



Electoral Risk Management in B&H

Irena Hadziabdic, CEC BiH member

Bosnia and Herzegovina – specific national context

Complex administrative structure:

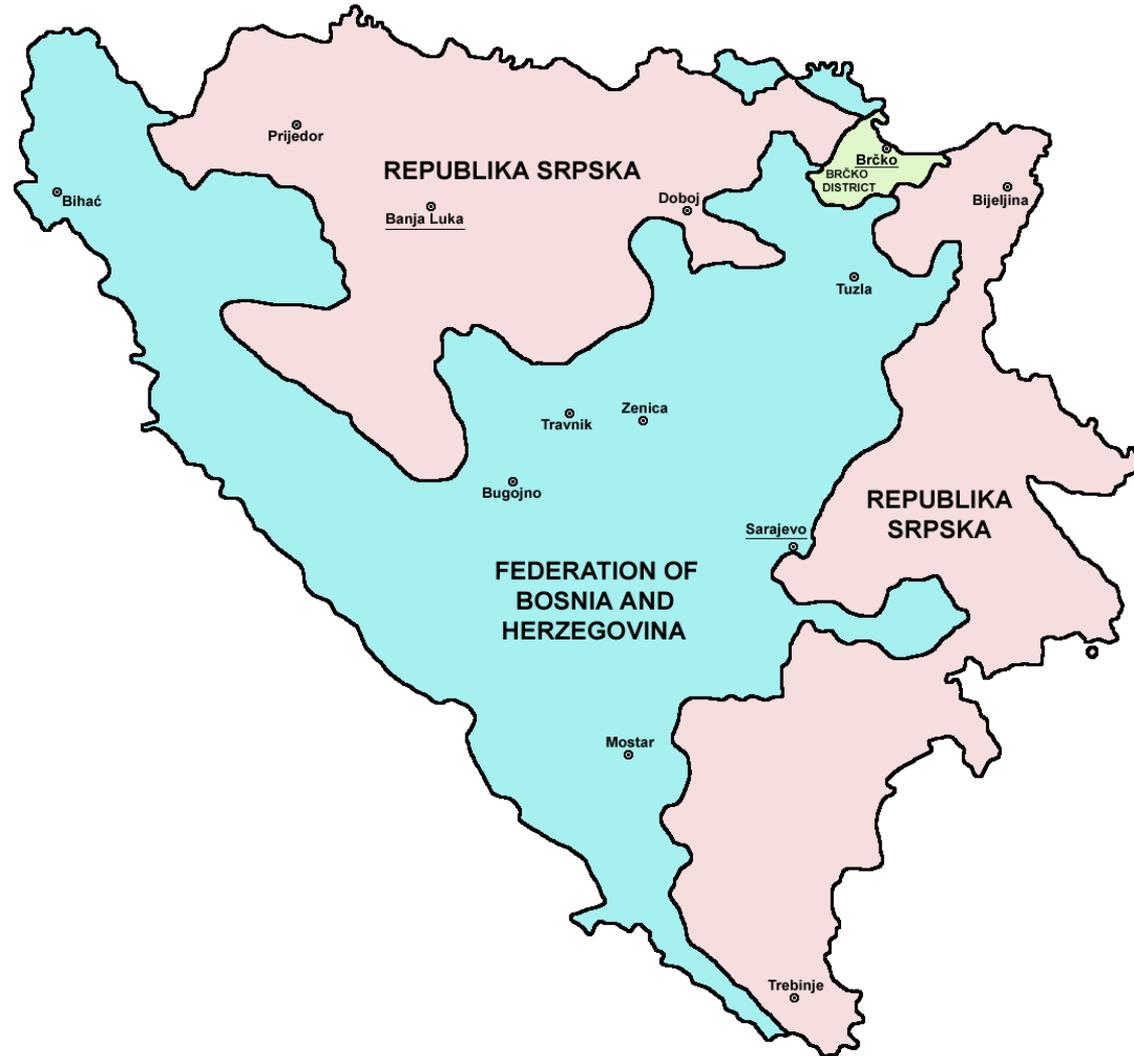
- State level,
- two entities (Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska),
- 10 cantons in FBiH,
- Brcko District BiH

General Elections :

- BiH Presidency
- State and entities' parliaments
- Cantonal assemblies

Local Elections:

- 143 municipal/cities Councils
- Mayors
- Brcko District BiH Assembly



Complex electoral system with asymmetric solutions:	18 changes and amendments to the BiH Law since 2001 % of invalid ballots: 2002 (5,86%); 2004 (6,34%); 2006 (6.90%); 2008 (6.00%); 2010 (6,87%); 2012 (6,05%); 2014 (7,64%) Low turnout (54.47%)
Huge number of political subjects and candidates	2014 General Elections: 3.282.581. voters; 65 political parties; 24 independent candidates and 24 coalitions; in total 753 candidates list with 7.748 candidates
Approx. 3.3 million of voters and different voters' categories	Regular voters; voters who vote in person or in absentia (displaced persons), out of country voters (temporary absent and refugees- vote by mail or in BiH Embassies); Voters registered to vote by mobile team;
Insufficient application of modern electoral solutions	Slow counting process due to the open list system
Election administration	The BiH CEC – main electoral management body; consists of 7 members with 7 year mandate; at municipal level there are 143 MECs (mandate 7 years); Polling station committees (PSCs) are formed ad hoc, nominated by political subjects for each elections; appointed by MECs; approx. 52.000 members of PSCs.
Election manipulations	Out of country registration Unsatisfactory performance of PSCs

ERMTool in BiH-Activities implemented

- The BiH Central Election Commission started using the ERMTool for the first time in 2010

Pilot project 2012

- Support to introduction of e-voting in BiH
- Confidence in election administration
- Confidence in counting process

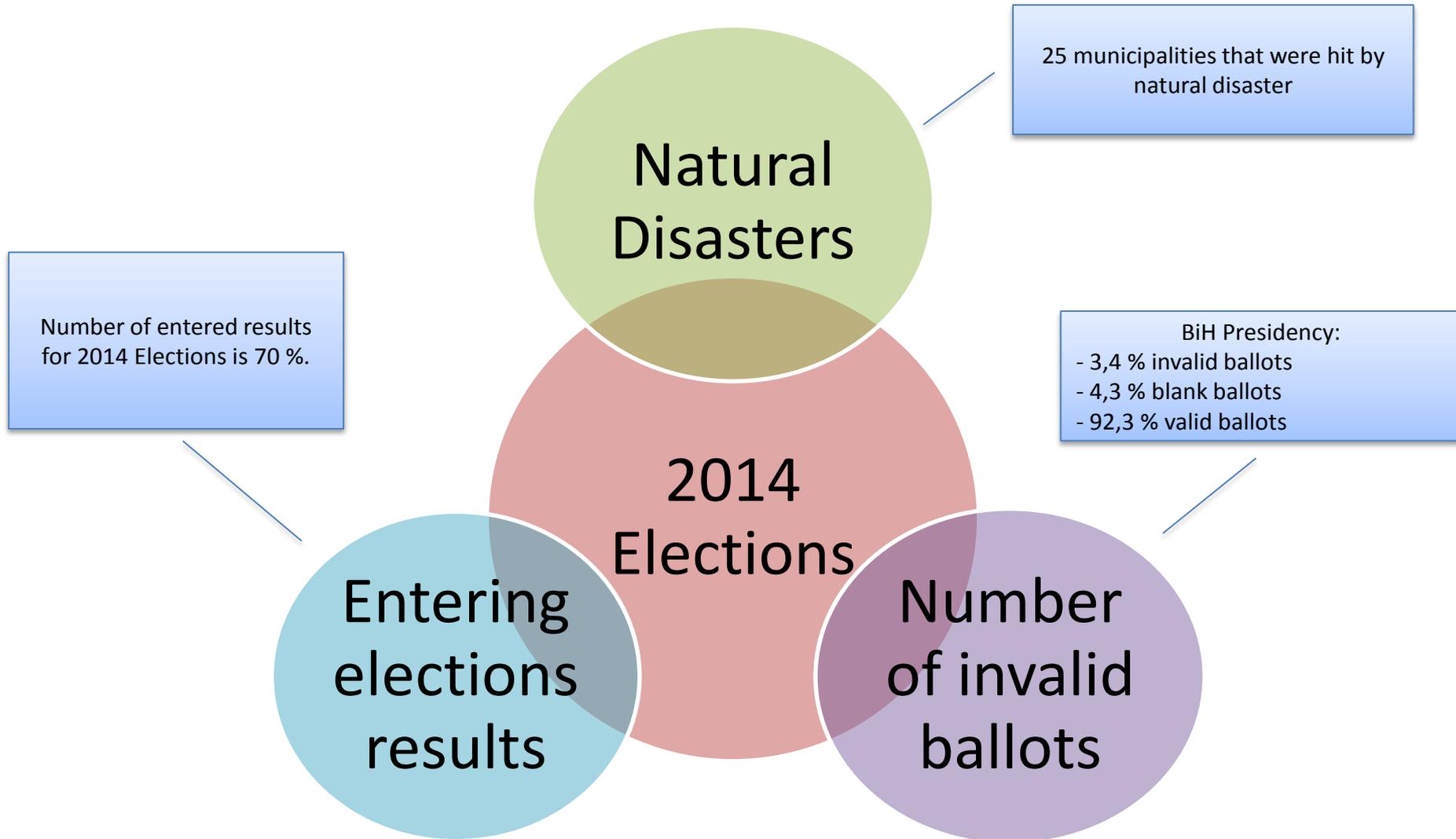
Analysis of 2012 Elections

- Analysis of election commissions' performance
- Analysis of invalid ballots

Monitoring and analysis of 2014 Elections

- Monitoring effects of natural disasters on the elections
- Monitoring the process of entering election results
- Analysis of invalid ballots
- Sanctioning members of the PSCs.

ERMTool used in the 2014 General Elections



Natural Disasters



Analysis

Analysis conducted based on MECs' reports.

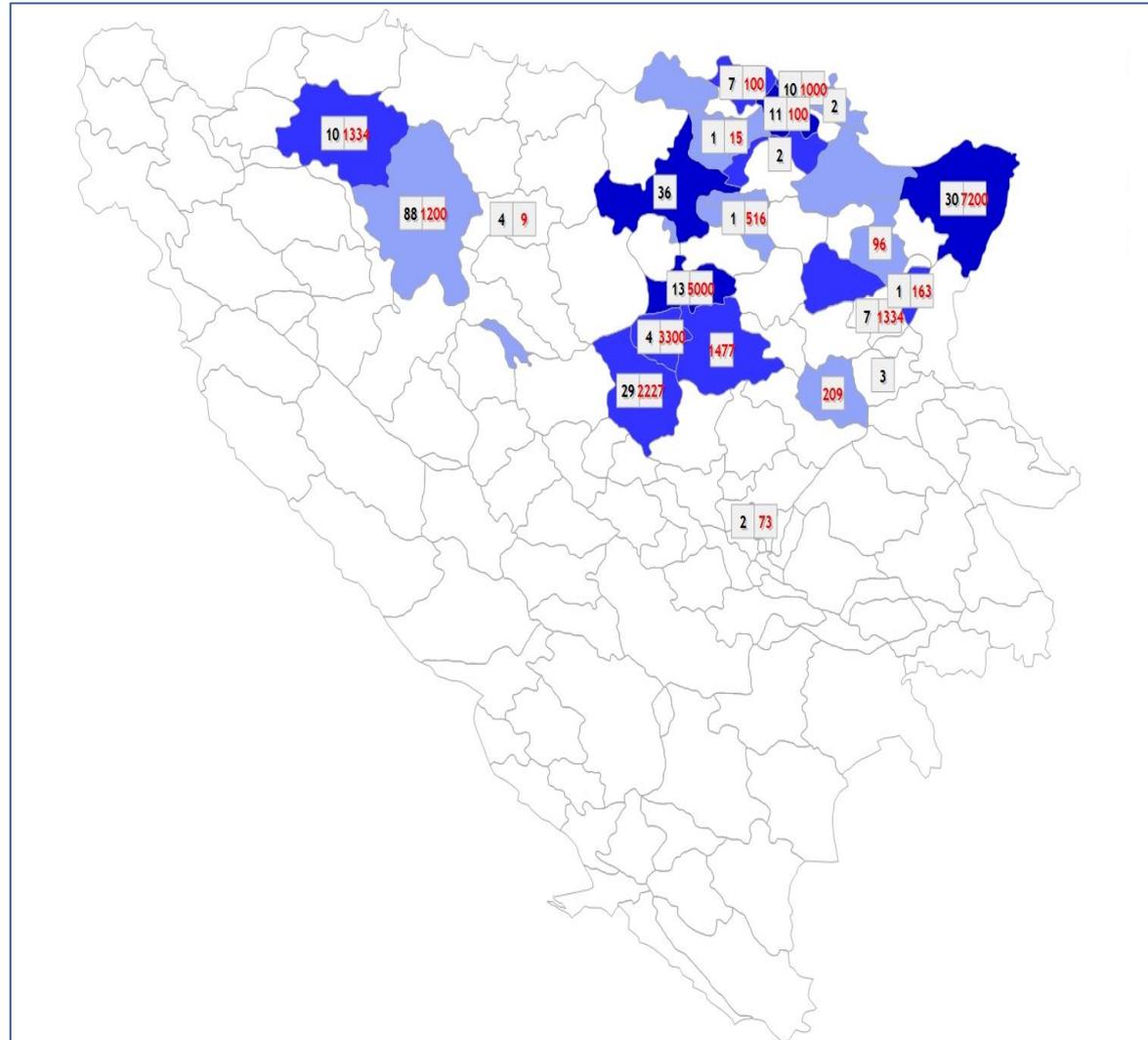
- 183 PSs flooded
- 25.353 voters displaced

-  Flood level 1,2 and 3
-  Number of PSs
-  Number of displaced voters



Result/ Outcome

- Securing new locations for PS,
- Informing the voters about new PS,
- Securing equipment and technical material for polling stations.



PSCs Sanctioning Proceedings Initiated in 2015

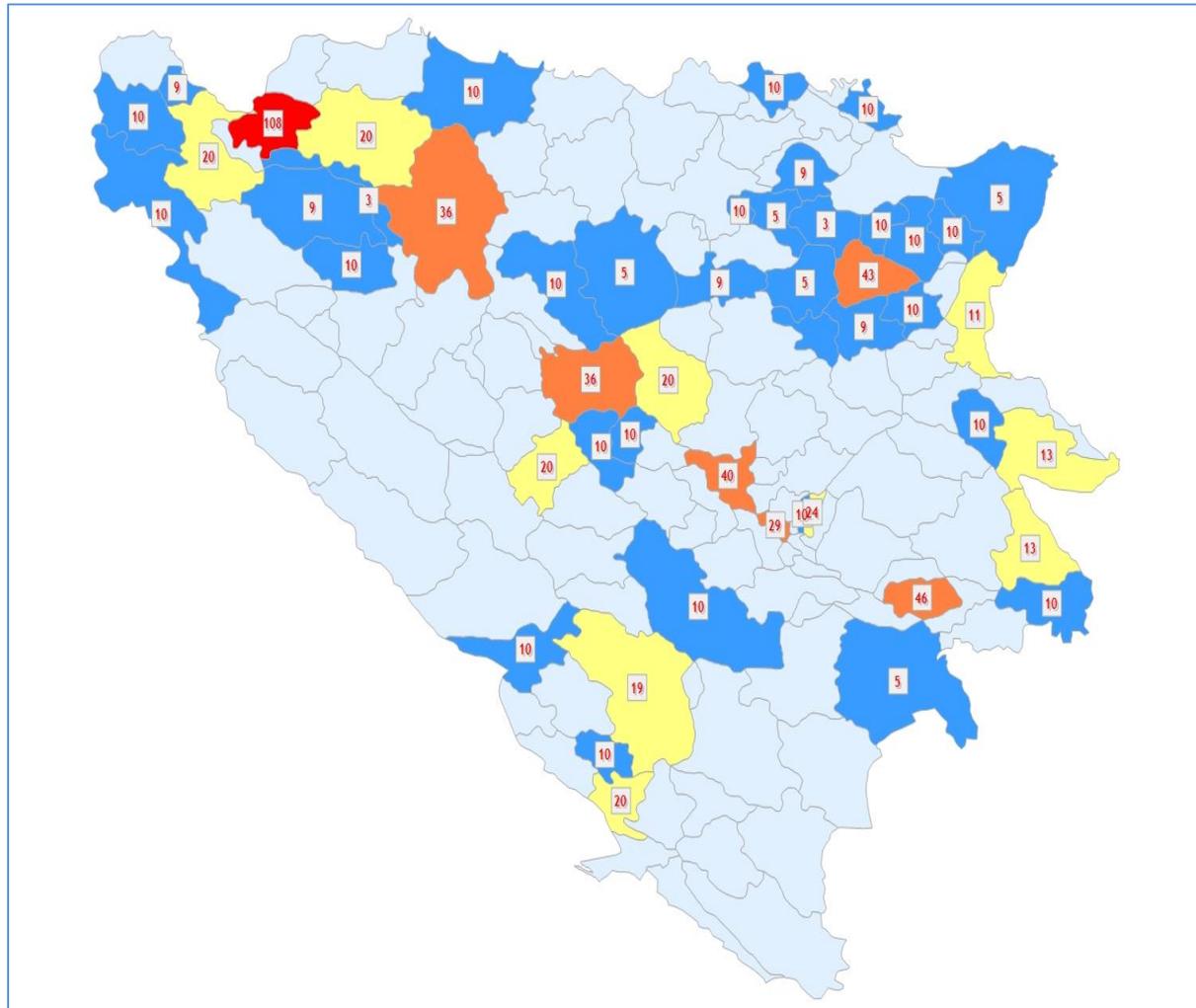


Analiza

Total number of procedures initiated:

794 PSC's members in 49 municipalities

- 1-10 PSC members
- 11-20 PSC members
- 30-50 PSC members
- Above 50 PSC members
- 10 Number of procedures



Policy/Practice Implications

- No formal ERM system exists within the BiH CEC.
- The possibility of using ERMTool by all MECs in BiH is currently being examined. This includes considerations for establishment of a connection via the appropriate digital media (tablets, SMS, or online) with the BiH CEC to enable the mapping and transfer of local level data in a real time. This should facilitate adequate and timely action to be taken by the BiH CEC in order to eliminate situations which could pose potential risk for the electoral process.
- Train at least one staff member in each BiH CEC's department and MECs on how to use the ERMTool.
- Introduction of the practices to use the ERMTool for analysis of the entire election process and report to the BiH CEC.
- The findings of the report could be used for initiating the election related legislation and introduction of better management practices to avoid risks in all segments of the elections.

Irena Hadziabdic

BiH Central Election Commission
Danijela Ozme 7, 71000 Sarajevo, BiH

Tel: +387 33 251 306

Fax: +387 33 251 311

e-mail: irena.hadziabdic@izbori.ba

www.izbori.ba