



## THE IMPORTANCE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN PUBLIC POLICYMAKING IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

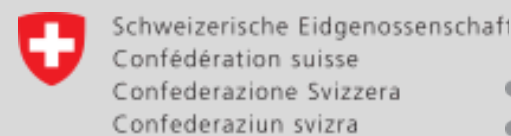


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This study investigates the mechanisms of NGO influence on policymaking in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). The findings in the current literature suggest that the NGO sector in BiH significantly influences the creation of public policies. However, the findings are primarily based on a small number of qualitative analyses and case studies. This research paper aims to systematically investigate the impact of the NGO sector through quantitative analysis of the newly collected data. The survey is conducted at the local, cantonal, entity and state levels on a representative and stratified sample (10% - according to the statistical method) and included managers and activists of non-governmental organizations and governmental officials (ministries and state administrative organizations). One of the main assumptions is that by successfully networking with organizations from neighbouring EU member states, NGOs become respectable actors in public policymaking in BiH. In addition to quantitative analysis, this dissertation provides a detailed overview and theoretical analysis of civil society, NGO sector and public policies, and comparative insight into institutional and non-institutional mechanisms of NGO influence on public policymaking in BiH and their practical application in neighbouring countries and EU. This paper contributes to a better understanding of the role of the nongovernmental sector in public advocacy and the analysis and comparison of current theories of the legal policy framework, structure, size, factors of development of the non-governmental sector. In addition, the study contributes to the assessment of the current state of the mechanism of influence on the creation of public policy agendas in BiH, the formulation of measures for internal structures and networking of NGOs and the definition of their number, structure and types.

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