

**Recognising** the position of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the constitutional and legal system of Bosnia and Herzegovina, aimed to strengthen its control function,

**Aware** that corruption poses a grave danger and threat to the rule of law and the fundamental values of society, democracy and human rights, equality and social justice, undermining democratic institutions, ethical values and public trust in the integrity of institutions,

**Concerned** that corruption involves assets that are significant national economic resources, thereby endangering and hindering economic development and affecting the legal functioning of the market economy, causing adverse financial consequences for individuals and businesses and society as a whole,

**Realising** that it is essential to develop healthy and balanced relations between the state, civil society and the marketplace, and that parliaments be strengthened as effective institutions of accountability in approving the policies and actions of the governments,

**Acknowledging** that corruption can best be controlled by strengthening systems of accountability, transparency and public participation in the governance process,

**Emphasising** the commitment to free society of corruption through consistent implementation of the adopted and adoption of appropriate laws in accordance with the principles and provisions of the UN Convention against Corruption, the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption and the Civil Law Convention on Corruption of the Council of Europe,

**Mindful** of the recommendations of the Council of Europe's Anti-Corruption Committee (GRECO),

**Convinced** that corruption is a transnational rather than a local phenomenon affecting all societies and economies, thus necessitating international cooperation in its prevention and suppression,

**Recognising** the great value of parliamentarians coming together in joint projects to combat corruption, to create common strategies, to share information, experience and lessons learned, as well as to develop initiatives to strengthen parliaments in the fight against corruption,

**Resolved** to be actively involved in the work of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC), to strengthen the role of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the prevention and fight against corruption,

A group of parliamentarians of the both houses of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, at its constitutional session held on 9. December 2016, agreed on the following

**CHARTER**  
**of the Global Organisation of Parliamentarians against Corruption in the**  
**Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**Article 1**  
**Name**

The name of the chapter of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC) shall be "The Chapter of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption in the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina", abbreviated as GOPAC PABiH.

**Article 2**  
**Registered Office**

The registered office of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption in the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter GOPAC PABiH) shall be situated at the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Trg Bosne i Hercegovine 1, Sarajevo.

**Article 3**  
**Cooperation**

- (1) GOPAC PABiH cooperates with the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (hereinafter referred to as the Global GOPAC).
- (2) GOPAC PABiH agrees to cooperate with other chapters of the Global GOPAC, either directly or within the regional chapter.

**Article 4**  
**Nature of the GOPAC PABiH**

- (1) GOBAC PABiH is a non-partisan parliamentary group, operating on the principle of voluntariness, democracy, transparency and non-discrimination on any grounds.
- (2) GOBAC PABiH brings together parliamentarians and other stakeholders to combat corruption, improve transparency and accountability within the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in order to ensure high standards of integrity in the public sector.

**Article 5**  
**Charter of the GOPAC PABiH**

The Charter of the GOPAC PABiH is in line with the goals and tasks of the Global GOPAC and is in line with the Charter of the Global GOPAC.

**Article 6**  
**Objectives of the GOPAC PABiH**

- (1) The objective of the Charter of the GOPAC PABiH is prevention and combating corruption, promoting the principle of transparency and accountability in order to ensure high standards of integrity, in particular:
  - a) to fulfil the objectives of the Global GOPAC relating to the establishment of standards of conduct designed to promote transparency, accountability and good governance,
  - b) to promote the rule of law and the accountability of government institutions in BiH,
  - c) to develop capacity of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter: PABiH) so as to strengthen its control function and democratic oversight of institutions of the executive branch at the level of BiH,

- d) to facilitate the exchange of information, knowledge, best practice and experience among members of the GOPAC PABiH on anti-corruption measures,
- e) to encourage parliamentarians of both houses of the PABiH to enact legislation that promotes transparency, accountability and good governance,
- f) to promote measures aimed at dealing effectively with corruption and to raise general awareness on the issue of corruption at all levels of society,
- g) to educate parliamentarians of the PABiH on the existence, nature and ways of prevention and combating corruption,
- h) to work for the improvement of the capacities of BiH institutions to deal effectively with corruption,
- i) cooperation with national and regional bodies in the mobilisation of resources for anti-corruption programmes, including:
  - supporting the activities of other GOPAC chapters internationally,
  - information sharing through the use of websites, e-mail and other services
  - participation in anti-corruption seminars and workshops,
  - liaising with and working in co-operation with international organisations, parliamentary institutions of other countries, government institutions as well as judicial institutions, civil society, and other organisations on all matters aimed at improving governance, transparency and accountability,
  - conducting research, data sharing and disseminating information on best practices and experiences, and
  - promoting the causes of members of the GOPAC PABiH in furtherance of the aims and objectives of the organisation.
- j) all other things as are conducive to promoting and supporting the realisation of the GOPAC objectives.

## **Article7**

### **Decision Making**

Decisions of the GOPAC PABiH shall be made by majority vote of those present and voting, provided that such a majority includes one third of the present representatives of each constituent people.

## **Article8**

### **Membership**

- (1) Full membership in the GOPAC PABiH shall be available to parliamentarians and former parliamentarians of the PABiH.
- (2) Membership in the GOPAC PABiH shall be acquired upon application.
- (3) Membership in the GOPAC PABiH also includes membership in the Global GOPAC.
- (4) Upon application to the GOPAC PABiH, the status of associate member shall be granted to independent organs and bodies at the level of BiH, scientific and educational institutions, civil society organisations, and international organizations and institutions that share common goals with the Global GOPAC.

## **Article9**

### **Code of Conduct**

- (1) All members shall behave and conduct their affairs in a manner consistent with the values and goals of the GOPAC PABiH and the Global GOPAC, promote it and strive to uphold the integrity of those values.
- (2) A member must avoid conflicts of interest in accordance with the effective legislation.
- (3) A member must report to the Executive Committee of the GOPAC PABiH and the Board of Directors of the GOPAC all potential conflicts of interest as soon as the member becomes aware of any circumstances which may give rise to a conflict of interest.

**Article10**  
**Bodies of the GOPAC PABiH**

- (1) The GOPAC PABiH shall have its Executive Committee.
- (2) Professional and administrative - technical tasks for the GOPAC PABiH shall be performed by the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Article 11**  
**Executive Committee**

- (1) The Committee shall be comprised of three members.
- (2) Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the GOPAC PABiH from the ranks of parliamentarians in the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (3) The Executive Committee shall be comprised of a Chair, First and Second Deputy Chairman, from the ranks of the three constituent peoples in BiH.
- (4) The Chair and the First Deputy Chair cannot be members of the same House of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (5) Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected annually.
- (6) Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a period of one year, with possibility of re-election for another term.
- (7) Should the Chair of the Executive Board be unable to attend or absent, the First, or the Second Deputy Chair shall act as the substitute.
- (8) The Secretary shall coordinate the work of the GOPAC PABiH and take care of its records.
- (9) Minutes will be kept of meetings of the Executive Committee, which must be signed by the Chair of the Executive Committee and the Secretary.

**Article 12**  
**Scope of Work of the Executive Committee**

(1) The Executive Committee shall:

- a) organise annual and special meetings of the GOPAC PABiH, set the time, venue and agenda of the meeting;
- b) propose the annual calendar of activities and inform the Secretariat of the GOPAC of its annual calendar of activities;
- c) organise activities of the GOPAC PABiH in cooperation with the Secretariat of the GOPAC;
- d) inform the Secretariat of the GOPAC about the activities of the national chapter through a report;
- e) receive all applications for membership or affiliation;
- f) moves the GOPAC PABiH for removal of a member;
- g) represents the GOPAC PABiH,
- h) performs other duties as outlined herein.

(2) Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be summoned by the Chair of the Executive Committee.

(3) The Executive Committee shall decide by consensus of all members of the Executive Committee. In the event of there being no consensus, decisions shall be made by the GOPAC PABiH.

**Article 13**  
**Termination of Membership**

(1) Membership with the GOPAC PABiH shall terminate upon death, removal or voluntary withdrawal from the organisation.

(2) A member of the GOPAC PABiH may be excluded from the organisation:

- a) following the decision of the GOPAC PABiH,
  - b) at a reasoned motion of the Executive Committee, and
  - c) in the event of conduct contrary to values and goals promoted by the GOPAC PABiH and the GOPAC, as outlined herein and in the Statute of the GOPAC.
- (3) A member removed from the register by a decision of the GOPAC PABiH may appeal the decision with the Global Board of Directors of the GOPAC within three months of the date of the decision.
- (4) A member must give the Executive Committee of the GOPAC PABiH a written notice of decision to withdraw from the Global GOPAC.
- (5) The Executive Committee of the GOPAC PABiH shall inform the Board of Directors of the Global GOPAC of the decision to withdraw.

#### **Article 14** **Secretariat**

- (1) The Secretariat shall:
- a) provide professional and administrative services for the GOPAC PABiH and the Executive Committee;
  - b) keep records of membership and inform the Secretariat of the Global GOPAC accordingly;
  - c) promote the work of the GOPAC PABiH and the Global GOPAC, thus contributing to new membership;
  - d) gather and disseminate information concerning the Global GOPAC and its members;
  - e) coordinate the work of members of the GOPAC PABiH;
  - f) inform members about the programme and activities of the GOPAC PABiH;
  - g) maintain liaison and co-ordinate activities between regional chapters, the Secretariat of the Global GOPAC and other groups or institutions;



- h) coordinate representation of the GOPAC PABiH at conferences of the Global GOPAC;
- i) perform other duties as required by GOPAC PABiH and the Executive Committee.

## **Article 15**

### **Funding**

As a non-partisan and voluntary parliamentary group, the work of the GOPAC PABiH is supported by international organisations, foundations and institutions, as well as civil society organisations, through logistical support and specialised projects and programmes.

## **Article 16**

### **Procedure for Amendments of Articles**

- (1) Any member of the GOPAC PABiH may move for modification of this Charter.
- (2) The proposal shall be submitted to the Executive Committee in writing and with reasoning.
- (3) Immediately upon receiving, the Chair of the Executive Committee shall submit the proposal to members of the GOPAC PABiH and the Secretariat of the Global GOPAC.
- (4) Decision to modify this Charter shall be deemed adopted with two thirds of the votes of members of the GOPAC PABiH.
- (5) The decision on modifying this Charter shall be submitted to the Secretariat of the Global GOPAC within 30 days from the day of its adoption.

**Article 17**  
**Dissolution of the GOPAC PABiH**

- (1) One third of members of the GOPAC PABiH may move for dissolution of the GOPAC PABiH.
- (2) The proposal shall be submitted to the Executive Committee in writing and with reasoning.
- (3) Immediately upon receiving, the Chair of the Executive Committee shall submit the proposal to all members of the GOPAC PABiH.
- (4) The Chair of the Executive Committee shall convene a special meeting of the GOPAC PABiH within 15 days of receipt of the proposal for the dissolution of the GOPAC PABiH.
- (5) The GOPAC PABiH shall be dissolved if the proposal has three quarters of the votes of members.
- (6) The decision to dissolve the GOPAC PABiH shall be submitted to the Secretariat of the Global GOPAC within 30 days of the decision being made.

**Article 18**  
**Coming into Effect**

This Charter shall come into effect on the day of its adoption.

In Sarajevo, on 9. 12. 2016.

**MEMBERS OF THE GOPAC PABiH:**

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**Babalj Darko**

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**Gasal Vražalica Maja**

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**Kožul Predrag**

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**Magazinović Saša**

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**Majkić Dušanka**

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**Šepić Senad**

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**Zovko Ljilja**