



**Permanent Mission of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
to the United Nations**

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**Statement**

By

**H.E. Dr. Halimah DeShong**  
Second Deputy Permanent Representative

**Debate on Bosnia and Herzegovina**

United Nations Security Council

3 November 2021

New York

Please check against delivery

Thank you, Mr. President.

We begin by expressing thanks to the Office of the High Representative for its commitment to help promote the political process, and the full implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We also take this opportunity to recognize the continued work of the EUFOR-Althea, as this operation plays a key role in supporting the efforts to maintain a safe and secure environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

We are concerned by the recent political developments that threaten the stability of the country and undermine progress achieved over the last twenty-six years. All political leaders must actively endeavour to leverage the common opportunities and engage in constructive dialogue to implement much-needed reforms, including the political, socio-economic, and electoral reforms, for the benefit of its citizens. Our delegation, therefore, encourages the leaders to uphold their commitments pursuant to the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which is a fundamental pillar for building lasting peace and stability in the country. Bosnia and Herzegovina must also strive to act hand in hand with each other to help mitigate the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is concerning that the latest report on the implementation of the Peace Agreement includes an escalation of divisive rhetoric, glorification of war criminals, and actions targeted at the country's Constitution. These actions only erode the otherwise significant steps that have been made in nation-building. Above all, we encourage the parties to improve the rule of law, tackle corruption and improve the overall political environment in the country so the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina can enjoy peace and be treated with respect and dignity.

To conclude, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines reaffirms its support for the stability, political independence and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina. We encourage the leaders to put aside their differences and work together with the Members of the Steering Board of the Peace Implementation Council (PIC SB) to fully implement the Dayton Peace Agreement and the objectives and conditions of the 5+2 agenda. We also encourage all parties to continue engaging with the international community, particularly the Security Council, for the stability and long-term security of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Thank you.

