EUROPEAN UNION – BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

STABILISATION AND ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

9th Meeting – 10 June 2026

Venue: Brussels (Hybrid)

RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall remark: A big number of recommendations are reconducted from last year / previous years. For such recommendations, the previously set and expired deadlines have been left as reminders, underlining the importance of urgent follow-up. New deadlines have also been given for the next period though, taking into account the indications from the BiH side when provided.

	1 - Environment

	1.2 Horizontal issues and international conventions

- **Overarching recommendations for Environment and Climate:** BiH is urged to fully implement the Sofia Declaration on the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans, and to strengthen efforts to move towards a circular, climate-neutral, resource efficient and competitive economy.
- Under the lead of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MoFTER), and on the basis of an agreed single integrated plan (*previous deadline Q4/2025*) by Q4/2026, BiH should urgently start implementing the BiH Environmental Approximation Strategy (EAS), adopted in May 2017. This should align with EU acquis developments and accordingly ensure revision, transposition and implementation of environmental legislation, countrywide. There should be annual reporting on progress.
- Complementing the countrywide BiH Environmental Approximation Strategy, BiH should adopt the consolidated countrywide BiH Environmental Protection Strategy and Action Plan (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by Q4/2026, to ensure sound strategic planning in the environment sector and that implementation will take place in a coordinated and harmonised manner.
- BiH needs to ensure harmonised countrywide alignment with the Directives on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (*previous deadline Q2/2026*) by Q2/2027 and considerably strengthen their enforcement, as well as implementation of provisions related to public access to environmental information and public participation in the decision-making process.
- To make progress in the area of environment, enhancing environmental protection and aligning with the EU acquis, BiH needs to strengthen its administrative capacities and monitoring systems and clearly improve inter-institutional coordination among relevant authorities.
- BiH needs to provide the - currently lacking - clear, consistent and consolidated information on progress made, to avoid fragmented or separate uncoordinated actions.
- To enhance the implementation of environmental conventions to which BiH is a signatory party and in order to ensure undisputed representation and systematic reporting on behalf of BiH, BiH should

urgently formalise a procedure for appointment of the National Focal Point for BiH (*previous deadline Q2/2026*) by 04/2026).

1.3. Progress on a countrywide harmonised alignment and implementation of EU acquis and efforts to address it in a consistent and coordinated manner in environmental sectors

1.3.1 Water management

- BiH is encouraged to improve its existing legislation (including the Water Laws) to further align with EU water related acquis, including on urban wastewater treatment, drinking water and floods. This should be done in a countrywide coordinated and harmonised manner, also to ensure sustainability of investments, such as on Wastewater Treatment Plants.
- BIH needs to commit to and implement the necessary reforms in this area to complement donors' efforts and enable sustainability and sound management of the water sector.

1.3.2 Waste management

- BiH should adopt a countrywide strategy on waste management (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by 04/2026) to provide a coordinated approach to addressing the country's priorities and to ensure harmonised alignment with the EU acquis, which is of particular importance in the context of circular economy and the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans.
- BiH should increase efforts to apply the waste hierarchy principles, including efficiently addressing various waste-streams, and begin preparations (*previous deadline Q2/2026*) by Q1/2027 for legislation to align with the EU Plastic Strategy and Single Used Plastics Directive.

1.3.3 Air quality

- BiH should develop a countrywide strategy to systematically and efficiently combat air pollution and to align its legislation with the EU acquis, in close coordination between all levels of government (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by Q1/2027.
- BiH should accelerate the establishment of a coordinated and well-functioning countrywide air monitoring network, to provide for reliable data for BiH government and citizens.
- BiH should align with the EU Directive on the reduction of national emissions of certain atmospheric pollutants (Directive (EU) 2016/2284) notably by accelerating improvement of the emission inventories, enabling functioning of Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and the related work on full ratifications and implementation of the Air Convention and its protocols (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by 01/2027.

1.3.4 Industrial pollution

- BiH should further align with the Industrial Emissions Directive (*previous deadline Q4/2025*) by Q4/2026 and establish a functioning countrywide Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (*previous deadline Q4/2025*) by Q4/2026, enabling public access and the transmission of collected data to the EU institutions.
- BiH should proceed with the ratification of the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Aarhus Convention (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by Q1/2027.
- BiH shall ensure compliance with the Decision of the Ministerial Council of the Energy Community.
- BiH should ensure the implementation of the National Emission Reduction Plan and adopt the technical and financial measures necessary for that purpose (*previous deadline Q2/2026*) by 02/2027.

1.3.5 Chemicals

- BiH should progress in aligning its legislation with relevant EU acquis in a countrywide harmonised manner, including for compliance with REACH Regulation.

1.3.6 Nature Protection

- In light of its importance under the EU Green Deal and BiH high potential in this area, BiH needs to make progress in the area of nature protection / Biodiversity. For that, BiH needs to step up alignment with EU relevant acquis (including the above-mentioned EIA and SEA Directives) and enforce mechanisms for nature and biodiversity protection (*previous deadline Q2/2026*) by 04/2026). This should also be considered in light of increasing infrastructure investments to prevent negative effects.

1.3.7 Noise

- BiH should undertake significant efforts to align and implement countrywide the EU acquis on environmental noise (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by Q4/2026.

1.4 Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM)

- As a participating state of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), BiH should continue to actively participate in the activities under the Mechanism (trainings, exercises, meetings of the expert working groups, applying for projects).

- BiH shall implement the European Single Emergency Number 112 (*previous deadline Q4/2026)* by Q4/2027.
- BiH should continue forming emergency response unit at the national level in line with requirements for the civil protection modules of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and in line with provisions of the Framework Law on Protection and Rescue of people and property against natural and man-made disasters in BiH (Official Gazette BiH 50/08) (*previous deadline Q4/2026)* by Q4/2027.
- BiH should start using Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS) LITE version by Q3/2026.

2 - Climate

- To ensure a strategic approach on systematic alignment with the climate *acquis* and its effective implementation, BIH should adopt (*previous deadline Q4/2025*) by Q4/2026 a state-level Climate Law.
- BiH should urgently draft a Long-Term Strategy covering the period until 2050 and submit to UNFCCC by Q2/2027.
- BiH should urgently fully align and implement the Governance Regulation including all the relevant reporting to the European Environment Agency (EEA) by Q2/2027.
- BiH should urgently adopt and implement legislation on Monitoring, Reporting, Verification and Accreditation (MRVA) by Q4/2026.
- BiH needs to urgently adopt the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP) (*previous deadline 30 June 2024*) by Q4/2026, taking into consideration the Energy Community's recommendations.
- BIH should urgently report on the implementation of the updated National Determined Contribution (NDC) 2020-2030 under the Paris Agreement (continuous – *previous deadline Q2/2026*) by Q4/2026.
- BiH should submit a new NDC to the UNFCCC (*previous deadline Q4/2025*) by Q4/2026.
- BiH should urgently invest in human resources to handle climate policy (continuous – *previous deadline Q2/2026*) by Q2/2027.
- BiH should initiate awareness raising activities (continuous – Q2/2027.

3 Transport

3.1 Connectivity agenda

- BiH should intensify its efforts to implement the agreed connectivity reform measures in the areas of transport and energy (continuous).
- BiH should increase the efforts to close the financing gap for the Corridor Vc motorway. A plan shall be developed (*previous deadline end of 2025)* by end of 2026.
- BiH should continue efforts to achieve a Rail Border Crossing Agreement and Protocols in negotiations with Croatia (*previous deadline Q1/2026)* by Q1/2027.
- BiH should adopt an ITS strategy (*previous deadline Q4/2025*) by Q4 2026.
- BiH still should transpose the ITS Directives in road, establish a countrywide system for road crash data collection and secure sufficient budgetary resources to address the maintenance needs of both

rail and road core network (continuous for the maintenance / *previous deadline Q2/2026*) by Q2/2027;).
- BiH should increase efforts to deliver on the commitments contained in the Transport Community Treaty and its Annex I (continuous).

	3.2 Strategic framework of transport in BiH and action plans – update

- BiH should continue, as a matter of urgency, implementing the Framework Transport Strategy and its Action Plans in close coordination between all stakeholders and share its annual implementation reports with the Commission (continuous / *previous deadline Q1/2026*) by Q1 2027;.
- BiH should adopt the updated BiH Framework Transport Strategy (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by Q1/2027.

	3.3 Road transport

- BiH should strengthen road safety management through the establishment of a lead Road Safety Agency (*previous deadline Q4/2025*) by Q4/2026 and fully implement the other actions set out in the Road Safety regional action plan, including a comprehensive national road safety strategy for the Second Decade of Action for Road Safety (*previous deadline Q4/2025*) by Q4/2026.
- BiH should fully align its legislation with the EU acquis on transport of dangerous goods (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by Q 4/2026.
- BiH should align its legislation with the EU's social and market rules in road transport.

	3.4 Rail transport

- BiH should make the best use of the technical assistance provided in view of bringing the BiH Law on Railways in line with the 4th package EU Railway Directives. The regional rail action plan developed in the framework of the Transport Community should be instrumental to conduct the reform process in BiH at national level (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by Q1/2027.
- BiH should continue publish all EU Technical Specifications of Interoperability (TSIs) (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by Q1/2027.
- BiH should increase efforts to improve the independence of the Railway regulator, the National Safety Authority and the National Investigation Body (*previous deadline end 2025*) by end 2026.

	3.5 Maritime and Inland waterways transport

- BiH should adopt its state-level legislation on inland waterways navigation in compliance with the EU acquis and proceed with implementing the cross-border Framework Agreement for improving the Sava river navigability (*previous deadline Q1/2026*) by Q1/2027.
- BiH should update the law on Maritime Transport (*previous deadline Q2/2026*) by Q2/2027).

- BiH should start work on the new law on inland waterways to improve the regulatory framework for the navigation in Sava River and start the transposition of the EU Acquis in Annex I.5 of the TCT (as soon as possible).

	3.6 Air transport

- On aviation, BiH should continue to ensure adequate organisation and allocation of sufficient resources to the Civil Aviation Authority for safety oversight and security, to take up findings of the European Union Aviation Safety Agency.
- BiH is also encouraged to speed up drafting and adopting its Aviation Law to align with the EU aviation acquis in accordance with the European Common Aviation Area Agreement (*previous deadline Q4/2025)* by Q4/2026.

	3.7 Passenger rights (all transport modes) – update (BiH) about progress in transposition and implementation of the EU acquis and social and equality issues

- BiH should make further progress towards the implementation of the EU acquis on passenger rights in all modes of transport (continuous).

	3.8 Multimodal and intermodal (including combined) transport

- BIH should transpose the electronic freight transport information **(**eFTI) regulation and work closely with EU4Digital project in implementation of eFTI framework.

	4 - Regional policy and coordination of structural instruments

- BiH needs to ensure reinforcing of the institutional and administrative capacity in terms of programming, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of EU funds to improve its level of preparedness to implement the EU Regional Policy (continuous).
- BiH needs to appoint the NIPAC as a matter of urgency to address the obligations of the Financial Framework Partnership Agreement ratified by Bosnia and Herzegovina on 20 September 2022.
- BiH needs to finalise the proposal for establishment of the financial management and control systems for the EU funds in consultation with the European Commission and adopt it (*previous deadline Q4/2025)* by Q4/2026 with the objective to reinforce the institutional and administrative capacity for programming, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of EU funds in line with the EU Regional Policy.

- BiH has to finalise the sector project pipelines for Human Capital and Digitalisation sectors and adopt the single project pipeline (*previous deadline Q4/2025)* by Q4/2026 based on well-established sector project pipelines in the sectors of Transport, and Environment.
- BiH should urgently adopt the overdue countrywide Regional Development Strategy to valorise the development potential of all regions and to reduce the regional and local disparities in BiH (*previous deadline Q4/2026*) by Q4/2027
- BiH should embed the two EU macro-regional strategies (EUSAIR and EUSDR) into its national and regional development strategic documents and implement them by all available sources of funding ((*previous deadline Q4/2026)* by Q4/2027.

5 Energy

5.1 Energy Community Treaty obligations

- BiH should finalise the legal transposition of the Electricity Integration Package and implement actions set out in the legislation to enable market coupling with the EU, including opening of energy markets, unbundling and certification of the Transmission System Operator, the appointment of one Nominated Electricity Market Operator (NEMO) and establishing a day-ahead and intraday electricity markets ((*previous deadline Q2/2026)* by Q1/2027.
- BiH should urgently align its legislation at State level in the field of gas with the Third Energy Package and Clean Energy Package ((*previous deadline Q1/2026)* by Q4/2026.
- BiH needs to rectify all identified violations of the EU and Energy Community Treaty acquis and in particular persistent breaches of the Large Combustion Plants Directives (by proceeding with planned upgrade of relevant thermal power plants/decrease of their production) and finalise the Just Transition Roadmap to accompany and accelerate coal phase out in electricity production ((*previous deadline Q4/2025)* by Q4/2026.
- BiH needs to finalise and start to implement a comprehensive building renovation strategy to improve energy efficiency and demand reduction measures. ((*previous deadline Q2/2026)* by Q2/2027.
- BiH needs to align with and implement the Risk-preparedness Regulation and additional relevant acquis to increase resilience in the event of energy crises ((*previous deadline Q4/2025)* by Q2/2027.

5.2 Decarbonisation and energy transition

- BiH should proceed, finding consensus across entities and in consultation with civil society, with updating and implementing the state-level and entity-level energy strategies, as a framework to pursue energy transition ((*previous deadline Q2/2026)* by Q2/2027.

5.3 TEN-E and Connectivity

- BiH should advance on ongoing and planned investment projects on electricity grid upgrade and interconnections (including those in PECI -projects of Energy Community interest- list) ((*previous deadline Q2/2026)* by Q2/2027.
- BiH should bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions to comply with the new TEN-E Regulation (*previous deadline Q1/2026)* by Q4/2026.

	5.4 Internal Energy Market

- BiH should without further delay complete legal and functional unbundling of distribution system operators across all entities ((*previous deadline Q4/2025)* by Q4/2026.
- BiH should finalise the remaining missing appointments in the management structures of BiH Electricity Transmission Company (TransCo), including management and supervisory boards (*previous deadline Q4/2025)* by Q4/2026.

	5.5 Renewable energy

- BiH should implement laws on Renewable Energy Sources introduced at entity level, while ensuring sufficient coordination at state level as regards data collection, guarantees of origin (GOs), authorisation, and licensing procedures (*previous deadline Q4/2025)* by Q2/2027.
- BiH should swiftly proceed to plans for deployment of renewable generation capacity and, residually, invest in hydropower in a responsible manner, in constructive dialogue with civil society, and in compliance with EU rules on environment, transparency, and accountability, with a view to firstly decarbonise domestic electricity consumption (rather than for export) ((*previous deadline Q2/2026)* by Q2/2027.

	5.6 Energy efficiency

- BiH should prioritise the adoption of the National Energy and Climate Plan that will include energy efficiency targets and measures (Q4/2026), prioritise the adoption of the long-term building renovation strategy, ensuring sufficient coordination at state level ((*previous deadline Q2/2026)* by Q1/2027 and complete alignment with the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Framework Energy Labelling Regulation ((*previous deadline Q1/2026)* by Q2/2027.

	5.7 Nuclear safety and radiation protection

- BiH should establish the necessary technical arrangements to use the required Communication tools for notifying radiological emergencies by Q3/2026.

- BiH should establish a plan / timetable for the alignment of national legislation with the Euratom acquis and provide information on the gaps identified and the progress achieved by Q2/2027.