### RULES/GENERAL LAWS

#### General

**Criminal Codes**
Due to decentralization within Bosnia and Herzegovina (State level, Entities, Cantons and the Brčko District), the legislation on police officers exists at all levels.

[https://www.legislationline.org/documents/section/criminal-codes/country/40/Bosnia%20and%20Herzegovina/show](https://www.legislationline.org/documents/section/criminal-codes/country/40/Bosnia%20and%20Herzegovina/show)

**Law on Participation of Members of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Police Officers, Civil Servants and Other Employees in Peace Support Operations and Other Activities Abroad**
(“Official Gazette of BiH”, number: 14/05)


The Rulebook on the Procedure for deployment of members of the police services in Bosnia and Herzegovina to peace support operations and other activities abroad, the selection and training, rights, duties, responsibilities and conduct of members of the police services during the peace support operation and upon return from the peace support operation, the rights, duties and responsibilities of the Contingent Commander prescribes the rights, duties and responsibilities of the police officers of BiH during the peacekeeping operation.

**Law on Police Officers of Bosnia and Herzegovina**
(“Official Gazette of BiH”, number: 27/04, 63/04, 5/06, 33/06, 58/06, 15/08, 63/08, 35/09 and 7/12)

Police officers in the mission are engaged in accordance with the Concept of Operations and the Standard Operating Procedures of a specific mission. A 24/7 duty has been specified in the UN peacekeeping missions in which the police officers from Bosnia and Herzegovina participate.

Police officers who have committed acts related to sexual abuse will be prosecuted just as they would be for any other committed criminal offence.

If a member of the police services in BiH commits a disciplinary misconduct, a misdemeanor or a criminal offence for the duration of the peace operation, he/she shall be liable under the international conventions and the internal legislation in force governing such matters.

When joining the mission, a police officer participates in training where he/she familiarizes himself/herself with the UN rules, and he/she must adhere to these rules for the duration of the mission. UN rules are being implemented consistently and in continuity.

#### SEA: police offence?

During the preparation, deployment and the execution of peace operation activities, a member of the police services in Bosnia and Herzegovina is subordinated to the Commander of the BiH Police Contingent. The Contingent Commander manages the contingent, takes care of order and discipline, and issues guidelines, directives, orders and instructions to members of the police contingent from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The powers of the Contingent Commander are laid down in Article 22 of the said Rulebook, and they stipulate that the CC shall: manage the contingent, take care of order and discipline, issue guidelines, directives, orders and instructions to members of the police contingent from Bosnia and Herzegovina, make recommendations for the extension of the contingent members’ mandate, evaluate the contingent members, submit proposals for the promotion and awarding prizes and recognitions, carry out other activities necessary for the successful performance of duties and tasks within the peace operation.

#### INVESTIGATION

**Who can investigate?**
If a police officer commits a criminal offence or a misdemeanor during his/her stay in the UN mission, he/she shall be subjected to the internal control investigation of the UN bodies, and the Member State from which the mission member, or police officer has been deployed shall be notified thereof.

**National Investigation Officer (NIO)**
National Investigations Officers are not deployed with units. A United Nations internal control investigation body can conduct the investigation into an allegation.

#### PROSECUTION

**Who can charge?**
In accordance with the **Criminal Procedure Code**, the BiH Prosecutor's Office can file an indictment for sexual exploitation and sexual abuse after the return of a police officer to BiH.

#### JUSTICE

**Police justice system**
A police officer is responsible for his/her actions that are not in accordance with the conduct prescribed by the positive legal regulations. A police officer is also criminally and disciplinarily liable if his/her actions constitute a criminal offence or a violation of official duty.

If a member of the police services in BiH commits a disciplinary misconduct, a misdemeanor or a criminal offence for the duration of the peace operation, he/she shall be liable under the international conventions and the internal legislation in force governing such matters.

#### DISCLAIMER

While the information contained in the Member State (MS) fact sheet is periodically updated, the United Nations does not guarantee that the information provided is correct, complete or up to date.