



**Lawyers' Committee for
Human Rights
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Announcement

Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights, Urbanin and the Sandžak Committee for Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms would like to express their surprise and concern regarding obvious manipulations pertaining to the constituting of the Bosniak National Council.

Firstly, the alteration of the Rules of Procedure made by the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights a few hours before the constituting of the Bosniak National Council. The previous Rules of Procedure was valid during the constituting of all other national councils.

A statement by Petar Antić, a high Ministry official, who said regarding the alteration of the Rules of Procedure that the Ministry had decided that some of the provisions of the Rules of Procedure be removed, as well as that the provision which stipulates that the verification of the national council requires a two-third majority, instead of the previous simple majority was added *"for the sake of stability and specific nature of the Bosniak national minority"* represents an insult to common sense.

As organizations advocating transparency in institutions' work and free access to information, we cannot tolerate the decision by the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights representative to disable most of the journalists to attend the constitutive session with the excuse that they do not have accreditations.

Also, claims about forgery of certain documents, i.e. blank resignations, are causing additional unease.

For all the stated, we demand from competent state organs, including the Prosecution, to urgently examine criminal responsibility of individuals from the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights for misuse of official position and other felonies, as well as to initiate a process according to the recently adopted Law Against Discrimination in order to determine concrete responsibility and thus prevent further worsening of the situation and actions which would additionally destabilize this region.

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