2,942.25 BAM for the project "Po-javi se." The project aimed to organize 4 workshops for digital skills improvement.

- **In 2023**

- 1) The Association of National Minorities of Brčko District of BiH was awarded 8,000 BAM for the project "Folklore and Fashion, Expression of National Minorities through Traditional Costumes." The aim of the project is to hold a folklore festival and organize a round table of national minorities.
- 2) The Council of the Montenegrin National Minority in BiH was awarded 8,000 BAM for the project "AFIRMA: Affirmation, Promotion, and Enhancement of the Visibility of National Minorities Cultures in BiH." The project aimed to organize an exhibition showcasing applied arts from both the traditional and contemporary works of the Montenegrin national minority in BiH, organize a concert dedicated to the musical tradition of Montenegro, and produce a DVD titled "Let's Knock on the Doors of National Minorities";
- 3) The Association of Jewish Communities of the Republika Srpska, Banja Luka, was awarded 7,110 BAM for the project "Sephardic Women through the History of Bosnia and Herzegovina". The project includes the creation of a bilingual brochure in English and local language, which would showcase the history of Sephardic women in this region, as well as organization of exhibitions in Banja Luka and Sarajevo;
- 4) The Association of Russians in the Republika Srpska "Romanovi," Banja Luka, was awarded 7,100 BAM for the project "Promotion of the Cultural Heritage of the Russian National Minority in the Republic of Srpska." The goal of the project is to mark the 410th anniversary of the Romanov dynasty, create 16 posters featuring all the rulers of the Romanov dynasty, and celebrate the holidays of Maslenitsa, Russia Day (12 June), and Russian Language Day;
- 5) The Association of National Minorities of the Municipality of Prnjavor - SNMOP was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Festival of National Minorities of the Municipality of Prnjavor - Little Europe".

85. Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska - The method of co-financing cultural creativity of national minorities is regulated by the Rulebook on the Criteria and Procedure for Allocation of

Funds for Co-financing Projects of Cultural Creativity of National Minorities in the Republika Srpska. A total of 142,000 BAM was allocated through the Public Competition for Co-financing Projects of Cultural Creativity of National Minorities in the 2020-2023 period.

- In 2020, a total budget of 32,000 BAM was allocated for 17 projects,
- In 2021, a total budget of 30,000 BAM, was allocated for 14 projects,
- In 2022, a total budget of 30,000 BAM, was allocated for 19 projects,
- In 2023, a total budget of 50.000 BAM, was allocated for 21 projects.

In addition to the grants listed in the report, categorized by language, financial resources were also allocated to:

- In 2020

- 1) The Association of National Minorities of Republika Srpska was awarded 3,300 BAM for the production of the "Bulletin of the Association of National Minorities",
- 2) The Association of National Minorities of the Municipality of Prnjavor was awarded 1,500 BAM for the production of the "Bulletin of the Association of National Minorities of the Prnjavr Municipality",
- 3) The Cultural Society of Macedonians "Vardar" was awarded 1,000 BAM for the project "Macedonian National Cuisine",
- 4) The Cultural Society of Macedonians "Vardar" was awarded 2,000 BAM for the project "Exhibition of Visual Arts of National Minorities Banja Luka",
- 5) The Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska was awarded 1,000 BAM for the project "Strengthening the Capacities of National Minority Associations - Writing Project Proposals".

- In 2021

- 1) The Association of National Minorities of the Municipality of Prnjavor was awarded 4,000 BAM for the "Festival of National Minorities of Prnjavor Municipality "Little Europe 2021",
- 2) The Association of National Minorities of Republika Srpska was awarded 4,000 BAM for the "17th Festival of Cultural Creativity of National Minorities",
- 3) The Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska was awarded 2,600 BAM for the production of "Bulletin of the Association of National Minorities - The Word of National Minorities",
- 4) The Cultural Society of Macedonians "Vardar" was awarded 1,200 BAM for the project "Evening of Poetry of National Minorities".

- In 2022

- 1) The Association of National Minorities of Prnjavor Municipality was awarded 2,600 BAM for the "Little Europe" Festival,
- 2) The Association of National Minorities of Republika Srpska was awarded 2,900 BAM for the "18th Festival of Cultural Creativity of National Minorities",
- 3) The Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska was awarded 2,000 BAM for the production of "Bulletin of the Association of National Minorities - The Word of National Minorities",

- 4) The Cultural Society of Macedonians "Vardar" was awarded 1,000 BAM for the translation of the book "Macedonian folk tales",
- 5) The Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska was awarded 1,300 BAM for the "First Festival of National Minorities in Bijeljina",
- 6) The Cultural Society of Macedonians "Vardar" was awarded 800 BAM for the "Evening of Short Humorous Stories of National Minorities".

- **In 2023**

- 1) The Association of National Minorities Prnjavor was awarded 3,000 BAM for the organization of Festival "Little Europe 2023"
- 2) The Association of National Minorities of Republika Srpska was awarded 3,500 BAM for the "19th Festival of Cultural Creativity of National Minorities",
- 3) The Association of Montenegrins and Friends of Montenegro was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Montenegro in the Great War",
- 4) The Association of National Minorities of Republika Srpska was awarded 1,700 BAM for organization of the "Second Festival of National Minorities in Bijeljina",
- 5) The Cultural Society of Macedonians "Vardar" was awarded 1,800 BAM for organization of the project titled "Evening of Macedonian Folk Songs",
- 6) The Cultural Society of Macedonians "Vardar" was awarded 1,800 BAM for the project "Statehood Day of North Macedonia",
- 7) The Association of National Minorities of Republika Srpska was awarded 1,900.00 KM for the production of the "Bulletin of National Minorities",
- 8) The Jewish Cultural Center "Arie Livne" was awarded 3,500 BAM for the project "Serbian-Jewish Mixed Choir".

86. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Zenica-Doboj Canton - In the portion of the Budget managed by the Ministry, funds for cultural events and publishing activities are allocated to co-finance the project activities of national minority associations, with Roma associations in the Zenica-Doboj Canton being the most frequent recipients. In 2023, the project of the National Minority Association from Zenica (Promotion of the Cultural and Historical Heritage of the Roma Community, 1,300 BAM) was co-financed. The activities of the Jewish Community of Zenica were co-financed from the budget designated to support religious communities (2,500 BAM).

87. Federal Ministry of Culture and Sports – In the reporting period, continuous support was provided to national minorities through transfers within public calls for the implementation of projects in the field of culture and youth. The Ministry supported the following national minority associations:

- 1) In 2020, the Jewish, cultural, educational and humanitarian society "La Benevolencija" was awarded 25,000 BAM for the Cultural Activities Program;

- 2) In 2021, the Jewish, cultural, educational and humanitarian society "La Benevolencija" was awarded 12.500 BAM for the Cultural Activities Program;
- 3) In 2023, the Jewish, cultural, educational and humanitarian society "La Benevolencija" was awarded 4.000 BAM za for the Cultural Activities Program.

In the following part of the report, other associations are categorized by languages. Starting from 2024, through the program developed under the transfer for culture of significance for BiH, "Co-financing of National Minorities Projects", support will be provided for national minorities projects in the FBiH in the field of culture, in the amount of 80,000 BAM.

88. Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH: From the current grants, the Ministry financed the following national minority associations:

- Grant „**International Cultural Cooperation**" for **2020**:
 - 1) The Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska from Banja Luka was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Cross-border Cultural Cooperation of the Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska with Croatia, Serbia, Slovakia, and Italy.",
- Grant „**International Cultural Cooperation**" for **2022**:
 - 1) The Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Cross-border Cultural Cooperation of the Association of National Minorities of the Republika Srpska with Hungary, Serbia, and North Macedonia."
 - 2) The Association of National Minorities of the Sarajevo Canton was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Bosnium-Germanium: International Cultural Project".
- Grant „**Co-financing of Cultural Projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina**" for **2022**:
 - 1) The Association for the Research, Preservation and Presentation of Tradition and Cultural Heritage of Peoples and National Minorities was awarded 7,000 BAM for the project "Da se naše kolo vidi",
 - 2) The Council of the Montenegrin National Minority in Bosnia and Herzegovina was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Our Culture, Common Wealth",
 - 3) The Union of Roma Non-Governmental Organizations of the Republika Srpska was awarded 16,000 BAM for the project "Cultural Events of the Roma Population",
 - 4) The Association of Italians Banja Luka was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Third Festival of Italian Culture "Insieme",
 - 5) The Ukrainian Cultural Society "UKPD Taras Shevchenko" Prnjavor was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Promoting Ukrainian Culture in Bosnia and Herzegovina".
- Grant „**International Cultural Cooperation** " for **2023**:
 - 1) The Public Institution "Cultural Center" Prnjavor was awarded 8,000 BAM for the project "50 Years of Twinning Between Prnjavor and Bolesławiec."

- Grant „**Co-financing of Cultural Projects in Bosnia and Herzegovina**" for **2023**

- 1) The Association of Citizens of Italian Origin "Rino Zandonai" Tuzla was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Festival of Italian Culture in Tuzla",
- 2) The Association of Russians in Republika Srpska "Romanovi" was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Cultural Heritage of the Russian National Minority in BiH - A Collection of Traditional Dances and Songs and Traditional Folk Costumes".,
- 3) The Association "Kazandžiluk" from Kakanj was awarded 5,000 BAM for the project "Promotion of Roma Culture Bakrorez - sačuvati od zaborava",
- 4) The Jewish Cultural Center "Arie Livne" LLC Banja Luka was awarded 20,000 BAM for the project "Preservation of the Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Jewish Community in Banja Luka".

89. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton: The largest number of good practice examples has been recorded in cooperation with the Roma minority through financial support, as well as a series of educational and other projects aimed at improving the position of members of the Roma minority, particularly the student population.

90. Council of National Minorities of Sarajevo Canton: In the Budget of Sarajevo Canton, funds are allocated (under the Sarajevo Canton Assembly budget line) for the realization of the event "Days of National Minorities - Minority Fest." Funds from this position are distributed through the Union of National Minorities of Sarajevo Canton to national minority associations within the Canton to support implementation of their cultural program activities. Currently, 5,000 BAM is allocated for this purpose. The Council has requested an increase in the allocation, but there has been no change to this amount (so far). Guided by the well-being of national minorities in Sarajevo Canton, and in accordance with its mandate arising from Article 27 of the Law on Protection of the Rights of Persons Belonging to National Minorities in Sarajevo Canton, the Council has concluded that the establishment of the Museum of National Minorities of Sarajevo Canton is a vital and strategic interest for the national minorities in Sarajevo Canton. The Council proposed that the plan for the establishment of the Museum of National Minorities of Sarajevo Canton be included in the Sarajevo Canton Development Strategy for the period 2021-2027. While this proposal was accepted, funds for this purpose were not secured in the Sarajevo Canton Budget for 2023 and 2024, and no concrete activities have been undertaken for its realization.

VIII Group information on the implementation of Article 13 – Economic and social life

91. There are no information available.

IX Group information on the implementation of Article 14 – Cross-border cooperation

92. **Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Zenica-Doboj Canton** - The Ministry did not co-finance cross-border cultural cooperation projects.

93. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH** - The agreements related to the preservation of minority cultures and languages, or those significant for the protection of national minorities, are detailed in the following section of the report, categorized by language. In addition to the agreements listed below, the following agreements have also been concluded:

- **Agreement between the Council of Ministers of BiH and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia on cooperation in the field of education and science** (published in the "Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina", number 6/12). The agreement, among other things, stipulates that the contracting parties will enable the learning of the language and culture of the other country, which will be supported by the opening of language courses in both countries.
- An agreement was also concluded in the form of a Protocol between the **Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia** on cooperation in the field of education. This protocol, signed in Skopje on 12 March 2018, envisions the promotion and facilitation of studies and learning of the Macedonian language and official languages in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as literature in both countries. Under this Protocol, the parties support the development and advancement of learning the native language and culture for children and youth of the Macedonian community in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as for members of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian community in the Republic of North Macedonia.

The Program of Cooperation in the Field of Culture, Science, Education and Sports between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of the Russian Federation for the period 2022-2024 is currently in the process of being finalized. The draft of this Program was submitted by the Russian side. It stipulates the following::

- The parties will contribute to the study of the languages and cultures of their countries based on the principles of reciprocity,
- The parties will encourage the development of direct contacts between organizations from both countries involved in the publishing and distribution of printed works and
- The parties will support the participation of interested organizations from their countries in international book fairs and similar events to be held in both countries during the validity period of this program.

94. **Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska** - Through the public competition for co-financing cultural creation projects of national minorities, the Association of National Minorities of Republika

Srpska received support in 2020 for the project titled "Cross-border Cooperation of the Association of National Minorities with Related Associations in Italy, Croatia, Hungary, and Serbia" in the amount of 1,200 BAM.

95. Jewish national minority in the Council of National Minorities of BiH - In connection with activities involving the authorities of their home countries, some Jewish communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina organized events to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel and the "Yad Vashem" Institute in Jerusalem.

96. Slovenian national minority in the Council of National Minorities - All associations have good cooperation both with the Government of the Republika Srpska through the Office for Slovenians in Border Regions and Abroad, as well as with other associations across Slovenia that nurture Slovenian culture and implement projects in various fields of culture (music, visual arts, literature, folklore, etc.). Additionally, all associations are mostly funded by the Republic of Slovenia. Every year, at the beginning of November, the Office of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Slovenians Abroad announces a public call to which all registered associations may apply with their work programs for the following year, including a narrative and financial description of all the projects they plan to implement, as well as an estimate of the necessary funds for operational costs (rent of space, utility services). Already in January of the following year, based on the assessment of the submitted applications by the committee, all associations receive the allocated funds, which they can use to implement their planned projects. Of course, this funding is not sufficient, and additional support from the country in which we operate is expected. However, securing this support is often challenging, and there is no guarantee that associations will even have the opportunity to apply for grants. Our proposals regarding the financing of annual work programs have not yielded any results.

PART III

97. In this section, the responses are presented by Articles, paragraphs, and points that have been ratified, along with the institutions from which the responses were obtained. For the paragraphs and points where no response is provided below, the status remains unchanged compared to the previous report.

Albanian language

Article 7, paragraph 1a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2 i 3 i 4

98. See Part II - General Information

- *Paragraph 4*

99. **The Albanian national minority in the Council of National Minorities of BiH** - The preservation of the Albanian language, culture, and tradition is one of the main goals of the Albanian national minority. Therefore, the association makes every effort to ensure that the Albanian national minority preserves and nurtures its language and identity in BiH. There are no supplementary classes for the Albanian language, but on several occasions, the "DARDANIA" Association from Tuzla has organized Albanian language courses. In addition to meetings and activities that have always been aimed at affirming and preserving Albanian culture, tradition and the mother tongue in BiH, since 2012, the association has been publishing a regular bilingual bulletin in Albanian and Bosnian. The contents of the bulletin are related to Albanian history, culture, tradition, customs, literature, art and topics about coexistence with the domicile population. A significant number of fellow citizens are regular readers of the bulletin. Currently, the Albanian Community in BiH and the Albanian Bosnian Citizens' Association "Dardania" Tuzla are active, while associations in Mostar and Bihać are not active.

Article, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g;

100. See part *III Group information on the implementation of Article 8 - Education*

101. Currently, there are no schools in BiH offering Albanian as the language of instruction or conducting lectures in Albanian. According to data provided by Republika Srpska, there are 9 children in primary education whose mother tongue is Albanian.

Article 9, paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c;

102. See part *IV Group information on the implementation of Article 9 - Judiciary*

103. **Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Zenica-Doboj Canton:** The Albanian language was used in one proceeding for the translation of a document, for which a court interpreter was hired. The procedure in the amount of 117.75 BAM and was paid for from the budget of the Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Zenica-Doboj Canton.

Article 10 – paragraph 1 a (iv), c; stav 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

104. See part *V Group information on the implementation of Article 10 - Administrative authorities and public services*

105. In official communication within local self-government units in BiH, the Albanian language is not in use, nor are there bilingual signs.

Article 11, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c(ii), e (ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3

106. *See part VI Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

Article 12, paragraph 1 a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

107. *See part VII - Group information on the implementation of Article 12 - cultural activities and facilities*

- ***Paragparh 1a***

108. **Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of BiH** - In 2023, from the Ministry's budget, funds amounting to 7,060 BAM were allocated to the Albanian-Bosnian Citizens' Association 'Dardania' from Tuzla for the project 'Writing and Reading Against Assimilation'. The goal of the project is to write and print a bilingual bulletin "Glas – Zeri" in 200 copies, with poems and anecdotes in Albanian and Bosnian, as well as to organize a roundtable on the topic "Albanians Today and 30 Years Ago." More information on the implementation of the project will be available by the end of 2024.

- ***Paragraph 2***

109. **City of Tuzla** – In the reporting period, the following projects and events of the Albanian-Bosnian Citizens' Association "Dardania" from Tuzla were financed:

- In 2023, a project "Albanians on the Streets of Tuzla" was supported from the grant for other national minorities in the amount of 5,765 BAM,
- In 2022, the project "Bilingualism is Our Culture of Living" was supported from the grant for other national minorities in the amount of 3,644 BAM,
- In 2020, the project "We Preserve Tradition Through Writing and Reading" was approved from the grant for other national minorities in the amount of 3,000 BAM.

Article 13, paragraph 1 c, d;

110. We do not have information on the implementation of this Article.

Article 14, paragraphs a, b.

111. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH:** In order to improve the field of education and science, an Agreement was signed between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania on cooperation in the field of education and science (published in the "Official Gazette of BiH", No. 17/03). This Agreement, among other things, encourages the establishment and development of direct relations between Universities and research institutions of the two countries, with the aim of promoting participation in seminars and training on language and civilization, organized by the other party.

Czech language

Article 7, paragraph 1 a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2 and 3 and 4

112. See part II *General information*

- **paragraph 1 h**

113. **University of Sarajevo – Faculty of Philosophy:** The Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures - Czech Language. The lecturer has provided data on the number of students enrolled for the academic year 2023/2024 who are attending courses:

No.	Subject name	No. of persons
1.	Elective subject: Czech language and culture 1	12
2.	Optional subject: Czech language and culture 2	6

114. **Digital National and University Library of the Republika Srpska** – Three original or bilingual editions in Czech language were produced during the reporting period.

- **paragraph 4.**

115. **Representative of the Czech national minority in the BiH Council of National Minorities** – The Czech Republic supports the activities of Associations of national minority in Bosnia and Herzegovina through the programs of support to cultural activities of compatriots outside the Czech Republic. Financial support is approved on a project basis in the manner that a call for applications is published in the second half of the calendar year, with a deadline for project's submission. Approved projects are financed and implemented in the following calendar year.

In addition, cooperation with the home country is realized through the Embassy of the Czech Republic in BiH, which occasionally organizes visits of artists, exhibitions or screenings of Czech films within BiH. The Embassy also responds to invitations from the Associations of Czech national minority in BiH to attend their cultural events organized as a result of the support in one of the two previously mentioned ways.

In recent years, a Czech language lector has been employed at the University of Sarajevo, who conducts online Czech language courses at three levels (beginner, intermediate and advanced). Until 2020, a Czech language lector was also employed at the University of Banja Luka, but this engagement was terminated due to the funding issues.

The Associations of Czech national minority in BiH occasionally collaborate with the public cultural institutions, which mainly reflects in organization of cultural events (concerts, promotions, exhibitions) prepared by these Associations in the premises of cultural institutions (galleries, libraries, concert halls, museums, etc.) and in co-organization with these institutions. Responding to invitations from the Associations, local, Entity and State media cover the activities of Associations of Czech national minority through recordings and broadcasting the relevant reports and news.

Article 8. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g;

116. See the Section III: *Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education*

117. There is no preschool, primary or secondary school in BiH which provides education in the Czech language. According to the data provided by the Republika Srpska Government, there are five children in primary education whose mother tongue is Czech.

Article 9. paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c;

118. See the Section IV: *Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities*

- paragraph 1 a (ii)

119. **Zenica-Doboj Canton Prosecutor's Office:** In one first-instance criminal proceeding, the right to use the Czech language was exercised at translation of certificates and other written documents, for which one court interpreter was engaged.

120. **Ministry of Justice and Administration of the Una-Sana Canton:** Before the Municipal Court in Bihać, in one proceeding, the right to use the Czech language was exercised at translation of certificates and other written documents. Court interpreter Sandra Bilušić-Šišul was engaged for this purpose and costs in the amount of 2,442.75 KM were paid from the budget of the Una-Sana Canton.

Article 10. paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

121. See the Section V: *Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services.*

122. City of Banja Luka – Five streets bear the names of notable Czechs: Jaroslav Hašek, Vjenceslav Novak, Masarykov, Jaroslav Plečický and Václav Havlík Vene.

- **paragraph 2.g**

123. City of Prnjavor – Basic information on the website is available in Czech language. In the territory of Prnjavor City, at the place named Mačino Brdo, signs are posted in Czech language. At the entrance to the City from three main directions (Banja Luka, Derventa and Doboj), signs with the message “Welcome to Little Europe!” have been displayed on the road in the languages of all national minorities living in Prnjavor (13+1 languages). Prnjavor is twinned with the cities from the countries of origin of national minorities, but all cooperation agreements date from earlier periods (Boskovice – Czech Republic).

124. Municipality of Srbac – In the village of *Nova Ves*, a topographic sign has been displayed in Czech language and official language – Czech church "*Mala Gospa*."

Article 11. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c(ii), e(ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3;

125. See the Section VI: *Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

126. Radio-Television of the Republika Srpska – In the program “Little Europe,” dedicated to national minorities and preservation of their traditions, culture and language, six Czech associations from Banja Luka, Prijedor, Nova Ves, Mačino Brdo, Mostar and Sarajevo were promoted.

Article 12. paragraph 1. a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

127. See the Section VII: *Group information on the implementation of Article 12 – Cultural activities and benefits*

- **paragraph 1.a**

128. Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees – with the aim of supporting the Associations of national minorities in BiH in 2023, financial resources in the amount of 7,880.00 BAM were allocated to the Association of citizens of Czech origin "*Češka beseda*" Sarajevo for the project "*Czech Threads in the Bosnian*

Carpet." The project's goal is printing a brochure about prominent Czechs, exhibition of Czech painters' works and organization of a roundtable with the representatives of national minorities.

129. Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska - Through a public call for co-financing cultural creativity projects of national minorities in the period 2020–2023, the Association of Czechs "Češka beseda" was financially supported. In 2020, funds in the amount of 2,000 BAM were allocated for the project "Translation of selected poems of Czech Poet Jaroslav Seifert and launch of the poetry edition 'Jan Skácel'." In 2022, 1,000 BAM were allocated for the project "Concert of choirs of national minorities in the City of Banja Luka."

130. City of Prijedor - funds are allocated to the Association of Czechs "Češka beseda" for financing the programmatic-project activities of the Association.

- paragraph 2

131. City of Prnjavor - Budget funds were allocated to the Association of Czechs "Češka beseda" Maćino Brdo in 2020 for covering the costs of the Festival "Maškare (Masquerade)" in the amount of 2,000 BAM and in 2023 for financing the Association's regular activities in the amount of 1,000 BAM.

132. City of Banja Luka - Based on the Annual Plan for allocation of funds for national minorities, projects of the Association of Czechs of Banja Luka "Češka beseda" were approved. In 2020, 3,500 BAM were allocated for "Choir rehearsals and formal concert of national minority choirs." In 2022, 6,200 BAM were allocated for "Collaboration with native country, choir rehearsals, formal choir concerts of national minorities and commemoration of death anniversary of the architect Karlo Paržik."

Article 13. paragraph 1 c, d;

133. No information.

Article 14. paragraphs a, b

134. Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH - Agreement on cultural, educational and scientific cooperation between the Council of Ministers of BiH and the Government of the Czech Republic was signed in Sarajevo on 16 March 2018, ratified on 20 September 2018 ("Official Gazette of BiH - International Agreements," No. 9/18), and it became effective on 4 October 2018. Upon the initiative of the Czech side, BiH has drafted the text of this agreement, which prescribes the following:

- parties shall encourage the translation of literary works which originate from the territory or they form a part of culture of the other party's State.
- parties shall encourage collaboration between publishing houses from both States.
- parties shall promote reciprocal participation in book fairs organized in both States.
- parties shall support the establishment and development of direct links between educational institutions of two States through direct agreements on cooperation, among other things also with the aim to exchange books, publications, educational projects, results and other information on all aspects of educational work.

135. **City of Banja Luka** - In 2021, 3,500 BAM were allocated to the Association of Czechs of Banja Luka "Češka beseda" for collaboration with compatriots from Nova Ves, Sarajevo and Novi Sad and for the festival of Czech poetry "Days of Jan Skácel." In 2023, 3,000 BAM were allocated for choir rehearsals, Czech culture days in Banja Luka and international cooperation with the Associations of Czechs in Novi Sad and Sarajevo.

German Language

Article 7. paragraph 1.a , b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2. i 3. i 4

136. See the Section II: *General information*

- **paragraph 1(h)**

137. **Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Zenica-Doboj Canton** – At the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Zenica there are study programs in German language and literature. The table below contains the data on the number of students (first cycle of studies) enrolled in the 2023/2024 academic year, disaggregated by year and study programs (status regulated until 31 October 31 2023).

FIRST TIME ENROLLED					
DEPARTMENT	1.year	2.year	3.year	4.year	TOTAL
German language and literature	9	9	10	8	36

RE-ENROLLMENT						withdrawn between 01.11.2022 and 31.10.2023
DEPARTMENT	1.year	2. year	3.year	4.year	TOTAL	

German language and literature	/	4	1	1	6	4
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STUDY PROGRAM	GRADUATES	MATRICULANTS	TOTAL
German language and literature	4	3	7

Second cycle of studies in the academic year 2023/2024

German language and literature: 6

138. University of Sarajevo – Faculty of Philosophy: At the Department of German studies, there are the following programs: BA Program (First Cycle), general track, and MA Program (Second Cycle), teaching-oriented or general track.

German studies can be pursued as a single-major or double-major program. Students of German studies may use the German-language literature available in the National and University Library, Library of the Faculty of Philosophy and the Austrian Library located in the Campus of the University in Sarajevo. Number of enrolled students in the 2023/2024 academic year is 12.

139. Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the Una-Sana Canton
The Pedagogical Faculty of the University of Bihać has a Department of German language and literature with 30 students, who attend the classes from the first to the fourth year, and they are financed from the public budget (two students are members of national minorities).

140. Digital and National Library of the Republika Srpska

During the reporting period, 15 books were translated from German language.

- **paragraph 4.**

141. Representative of the German-Austrian Community in the Council of National Minorities of BiH

During the reporting period, there were no changes compared to the previous report. The Council neither provided additional proposals, recommendations, opinions and advice to relevant authorities regarding the organization and planning of cultural activities related to national minorities, nor it provided proposals, recommendations, opinions and advice to relevant authorities regarding the preservation of cultural heritage of national minorities. There is no additional information on collaboration between associations of national minorities and the authorities of their home countries. Compared to the previous report, all information related to education, judicial authorities, administrative bodies and public services, media, cultural activities,

economic and social life and cross-border exchange for languages are contained in the previous report prepared by the Council of National Minorities of BiH.

Article 8. Education - paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g

142. See the Section III: *Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education*

- **paragraph 1 b (iv)**

143. **Institute for development of pre-university education of Sarajevo Canton** – There is a private primary school in German language "Internationale Deutsche Schule Sarajevo" which has 8 classes with 78 students. It is a private educational institution offering a preschool program which is based on the German curriculum and it is harmonized with the educational program of Sarajevo Canton.

144. **Ministry of Education and Science of Tuzla Canton** - German language is taught in schools from the first grade as one of the first foreign languages and as the second foreign language from the sixth to ninth grades of primary school i.e. from the first to third/fourth grade of secondary school.

- **paragraph 1 c (iv)**

145. **Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska** - In Republika Srpska's high school system, foreign languages are not taught as minority languages but as the second foreign language. The first foreign language is English, and students choose the second language. German language is taught by 110 teachers in the secondary schools. According to the available data, there are no children whose mother tongue is German. When it comes to the textbooks and manuals in the languages and alphabets of national minorities used in the educational process, there are 54 of them for the German language.

146. **Ministry for Education and Science of Sarajevo Canton** - At the primary school "Internationale Deutsche Schule Sarajevo", classes are provided in German, with 79 students attending the classes. At the secondary school *Obala*, a bilingual education in German language is implemented and attended by 97 students. One private school - Internationale Deutsche Schule Sarajevo, provides the classes in German language.

Article 9. paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c;

147. See the Section IV: *Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities*

- **Paragraph 1 a (ii)**

148. **Zenica-Doboj Canton Prosecutor's Office** - German language was used in 21 first-instance criminal proceedings for translation of certificates and other documents. In 11 proceedings, 4 court interpreters have been engaged, incurring a total cost of 3,360.06 KM, which have been paid by the Prosecutor's Office of Zenica-Doboj Canton.

149. **Ministry of Justice and Administration of Central Bosnia Canton** - In the Travnik Municipal Court, German language was used by witnesses in one first-instance criminal proceeding and in another proceeding by other participants. In 8 proceedings, German language was used for translation of certificates and other written documents. In 8 proceedings, the services of 3 court interpreters have been used and costs in the amount of 3,663.25 KM have been covered by the Central Bosnia Canton budget. When it comes to the second-instance criminal proceeding, translation of certificates and other written documents was conducted in one proceeding. A court interpreter was engaged for this proceeding and the costs in the amount of 270.00 BAM, have been paid from the budget of the Central Bosnia Canton.

150. **Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Tuzla Canton** - In two cases, court interpreters for the German language have been engaged. The costs were covered by the budget of the Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Tuzla Canton, which is part of the Tuzla Canton budget.

151. **Ministry of Justice and Administration of Una-Sana Canton** - Before the Municipal Court in Bihać, in seven first-instance criminal proceedings, the right to use the German language was exercised for the translation of certificates and other written documents, with a court interpreter engaged in each case. The costs of the interpreters (Jasmina Canac - 1,303.00 KM and Selma Handukić - 562.50 KM) have been paid from the Una-Sana Canton budget.

Before the Municipal Court in Bosanska Krupa, German language was used in two first-instance criminal proceedings (18 0 K 053821 22 Kps and 18 0 K 053821 23 K) by a detained/accused individual. A court interpreter was engaged in both cases, with the costs in the amount of 130 KM and 930 KM which have been covered by the court from the Una-Sana Canton's budget.

Before the Municipal Court in Velika Kladuša, German language was used in one first-instance criminal proceeding (23 0 K 037385 21 IKS) by a detained/accused individual. A court interpreter was engaged, and the costs of 1,156.19 KM have been paid from the Una-Sana Canton's budget.

152. **Ministry of Justice and Administration of Canton 10** - Before the Municipal Court in Livno, in the first-instance criminal proceedings, there were no cases involving defendants, witnesses, experts or interpreters using minority languages or alphabets, however, two documents have been translated into German language. Two court interpreters were engaged for these translations, costing 80.00 KM and 385.00 KM, and the costs have been paid from the budget of the Municipal Court in Livno.

When it comes to the Cantonal Court in Livno, there were no first-instance criminal proceedings involving individuals using a minority language or alphabets as defendants, witnesses, experts or interpreters. However, two documents have been translated in the same case: one from Croatian to German language and one from German to Croatian language. A court interpreter has been engaged for these purposes, and the translation cost was 20 BAM, which was paid from the Cantonal Court's budget.

153. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Bosnia-Podrinje Canton - In three first-instance criminal proceedings, German and Italian languages have been used. Two court interpreters were engaged, with the costs in the amount of 1,533.00 KM. All costs were borne by the Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Bosnia-Podrinje Canton.

154. Ministry of Justice and Administration of West Herzegovina Canton - At the Cantonal Court in Široki Brijeg, German language has been used by a foreign defendant in case number 08 0 K 002757 19 K, and in written translation of material evidence from Croatian to German language for which a court interpreter for German language has been engaged. The decision on interpreter's costs has not yet been final.

- *paragraph 1. c (iii)*

155. Ministry of Justice and Administration of Una-Sana Canton - In the first-instance civil proceeding, German language has been used at the Municipal Court in Bihać for the translation of certificates and other written documents. A court interpreter was engaged and the costs were paid from the Una-Sana Canton budget.

156. Ministry of Justice and Administration of Zenica-Doboj Canton - At the Municipal Court in Kakanj, in one first-instance civil proceeding (case number 36 0 P 059289 21 P), German language has been used for the translation of certificates and other written documents for the plaintiff through a certified court interpreter, from German to Bosnian language. The translation costs were borne by the plaintiff.

Article 10. paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

157. See the Section V: *Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services*

158. In the official communication within municipalities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, German language has not been used.

- **paragraph 2 g**

159. Municipality of Srbac -A bilingual sign was installed in local and German language, cemetery "Sitneši."

160. **City of Prnjavor** – The basic information is available on the City's website in German language. In the settlement of Glogovac, the toponym "Schutzberg" has been installed.

161. **City of Laktaši** - In 2022, within the project with the Council of Europe, signposts and an information board for the church in Aleksandrovac have been installed in German language.

Article 11. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c(ii), e(ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3;

162. See the Section VI: *Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

Article 12. paragraph 1. a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

163. See the Section VII: *Group information on the implementation of Article 12 – Cultural activities and benefits*

Article 13. paragraph 1 c, d

164. No information on the implementation of this Article.

Article 14. paragraphs a, b.

165. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH** – The Council of Ministers of BiH and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany have signed the agreement on cooperation in the fields of culture, education and science (published in the "Official Gazette of BiH" No. 11/05), which envisages **the enhancement of the teaching of their literature and language in the educational institutions of the other country.**

Hungarian Language

Article 7. paragraph 1.a , b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2. i 3. i 4

166. See the Section II: General information.

Article 8. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g;

167. See the Section III: *Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education*

168. Currently, there are no schools with the preschool, primary, secondary, technical or vocational education in Hungarian language in Bosnia and Herzegovina. According to the data provided by the Government of Republika Srpska, there are 2 children in primary education whose mother tongue is Hungarian.

Article 9. paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c;

169. See the Section IV: *Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities*

170. During the reporting period, no court proceedings have been conducted in Hungarian language.

Article 10. paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

171. See the Section V: *Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services.*

172. **City of Prnjavor:** A bilingual sign has been installed in front of the Hungarian cemetery "Vučijak."

Article 11. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c(ii), e(ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3;

173. See the Section VI: *Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

174. Radio-Television of the Republika Srpska: As part of the program "Little Europe," a central interview promoted two Associations of Hungarian from Banja Luka and Sarajevo.

Article 12. paragraph 1. a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

175. See the Section VII: *Group Information on the implementation of Article 12 – Cultural activities and benefits.*

- *paragraph 1. a*

176. **Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BiH:** In 2023, with the aim supporting the Associations of national minorities in BiH, funds in the amount of 5,000 BAM have been allocated to the Association of Hungarian of Republika Srpska "Magyar Szo" in Banja Luka for the implementation of the project "Redacting a new edition of the joint magazine with the Association HUM from Sarajevo, "UJDOBOS", published by "Magyar Szo." The aim of the project is to publish a bilingual 17th edition of the magazine in 300 copies.

177. **Federal Ministry of Culture and Sport:** support has been provided for projects of the Association of Hungarian Citizens "HUM" Sarajevo as follows:

1. In 2021, 1,500 BAM for the project "Episode of cultural emancipation."
2. In 2023, 3,000 BAM for the project "Episode of cultural emancipation."

- **paragraph 2**

178. **City of Banja Luka:** Based on the Annual Plan for allocation of funds to national minorities, the Association of Hungarians of the Republika Srpska has been supported for the following activities:

- In 2020, 2,150 BAM for celebrating Hungary's National and State holidays and the Revolution Day.
- In 2021, 2,000 BAM for participating in the Review of cultural creativity of national minorities.
- In 2022, 2,150 BAM for the planned activities within international cooperation with their homeland.
- In 2023, 2,800 BAM for the celebration of the State and National holiday of Hungary and Revolution Day, lectures on the works of writer Petefi Šandor and the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Association's work.

Article 13. paragraph 1 c, d;

179. No data available.

Article 14. paragraphs a, b.

180. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH:** When it comes to cross-border exchange, the following agreements have been concluded:

- **Agreement between the Council of Ministers of BiH and the Government of Hungary on cooperation in education, science and culture** (Official Gazette of BiH No. 3/06), which envisages that the contracting parties shall pay special attention to supporting institutions and research focused on the activities related to the language, history, culture and art of the peoples of two countries.
- In the previous period, the **Program of educational and cultural cooperation between the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ministry of Human Resources of Hungary for 2014-2016** has been concluded. Under this Program, the parties paid special attention to teaching and familiarizing themselves with the language, history and culture of the Hungarian people, as well as the language, history and culture of three constituent peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The training of intellectuals of humanities has been encouraged, using all available opportunities in the field of

cultural, educational and scientific cooperation, focusing on individuals who were well familiarized with the history and culture of the other country, except through their national identity.

- The process of concluding the **Program of educational and cultural cooperation between the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ministry of Human Resources of Hungary for the period 2024-2028** is underway - the draft text of this Program has been submitted by the Hungarian side. The Program prescribes that:
 - 1) parties shall encourage the familiarization with the language, history and culture of three constituent peoples in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Hungarian people.
 - 2) parties shall inform each other about major literary events, festivals and book fairs held in their countries and, upon the proposal of educational or cultural institutions they shall invite writers, publishers and literary experts to these events.
 - 3) parties shall encourage direct cooperation between publishing houses and the publication and translation of major literary works by Hungarian authors and authors from Bosnia and Herzegovina.
 - 4) Parties shall encourage the participation of publishing houses from Bosnia and Herzegovina in applications for the publication of literary works at the Literary Museum Petofi - Hungarian office for books and translation.
 - 5) parties shall encourage direct relationships based on mutual interests and cooperation between libraries and archives, as well as the exchange of documentation, publications and literary works.

181. **Ministry of Education and Culture of Republika Srpska:** Through the public call for co-financing the cultural projects of national minorities in 2020 a project related to cross-border cooperation by the Association of Hungarians "Magyar Szo" was supported with the amount of 1,000.00 BAM. The aim of the project is to connect the Association of Hungarians of Republika Srpska "Magyar Szo" with the Association of Hungarian national minority in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, "HUM," based in Sarajevo.

182. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH:** From its grant "International cultural cooperation" for 2022, the project "Cross-border cultural cooperation of the Union of national minorities of Republika Srpska with Hungary, Serbia and North Macedonia" has been supported with 5,000 BAM.

Italian Language

Article 7. paragraph 1.a , b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2. i 3. i 4

183. See the Section II: *General information*

- **Paragraph 1.h**

184. University of Sarajevo – Faculty of Philosophy – Within the Department of Romance studies, Italian language classes have been introduced. Upon completion of the first and second cycle of studies, students of Italian studies have the opportunity to continue their education in the third cycle by choosing between a PhD program in literature or linguistics. All three cycles of study offer the opportunities for stays in Italy and other countries through the Erasmus program and the Italian Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina provides regular scholarships for stays in Italy.

The number of enrolled students who study *Italian language and literature in the first and second cycle* is as follows:

1. cycle	1.year	2.year	3.year	Graduates
Italian language and literature	5	7	3	5
Italian language and literature and other study group	1	1	0	1
Total	6	8	3	6

2.cycle	1.year	2.year	Graduates
Italian language and literature	1	4	1
Italian language and literature and other study group	1	5	5
Total	2	9	6

Article 8. paragrph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g;

185. See the Section III: *Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education*

- **paragraph 1.b(iv):**

186. Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska – There are 7 children in primary education whose mother tongue is Italian. Italian language is taught in two schools and 23 students attend the classes:

1.primary school "Vuk Stefanović Karadžić" in Kozarska Dubica – 15 students, Italian language is taught by a professor of Serbian and Italian languages, 1 class per week.

2.primary school "Petar Kočić" in Šibovska–Prnjavor – 8 students, Italian language is taught by a professor of Serbian and Italian languages, 2 classes per week.

- **paragraph 1.c(iv):**

187. Ministry of education and culture of the Republika Srpska - In secondary schools, 12 teachers are teaching Italian language. There are 12 textbooks available for secondary education in Italian language.

Article 9. paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragrph 2c;

188. See the Section IV: *Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities.*

- **paragraph 1 a (ii):**

189. Ministry of justice, administration and local self-governance of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton - In the reporting period, the Municipal Court in Čitluk had one first-instance criminal proceeding which required the engagement of Italian language court interpreter. The cost of 100 BAM was reimbursed by the prosecutor.

190. Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Zenica-Doboj Canton - In 4 proceedings, the right to use Italian language was exercised in the first-instance criminal cases, for the translation of certificates and other written documents. A court interpreter has been engaged in 3 proceedings. The amount of 600 BAM for engaging the interpreter has been covered by the Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of the Zenica-Doboj Canton.

- **paragraph 1.c(iii):**

191. Ministry of justice and administration of the Una-Sana Canton - In one first-instance civil proceeding, Italian language has been used by an individual deprived of liberty/accused, for which a court interpreter has been engaged. A deposit of 60,00 BAM was paid for this service.

Article 10. paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

192. See the Section V: *Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services.*

- **paragraph 2 g**

193. City of Prnjavor: The basic information on the official website of Prnjavor City is available in Italian language. In the settlement of Štivor–Stivor, where the majority population is of Italian nationality, topographical signs have been displayed in Italian language.

194. City of Laktaši: In 2022, within the project with the Council of Europe, signs and information boards in Italian language were installed in Mahovljani settlement.

Article 11. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c(ii), e(ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3;

195. See the Section VI: *Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

196. Radio-Television of the Republika Srpska: Within the program "Little Europe," three associations from Banja Luka, Štivor and Tuzla have been promoted. Likewise, since September 2023, this program has included a segment "We learn languages," where Italian language is taught as well.

Article 12. paragraph 1. a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

197. See the Section VII: *Group information on the implementation of Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities.*

- **paragraph 1.a:**

198. Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina - In 2023, funds in the amount of 7,810 BAM were allocated to the Association of citizens of Italian origin "Rino Zandonai" in Tuzla for the project "The shine of the minority." The goal of the project is the writing and printing of 50 copies of a book on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Association of Italians in Tuzla, as well as the creation and presentation of traditional Italian folk costumes (4 male and 4 female outfits).

199. Digital National and University Library of the Republika Srpska - During the reporting period, 27 editions have been published/translated or published in bilingual format from/to Italian language.

200. Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska - Through a public call for co-financing the projects of cultural creativity of national minorities in the period 2020–2023, the Associations of Italian national minority were funded as follows:

In 2020:

- 1) Association of Italians Banja Luka for the project "First festival of Italian culture 'Insieme' 2020 Banja Luka" – 4,000.00 BAM.
- 2) Association of Italians Banja Luka for the production of the "STELLA D'ITALIA" newsletter – 1,100.00 BAM.
- 3) Association of Italians "Štivor - Klub Trentini" for the creation of the "Newsletter of Association of Italians Štivor" – 1,000.00 BAM.

In 2021:

- 1) Association of Italians Banja Luka for the project "Second festival of Italian culture 'Insieme 2021'" – 3,000.00 BAM.
- 2) Association of Italians Štivor - Klub Trentini for the project "Promotion of Italian culture 2021" – 2,100.00 BAM.

In 2022:

- 1) Association of Italians Banja Luka for the project "Third festival of Italian culture 'Insieme'" – 3,000.00 BAM.
- 2) Association of Italians Štivor for the project "Promotion of Italian culture" – 1,400.00 BAM.

In 2023:

- 1) Association of Italians Štivor for the project "Promotion of Italian culture 2023" – 2,000.00 BAM.
- 2) Association of Italians Banja Luka for the project "Festival 'Insieme'" – 4,000.00 BAM.

- paragraph 2:

201. **City of Prnjavor** - From the City's budget, through the grant support to the Associations of national minorities, the funds have been allocated to the Association of Italians Štivor "Klub Trentini" for the following activities:

- 2020: for planned activities in the amount of 2,250.00 BAM.
- 2021: for planned activities in the first and second quarters in the amount of 900.00 BAM.
- 2022: for planned activities in the amount of 2,000.00 BAM and for the Carnival-Masquerade event in the amount of 3,000.00 BAM.
- 2023: For co-financing the Carnival-Masquerade event in the amount of 1,500.00 BAM, for the "Celebration of the 141st anniversary of the arrival of Italians to these areas" in the

amount of 3,300.00 BAM, and for regular activities of the Association in the amount of 200.00 BAM.

202. City of Banja Luka - Projects of the Association of Italian citizens Banja Luka were financed on the basis of the annual plan for the allocation of funds to national minorities, as follows:

- 2020: for the Third festival of Italian culture "Insieme," Italian language course, photo exhibition and folk group activities – 4,000.00 BAM.
- 2021: for printing the newsletter, preparation of the exhibition, Italian language course and monograph editing – 4,000.00 BAM.
- 2022: for concerts of the local choir and a visiting choir from Trento, a trip to Sarajevo for the Day of Italy celebration, Italian language course and a project marking 15 years of the Association's founding – 6,500.00 BAM.
- 2022: For the festival of Italian culture "Insieme," Italian language course, preparation of the annual newsletter, exhibition and choir rehearsal costs – 4,500.00 BAM.

203. City of Tuzla - in the reporting period, projects and events of the Association of citizens of Italian-origin "Rino Zandonai" were financed as follows:

- 2023: from the grant for other national minorities, the project "30 Years with Italians from Tuzla" – 7,000.00 BAM.
- 2023: from the grant for cultural events within the "Summer in Tuzla" program, the project " Day of Italian cuisine in Tuzla 2023" was supported– 1,700 BAM.
- 2023: from the grant for cultural events, the project "Reading Italian writers" was supported – 1,500.00 BAM.
- 2022: from the grant for other national minorities, the project "Peruška u šejiru" – 4,000.00 BAM.
- 2022: from the grant for cultural events within "Summer in Tuzla," the project "13 is a lucky number – Day of Italian cuisine in Tuzla 2022" – 1,400.00 BAM.
- 2021: from the grant for other national minorities, the project "Italian tradition in 12 pictures" – 3,996.00 BAM.
- 2021: From the grant for cultural events within "Summer in Tuzla," the project "Days of Italian cuisine in Tuzla 2021" was supported – 1,000 BAM.
- 2020: From the grant for other national minorities, the project "Italian written word for Tuzla" – 3,000 BAM.
- 2020: from the grant for cultural events within "Summer in Tuzla," the project "Days of Italian cuisine in Tuzla with Italian Chefs" – 900 BAM.

Article 13. paragraph 1 c, d

204. No data available for this article and paragraphs.

Article 14. paragraphs a, b

205. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina** - The Agreement on cooperation in the fields of education, culture and sport between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of the Republic of Italy (published in the "Official Gazette of BiH", No. 2/08) stipulates that the contracting parties shall promote the activities of public and private organizations and institutions in order to strengthen cultural relations between two countries and shall promote in each country the language and culture of the other country. An agreement is being concluded between the Government of the Republic of Italy and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the establishment and operation of the Italian Institute of Culture in Sarajevo, aimed at further strengthening the cooperation between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Italy in the fields of culture, arts, research and education. The text of this agreement has been submitted by the Italian side. It specifies that the work program of the Italian Institute of Culture will encompass, among other activities:

- didactic activities, including Italian language courses and related activities,
- cooperation with local associations (such as the Association "Dante Alighieri") to promote knowledge of the Italian language among the local population,
- reading groups,
- conferences and book promotions or other literary works by Italian artists,
- support for TV and radio programs about Italy, its language and culture, including financial support for local television and radio broadcasters,
- activities related to school cooperation (including joint lessons and initiatives to support the teaching of Italian language and culture in schools in the given territory),
- management of financial support from the Government of Italy for translations of Italian authors' works into the local language, translation workshops and support for initiatives involving professional translators, and
- participation of Italian artists and writers in festivals, concerts and publishing fairs in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The parties shall encourage activities in the field of culture aimed at ensuring full protection of human rights guaranteed at the international level, especially by strengthening the combat against discrimination, racism, intolerance and xenophobia.

- **paragraph (b):**

206. Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska - Financial support of 1,000.00 BAM was provided to the Union of national minorities of the Republika Srpska for the project "Cross-border cooperation of the Union of national minorities of the Republika Srpska with related associations in Italy, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia."

207. Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina - From the grant for International cultural cooperation for 2020, funds in the amount of 5,000.00 BAM were allocated to the Union of national minorities of the Republika Srpska from Banja Luka for the project " Cross-border cooperation of the Union of national minorities of the Republika Srpska with Croatia, Serbia, Slovakia and Italy."

Ladino Language

208. The Jewish community in Bosnia and Herzegovina provided information that, according to their knowledge, there are only three people in Bosnia and Herzegovina who speak the Ladino language. Therefore, we will not report on this language.

Article 7. paragraph 1.a , b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2. i 3. i 4

Article 8. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g;

Article 9. paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c;

Article 10. paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

Article 11. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c(ii), e(ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3;

Article 12. paragraph 1. a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

Article 13. paragraph 1 c, d;

Article 14. paragraphs a, b.

Polish Language

Article 7. paragraph 1.a , b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2. i 3. i 4

209. See the Section II: *General information*

- **paragraph 1 h**

210. University of Sarajevo – Faculty of Philosophy - Within the Polish language lectorship – Department of Slavic languages and literatures in the academic year 2023/2024, there are two enrollees attending the elective subject "Polish language and culture", while there is one enrollee attending the elective subject "Polish language and culture 2".

- **paragraph 4**

211. **Representative of the Polish national minority in the Council of national minorities of BiH** - The Republic of Poland actively supports the Associations of national minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina through programs which incite cultural activities of compatriots out of Poland. Financial support is endorsed on the basis of the projects which are submitted and approved. These approved projects are financed and implemented during the following calendar year. Additionally, cooperation with the country of origin is accomplished through the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which occasionally enables artists' performances, exhibition setups or screenings of Polish movies within Bosnia and Herzegovina. Also, the Associations of the Polish national minority in Bosnia and Herzegovina receive invitations to attend cultural events organized by the Embassy of the Republic of Poland. In the previous period, the Embassy of the Republic of Poland has organized *online* courses of Polish language. Likewise, there is a department of Polish language at the Faculty of Philosophy in Sarajevo.

Article 8, paragraph 1 (a)(iii), (b)(iv), (c)(iv), (d)(iv), (g)

212. See the Section III: *Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education*

213. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, there are no schools with pre-school, primary or secondary education in Polish language. According to the data received from the competent authorities in the Republika Srpska, there is one child in primary education whose native language is Polish.

Article 9, paragraph 1 (a)(ii), (iii), (b)(ii), (iii), (c)(ii), (iii); paragraph 2(c)

214. See the Section IV: *Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities*

- *paragraph 1 (a)(ii)*

215. **Prosecutor's Office of Zenica-Doboj Canton**– In one first-instance criminal proceeding, Polish language was used for the translation of certificates and other written documents. A court interpreter was hired for this purpose and the fee of 750 BAM for this arrangement was paid from the budget of the Prosecutor's Office of Zenica-Doboj Canton.

216. **Prosecutor's Office of Tuzla Canton** – In one case, court interpreters for Polish language were engaged, and the costs were paid from the budget of the Tuzla Canton Prosecutor's Office, which is a part of the Tuzla Canton budget.

Article 10, paragraph 1 (a)(iv), (c); paragraph 2 (a), (b), (g); paragraph 3 (c); paragraph 4 (c); paragraph 5

217. See the Section V: *Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services*

218. The Polish language is not in official use in the local government units of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

219. **City of Prnjavor** – Basic information on the City's website is available in Polish language. There is Boleslavječka street in the City, in honour of the historical significance and partnership with the Polish City of Boleslawiec. A bilingual sign has been placed in front of the Ukrainian-Polish cemetery "Ratkovac" and the Polish cemetery "Jadovica." In the past three years, there have been several instances of communication with the City authorities in one of the minority languages from the administration of partner cities in Poland. The City of Prnjavor is twinned with several cities of the countries from which the members of national minorities originate, but all agreements on cooperation date from the previous periods (Boleslawiec – Poland, Srez Boleslawiec – Poland).

220. **Municipality of Srbac** – Bilingual signs have been placed in front of Polish cemeteries in Grabašnica, Kunova, Novi Martinac and Rakovac. The Government of Poland assisted in the renovation of the cemetery in Novi Martinac near Srbac, with the aim of preserving the memory of this settlement which, with its 4,000 Poles, was the largest in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the first half of the last century. In April 2012, a "Memorandum of Cooperation" was signed between the Municipality of Srbac and the Municipality of Nowogrodziec in Poland. By this act, friendly relations and all forms of cooperation between two municipalities are developed, preserving the memory of the period when the territory of Srbac was settled by Poles at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th century, who returned to their homeland after World War II.

221. **City of Gradiška** – A positive example is the settlement of Čelinovac, where the majority of population is Polish. A sign with name of the place has been placed at the entrance of the settlement. The Polish national minority actively participates in the events organized either by themselves or in collaboration with the City Administration (such as Pirogijada, Zdravofest, etc.).

Article 11, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c (ii), e (ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3:

222. See the Section VI: *Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

223. **Radio and Television of the Republika Srpska** – In the program "Mala Evropa", one segment was dedicated to a central interview lasting 10-20 minutes. In this way, the Polish national minority was also promoted, specifically three associations from Banja Luka, Čelinovac and Prnjavor.

Article 12. paragraph 1. a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

224. See the Section VII: *Group information on the implementation of Article 12 – Cultural activities and benefits*

- **paragraph 1(a)**

225. **Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina** – with the aim to support the Associations of national minority in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in 2020 and 2023 the funds from the Ministry's budget were allocated to the Associations of Polish national minority for the projects as follows:

In 2020:

- 1) The amount of 5,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles and Friends "Boleslaviec" Prnjavor for the project "Promoting Polish culture in Prnjavor." The aim of the project was to mark the holiday "Wigili" which gathered around 500 participants.
- 2) The amount of 4,900.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles of Banja Luka for the project "Promotion and preservation of the cultural identity of the Polish national minority – 'Gumjera' and 'Princess Banja Luka.'" The aim of the project was to print two literary editions – translation of the book "Princess Banja Luka" by a well-known Polish author in 250 copies, and to publish a documentary book about the well-known Polish colony "Gumjera" in 300 copies.

In 2023:

- 1) The amount of 6,120.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles and Friends "MAK" Gradiška for the project "XIII festival of Polish culture and tradition - Pirogijada in Čelinovac."

226. **Ministry of Education and Culture of Republika Srpska** – from the budget intended for co-financing cultural creativity projects of national minorities in the Republika Srpska, the funds were allocated through a public call to the Associations of Poles, as follows:

In 2020:

- 1) The amount of 2,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles of Banja Luka for the project "The Story of Princess Banja Luka from the eastern regions."
- 2) The amount of 2,400.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles and friends "Boleslaviec" for the project "School of Polish language."

In 2021:

- 1) The amount of 2,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles and friends "MAK" Gradiška for the project "11th Festival of Polish culture and tradition - Pirogijada in Čelinovac."
- 2) The amount of 1,300.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles of Banja Luka for the project "Promotion of the book 'The Story of Princess Banja Luka.'"
- 3) The amount of 1,200.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles "Boleslaviec" Prnjavor for the project "Polish language school."

In 2022:

- 1) The amount of 1,500.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles and friends "MAK" Gradiška for the project "12th Festival of Polish culture and tradition - Pirogijada in Čelinovac."
- 2) The amount of 1,500.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles of Banja Luka for the project "Concert on the occasion of the Independence Day of Poland."
- 3) The amount of 1,800.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles and friends "MAK" Gradiška for the project "My Grandpa and I" – a short film based on the essay "Poles in Bosnia and Herzegovina during the Austro-Hungarian period."
- 4) The amount of 1,200.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles "Boleslaviec" Prnjavor for the project "Polish language school."

In 2023:

- 1) The amount of 2,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles of Banja Luka for the project "Promotion of Polish culture through film and gastronomy."
- 2) The amount of 2,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles and friends "MAK" Gradiška for the project "Pirogijada in Čelinovac."
- 3) The amount of 3,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles of Banja Luka for the project "Translation and promotion of the book 'Gumjera - My Polish home.'"
- 4) The amount of 2,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Poles and friends "MAK" Gradiška for the project "Recipes from the hill of dreams."

227. City of Prnjavor – Funds were allocated from the City's budget to the Association of Poles "Boleslaviec" as follows:

- 2020: the amount of 2,000.00 BAM for financing the planned activities of the Associations and the amount of 1,000.00 BAM for financing the stay of enrollees in the Polish language school.
- 2021: the amount of 3,320.00 BAM for financing the planned activities of the Associations.
- 2022: the amount of 4,000.00 BAM for financing the planned activities of the Associations.
- 2023: the amount of 4,000.00 BAM for financing the planned activities of the Associations.

228. **City of Banja Luka** – Projects of the Association of Polish Citizens were financed on the basis of the Annual plan for allocation of funds to national minorities, as follows:

- 2020: the amount of 2,000.00 BAM for the Pirogijada festival and for celebrations of Easter and Christmas.
- 2021: the amount of 1,000.00 BAM for the project "The Story of Princess Banja Luka," promotion of Polish cuisine and participation in the "Cultural creativity festival of national minorities."
- 2022: the amount of 4,000.00 BAM for the 10th Pirogijada festival, book printing, project "The Story of Princess Banja Luka," and international cooperation.
- 2023: the amount of 2,000.00 BAM for the Pirogijada festival, celebrations of Easter and Christmas, promotion of Polish films, the movie "My Grandpa and I," and the promotion of the book "My Polish Home."

Article 13. paragraph 1 c, d;

229. No information.

Article 14. paragraphs a, b.

230. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina** – An agreement is being concluded between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of the Republic of Poland on cooperation in the fields of culture, education, science, sport and youth. The agreement envisages the teaching of language and literature of the other party in higher education institutions and the exchange of language teachers of the other party. The text of this agreement was provided by the Polish side. Within the cooperation in education, the Agreement stipulates the following:

- teaching the language and literature of the other party in schools and educational institutions,
- equipping the schools and educational institutions with textbooks for teaching the language and literature,
- organizing the training for teachers of language and literature,
- sending the teachers to schools and institutions to teach the language and literature, and
- teaching the language and literature of the other party at universities and the exchange of teaching staff – experts in the language and literature of the other party.

Roma Language

231. Since the last submitted report, within the budget of the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina, financial resources have been secured for implementation of the Action Plan of Bosnia and Herzegovina for social inclusion of Roma/Roma Women for the period 2021/2025, in the amount of 1,380,000 KM. The funds have been allocated as follows:

- **For housing of Roma**, 840,000 BAM – from these funds it is expected to conduct legalization of 7 housing units, renovation/reconstruction of 15 housing units, construction of 7 housing units and improvement of living conditions for 110 Roma families. The funds were allocated to 12 local self-government units.
- **For employment of Roma**, 300,000 KM – from these funds it is expected the employment/self-employment of 26 individuals of Roma nationality.
- **For healthcare of Roma**: 282,000 KM – with these funds will be organized the gynaecological examinations for 110 Roma women, urological exams for 60 Roma, medical check-ups for 110 children, training of 14 representatives of Roma associations on preventive healthcare and reduction of risk behaviour, 20 mammographic examinations, 35 gynaecological examinations, 15 prostate examinations and 70 diabetes tests.
- **For education of Roma**, 37,599.98 KM – the funds were allocated to 4 competent Ministries of Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina:
 - 1) **Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska** – the aim of the project is to create a guide intended for preschool and primary school teachers, parents and children to familiarize them with the tradition, culture and customs of Roma.
 - 2) **Herzegovina-Neretva Canton** – analysis of the existing curricula, programs and textbooks to ensure that the curricula and accompanying textbooks and working materials do not contain prejudices and stereotypes about Roma, their history and culture.
 - 3) **Sarajevo Canton** – Presentation of Roma culture and traditions through a mobile exhibition in all primary schools in Sarajevo Canton.
 - 4) **Central Bosnia Canton** – creation of a guide intended for school administration, teachers, kindergarten staff, parents and children to familiarize them with the tradition, culture and customs of Roma.

Within the measure 2. "Strengthening the system to combat discrimination in order to suppress antigypsyism," which is aimed at strengthening the system to combat discrimination and suppress antigypsyism, different levels of success have been achieved in the realization of goals. According to the 2022 Report of the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina, majority of institutions failed to meet their legal obligations regarding the keeping of records on discrimination. Although the questionnaires were sent to three

relevant institutions in 2024 and the responses were received from all of them, the analysis shows that there has not been any significant progress in the development of guidelines for dealing with discrimination cases. Additionally, the planned development of guidelines for providing free legal assistance to Roma has not been realized. Competent institutions have not developed these guidelines, which indicates a lack of harmonization with legal norms related to the protection of Roma rights. Regarding the establishment of an expert team for analysing discrimination data, this team has not been established. The questionnaires show that the initiative to establish this team was not accomplished. Regarding the improvement of participation of Roma women and youth, the percentage of Roma women and youth in bodies dealing with minority issues is relatively low. A platform for improving the rights and position of Roma women has been developed, but no significant progress has been made in increasing the number of Roma women and youth in relevant bodies. According to available data, the percentage of women in the Roma Board is 45.45%, while the percentage of youth is 27.27% (3 out of 11 members). Similarly, the National Minority Council of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina has 28.57% women among Roma members (2 out of 7), while the percentage of youth is 14.29% (1 out of 7). In the other institutions, the National Minority Council of Sarajevo Canton has a percentage of Roma women of 7.14% (1 out of 14), the National Minority Council of Una-Sana Canton has a percentage of youth of 25% (1 out of 4), and the National Minority Council of Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina has a percentage of youth of 12.5% (1 out of 8). The total percentage of women among members of national minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina is around 12.20%, while the percentage of youth is around 7.32%.

A total of 5 trainings have been conducted, including the training for judges and prosecutors as well as the seminars on the rights of vulnerable groups. Although these trainings were organized, no concrete progress has been noted in the coverage of this education specifically on Roma rights topic. No progress has been noted in the initiative to harmonize the regulations on personal identification documents and subsequent registration of citizenship. The Ministry has not taken any concrete steps in this area. Additionally, no progress has been made in the development of the initiative to amend regulations on the registration of residence for individuals without documents. The Ministry of Interior of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and other relevant institutions have not initiated any action in this direction. According to the data, in 2023, there were 25 cases involving Roma without documents, of which 13 cases were resolved. Although certain activities have been partially implemented, a significant part of goals and tasks within the measure 2 still requires additional efforts and concrete steps to achieve the desired results in combat against discrimination and antigypsyism.

232. University of Sarajevo – Institute of History – In cooperation with the Institute of Social Sciences Ino Pilar from Zagreb, an International Scientific Conference titled "The History of Roma in Bosnia and Herzegovina" was organized on 22 February 2024, at the Grand Hall of the University of Sarajevo.

Article 8. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), e (i) (iii), f (i) i (iii), g;

233. See the Section III: *Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education*

- **paragraph b (iv)**

234. Ministry of Education and Science of Tuzla Canton - In October 2023, the curriculum for the Romani language with the elements of national culture was adopted. Tuzla Canton became the first one in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to introduce Romani language as an optional subject for students from the first to the ninth grade. Starting from the 2024/2025 school year, Romani language will be taught as an optional language in the primary schools of Tuzla Canton. The textbook "Angluno romano lil — Roma Beginner," by Hedina Tahirović Sijerčić, and the textbooks "Romani fairy tales" by Marija Aleksandrović and "Roma tradition, history, culture and customs of Roma/Roma women in the Tuzla City area" by Medina Vantić Tanjić will be used in the classes.

Romani language will be taught in the following schools in Tuzla Canton starting from the 2024/2025 school year:

- Public institution Second Primary School Živinice (one group of 3rd grade - 4 students, and one group of 5th grade - 7 students),
- Public institution Primary School "Kreka" (one group of 1st grade - 3 students),
- Public institution Primary School "Kiseljak" (one group of 3rd grade - 6 students),
- Public institution Primary School "Banovići" (one group of 2nd grade - 6 students).

235. Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska – There 291 children in primary education whose mother tongue is Romani.

Article 9 paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c;

236. See the Section IV: *Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities*

237. No judicial proceedings were conducted in the Romani language during the reporting period.

Article 10. paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

238. See the Section V: *Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services*

239. City of Prnjavor: Topographical signs in Romani language were placed in front of the Roma cemetery "Doline." The basic information on the website of the City of Prnjavor is available in Romani language.

Article 11, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c (ii), d, e (ii), g; paragraph 2; paragraph 3

240. See the Section VI: *Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

241. **Radio-Television of the Republika Srpska** – In the program "Mala Evropa," five Roma associations from Gradiška, Prijedor, Prnjavor, Bijeljina, and Tuzla have been presented.

Article 12. paragraph 1. a, e, f, g; paragraph 2, paragraph 3;

242. See the Section VII: *Group information on Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities*

- **paragraph 1.a**

243. **Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of BiH** – With the aim of supporting the Associations of national minority in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the funds were allocated from the budget for 2020 and 2023 to the following Roma associations:

In 2020:

- 1) **Union of Associations of Roma NGOs of the Republika Srpska** – for the project "Roma Bulletin 'Romano luliđi'", the amount of 4,467.75 BAM was allocated. The bulletin was created bilingually, in Romani and the language of the constituent peoples, and printed in 200 copies.
- 2) **Union of Roma of Central Bosnia Canton** – for the project "STOP Discrimination against Roma in Central Bosnia Canton", the amount of 5,000.00 BAM was allocated. The project's aim was to print leaflets about the most common types of discrimination against Roma and training for Roma on this topic.
- 3) **Association of National Minorities Zenica** – for the project "First Zenica Roma festival of music, painting, folk costumes and customs", the amount of 5,000.00 BAM was allocated.
- 4) **Association of Citizens "Roma Information Center" - Gradiška** for the project "Commemorating significant dates of Roma national minority" the amount of 5,000.00 BAM was allocated. The project's aim was to commemorate International Roma Day and Aliđun.
- 5) **Association "Roma Youth Club" Kiseljak - Tuzla** for the project "Enhancement of the social and cultural life of Roma and Roma Women" the amount of 5,000.00 KM was allocated. The project's aim was to organize a Romani language course for 25 children, printing of a picture book, football tournament for 10 teams and Aliđun for 50 Roma.
- 6) **Roma Association "Đelem, Đelem" Tuzla** for the project "Reducing discrimination against Roma during the COVID-19 pandemic", the amount of 5,000.00 KM was allocated.

- 7) **NGO "Rom" Živinice** for the project "Promotion of Roma in Živinice", the amount of 5,000.00 KM was allocated. The project's aim was to conduct 14 workshops for 105 children on the topic of discrimination, as well as the commemoration of 2 Roma holidays.

In 2023:

- 1) **Association of Roma Women "Bolja budućnost" – Tuzla**, for the project "Promotion and preservation of culture, tradition and customs of Roma women in BiH", the amount of 7,920.00 BAM was allocated. The project's aim was to conduct field surveys among 500 members of Roma community in 7 cities in BiH to investigate their knowledge and practice of their own history, culture, traditions and customs, with the goal of developing an analysis and presenting the results.
- 2) **Association of National Minorities Zenica**, for the project "Issuing the publication on 'Jewish and Roma communities in Zenica from the Ottoman period to the present day'", the amount of 7,890.00 BAM was allocated. The project's aim was to issue 2 publications.

244. Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska – Through a public call for co-financing the projects of cultural creativity of national minorities in 2020, the following were supported:

- 1) Roma Information Center for the project "Romani language" in the amount of 1,000.00 KM,
- 2) Association of Roma women "Romano Ternipe" for the project "Preserving the history, tradition, and culture from oblivion" in the amount of 1,000.00 KM.

245. Federal Ministry of Culture and Sport - During the reporting period, through transfers within the public calls, the support was provided to Roma associations for the realization of projects in the fields of culture and youth.

In 2020:

- The amount of 1,500.00 was allocated to the Association "Kazandžiluk" from Kakanj for the project "Days of Roma culture."
- The amount of 5,000.00 BAM was allocated to the "Roma Youth Club" Kiseljak – Tuzla for the project "Through Sport and Play for the inclusion and integration of young Roma and Romani women."

In 2021:

- 1) The amount of 2,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association "Kazandžiluk" from Kakanj for the project "Festival of Roma culture and activism – FRKA 2021."
- 2) The amount of 6,000.00 BAM was allocated to the "Roma Youth Club" Kiseljak – Tuzla for the project "Education for strengthening the capacities of young Roma and Roma women."

In 2022:

- 1) The amount of 2,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association "Kazandžiluk" from Kakanj for the project " Festival of Roma culture and activism 2022."
- 2) The amount of 2,000.00 KM was allocated to the Association "Kazandžiluk" from Kakanj for the project " Days of Roma culture– tinning and engraving in copper."
- The amount of 4,000.00 KM was allocated to the "Roma Youth Club" Kiseljak – Tuzla for the project "Strengthening the capacities of young Roma and Roma women for integration."

- **Paragraph 2.**

246. **Municipality of Kakanj** – Within the budget of the Municipality, during the reporting period, funds were allocated for co-financing projects for the preservation of tradition and intangible cultural heritage of national minorities to the following associations:

- The amount of 3,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association "Kazandžiluk" for the project "Roma in traditional crafts".
- The amount of 3,000.00 BAM was allocated to the "ROMALEN" Roma Support Center for the project "Equal opportunities and equal rights for every child".

Funds were also allocated for supporting the work of Associations of national minorities within the area of municipality as follows:

- The amount of 3,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association "Kazandžiluk" for the project "Roma in traditional crafts".
- The amount of 3,000.00 BAM was allocated to the "ROMALEN" Roma Support Center for the project "Provision of school supplies for the most vulnerable Roma children in the municipality of Kakanj".
- The amount of 2,500.00 BAM was allocated to the "ROMALEN" Roma Support Center for the project "Improving the quality of life of Roma population in the municipality of Kakanj through easier access to public services with the aim of enhanced social inclusion and social protection".
- The amount of 3,000.00 BAM was allocated to the "ROMALEN" Roma Support Center for the project "Equal opportunities and equal rights for every child".
- The amount of 500.00 BAM was allocated to the "ROMALEN" Roma Support Center for the project "Celebration of 'Đurđevdan'".
- The amount of 600.00 BAM was allocated to the "ROMALEN" Roma Support Center for the project "Marking the 'World Roma Language Day'".
- The amount of 300.00 BAM was allocated to the "ROMALEN" Roma Support Center for the project "Celebrating the holiday 'Vasilice'".

247. **Municipality of Modriča** – Financial resources allocated by the municipality of Modriča for national minorities, specifically for the needs of Roma in this municipality:

- **In 2020:** Vouchers were provided for the procurement of school supplies for Roma students from families with four or more children in the amount of 990.00 KM (33 children x 30.00 BAM), and allowances were provided for Roma mothers who gave birth to a third or subsequent child in the amount of 1,200.00 KM (4 x 300.00 BAM).
- **In 2021:** Vouchers were provided for the procurement of school supplies for Roma students from families with four or more children in the amount of 690.00 BAM (23 children x 30.00 KM), and allowances were provided for Roma mothers who gave birth to a third or subsequent child in the amount of 2,100.00 BAM (7 x 300.00 KM). Additionally, co-financing was provided for the asphaltting of a street and installation of streetlights in the amount of 1,000.00 BAM.
- **In 2022:** Student scholarships were provided in the amount of 900.00 BAM for 6 students (150.00 BAM each). Vouchers were also provided for the procurement of school supplies for Roma students from families with four or more children in the amount of 1,080.00 BAM for 36 children, and allowances were provided to 4 Roma mothers who gave birth to a third or subsequent child in the amount of 1,200.00 BAM.
- **In 2023:** Student scholarships were provided in the amount of 1,500.00 BAM for 10 children (150.00 BAM each). Vouchers for 43 children were provided for the procurement of school supplies for Roma students from families with four or more children in the amount of 2,150.00 BAM (50.00 BAM per student). Allowances of 300.00 BAM were provided to 5 Roma mothers. Additionally, funds were allocated for a visit by young Roma to Donja Gradina (sandwiches and water for participants) in the amount of 90.00 BAM.

248. City of Tuzla - Since 2012, a special item called "Grant for the implementation of the Roma Action Plan" has been included in the budget. Regarding the funds allocated during the reporting period, the following financial resources were allocated:

In 2020:

- 1) The amount of 5,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of citizens "Happy Roma" for the project "Meeting the inclusion– responsible parenting during the COVID-19 pandemic."
- 2) The amount of 9,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Euro Rom" for the project "Economic empowerment of Roma in the City of Tuzla."
- 3) The amount of 8,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Roma Women "Bolja budućnost" of Tuzla for the project "Promotion and realization of rights for socially vulnerable groups."
- 4) The amount of 5,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association "Roma Youth Club" for the project "Activism and developmental youth work of young Roma men and women."
- 5) The amount of 8,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Euro Rom" for the project "Housing of Roma in the City of Tuzla – Phase II."

- 6) The amount of 5,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Đelem Đelem" for the project "Education for better future for Roma children."

In 2021:

- 1) The amount of 7,440.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Roma Women "Bolja budućnost" for the project "Prevention of violence in Roma communities."
- 2) The amount of 9,925.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Roma Women "Bolja budućnost" for the project "Promotion and realization of rights of socially vulnerable groups – Phase II."
- 3) The amount of 10,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Euro Rom" for the project "Young Roma empowered for the labour market."
- 4) The amount of 10,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Euro Rom" for the project "Healthcare for all Roma/Roma women in the City of Tuzla."

In 2022:

- 1) The amount of 14,608.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Roma Women "Bolja budućnost" of Tuzla for the project "Promotion and realization of rights of socially vulnerable groups – Phase III."
- 2) The amount of 15,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Euro Rom" for the project "Social and economic empowerment of Roma in the City of Tuzla."
- 3) The amount of 15,000.00 BAM was allocated to the "Cultural Center of Roma" for the project "Let's preserve the Romani language."
- 4) The amount of 10,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Citizens "Happy Roma" for the project "By educating Roma children and parents towards quality education."
- 5) The amount of 5,392.00 BAM was allocated to the "Roma Youth Club" for the project "Empowering Roma children and youth for better education."

In 2023:

- 1) The amount of 10,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Euro Rom" for the project "Prevention of human trafficking in the City of Tuzla."
- 2) The amount of 10,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Tuzla Association of Roma Women "Bolja budućnost" for the project "Promotion and realization of rights of socially vulnerable groups."
- 3) The amount of 10,000.00 BAM was allocated to the "Cultural Center of Roma" for the project "ANGLUNO RROMANO LIL – The First Roma beginner."
- 4) The amount of 9,050.00 BAM was allocated to the "Roma Youth Club" for the project "Promoting the importance of education for strengthening the capacities of children, youth and Roma parents."

Additionally, Roma associations have been supported through the following grants from the City's budget:

In 2020 - grant for cultural events.

- 1) The amount of 700.00 BAM was allocated to the Tuzla Association of Roma Women "Bolja budućnost" for the project "Celebration of the World Roma language day – Roma language days."
- 2) The amount of 500.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Euro Rom for the project "Roma evening."
- 3) The amount of 700.00 BAM was allocated to the "Roma Youth Club" for the project "Đurđevdan - Erdelezi."

In 2022 - grant for cultural events:

- 1) The amount of 1,000.00 BAM was allocated to the "Cultural Center of Roma-Tuzla" for the project "Roma music evening."
- 2) The amount of 1,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Euro Rom" for the project "Roma in Tuzla 1971 – 2022."

In 2023 – grant for cultural events:

- 1) The amount of 1,500.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Roma Women "Bolja budućnost" Tuzla for the project "Celebration of the 8. April -World Roma Day"
- 2) The amount of 900.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Euro Rom" for the project "Roma music evening in Tuzla."
- 3) The amount of 900.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association "Euro Rom" for the project "Đurđevdan."

249. **City of Prnjavor** – The funds were allocated from the budget to support the Associations of national minorities. During the reporting period, the following Roma associations were supported:

In 2020:

- 1) The amount of 700.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association of the municipality Prnjavor for the celebration of the traditional holiday "Aliđun."
- 2) The amount of 1,125.00 BAM was allocated to the Association "Romska djevojka- Romani ćej" was for financing the regular activities of the Association.
- 3) The amount of 425.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association of the municipality Prnjavor for organization of the workshop "Local election."

In 2021:

- 1) The amount of 675.00 BAM was allocated to the Association "Romska djevojka- Romani ćej" for financing the costs of regular activities of the Association.
- 2) The amount of 700.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association of the municipality Prnjavor for celebrating the World Roma Day.

- 3) The amount of 545.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association of the municipality for their regular activities.

In 2022:

- 1) The amount of 700.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association of the municipality Prnjavor for celebrating the World Roma Day.
- 2) The amount of 425.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association of the municipality Prnjavor for celebrating "Aliđun."
- 3) The amount of 2,500.00 BAM was allocated to the Association "Romska djevojka- Romani ćej" for financing the regular activities of the Association.
- 4) The amount of 375.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association of the municipality Prnjavor for their regular activities.

In 2023:

- 1) The amount of 900.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association of the municipality Prnjavor for the celebration of "Đurđevdan".
- 2) The amount of 2.500,00 BAM was allocated to the Association "Romska djevojka- Romani ćej" for financing the regular activities of the Association.
- 3) The amount of 600.00 BAM was allocated to the Roma Association of the municipality Prnjavor " for financing the regular activities of the Association.

250. City of Prijedor – Within the budget the funds are secured for implementation of the Action Plan for resolving the issues of Roma in the fields of employment, housing, education, culture, health and social protection for the period 2019-2023. During the reporting period, the funds were allocated as follows:

- 2020: Total of 20,000 BAM
- 2021: Total of 20,000 BAM
- 2022: Total of 20,000 BAM
- 2023: Total of 30,000 BAM

The funds have been allocated for members of Roma national minority for the purpose of education through provision of scholarships for the secondary school students and the first-cycle university students, as well as for procurement of the textbooks and school supplies. For each student belonging to Roma national minority who attend the secondary school, 100 BAM was allocated from 2020 to 2023, while from 2023, 200 KM is allocated as one-time financial support for education. Additionally, the funds from the budget have been allocated for Roma children attending the secondary school for procurement of the textbooks (7,000 BAM) and for the procurement of school supplies for the primary school students from the 1st to 9th grade. (1,200 KM).

251. **Municipality of Ilidža** – Financial resources have been secured for Roma housing assistance. In 2021, the amount of 4,945.31 BAM was allocated for the purchase of doors, stoves and firewood. In 2022, the amount of 9,197.98 BAM was allocated for the purchase of containers and waste collection services. Additionally, a classroom was equipped for Roma children living in this municipality. In 2023, the amount of 16,236.06 KM was allocated for the establishment of electrical connection for residential container for Roma families at the address “*Buhotina 1*”, for the purchase of communal waste containers and payment of electricity bills.

252. **City of Banja Luka** – Projects of the Roma Cultural and Artistic Society "Veseli brijeg" were supported on the basis of the Annual plan for allocation of funds for national minorities, as follows:

- In 2020, the amount of 13,000.00 BAM was allocated i.e. for the International Roma Congress (3,000.00 BAM) and for assistance to the secondary school students, university students, purchase of textbooks for primary school students and monthly transportation tickets (10,000.00 BAM).
- In 2021, the amount of 7,450.00 BAM was allocated for assistance in the form of monthly transportation tickets to the primary and secondary school students.
- In 2022, the amount of 13,000.00 BAM was allocated i.e. 5,000.00 KM for overhead costs and 8,000.00 KM for assistance to secondary school students, university students, purchase of textbooks for primary school students and monthly transportation tickets.
- In 2023, the amount of up to 10,830.00 BAM was allocated, 3,000.00 BAM for school supplies for the primary school students and 9,557.00 BAM for assistance to the secondary school students, university students, purchase of textbooks and monthly transportation tickets.

253. **Municipality of Travnik** – Each year, the municipality plans and then implements various projects to support Roma living in the area of Novi Travnik: for infrastructure needs 9,000 BAM are allocated; 10,000 BAM for the reconstruction of apartments; and 6,000 BAM are allocated for the purchase of school supplies for Roma children attending the primary schools in the municipality Novi Travnik. It is important to highlight that the Municipality of Travnik has signed the agreement with the Council of Europe on the ROMACTED program, Phase II, and the Action Plan has been adopted by the Municipality of Travnik to implement measures and activities aimed at improving the life of Roma community. Through this program, 15,000 EUR of donor funds were spent on infrastructure needs for the Roma settlement in the Krčevine area, as well as the equipping of premises of the Association of Roma youth in Travnik, which primarily works on preserving Roma culture and traditions.

Article 13. paragraph 1 c, d;

254. No available data.

Article 14. paragraphs a, b.

255. No available data.

Romanian Language:

256. No information has been received from the competent institutions regarding the application of Romanian language under the ratified articles, except for Article 14, which is presented below.

Article 7. paragraph 1.a , b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2. i 3. i 4

Article 8. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g;

Article 9. paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c;

Article 10. paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g: paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

Article 11. paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c (ii), e (ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3;

Article 12. paragraph 1. a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

Article 13. paragraph 1 c, d;

Article 14. paragraphs a, b.

257. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH:** The process of concluding the Agreement on cooperation in the fields of education, science, research and innovation between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of Romania is underway. The text of the agreement was drafted by the Bosnian side at the initiative of the Romanian side. Within the educational cooperation, it was prescribed by the Agreement to:

- encourage direct cooperation of educational institutions,
- exchange teachers, information, publications and experiences in publishing the textbooks and educational materials,
- exchange educational materials among higher education institutions.

Additionally, the Agreement on cultural cooperation between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of Romania has been signed (Official Gazette of BiH, number 2/08), which prescribes the following:

- contracting parties shall regularly exchange experiences acquired in the field of culture of ethnic minorities.
- contracting parties shall support the activities of social organizations, associations, ethnic minorities and legal entities which serve to the development of cultural relations between two countries.

Slovak Language

Article 7, paragraph 1.a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2, i 3, i 4:

258. See the Section II: *General information*

Article 8, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g

259. See the Section III: *Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education*

260. There is no preschool, primary, secondary, technical or vocational school in BiH that provides education in Slovak language.

Article 9, paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii), c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c:

261. See the Section IV: *Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities*

262. During the reporting period, Slovak language was not used in judicial proceedings.

Article 10, paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5:

263. See the Section V: *Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services*

Article 11, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c (ii), e (ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3:

264. See the Section VI: *Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

Article 12, paragraph 1 a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

265. See the Section: *VII Group information on the implementation of Article 12 – Cultural activities and benefits*

- **paragraph 1 a.**

266. **Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska** – Through the public competition for co-financing the projects in the field of cultural creativity of national minorities, the Association of Slovaks from Semberija " Juraj Janošik" has been supported in the following projects:

- 2021: "Autumn school of Slovak language" – 1,000.00 BAM
- 2022: "Slovak language in heart and on the lips" – 1,300.00 BAM
- 2023: "Celebration of puppetry and presentation of Slovak authors' literature" – 1,200.00 BAM

Article 13. paragraph 1 c, d;

267. No data available.

Article 14, paragraphs a, b

268. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH** – From the grant of international cultural cooperation for 2020, the funds were allocated to the Association of national minorities of Republika Srpska from Banja Luka for the project "Cross-border cultural cooperation of the Association of national minorities of the Republika Srpska with Croatia, Serbia, Slovakia and Italy" in the amount of 5,000.00 BAM.

Slovenian Language

Article 7, paragraph 1.a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2, i 3, i 4

269. See the Section II: *General information*

- paragraph 1.h

270. **University of Sarajevo – Faculty of Philosophy:** Within the Slovenian language lectorship at the Department of Slavic languages and literature, it is possible to attend the classes of Slovenian language. Below are the data on the number of enrolled students in the academic year 2023/2024 who attend the Slovenian language classes:

No	Name of subject	Number of enrollees
1.	Elective subject: Slovenian language 1	1
2.	Elective subject: Slovenian language 2	0
3.	Optional subject: Slovenian language 1	31
4.	Optional subject: Slovenian language 4	9

- paragraph 4.

271. **Slovenian national minority in the Council of National Minorities of BiH** – The Ministry of Education and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia regularly provides the conditions (curricula, textbooks and training for teachers) for the successful realization of additional classes in Slovenian language and culture in all registered Associations of Slovenes in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The additional classes in Slovenian language and culture is intended for Slovenes and their descendants. The aim of additional classes is to preserve and develop the Slovenian language among Slovenes living abroad, strengthen their Slovenian identity, belonging to the Slovenian people and their connection to the homeland. The additional classes in Slovenian language are

financed and organized by the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Slovenia in cooperation with the Institute of Education of the Republika Srpska, which provides expert support. The Ministry also allocates funds for the education of teaching staff and organizes an annual seminar for Slovenian language teachers abroad. At these seminars, except professional guidance, provided are new school books, magazines and other educational materials. Currently, there are three teachers performing additional classes of Slovenian language and culture in Bosnia and Herzegovina. One teacher performs classes in Sarajevo, Breza, Zenica and Kakanj, another one performs classes in Banja Luka, Slatina and Prijedor, and the third one performs classes in Tuzla. In organizing the classes, teachers closely cooperate with the Associations of Slovenes where the classes are organized. The classes are performed in the premises of Associations of Slovenes, Slovenian diplomatic and consular missions or in the classrooms of primary or secondary schools, as being agreed.

Article 8, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g;

272. See the Section III: *Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education*

273. In BiH, there are no schools with Slovenian teaching language or classes in Slovenian language. According to the data provided by the Government of the Republika Srpska, there are 5 children in primary education whose mother tongue is Slovenian.

Article 9, paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c

274. See the Section IV: *Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities*

- **paragraph 1.a ii**

275. Zenica-Doboj Canton Prosecutor's Office – During the reporting period, Slovenian language was used for the translation of certificates and other written documents in three first-instance criminal proceedings, with a court interpreter being hired for each proceeding. The cost of hiring a court interpreter was 1,424 BAM and this amount was paid from the budget of the Zenica-Doboj Canton Prosecutor's Office.

276. Tuzla Canton Prosecutor's Office – In one proceeding, court interpreters for Slovenian language were hired, and the expenses were covered from the budget of the Tuzla Canton Prosecutor's Office which is a part of the Tuzla Canton Budget.

277. Ministry of Justice and Administration of Una-Sana Canton – In the first-instance criminal proceedings before the Municipal Court in Bihać or the Municipal Court in Bosanska Krupa, Slovenian

language was used in one proceeding for translation of certificates and other written documents. A court interpreter named Mirela Kljajić-Dervić was hired and the cost of 650.00 BAM was paid from the budget of Una-Sana Canton. At the Municipal Court in Velika Kladuša, Slovenian language was used in the first-instance criminal proceeding (case No. 23 0 K 038930 17 IKS) by a detainee and other participants (e.g. expert). A court interpreter was hired for this proceeding, and the cost of 93.00 BAM was paid from the budget of Una-Sana Canton.

278. **Ministry of Justice and Administration of West Herzegovina Canton** – At the Cantonal Court in Široki Brijeg, in case No. 08 0 K 007196 22 K, Slovenian language was used and a court interpreter was hired. Simultaneous translation from Croatian to Slovenian language and vice versa was used in this case. The cost of the court interpreter's engagement was 228.20 BAM and this amount was paid from the budget of West Herzegovina Canton.

Article 10, paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

279. See the Section V: *Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative and public services*

280. Regarding this article, we have not received any information from the local government units related to the use of Slovenian language in the administrative bodies and public services.

Article 11, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c (ii), e (ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3:

281. See the Section VI: *Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

282. **Radio-Television of the Republic of Srpska** – The program "Mala Evropa" promoted two Associations of Slovenes from Banja Luka and Prijedor. Since September 2023, the program "Mala Evropa" has included a section called "Učimo jezike" (Learning Languages), through which Slovenian language is taught thanks to the Faculty of Philology in Banja Luka which has provided associate professors.

Article 12, paragraph 1 a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

283. See the Section VII: *Group information on the implementation of Article 12 – Cultural activities and benefits*

- **paragraph 1 a**

284. **Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BiH** – With the aim of supporting the Associations of national minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the funds were allocated from the budget to the Associations of Slovenes for 2020 and 2023, as follows:

In 2020:

- 1) The amount of 5,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Slovenes of the Republika Srpska "Triglav" Banja Luka for the project "Visibility of the Slovenian national minority during the Pandemic".
- 2) The amount of 5,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of citizens of Slovenian origin of Tuzla for the project "Days of Slovenian culture in Tuzla".

In 2023:

- 8) The amount of 8,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Slovenes of the Republika Srpska "Triglav" Banja Luka for the project "Preservation of tradition, culture and language of the Slovenian national minority", for printing (300 copies) the bilingual annual newsletter in Slovenian and Serbian languages.

285. **Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska** – Through the public call for co-financing projects of cultural creativity of national minorities, the funds were allocated to the Association of Slovenes of the Republika Srpska "Triglav" as follows:

In 2020:

- 1) The amount of 3,500.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Tradition and culture of the Slovenian national minority,".
- 2) The amount of 3,000.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Preservation of cultural diversity by connecting the national minorities".

In 2021:

- 1) The amount of 1,500.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Learning Slovenian language".
- 2) The amount of 3,500.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Promoting the culture for better connection of the Slovenian national minority".

In 2022:

- 1) The amount of 1,900.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Slovenian identity in the culture of Banja Luka and Slatina".
- 2) The amount of 1,500.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Presentation of Slovenian culture integrated in the other homeland".

In 2023:

- 1) The amount of 2,900.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Let's get to know each other".
 - 2) The amount of 1,700.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Learning Slovenian language".
 - 3) The amount of 2,500.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Slovenians in Banja Luka and Slatina".
- **paragraph 2**

286. **Municipality of Kakanj** – During the reporting period, the following funds were allocated for co-financing the projects for preserving the tradition and intangible cultural heritage of national minorities: the amount of 1,500.00 BAM to the Slovenian Association of Citizens "Jožef Špringer" for the project "Camp for children of Slovenian descent in Bosnia and Herzegovina".

287. **City of Banja Luka** – Within the budget, the following projects were approved for the Association of Slovenes of the Republika Srpska "Triglav" Banja Luka, based on the annual Plan for allocation of funds to national minorities:

- In 2020: funds in the amount of 4,000.00 BAM were allocated for the World Bee Day, Slovenian choir festival, quiz for participants of additional classes of Slovenian language and 13th Slovenian Days.
- In 2021: funds in the amount of 7,000.00 BAM were allocated for Prešern's Evening, Slovenia Day and "Martinovanje" (St. Martin's Day).
- In 2022: funds in the amount of 3,500.00 BAM were allocated for Prešern's Evening, Slovenia Day and "Martinovanje" (St. Martin's Day).
- In 2023: funds in the amount of 3,000.00 BAM were allocated for World Bee Day, Slovenian choir festival, quiz for participants in additional classes of Slovenian language, Slovenian Days and the 26th Martinovanje (St. Martin's Day).

288. **City of Tuzla** – During the reporting period, the grant funds were allocated from the City's budget to the Association of Citizens of Slovenian Descent "Slovenska skupnost" Tuzla as follows:

- In 2020: the amount of 3,000.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Waiting for Christmas".
- In 2021: the amount of 2,900.00 BAM was allocated for the project "Days of Slovenian culture".
- In 2022: funds were allocated for the following projects: "Waiting for Christmas" – 4,000.00 BAM, "Days of Slovenian Culture in Tuzla" – 1,600.00 BAM, "Greetings to our Slovenia" – 1,500.00 BAM.
- In 2023: funds were allocated for the following projects: "Preserving the identity of citizens of Slovenian descent in Tuzla" – 7,000.00 BAM, "Days of Slovenian culture in Tuzla" - 9th Regional art colony "Slovenians in Tuzla 2023" and Concert of the Women's Choir "Slovenčice" – 1,700.00 BAM, "Waiting for Christmas" – 1,500.00 BAM.

Article 13, Paragraph 1 c, d

289. No information available.

Article 14, Paragraphs a, b

290. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH** – The Protocol between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on cooperation in the field of education (published in the "Official Gazette of BiH – International Agreements," No. 03/15) envisages that the parties shall mutually encourage and enable the studies and learning of the Slovenian language and official languages in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the literature in both countries. It also envisages the support to the development of learning the mother tongue and culture for children and youth, members of the Slovenian community in Bosnia and Herzegovina and members of the Bosnian and Herzegovinian community in the Republic of Slovenia.

291. **Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska** – Through the Public call for co-financing the projects in cultural creativity of national minorities, in 2020, the Association of Slovenes of the Republika Srpska "Triglav" was supported with 1,500.00 BAM for the project "Presentation of Slovenian culture integrated into a foreign homeland."

Turkish Language

Article 7, paragraph 1 a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2, i 3, i 4

292. See the Section II: *General Information*

- **paragraph 1 h**

293. When it comes to **Turkish language and literature**, it can be studied at the University of Tuzla - Faculty of Philosophy and at the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Zenica.

294. **The Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Zenica** has provided the data in tables regarding the number of students (first cycle of studies) enrolled in the academic year 2023/2024 - disaggregated by years and study programs (status regulated until 31 October 2023).

FIRST TIME ENROLLED					
DEPARTMENT	1.year	2.year	3.year	4.year	TOTAL
Turkish language and literature	7	4	7	6	24

RE-ENROLLMENT						withdrawn from 01.11.2022 until 31.10.2023
DEPARTMENT	1.year	2.year	3.year	4.year	TOTAL	
Turkish language and literature	/	1	1	1	3	5

STUDY PROGRAM	GRADUATES	MATRICULANTS	TOTAL
Turkish language and literature	12	5	17

Second cycle of studies in the academic year 2023/2024:

German language and literature: 6

Turkish language and literature: 2

- **paragraph 4**

295. **Turkish National Minority in the Council of national minorities of BiH** – Because of very small number of members of the Turkish national minority in BiH, the Association of Turks based in Sarajevo is the only registered association of the Turkish national minority and it maintains regular contacts and collaborates with the Embassy of the Republic of Turkey in Sarajevo. The Turkish language is very popular in parts of BiH where the Bosniak population lives, and it is taught in many educational institutions and universities. The Turkish Cultural Institute Yunus Emre in Sarajevo has important role in the promotion of the Turkish language, as well as the numerous TV series and movies being watched throughout the Balkans. For the needs of the judicial institutions in BiH, there is adequate number of court interpreters for the Turkish language, so that from this perspective we are not lagging behind the members of other national minorities.

Article 8, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g

296. See the Section III: *Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education*

- **paragraph b) iv and v)**

297. **Ministry of Education and Science of Tuzla Canton** – Students in primary schools (from 6th to 9th grade) have the opportunity to choose Turkish language as the second foreign language. German and Turkish languages are taught in the secondary schools in Tuzla Canton as the second foreign languages.

Article 9, paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2 c

298. See the Section IV: *Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities*

- **paragraph 1.a ii**

299. **Zenica-Doboj Canton Prosecutor's Office** has informed us that, the during the reporting period, Turkish language was used in two first-instance criminal proceedings for translation of certificates and other written documents, and court interpreters were engaged for these proceedings. The costs in the amount of 5,188.75 BAM were covered by the Zenica-Doboj Canton Prosecutor's Office.

300. **Ministry of Justice and Administration of Central Bosnia Canton** provided information that in the first-instance criminal case a court interpreter was engaged for translation of document, and the cost of 154.00 BAM was paid from the Budget of Central Bosnia Canton.

301. **Tuzla Canton Prosecutor's Office** – In six cases, court interpreters were engaged for the Turkish language, and the costs were paid from the Budget of the Tuzla Canton Prosecutor's Office, which is a part of the Tuzla Canton Budget.

302. **Ministry of Justice and Administration of Una-Sana Canton** – In one first-instance criminal proceeding, Turkish language was used by the detainee/defendant and a court interpreter was engaged. The cost of engaging the court interpreter, Tusmin Hrnjić, in the amount of 50.00 BAM was paid from the budget of Una-Sana Canton.

303. **Ministry of Justice and Administration of West Herzegovina Canton** – At the Municipal Court in Ljubuški, Turkish language was used by the defendant in two first instance criminal. A court expert for the Turkish language was engaged in both cases.

Article 10, paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

304. See the Section V: *Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative and public services*

305. Regarding this article, we have not received any information from the local government units regarding the Turkish language in administrative bodies and public services.

Article 11, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c (ii), e (ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3

306. See the Section VI: *Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

Article 12, paragraph 1 a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

307. See the Section VII: *Group information on the implementation of Article 12 – Cultural activities and benefits*

Article 13, paragraph 1 c, d

308. No information available.

Article 14, paragraphs a, b

309. **Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH** - Bosnia and Herzegovina and Turkey have concluded the Protocol on cooperation in the field of education between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of the Republic of Turkey, which was signed on 2 February 2017, in Ankara (not ratified). The Protocol envisages that the parties shall support the learning of the official/language(s) of both sides, as well as the literature and culture within their educational systems.

Ukrainian Language

Article 7, paragraph 1.a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, 2. i 3. i 4.

310. See the Section II: *General Information*

Article 8, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g

311. See Section III: *Group information on the implementation of Article 8 – Education*

- **paragraph b (iv)**

312. **Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska** - In October 2011, the Cultural-Educational Association of Ukrainians "Taras Shevchenko" sent a letter proposing a curriculum for Ukrainian language. After consideration, the Minister approved the curriculum for Ukrainian language, which was published in the Official Gazette of the Republika Srpska, No. 25/13, and has been effective since the 2013/2014 school year. The goal of this subject is that students master the standard spoken and written Ukrainian language to a level which will enable them to use the language in speech and writing, as well as to familiarize themselves with Ukrainian culture. According to the data, there are 77 children in primary education whose native language is Ukrainian. Ukrainian language is taught as an optional subject. Ukrainian is taught in three primary schools in the Republika Srpska:

- Primary school "Ćirilo i Metodije" Trnopolje – Prijedor – 7 students; Ukrainian language and Ukrainian religious education are taught by a graduate theologian, 2 classes per week.
- Primary school "Branko Ćopić" Prnjavor – 7 students; Ukrainian language is taught by a graduate philologist of Ukrainian language and literature, 2 classes per week.
- Primary school "Nikola Tesla" Prnjavor – 2 students; Ukrainian language is taught by a graduate philologist in Ukrainian language and literature, 2 classes per week.

Article 9, paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c

313. See the Section IV: *Group information on the implementation of Article 9 – Judicial authorities*

- **paragraph 1 a) iii**

314. **Tuzla Canton Prosecutor's Office** - In one case the services of court interpreters for Ukrainian and Russian languages were used, and the costs were paid from the budget of the Tuzla Canton Prosecutor's Office, which is a part of the Tuzla Canton Budget.

Article 10, paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

315. See the Section V: *Group information on the implementation of Article 10 – Administrative and public services*

- **paragraph 2 g**

316. **City of Laktaši**: In 2022, within the project with the Council of Europe, road signs and information boards were placed in front of two Ukrainian churches in Devetina and Jablan.

317. **City of Prnjavor:** Traffic sign/markings in Ukrainian language were placed at the entrances to villages with a larger percentage of the Ukrainian minority: Gajevi, Brezik and Babanovci. Also, bilingual signs were placed at the Ukrainian-Polish cemetery. The basic information on the website is available in Ukrainian language. The City of Prnjavor is a twin city with several cities of the countries from which members of the Ukrainian national minority originate, including Židačev – Ukraine.

318. **Municipality of Srbac:** Bilingual signs have been placed in front of:

1. Ukrainian Church " Svetog proroka Ilije (St. Prophet Elijah)" and the Ukrainian cemetery in Resavac,
2. Ukrainian Church " Uspenje Presvete Bogorodice (Assumption of the Holy Virgin)" and the Ukrainian cemetery in Selište,
3. Ukrainian Church and cemetery in Gornji Srđevići,
4. Ukrainian Church " Kapela Presvete Bogorodice (Chapel of the Holy Virgin)" and the Ukrainian cemetery in Donji Srđevići.

Article 11, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c (ii), e (ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3

319. See the Section VI: *Group information on the implementation of Article 11 – Media*

320. **Radio-Television of the Republika Srpska** – Through the show "Mala Evropa", four Associations of Ukrainians from Banja Luka, Prnjavor, Gradiška, and Prijedor have been interviewed.

Article 12, paragraph 1. a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

321. See the Section VII: *Group information on the implementation of Article 12 – Cultural activities and benefits*

- **paragraph 1. a**

322. **Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of BiH** – From the Ministry's budget, with the aim to support the Associations of national minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in 2020 and 2023 the funds were allocated to the Associations of Ukrainian national minority for the projects as follows:

- In 2020, the funds in the amount of 5,000.00 BAM were allocated to the Association of Ukrainians from Gradiška "Verhoveana" for the project "*Ukrainian folk song as intangible heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina*". The project's aim was to print 150 copies of sheet music and text records for 34 most famous Ukrainian folk songs, which were proofread in Ukrainian and the languages of the peoples of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- In 2023, the funds in the amount of 5,000.00 BAM were allocated to the Cultural-Educational Association of Ukrainians "Taras Shevchenko" from Prnjavor for the project "*Ukrainian fun evening - Ukrainian Ball*, 43rd edition, 2023".

323. Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republika Srpska – Through the public competition for co-financing the projects of the cultural creativity of national minorities, the following Associations of Ukrainians were supported:

In 2021:

1. The amount of 1,100.00 BAM was allocated to the Cultural-Educational Association of Ukrainians "Taras Shevchenko" for the project "*Ukrajinsko posjelo – Bal (Ukrainian gathering-Ball)*".
2. The amount of 1,500.00 BAM was allocated to the Cultural-Educational Association of Ukrainians "Taras Shevchenko" for the project 20th International festival of Ukrainian cultural and artistic creation "Chervona kalyna".

In 2022:

1. The amount of 800.00 BAM was allocated to the Ukrainian Association "Verhoveana" for the project "Vocal ensemble – Ethno group of Ukrainian folk songs from the Republika Srpska".
2. The amount of 1,500.00 KM was allocated to the Cultural and Educational Association of Ukrainians "Taras Shevchenko" for the project "21st International Festival of Ukrainian cultural and artistic creation "Chervona Kalyna".

In 2023:

1. The amount of 1,700.00 BAM was allocated to the Cultural and Educational Association of Ukrainians "Taras Shevchenko" for the project "*Ukrajinsko posjelo – Bal (Ukrainian gathering-Ball)*".
2. The amount of 1,800.00 BAM was allocated to the cultural and educational Association of Ukrainians "Taras Shevchenko" for the project "23rd International Festival of Ukrainian cultural and artistic creation "Chervona Kalyna".
3. The amount of 1,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Ukrainians "Verhoveana" Gradiška for the project "Development of the vocal ensemble – Ethno group of Ukrainian folk songs".

- paragraph 2

324. City of Banja Luka: Projects of the Ukrainian cultural and educational Association "Taras Shevchenko" were approved within the budget based on the annual Plan for the allocation of funds for national minorities as follows:

- 2020: the funds in the amount of 8,000.00 BAM were allocated for overhead costs of premises and for the Shevchenko's evening, the festival of folklore "Chervona Kalyna".

- 2021: the funds in the amount of 5,780.00 BAM were allocated for the work of sections, the festival "Chervona Kalyna", overhead costs and rental of space.
- 2022: the funds in the amount of 5,630.00 BAM were allocated for overhead expenses and for the work of the folklore section.
- 2023: The funds in the amount of 5,273.00 BAM were allocated for overhead costs and for Shevchenko's evening, the festival of folklore "Chervona Kalyna"

325. City of Laktaši – During the reporting period, the Association of Ukrainians "Taras Shevchenko" from Banja Luka received financial support of 1,500.00 BAM in 2022 and 2023.

326. City of Prnjavor – The following projects of the Associations of Ukrainian national minority were financed from the City's budget:

In 2020:

- 1) The amount of 3,375.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Ukrainians "Zlatni Klas" for financing the planned activities.
- 2) The amount of 3,500.00 BAM was allocated to the Ukrainian cultural and educational Association "Taras Shevchenko" for organizing the traditional event "*Ukrainian Ball*" and 6,177.38 BAM for installing a protective fence around the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Spiritual Center in Prnjavor.

In 2021:

- 1) The amount 3,500.00 BAM was allocated to the Ukrainian cultural and educational Association "Taras Shevchenko" for organizing the traditional event "*Ukrainian Ball*".
- 2) The amount 1,500.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Ukrainians "Zlatni Klas" for financing the planned activities.

In 2022:

- 1) The amount of 4,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Ukrainian cultural and educational Association "Taras Shevchenko" for financing the Association's planned activities.
- 2) The amount of 4,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Ukrainians "Zlatni Klas" for financing the regular activities.

In 2023:

- 1) The amount of 4,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Ukrainian cultural and educational Association "Taras Shevchenko" for financing the Association's planned activities.
- 2) The amount of 4,000.00 BAM was allocated to the Association of Ukrainians "Zlatni Klas" Prnjavor for financing the regular activities of the Association.

Article 13, paragraph 1 c, d

327. No information available.

Article 14, paragraphs a, b

328. Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH – The process of concluding the Agreement between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ministry of Ukraine on cooperation in the fields of education and science is underway. The text of this Agreement has been submitted by the Ukrainian side. The Agreement prescribes the following:

- promotion of the exchange of textbooks between higher education institutions and scientific institutions,
- support to cooperation in the study of each other's languages, and in this regard encouraging the establishment of departments for learning the languages of the constituent peoples which are officially used in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ukrainian language at higher education institutions in both countries,
- free education for students in exchange at the preparatory department, for the purpose of studying the language for training.

Yiddish Language

329. The Jewish community in BiH has informed us that there are no speakers of this language. Accordingly, it is not possible to report on the implementation of this language.

Article 8, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (iv), c (iv), d (iv), g;

Article 9, paragraph 1 a (ii), (iii), b (ii), (iii) c (ii), (iii); paragraph 2c;

Article 10, paragraph 1 a (iv), c; paragraph 2 a, b, g; paragraph 3 c; paragraph 4 c; paragraph 5

Article 11, paragraph 1 a (iii), b (i), c (ii), e (ii); paragraph 2; paragraph 3;

Article 12, paragraph 1 a, e, f, g; paragraph 2

Article 13, paragraph 1 c, d;

Article 14, paragraphs a, b.

5. CONCLUSION

PROPOSAL OF CONCLUSION

1. The Fourth Periodic Report of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the implementation of the measures and principles established by the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages is adopted, and the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of

Bosnia and Herzegovina is entrusted to submit the adopted Report to the Secretariat of the Council of Europe for the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.