

To: Distinguished International Organizations Supporting Democratic Voting Rights of the Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) Diaspora

From: BiH Diaspora Initiative Group

Re: Request to Create BiH DIASPORA ONLINE VOTING System

Dear and Distinguished Friends,

We encourage, implore and seek your assistance to create an online voting system for the BiH diaspora for the upcoming parliamentary and presidential elections in October, 2018.

Presently, more than 2 million BiH citizens live abroad, surpassing the total population of the country itself. So far, neither the Dayton Peace Agreement nor the government in Sarajevo have actively supported the formation of an online voting system for the diaspora.

Your active help is essential and needed in this historically important period, as we alone are not capable to fulfill our inherent voting rights, which should be available to any citizen on our planet.

Our objective is to provide online voting access to our diaspora, so that every qualified citizen abroad is able to vote, similar to the existing system in Switzerland. Online voting has been rejected by the present governmental institutions in BiH citing that such a process would be too complex in scope and not timely in implementation. We fervently disagree and can have a system in place within a two month period, available for the October elections and non-disruptive to conventional election preparations within the country. The voice of the diaspora through its right to vote needs to be heard.

We have the expertise within our *Group* to implement our proposal as it would be modelled and managed after the presently operating Swiss online voting system. We are prepared to present our proposal, at your request, with associated costs which are minimal and reasonable.

Our further desire is that the voting in BiH be implemented according to the census of citizens from 1991, which was legally completed before the start of the 1992 conflict. A just and human way is that all citizens, who lived in the territory of BiH before the ethnic cleansing and genocide, and who had their identification number, wherever they live now, must be facilitated and have their vote assured. ONLINE VOTING is certainly the way ahead.

In consideration of your generosity, assistance and support, we are,

Yours Truly,

Prof. Dr. Naim Kosaric, Professor Emeritus, Western University, London, Canada. Founder and Former President of Academic Society of Bosnia and Herzegovina