



Update: 3rd July 2024



Geography

Area: 51,209 km²
Borders: 1,543 km (Croatia 956 km, Montenegro 242 km, Serbia 345 km)
Coastline: 20 km
Capital: Sarajevo
Official languages: Bosnian, Serbian, Croatian

Source : The CIA World Factbook



Population

Population : 3,807,764 (2023 est.)
Population growth: -2.3‰ (2023 est.)
Migration rate for 1000 inhabitants: -0,38 (2023 est.)
Life expectancy: men 75.3 years, women 81.4 years (2023 est.)
Religions: Muslim 50.7%, Orthodox 30.7%, Roman Catholic 15.2%, other 3.3% (2013 est.)

Source : IMF, The CIA World Factbook



Economy

Currency: Marka (BAM) (once called the Convertible Mark). The Marka is pegged to the Euro, and used to be linked the German Mark. (Fixed exchange rate in July 2023 : 1 € = 1.95 BAM)
GDP: € 25,026.6 million (2023)
GDP per capita: € 6,733 (2022)
GDP growth: 1.7% (2023)
Inflation: 4.1% (September 2023)
Unemployment: 13.1% (June 2023)
Public deficit: -0.6% (2022 est.)
General government debt: 20.3% of GDP (December 2022)
Foreign direct investment from the entire world: 2.6% (2022)

Source : IMF, The CIA World Factbook, World Bank



Political Representation

- **Composition of the Chamber of Representatives in July 2024:**
 - 8 seats: Party of Democratic Action (SDA)
 - 6 seats: Alliance of Independent Social Democrats (SNSD)
 - 5 seats: Social Democratic Party (SDP-BiH)
 - 4 seats: Croatian Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina (HDZ BiH) and its allies
 - 3 seats: Democratic Front and its ally Front Démocratique et son allié Civic Alliance (DF-GS)
 - 3 seats: People and Justice (NiP)
 - 2 seats: Democratic Serb Party (SDS)
 - 2 seats: Democratic progress Party (PDP)
 - 2 seats: Our Party (NS)
 - 2 seats: European Union of Bosnia-Herzegovina's citizens (NES)
 - 1 seat: For Justice and Order (ZPR)
 - 1 seat: Democratic Alliance (DEMOS)
 - 1 seat: Serb Union (US)
 - 1 seat: Bosnia-Herzegovina Initiative (BHI)
 - 1 seat: National Democratic Alliance (DNS)
- **Female representation:**
 - in the government: 2/10
 - in Parliament: 9/42 (House of Representatives)
 - and 2/15 (House of the People)
- **Next legislative elections will take place in 2026**

Source: Parline http://www.ipu.org/parline-f/reports/1039_E.htm



Political System

Political institutions:
Federal Republic, parliamentary democracy.
 The central government's power is limited as the country is largely decentralized and comprises two autonomous entities: the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republica Srpska, with a third region, the Brčko District, governed at local level.

Central Institutions:

- The Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina is held by a college of three presidents, elected for four years. The last election was on 2nd October 2022:
 - **Denis Bećirović** (SD), elected among the Bosniak college.
 - **Željka Cvijanović** (SNSD), elected among the Serbian college.
 - **Željko Komšić** (Democratic Front elected among the Croatian college)

The three communities take turns leading the Presidency every eight months.

- Governance is ensured by the Council of Ministers. Its president is appointed by the

Presidency. The current president of the Council of Ministers is Borjana Kristo. She appoints the ministers and the deputy ministers, and the latter are not required to belong to the same ethnic group as the ministers on whom they depend. The government consists of 6 different parties: Croat Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Alliance of social-democrats; Social-Democrat Party; People and Justice; Our Party; National Democratic Alliance.

- The Central Parliament of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina comprises two houses:
 - **The House of the People** (Dom naroda; upper house) with 15 delegates of whom five are Croats, five Bosniaks and five Serbs.
 - **The Chamber of Representatives** (Predstavnički dom/Zastupnički dom; lower house) comprises 42 members: 28 are elected in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and 14 are elected in the Serb Republic; they are appointed by the lower houses of the two entities that make up the country; the House of Representatives of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the National Assembly of the Serb Republic.

► Institutions of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

- **The Presidency** is made up of a college of three elected officials, who trade off performing the duties of the President and Vice President. The presidency is nominated by the Parliament
- **The Parliament is made up of two houses:**
 - **The House of Representatives** is made up of 98 elected officials via a proportional vote, and elected for 4 years.
 - **The House of the People** comprises 80 representatives (23 delegates per constituent nations ; Bosniacs, Serbs and Croats, and 11 delegates of the minorities referred to as "Others")
- **The Executive Council** is composed of 16 ministers whose ethnic distribution is decided according to a quota system: 8 Bosnians, 5 Croats and 3 Serbs. Since 28th April 2023, the Prime Minister has been Nermin Nikšić, a member of the Bosnian community and President of the Social Democratic Party (SDP).

► Institutions of the Serb Republic

- Since 15th November 2022, **Milorad Dodik** (Alliance of Independent Social Democrats) has been President of the Serb Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina (direct universal suffrage).
- **The National Assembly** is the only house of the Serbian parliament whose 83 members are elected through proportional vote (<http://www.narodnaskupstinar.net/?q=en>).
- Since 17th December 2018, **Radovan Visković** is the Prime Minister of the Serb Republic, and held a government of 16 ministers (<http://www.vladars.net/eng/Pages/default.aspx>).



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On 1st August 2021, Christian Schmidt was appointed High Representative/EU Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to replace Valentin Inzko. Regarding foreign policy and representation in international institutions, it is the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina that carries out these duties on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina, representing as such the two entities.

On 16th June 2008 the European Union and Bosnia and Herzegovina signed a Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA); this is the first step prior to obtaining the candidate status to the European Union. It was ratified and entered into force on 1st June 2015. On 31st July 2008, Bosnia and Herzegovina & EU signed a financing agreement for the pre-accession assistance (IPA) instrument 2007 National Programme. On 27th May 2010, the Commission allowed citizens of Albania & Bosnia and Herzegovina to travel to Schengen countries without a short-term visa. On 27th June 2012, the EU and Bosnia and Herzegovina launched the High-Level Dialogue on the Accession Process. Today, Bosnia and Herzegovina is a potential candidate to EU accession. Bosnia and Herzegovina's **application for EU membership** was submitted on 15th February 2016. The country was granted EU candidate status in December 2022, provided that it implements the recommended measures to strengthen the rule of law, the fight against corruption and organised crime, migration management and fundamental rights. On the 12th of March 2024 the European Commission recommended to open the EU accession negotiations.

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/countries/detailed-country-information/bosnia-herzegovina/index_fr.htm et <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/enlargement/bosnia-herzegovina/>