PERMANENT MISSION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA



MISSION PERMANENT DE LA BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE AUPRES DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES A GENEVE

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MIS-UN-GVA

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The Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honor to submit the response from the Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in regards to HRC/RES/35/16 on Child, early and forced marriage in humanitarian settings.

The Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, October 16th, 2018

OFFICE OF THE UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS E-mail: registry@ohchr.org

A reply of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Concerning Human Rights Council Resolution 35/16 entitled "Child, early and forced marriage in humanitarian settings".

Based on the data provided by the competent ministries, as provided by centres of social work, Child, early and forced marriage in humanitarian settings have not been recorded in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, there are very few recorded cases of marriage of persons who have reached the age of sixteen with approval of the court and with consent of juvenile's parents. The Family Laws of the Entities in Bosnia and Herzegovina provide that marriage can only be concluded by adults who are 18 years of age and, exceptionally, in non-contentious proceedings, the court may permit marriage of a person who has reached 16 years of age if it finds that there are justified reasons and that the person is physically and mentally capable of exercising the rights and duties arising from marriage and that marriage is in his/her interest.

During schooling and being able to access media information dealing with this issue, juveniles are most often made aware of the fact that early marriage is not in their best interest.

Child, early and forced marriages in humanitarian settings could occur in the coming period due to the arrival of migrants from war-affected countries to Bosnia and Herzegovina. These cases will be carefully monitored and, accordingly, necessary measures will be planned.