

Summary of the PhD thesis :

Constitutional Reform as a Foundation of Bosnia and Herzegovina's Position in International Politics

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The PhD thesis contains a detailed analysis of the current constitutional framework of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BH) carried out to assess the influence of this framework on the ongoing integration processes of BH with international organisations such as the EU and NATO and the chances for their successful completion. The thesis covers the following topics: (i) main obstacles which need to be overcome by the Balkan federation on its way to membership in the abovementioned organisations, (ii) the question of constitutional reform and the possible directions of evolution of the current framework as well as the assessment of chances and threats which need to be faced by BH in this regard and (iii) the presentation of challenges to be overcome by Bosnia and Herzegovina in the process of establishing its position in the international community.

According to the author, complex, ineffective and unclear constitutional framework imposed by the international community in the Dayton Agreement constitutes the country's main obstacle not only on its way to full membership in the EU and NATO, but also in developing good and stable relations with its neighbours. Without reasonable constitutional reforms BH will not be able to function well on the international political stage. Lack of efficient mechanisms of modern democratic state, weak economy, low level of the citizens' identification with the country as well as the potential threat of the country's breakdown seem to be more or less directly resulting from the lack of adequate reforms of the country's constitutional system over the last 20 years of its existence in the current shape.