



Statement by High Representative Christian Schmidt ahead of the 2022 General Elections

Dear citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

tomorrow, you will choose those who will represent you in institutions at the state, entity, and cantonal levels – whom you will entrust with leading the country, meeting your needs, and responding to challenges. I urge all voters in this country to use this democratic right and privilege and take active participation in setting this country's course for the next four years.

Some people say that nothing ever changes and that politics are staying still. Indeed, there are many issues piling up, waiting for your political representatives to roll up their sleeves and fix them. But life never stands still. We have seen, with the pandemic, the war in Ukraine, the rising inflation and the emerging energy crisis, there are always new challenges, and your institutions must be capable of responding to them. Otherwise, your children will respond by leaving this country.

That is why you must take part in tomorrow's decision. You must choose representatives who will work for you and your children, for your prosperity in this beautiful country. Endless political blockades must end. There can be no more technical governments. And institutions must work to finally eradicate discrimination from this country's electoral system.

This starts tomorrow with your civic duty at the polling stations and continues with the swift formation of authorities based on the election results. My office shall be monitoring this process and I will intervene if necessary to make sure your will as voters is respected.

Let us return Bosnia and Herzegovina to the path of prosperity, one that its citizens deserve.