

THE COMPLAINTS COMMISSION OF THE PRESS COUNCIL IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

held

its 58th SESSION

Sarajevo, 14.04.2014

48 complaints about the writings of the press and online media were received in total

The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 14.04.2014, held its fifty-eighth session during which it considered complaints about the writing of the press and online media, received in the period from February to April 2014. The Press Council in BiH received a total of 48 complaints, out of which 14 were considered at the session.

The Complaints Commission upheld 9 complaints, where breaches of the Press Code of BiH were found. 4 complaints were not upheld because no breaches of the Press Cod of BiH were found, and 1 complaint was not considered being that the identity of the complainant was unknown.

32 complaints were resolved through self-regulation, while 2 complaints were out of the Press Council in BiH's jurisdiction, being that they regard content published on social media.

Complaints upheld:

1. MR. SENUDIN SAFIC - portal INMEDIA.BA: The Press Council in BiH received Mr. Senudin Safic's complaint regarding the article "Sanctions against the Organizers" published on the portal inmedia.ba on 12.02.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH found breach of Article 1 - Public Interest, Article 2 - Editorial Responsibility, and Article 5 - Accuracy and Fair Reporting, of the Press Code of BiH.

2. SARAJEVO OPEN CENTER - daily "DNEVNI AVAZ": Complaint to the article "Pilots were kissing on the Parking lot!?" published in the daily "Dnevni Avaz" on 05.03.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH found breach of General Provisions, Article 4a - Gender Equality and Respect for Individuality, Article 5 - Accuracy and Fair Reporting, Article 7 - Opportunity to Reply, Article 15 - Complaints, of the Press Code of BiH.

3. MR. SADIK AHMETOVIC - daily "DNEVNI AVAZ": Complaint regarding statements from the article "A Pedophile is defending Alija?!" published in the daily "Dnevni Avaz" on 21.03.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH found breach of Article 7 - Opportunity to Reply, Article 10 - Persons charged with Criminal Offenses, and Article 15 - Complaints, of the Press Code of BiH.

4. MR. SADIK AHMETOVIC – portal AVAZ.BA: Complaint regarding statements from the article “A Pedophile is defending Alija?!” published on the portal avaz.ba on 21.03.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH found breach of Article 7 - Opportunity to Reply, Article 10 - Persons charged with Criminal Offenses, and Article 15 - Complaints, of the Press Code of BiH.

5. MS. NANA PILAVIC - news agency PATRIA: Complaint about the article “On March 5th, Doctors had to Run to Save the One-Year old Boy!” published on 19.03.2014. Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH found breach of Article 7 - Opportunity to Reply, and Article 15 - Complaints, of the Press Code of BiH.

6. MS. NANA PILAVIC - portal CIK.BA: Complaint about the article “Death due to the Blockade - In the Midst of the Protests: The ambulance could not make it to the Child... His mother carried him running, but she did not make it on Time”, published on the portal cik.ba on 19.03.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH found breach of Article 7 - Opportunity to Reply, and Article 15 - Complaints, of the Press Code of BiH.

7. COMPLAINTS COMMISSION OF THE PRESS COUNCIL IN BIH - portal AVAZ.BA: Complaint about the photograph published with the article “Disturbing: A Pedestrian died on the Spot after a Golf hit Her!” on the portal avaz.ba on 01.04.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH found breach of Article 2 - Editorial Responsibility, and Article 9 - Privacy, of the Press Code of BiH.

8. THE COMPLAINTS COMMISSION OF THE PRESS COUNCIL IN BIH - daily "DNEVNI AVAZ": Complaint regarding the article “Erdoan’s Fart”, published in the daily “Dnevni Avaz” on 11.03.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH found breach of General Provisions, of the Press Code of BiH.

9. THE COMPLAINTS COMMISSION OF THE PRESS COUNCIL IN BIH – portal AVAZ.BA:

Complaint regarding the article “Erdoan’s Fart”, published on the portal avaz.ba on 11.03.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH found breach of General Provisions, of the Press Code of BiH

Complaints that were not upheld because no breaches of the Press Code of BiH were found:

1. MR. AZER ZILIC - daily "OSLOBODJENJE": Complaint regarding the article “The Music School was Forcefully Occupied” published in the daily “Oslobodjenje” on 04.02.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH did not find any breaches of the Press Code of BiH.

2. MR. AZER ZILIC - daily "OSLOBODJENJE": Complaint regarding the article “Around Ten Teachers did not Come to Work” published in the daily “Oslobodjenje” on 30.01.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council did not find any breaches of the Press Code of BiH.

3. MR. AZER ZILIC - daily "OSLOBODJENJE": Complaint regarding the article “Bajraktarevic is not coming to Work, the School Seals are Missing” published in the daily “Oslobodjenje” on 21.01.2014.

Complaint not upheld: The Complaints Commission of the Press Council did not find any breaches of the Press Code of BiH.

4. MR. AZER ZILIC - daily "OSLOBODJENJE": Complaint regarding the article "Educational Workers announced a General Strike" published in the daily "Oslobodjenje" on 14.03.2014. The Complaints Commission of the Press Council in BiH did not find any breaches of the Press Code of BiH.

Complaint not considered because of noncompliance with the complaints procedure:

1. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal PALELIVE.COM: Complaint regarding visitor comments posted under the article "Provocation: The Son of Ramiz Delalic was Wilding with his Friends on Jahorina", published on the portal palelive.com on 04.03.2014. The Complaints Commission of Press Council in BiH did not consider the complaint being that the identity of the complainant is not known.

Complaints solved through self-regulation, that is, by the publishing of denials, reactions, correction, apologies, or by removing comments that contain hate speech, incitement and discrimination:

1. MS. NANA PILAVIC - portal BANJALUKAIN.COM: Denial to the article "TRAGEDY AT THE PROTESTS: Drama on the Streets of Sarajevo: On March 5th, Doctors ran to save the Life of a One-Year Old Boy, but could not get through the Blocked City Center", published on the portal banjulukain.com on 19.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, Ms. Pilavic's denial was published on the portal banjulukain.com on 03.04.2014, under the title "DENIAL TO THE ARTICLE 'TRAGEDY AT THE PROTESTS': Why does the Agency Patria use the Child's Death to Deceive the Public?!"

2. MS. NANA PILAVIC - portal SOURCE.BA: Denial to the article “Due to the Blockade, Sarajevo Doctors ran to save a Boy, but the Child Passed”, published on the portal source.ba on 19.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, Ms. Pilavic’s denial was published on the portal source.ba on 02.04.2014, under the superscript “Pilavic denies the News that the Child died because of the Blockade” and the title “The Vehicle with the Child was Allowed through Immediately, we pushed it to Start”.

3. MS. NANA PILAVIC - portal BH-INDEX.BA: Denial to the article “A Baby died due to the Blockade of Traffic in Sarajevo” published on the portal bh-index.com on 20.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, Ms. Pilavic's denial was published on the portal bh-index.ba on 02.04.2014, under the title “Pilavic denies the News that the Baby died because of the Blockade: The Vehicle with the Child was allowed through immediately”.

4. MS. NANA PILAVIC - portal EKSKLUZIVA.BA: Denial to the article “A Baby died due to the Traffic Blockade in Sarajevo?” published on the portal ekskluziva.ba on 19.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, Ms. Pilavic’s denial was published on the portal ekskluziva.ba on 04.04.2014, under the title “Denial to the Publication stating that a Baby in Sarajevo died due to the Traffic Blockade!”

5. MS. NANA PILAVIC - portal RADIOSARAJEVO.BA: Denial to the article “A Baby died due to the Traffic Blockade in Sarajevo?” published on the portal radiosarajevo.ba on 19.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, Ms. Pilavic's denial was published on the portal radiosarajevo.ba on 04.04.2014, under the title "Denial to the News of the NAP Agency: Someone should be Responsible for the Manipulation".

6. MS. NANA PILAVIC - portal DEPO.BA: Denial to the article “TRAGEDY AT THE PROTESTS: Drama on the Streets of Sarajevo: On March 5th, Doctors ran to save the Life of a One-Year Old Boy, but could not get through the Blocked City Center”, published on the portal depo.ba on 19.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, Ms. Pilavic’s denial was published on the portal depo.ba on 03.04.2014, under the title “DENIAL TO THE ARTICLE ‘TRAGEDY AT THE PROTESTS’: Why does the Agency Patria use the Child’s Death to

Deceive the Public?!"

7. MS. NANA PILAVIC - portal SLOBODNA-BOSNA.BA: Denial to the article "DEATH DUE TO THE BLOCKADE? The Ambulance could not reach the Child who swallowed a Ball, the Mom carried him while running but She did not make it in Time!" published on the portal ekskluziva.ba on 19.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, Ms. Pilavic's denial was published on the portal slobodna-bosna.ba on 07.04.2014, under the title "The Working Group for Protest Denied the News from the Patria News Agency".

8. MS DZENITA MEMIC, on behalf of THE INFORMAL GROUP FOR CITIZENS SUPPORT IN BIH MOVEMENT/PLAN BIH - portal NEZAVISNE.COM: Request for corrections of the inaccurate information in the article "They are seeking a Civil Constitutions from Vienna". Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the reaction was published on 01.04.2014 under the title "The Informal Group for Citizen Support - Plan BiH: Mono-ethnic Associations are behind Us."

9. COMPLAINT OF CITIZEN B.J. - portal KLIX.BA: Complaint regarding inaccurate statements published in the article "The Youngest Victim on the Malaysia Airlines Flight was Two Years Old", on 24.03.2014 on the portal klix.ba. The complainant notes that article states that "the Iranian woman Pouria Nour Mohammad Mehrdad (18) was one of two Iranians on this plane", but the "person in question is not a female but a male, a teenager." Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the incorrect statements published in the article "The Youngest Victim on the Malaysia Airlines Flight was Two Years Old" were corrected.

10. DELEGATION OF THE EU TO BIH - portal EKRAN.BA: Reaction regarding statements from the article "Scandalous: Corruption in IPA Projects?" published on the portal ekran.ba on 28.02.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the reaction of the Delegation of the EU to BiH and of the Special Representative of the European Union was published on the portal ekran.ba on 23.03.2014 under the title "Reaction to the Article of the Portal Ekran.ba".

11. COMPLAINT OF CITIZEN B.J. - portal NEZAVISNE.COM: Request for the publication of the correction to false statements published in the article "TV Series with the Biggest Seducers,

Players and Womanizers”, published on 18.03.2014 on the portal nezavisne.com. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the false statements were removed from the article “TV Series with the Biggest Seducers, Players and Womanizers”.

12. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal KLIX.BA: Request for the removal of comments , due to “blatant inappropriateness”, posted by the visitors: MalcolmX, _MoStAr_, GeneralBHF, Srbin presretac, gledaj.me, ada_294, Glogovac, haker, Dijasporkaa, october, mimii19, EmirBekric, dog_killer, Gentleman1, slovojed, rz-brzotr, max mad, ynwa, NezavisnaHercegBosna, Volim_Hercegovinu, devils riper, jasamjajeremija, Arm1n, Nesika, Kiki Musampa, KeskinOmmër, snajperista44, rajvoSaShaBa, nestranacki, Bosnausrcu, Raso=Fahro, @vezirac@, _Nacista_, hoce nece, moks, hpcards, 5 Korpus Baby, franc, evonik, garlic.bread.737, Svi_Smo_SRBI, adukakadu, MH1, sakib.zahirovic, vjecnokonaciste, Đontra Volta, Warsame., Brad Pitta, mr.beg, REPUBLIKA BIH, dino-gambino, amylee, gazija007, ensar.mehic.92, Japalak D., SARAJEVO2014, edin.spahic.5458, pizza, Paša moj solidni !, mirza.omerasevicringispil, kahveni_mlin, backy, kiloSaR, Jaski, kikser, TalkingBad, xPlode, hrkljus10, Hodi_ga_maaj, tucač, Crni.ILko, moha85, Seffer, edmund_hilary, escobar_, Feget27, horejsio_kejn .The comments were posted under the article “The Game between BiH and Serbia was Stopped due to cheering of ‘Knife, Wire, Srebrenica””, published on the portal klix.ba on 11.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH and professional cooperation with the editor of the portal klix.ba, the comments containing hate speech, posted under the article “The Game between BiH and Serbia was Stopped due to cheering of ‘Knife, Wire, Srebrenica”” were removed.

13. MS. ANDREA VUKOVIC - daily “DNEVNI LIST”: Request for the publication of correction to inaccurate statements from the article “Money Laundering Investigation or an Attack against Igor Radojic?” published on 09.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH the denial was published on 18.03.2014 under the title “They are Falsely Accusing Us with the Goal of Discrediting the Biggest and Most Important PR Agency”.

14. ASSOCIATION OF COMPOSERS AND MUSIC CREATORS - portal JAVNO.BA: Denial regarding the article “Croatian Media seek for AMUS’s Operating License to be revoked”, published on the portal javno.ba on 19.02.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the denial of the Association of Composers and Music Creators (AMUS), was published on the portal javno.ba on 04.03.2014 under the title “DENIAL: Only AMUS has an Operating License!”

15. ASSOCIATION OF COMPOSERS AND MUSIC CREATORS - portal

REPUBLIKAINFO.COM: denial regarding the article "Croatian Media seek for AMUS's Operating License to be revoked" published on the portal republikainfo.com 19.02.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the denial of the Association of Composers and Music Creators (AMUS), was published on the portal republikainfo.com on 04.03.2014 under the title "AMUS replied to the Radio Stations: Music Theft is just like any other Theft!"

16. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal DEPO.BA: Denial and apology regarding statements from the article "Photo and Video/Counterattack to the Invasion of the Music School: Posters stating 'The Criminal Power of BiH' with the picture of Mayor Senaid Memić appeared in Ilidza", published on the portal depo.ba on 23.02.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the denial titled "Mehmed Bajraktarević reacts to the writings of Depo portal: I am not the former Director of the Ilidza Music School, nor am I a Member of any Political Party" and the apology to Mr. Mehmed Bajraktarević were published on the portal depo.ba on 19.03.2014.

17. MR. AMIR ZUKIĆ - daily "DNEVNI AVAZ": Denial to statements from the article "10 Years of Legal Battles with the Management of Himzo Humo Elementary School", published in the daily "Dnevni Avaz" on 19.02.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the denial titled "Mriha Bajramović's Statements are Not True" was published in the daily "Dnevni Avaz" on 27.02.2014.

18. COMPLAINT OF CITIZEN B.J. - portal AVAZ.BA: Complaint regarding the article "This is the Monster Steppfather and the Family of the Boy that was Murdered in Hadzici", published on the portal avaz.ba on 27.02.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH the article was removed from the portal.

19. MR. ADMIN PLEHIĆ - portal CROPORTAL.BA: Complaint due to the copying of the article "Official Zagreb does not support the Third Entity" without citing the source. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the article was removed from the portal.

20. BIH PROSECUTION - magazine "SLOBODNA BOSNA": Reaction regarding statements

from the article "The BiH Prosecution is conducting an Investigation on the unfavorable 'Dynamics of Toilet Paper Consumption'", published in the magazine "Slobodna Bosna" on 13.02.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the BiH Prosecution's reaction was published in the magazine "Slobodna Bosna" on 20.02.2014 under the title "Immediately after the Escalation of the Turmoil during the Citizens' Protests, the Main Prosecutor ordered for two Prosecutors of the BiH Prosecution to be alert and on the scene".

21. METAL WORKERS' SYNDICATE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - daily

"OSLOBODJENJE": Denial to the article "New Mandate for Ismet Bajramovic?" published on 30.01.2013 in the daily "Oslobodjenje". Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the denial of the Metal Workers' Syndicate of BiH was published under the title "The Metal Workers are for Bajramovic", published in the daily "Oslobodjenje" on 20.02.2014 as a subparagraph of the article "By Fleeing they Buried the Workers' Trust".

22. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal NEZAVISNE.COM: Complaint due to inciting and inappropriate comments of visitors Alexandar Jankovic, Mujica Iz Prnjavora and Adil Korajac, under the article "The Ukrainian Embassy reacted to Dodik's Statements" from 20.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the comments containing hate speech were removed.

23. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal NEZAVISNE.COM: Complaint due to inciting and inappropriate comments of visitor Delija Sever, under the article "Simunic is not Giving Up, He feels that he is Ready for Brazil" from 20.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the comments containing hate speech were removed.

24. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal NEZAVISNE.COM: Complaint due to comments of visitors Sandjo Djibril, Janko Jankovic, Halid Dizdarevic, Samir Delic and Najsladji Mali Aleksa Keso, under the article "Dodik: According to the UN Resolution, all People have the Right to Self-Determination" from 20.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the comments containing hate speech were removed.

25. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal NEZAVISNE.COM: Request for removal of comments and ban of the visitor nicked Dragac Cavic. The comments were posted under the article "Kosovo Became the Trigger for Referendums and Independence" from 12.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the comments containing hate speech were removed.

26. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal NEZAVISNE.COM: Request for removal of comments and ban of the visitors nicked Dragan Zebić, Djoko Karac, Bellà Queen. The comments were posted under the article "No One was Held Accountable for the Murder of Serbian Girls" from 11.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the comments containing hate speech were removed.

27. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal NEZAVISNE.COM: Request for removal of comments and ban of the visitors nicked: Azzur Azzur, Halit Surovic, Zemka Kadiric-Jusufcehajic, Izet Hadzic, Zeljko Vasic, Nihada Biogradlija-Sadibasic, Marijana Kostic, Simic Branislav, Vladimir Petrovic, Samir Memić, Crni Vuk, Sakib Kahrimanović, Edin Aganovic, Nemanja Srpski Borac, Muris Dzekic, Allma Handukic. The comments were posted under the article "Why was the Friendly Match between Serbia and BiH stopped" from 11.03.2014. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the comments containing hate speech were removed.

28. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal KLIX.BA: Request for ban of the visitor nicked BosnaPrkosna due to hate speech. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the visitor was banned from the portal.

29. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal KLIX.BA: Request for ban of the visitor nicked Genocidesurvivor due to hate speech. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the visitor was banned from the portal.

30. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal KLIX.BA: Request for ban of the visitor nicked jabakogi due to hate speech. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the visitor was banned from the portal.

31. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal KLIX.BA: Request for ban of the visitor nicked Admir.ba due to hate speech. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the visitor was banned from the portal.

32. CITIZEN'S COMPLAINT - portal KLIX.BA: Request for ban of the visitor nicked Đuro tee gha zgooro due to hate speech. Upon mediation of the Press Council in BiH, the visitor was banned from the portal.

Complaints out of the jurisdiction of the Press Council in BiH:

1. MR. ALEKSANDAR RUDAKIJEVIC - forum PRNJAVOR.INFO: Complaint due to offences on the basis of religion, stated on the forum prnjavor.info. The Press Council in BiH is not responsible for content published on internet forums.

2. MR. SUAD - SUVAD KARAGIC - radio SANA: Request for the publication of a denial and apology. The Press Council in BiH is not responsible for content published on electronic media.