



Equality for All:
Civil Society Coalition
Against Discrimination



**ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE COALITION
“EQUALITY FOR ALL”**

**FROM DISCRIMINATION TO INCLUSION
AND EQUALITY IN EDUCATION IN
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

30 MAY 2017

Tuesday
30 May 2017
09:30 – 15:30

Hotel Europe
Conference Hall 1
Vladislava Skarića 5
71000 Sarajevo
www.hoteleurope.ba

RSVP no later than 23 May 2016 to:
nejra.mulavdic@analitika.ba
or contact us on 033 251 084. **Please specify if you require a travel expenses refund.**



SUMMARY

Education in BiH is beset by numerous problems. Among the most visible and prominent in the public sphere is the complex problem of segregation and discrimination in the cases of “two schools under one roof”. The common denominator in this context is the separation which persists in BiH educational systems on two grounds. On the one hand, relevant domestic and international authorities have for years been pointing to the unacceptable practice of physical separation of children on the basis of ethnicity in BiH schools. On the other hand, insufficient efforts made by the authorities in BiH to insure inclusion of children with disabilities and developmental difficulties into the regular educational process have also drawn criticism.

In spite of such authoritative and well-argued criticism, the progress in tackling segregation in education in BiH is slow and limited. Thus the practice of “two schools under one roof” is still being justified by the right of the constituent peoples to language and identity; lack of resources and the complexity of such interventions in the educational system are still cited as the main reasons for failure to ensure the inclusion of children with special needs.

The main goal of this conference is to gather relevant stakeholders from the government and the non-governmental sector, as well as appropriate representatives of international organisations, in order to discuss, in a constructive atmosphere, different facets of the problem of discrimination and segregation in education in BiH, key challenges, results achieved, and the possible pathways of progress in this area.

The event is organised as part of the project Equality for All: Coalition of Civil Society Organisations Against Discrimination. The project is implemented by Mediacentar Sarajevo, Social Research Centre Analitika, Prava za sve and Vaša prava BiH.

PROGRAMME

Working language: B/C/S and English (with simultaneous interpretation)

09:30 – 10:00 Registration and welcome coffee

10:00 – 10:15 Introductions

PANEL 1: Inclusion in education in BiH

10:15 – 10:25 Video presentation

10:25 – 10:40 International Standards and the Legal Framework in BiH: How Far from Inclusion are We? (Alma Dizdarević, Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation, University of Tuzla)

Date

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Time

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Venue

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PANELISTS

Alma Dizdarević, Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation, University of Tuzla

Aleksandra Ivanković, Mental Disability Advocacy Centre

Anka Izetbegović, DUGA Association, Sarajevo

Alina Trkulja, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies of the University of Sarajevo

Dženana Radončić, Faculty of Law, University of Zenica

Valery Perry, Independent Researcher and Consultant, Senior Associate with Democratisation Policy Council

Respondents: relevant representatives of entity and cantonal governments

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- 10:40 – 10:55** Who Decides on the Education of Children with Disabilities and Developmental Difficulties?: Parental Rights and the Interests of the Child (Aleksandra Ivanković, Mental Disability Advocacy Centre)
- 10:55 – 11:10** Examples of Good Practice in Inclusion in BiH: How to Make Exceptions a Rule? (Anka Izetbegović, DUGA Association Sarajevo)
- 11:10 – 11:30** Respondents: relevant representatives of entity and cantonal governments
- 11:30 – 12:00** Discussion
- 12:00 – 13:30** Lunch break, press conference

PANEL 2: Identity, Divided Schools and the “National Group of Subjects”: Between Integration and Segregation

- 13:30 – 13:40** Video presentation
- 13:40 – 13:55** Two Schools Under One Roof: (Mis)Understanding the Problem, and Possible Solutions (Alina Trkulja, Center for Interdisciplinary Studies of the University of Sarajevo)
- 13:55 – 14:10** The Case of Vrbanjci and Konjević polje: Integration and the Right of Schoolchildren to Language and Identity in the Context of Legal Standards (Dženana Radončić, Faculty of Law, University of Zenica)
- 14:10 – 14:25** In Pursuit of Pluralism and Multi-culturalism in BiH Education: Brčko – Model or an Exception? (Valery Perry, Independent Researcher and Consultant, Senior Associate with the Democratisation Policy Council)
- 14:25 – 14:45** Respondents: relevant representatives of entity and cantonal governments
- 14:45 – 15:15** Discussion
- 15:15 – 15:30** Wrap-up

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS BY ANALITIKA



Parental right or segregation?: "two schools under one roof" before two courts in two cantons



Right to education without discrimination: the case of "Vrbanjci"



Squaring the anti-discrimination triangle in BiH - legal framework, policies and practices 2012-2016

ABOUT THE PROJECT

For more information visit: <http://www.diskriminacija.ba>.

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