



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

**PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE
PRESENTATION DOCUMENT**

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I Introduction

Bosnia and Herzegovina welcomes its inclusion in the NATO Partnership for Peace (hereinafter: PfP) and confirms its commitment to the principles and objectives outlined in the PfP Framework Document and the Basic Document of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC).

Bosnia and Herzegovina supports the fundamental concept of the PfP and wishes to contribute to security and stability in the Euro-Atlantic region, reduction of threats to peace, forging close ties through active cooperation and commitment to general principles of democracy.

In its security policy, Bosnia and Herzegovina is committed to active international cooperation in the political, economic and security domains, and shall endeavor to institutionalize its relations, especially with NATO/PfP.

II Principles

The foreign policy of Bosnia and Herzegovina is dedicated to the preservation and building of a lasting peace, security and stable democratic and overall national development and contribution to the international peace and security. In the area of international relations, activities of Bosnia and Herzegovina are based on principles contained in the UN Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, and other documents of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), as well as the globally accepted principles of international law.

As a member of the United Nations, Bosnia and Herzegovina reaffirms its commitment to comply in good faith with its obligations arising from the UN Charter.

Bosnia and Herzegovina respects the principle of inviolability of borders and is committed to settling all disputes by peaceful means, refraining from threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.

Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to advocate resolution of international issues and crises through constructive dialogue and amicably, with diplomacy in the key role. Through intensive cooperation, Bosnia and Herzegovina will best improve its relations with other countries and thereby contribute to regional and global security.

Bosnia and Herzegovina understands and accepts the concept of collective security as the corner stone of a long-term military strategy. The key element for achieving military security in Bosnia and Herzegovina is NATO membership, since, in that case, its national sovereignty and territorial integrity would be guaranteed by the whole Alliance. Membership of NATO's PfP is the first step in that direction, although it does not vouch collective security as full-fledged NATO membership does.

III Political Objectives

Membership in NATO and the European Union are strategic objectives of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Strong public support and consensus among major political parties concerning the achievement of these objectives is unquestionable, and Bosnia and Herzegovina will strive toward full membership in NATO and incorporation of its armed forces in the NATO military structure.

The strategic commitment of Bosnia and Herzegovina to gradual integration into the EU implies its readiness to accept the provisions, structures and mechanisms of the Common Foreign and Security Policy, including its military dimension. For the time being, as an aspirant for membership, Bosnia and Herzegovina maintains relations with the EU within the Stabilization and Association Process, which involves the West Balkan countries.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is committed to the fulfillment of the PfP goals, notably through increased transparency of defense planning and budgeting, full democratic control of the armed forces, and cooperation with NATO, all with the aim to strengthen the ability of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina to work together with the forces of NATO member countries, especially in peace support missions and humanitarian operations.

Bosnia and Herzegovina acknowledges the strong ties of common values - democracy, human rights and the rule of law - between NATO countries and their Partners. Peoples and citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina share the same ideals and values that unite the Euro-Atlantic family of democratic nations - protection of fundamental freedoms, human and minority rights, justice, promotion of free market economy, and environmental protection.

Bosnia and Herzegovina pledges to fight terrorism, organized crime, human trafficking and corruption.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is committed to establishing and improving bilateral and multilateral relations in the area of defense with all interested countries on the principles of mutual respect and cooperation. By its active participation in the search for solutions and creation of regional programs, Bosnia and Herzegovina demonstrates its resolve to upgrade its role and importance in regional cooperation on the following principles:

- Development of intensive and comprehensive bilateral relations with all countries in the region, especially neighbors;
- Active participation in regional initiatives;
- Participation and full implementation of all commitments in the following areas:
 - o Arms control,
 - o Confidence and security building measures,
 - o Relevant UN decisions and resolutions, and
 - o OSCE documents.

Bosnia and Herzegovina will ensure full cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in compliance with its obligations from the Dayton Peace Accords, and in the sense of the NATO Riga Summit Declaration.

With regard to cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, in future BiH institutions will give priority to the following:

- Finding and apprehending persons indicted for war crimes, who are on the wanted list compiled by relevant authorities,
- Processing cases involving persons indicted for war crimes,
- Taking activities regarding collection of information on networks supporting persons indicted for war crimes by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.
- Other activities related to these issues.

Bosnia and Herzegovina will strengthen its diplomatic and military representation at the NATO Headquarters and designate a liaison officer to the Partnership Coordination Cell (PCC) in Mons to further its cooperation with NATO.

Recognizing the need for the development of various mechanisms of interactive cooperation with NATO, Bosnia and Herzegovina wishes to participate in the Planning and Review Process (PARP), and development of the Individual Partnership Action Plan, which it perceives as the main elements in its preparations for accession to NATO.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is committed to the principles of democratic, parliamentary and civilian control of the armed forces and transparency in all defense aspects. It is determined to continue defense reforms with the ultimate goal the creation of an Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina that will be a small, well equipped, and mobile force of well trained and motivated soldiers under the leadership of highly qualified officers and NCOs supported by qualified and professional civilian personnel. These forces, including the reserve, will be internally compatible and NATO interoperable. A fully transparent and balanced planning, programming, budgeting and execution system will result in the armed forces that are organized, manned, trained, equipped and maintained in a way that will ensure the most efficient fulfillment of their missions.

Bosnia and Herzegovina actively contributes to global collective security. Members and units of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina have contributed to and will continue to actively contribute to international peace missions, in accordance with the requirements of the international community, its own human and technical resources, and decisions of relevant institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has accepted the EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports and incorporated in its legislation. Bosnia and Herzegovina is a signatory to most of the existing international agreements and contracts on nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, as follows: Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Convention on the Prohibition of Bacterial/ Biological and Toxic Weapons, and the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons and others. Additionally, it supports the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI).

Bosnia and Herzegovina is determined to fully implement the UN Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons

(SALW) in all of its aspects, OSCE documents on SALW, as well as the Regional Implementation Plan on Combating Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has achieved visible progress in the area of SALW control. A significant amount of SALW has been collected and destroyed. A state coordination board has been established and it developed the State Strategy and Action Plan to serve as the basic document for the implementation of activities in the area of SALW control in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

IV Areas of Cooperation

In order to prove itself as a modern, prosperous and democratic state, integrated into modern European and Euro-Atlantic structures, Bosnia and Herzegovina is grappling with challenges in the reform process in various areas.

The reform of the defense system, as an exceptionally important element of the state structure of Bosnia and Herzegovina, focuses on two key issues: 1) establishment of a single defense system under efficient command and control of functional state institutions, and 2) restructuring of the armed forces to enable the implementation of legitimate defense goals of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its foreign political aspirations in terms of security, specifically collective defense and security.

The way to achieve these goals is adoption of NATO standards as a precondition for integration into Euro-Atlantic processes and organizations, first the Partnership for Peace, and eventually NATO and the European Union.

Amendments to the entity constitutions and the adoption of the Law on Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2005 facilitated the development of a single defense establishment of Bosnia and Herzegovina, i.e. single Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Joint Staff, and the Operational Command. In accordance with provisions of the Law on Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina, single Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina were established on 1 January 2006 as a single professional military force organized and controlled by the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina have the Joint Staff, commands and units, which will be manned with professional military personnel, civilian personnel and members of active reserve. Conscription and mandatory military service were abolished on 1 January 2006, in accordance with the law.

Cooperation with NATO and PfP countries will help our country develop and adopt modern standards, successfully implement current and future reforms and join the family of Euro-Atlantic nations. Specifically, this cooperation will assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in its efforts to become an effective member of the PfP and contribute to cooperation and security building and peace maintenance.

As a result of its cooperation with NATO and bilateral cooperation with a number of members of the Alliance, Bosnia and Herzegovina already has fruitful relations and visible results in many areas, such as the progress made towards achieving transparency

in defense planning, budget planning and allocation, and democratic control of the armed forces. The final goal is interoperability with NATO in the entire spectrum of defense functions, from the highest level of defense policy decision-making to the operational and tactical levels of military responsibility, which will be a long-term process.

Aware of its resources and conditions, Bosnia and Herzegovina primarily wishes to cooperate with NATO in areas that will facilitate the adoption of standards of command and control, communication and information systems, planning and budgeting, resource management, and training and equipment, which will ensure internal and external interoperability and, consequently, better operational capabilities for the execution of the mission of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially peace support missions and humanitarian operations.

As a priority, we are interested in developing partnership relations in the following areas:

- Consultations, command and control, including communication and information systems, navigation and identification systems, interoperability aspects, procedures and terminology (C3),
- Defense planning and budgeting and resource management (DPB),
- Democratic control of the armed forces and defense structures (DCF),
- Conceptual, planning and operational aspects of peace support operations (PKG).

We also wish to develop cooperation in other areas, such as:

- General humanitarian demining activities,
- UXO disposal,
- Military education, training and doctrine,
- Airspace management and control, consultations and advice,
- Fight against terrorism, organized crime and human trafficking,
- Small arms and light weapons,
- Language training,
- International humanitarian law,
- Civilian planning for emergency response,
- Crisis management,
- Defense policy and strategy,
- Military infrastructure.

4.1 Consultations, Command and Control, including Communication and Information Systems, Navigation and Identification Systems, Interoperability Aspects, Procedures and Terminology (C3)

The Law on Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina provides a legal framework for the establishment of a single defense system and command of the armed forces through a single chain, running from the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, through the Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Joint Staff and the Operational

Command to operational units of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It will ensure that the civilian command in BiH is in accord with generally accepted principles.

Bosnia and Herzegovina recognizes the need for further development and adoption of procedures and specific activities that will enable efficient command and control of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The defense system of Bosnia and Herzegovina does not have a fully adopted and efficient communication and information system, or communication and information equipment and technology. Bosnia and Herzegovina will endeavor to achieve standardization up to the level of interoperable communication and information system and improved skills in the use of information technology, which will enable joint training and participation in operations with NATO and PfP forces.

4.2 Defense Planning and Budgeting, and Resource Management (DPB)

Significant human and material resources are employed in the defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and a substantial portion of the state budget is allocated for that purpose, which makes the issue of resource development and management, alongside efficient parliamentary oversight, full transparency and use of modern information technologies, an extremely important one. These two state-level functions are performed by the Ministry of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which establishes an essential link between military strategies, support to those strategies, and resource potential.

Notwithstanding the significant results and obvious progress made in this area, our goal is to advance the process of defense planning, approval and use of budget funds, and strengthen the role of the Parliament. Aware of its fiscal constraints, Bosnia and Herzegovina wants to develop efficient and effective armed forces, which will be interoperable with NATO troops and PfP countries and will carry out its mission within the mandate defined by democratic institutions.

4.3 Democratic Control of the Armed Forces and Defense Structures (DCF)

The defense system reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina has established democratic control of armed forces in accordance with the practices and standards of democratic European countries, which implies civilian command of armed forces and oversight by the parliament. Democratic control of the armed forces is regulated by the Law on Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Civilian command of the armed forces is exercised by democratically elected bodies, i.e. the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ministry of Defense, and parliamentary oversight by the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in accordance with the responsibilities provided by the law. An important role in that process is entrusted to the Joint Commission of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina for Defense and Security Policy and Oversight of Defense and Security Structures of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Exceptionally important for Bosnia and Herzegovina is the need to strengthen the role of its Parliamentary Assembly in all aspects related to defense and security. In this area,

Bosnia and Herzegovina seeks to exchange knowledge and experience with NATO and PfP member countries.

Bosnia and Herzegovina seeks to design optimal solutions in the decision making process in the area of defense, and effective cooperation and synergy in the relations between the Parliamentary Assembly, the Presidency, the Council of Ministers and the Armed Forces. Bosnia and Herzegovina will fully implement the legislative provisions on neutrality of members of the armed forces engaged in politics and, in keeping with contemporary arrangements, enable members of the armed forces to freely and equally participate in the election process. The goal is to raise general awareness of the society of the importance of democratic control of armed forces and well-balanced civil-military relations. Working to achieve this goal, Bosnia and Herzegovina is aware of the role of governmental and non-governmental organizations, and deems important the continuous cooperation with relevant international organizations. Within a single defense system, Bosnia and Herzegovina seeks to build and render capable, in terms of functioning and personnel, those institutions that support the function of civilian command, and train the personnel of the Ministry of Defense that hold key positions in the areas of defense policy, planning, personnel, procurement and resource management.

To achieve these goals, Bosnia and Herzegovina will take the following steps:

- Enhance democratic control of the armed forces and defense transparency,
- Use the PfP PARP process to develop and improve its own mechanisms of control,
- Attend meetings within PfP format.

4.4 Conceptual, Planning and Operational Aspects of Peace Support Operations

Bosnia and Herzegovina, as a sovereign state and a member of the United Nations and OSCE and a signatory to international agreements and conventions, is firmly resolved to actively contribute to the building and preservation of global peace and stability. In the past decade, Bosnia and Herzegovina went through harsh challenges of war, postwar reconstruction, reconciliation, and development of democratic institutions as guarantors of peace and stability, in which it enjoyed invaluable support and assistance from the international community, which was reflected, *inter alia*, in the direct engagement of peacekeeping and stabilization forces. We are resolved to undergo a transition from a recipient of international peace efforts to an active participant in international peace support operations. With that aim, Bosnia and Herzegovina is prepared to offer its knowledge, experience and some resources.

Bosnia and Herzegovina underlines that members of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the police force of Bosnia and Herzegovina have been taking part in peace missions as observes since 2000. Additionally, the AFBiH explosive ordnance unit (EOD) has been successfully taking part in the peace mission in Iraq since 2005.

Bosnia and Herzegovina needs assistance to review its existing capabilities, equipment and training for missions that include unexploded ordnance disposal, and in the development of the demining unit to accomplish the demanding mission of humanitarian

demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It also needs assistance in exploring options for developing this capability as a niche capability for future participation in PfP activities and peace support operations. Bosnia and Herzegovina, once integrated into the PfP and NATO, is ready to develop, besides the existing ones, other niche capabilities, which will be compatible with the requirements of international peace support operations and goals of the Defense Policy of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

V Resources and Assets for PfP

To effectively implement programs of activities in the identified areas of cooperation, Bosnia and Herzegovina is prepared to provide necessary financial, material and human resources and infrastructure.

Taking into consideration the geographic position of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its resources, Bosnia and Herzegovina can significantly contribute to the overall activities within PfP, especially in the selected areas of cooperation, including combating terrorism and organized crime, for which it has good predispositions.

The reformed defense system of Bosnia and Herzegovina has created conditions for full civilian and democratic control of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina in all its elements, including resource management. Bosnia and Herzegovina continues to enhance interoperability, especially in training and equipping units in line with NATO standards.

Resources and assets that Bosnia and Herzegovina can offer for participation in the PfP Program are the following:

1. Airports

Bosnia and Herzegovina is prepared to create necessary preconditions for:

- Use of backup airports in Mostar, Banja Luka and Tuzla, provided they meet the required standards,
- Overflights, as required, in accordance with mutually agreed and established procedures.

2. Ports

River ports: Brčko and Šamac.

3. Training and Exercise Facilities

The Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina have at their disposal the Combat Training Center for all types of training, including training and exercise of battalion-size units, and artillery fire.

4. Education and Training Possibilities

Thanks to the transformation of the existing training centers and ranges, besides the Manjača Combat Training Center, the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina will also have the following:

a) Basic Training Center in Pazarić, Sarajevo

The Center is intended for basic training of active and reserve personnel.

b) Professional Development Center in Travnik

The Center is intended primarily for individual training of members of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina (officers and NCOs) and language training.

c) Peace Support Operations Training Center in Butmir, Sarajevo

The center is intended primarily for training of members of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina for peace support missions and general staff duties. Members of armed forces of other countries have also been trained in this Center since 2004.

5. Military Units

Bosnia and Herzegovina states its readiness to deploy one unit to a peace support operation and demonstrated it by deploying one EOD unit in 2005 and 2006. This type of contribution will continue in the future based on the requirements of international peace support operations and decisions of the relevant institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina. There is also a possibility that Bosnia and Herzegovina might extend its participation in peace support operations by deploying properly trained and equipped additional units.

6. AF BiH Capabilities for Non-military Operations

Within the Armed Forces, Bosnia and Herzegovina maintains units capable of performing the following missions:

- Assistance to civilian authorities in case of natural and other disasters, with a possibility of use of military equipment, evacuation of people, and support to and recovery of the infrastructure by employing engineering units and equipment, and other units within BiH and in border areas with the neighboring countries, in accordance with relevant procedures.

VI Summary

Bosnia and Herzegovina has been implementing a broad range of structural and functional reforms with the aim to create preconditions for a strategic step forward from the position of a recipient of international peace efforts to the position of an active contributor to the peace and stability in the world, and for integration into collective security structures.

Bosnia and Herzegovina is committed to the fulfillment of the PfP goals, notably through functional democratic, parliamentary and civilian control of the armed forces, increased transparency of defense planning and budgeting, and cooperation with NATO, all with the aim to strengthen the ability of its armed forces to work together with the forces of NATO member countries.

Bosnia and Herzegovina accepts the concept of collective security as a milestone of its long-term strategy. We firmly believe that, as a member of the Partnership for Peace, Bosnia and Herzegovina, in cooperation with other PfP and NATO members, can contribute to further development of our reform plans and meet all benchmarks and many other set goals, and thereby lend credibility to its aspiration for full-fledged NATO membership.