

**Bosnia and Herzegovina****Vedad Becirovic, Section Vice Chair****Section Vitality**

Bosnia and Herzegovina Section organized elections for ExCom members in January 2021 and new Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary started with their mandate since February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, that will last until the December 31 2022. We do not have the practice of Vice-Chair becoming the next Section Chair, and usually we provide continuity since Chair serves two successive mandates. Section ExCom meetings were organized online due to health precautions and we had a sequence of meetings related to preparation of online conference INDEL 2020, preparation of the section elections, financial and activity annual reporting and membership retention and recruitment. The retention activities focused on elevation to Senior Member status to recognized IEEE members in the Section.

**Students**

List of Student Branches (SB): University of Sarajevo, University of Banja Luka, University of Tuzla, University of East Sarajevo, University of Mostar, International Burch University, Sarajevo School of Science and Technology.

We are facing difficulties in providing continuity of work of our SBs due to pandemic conditions and since the classes are conducted online, students are not present at campuses. We have continued with online activities like participating in IEE-EXtreme 14.0 and we are proud that the SB University of Sarajevo team was ranked 34 this year. Section is providing administrative support to activities organized by Young Professionals – activities linked to Innovation Nation program and awards.

**Affinity Groups**

Bosnia and Herzegovina have exemplary active YP Affinity Group, with active SB AGs. YPAG organized online workshops EPLAN and Tech Mythbusters, and joined online events organized by Turkey Section YPAG: IEEE CS YP Meet-up. Section was engaged in follow-up activities for the competition Innovation Nation (<https://in.ieee.org/about/>). Section will continue to support activities of the YPAG, which mainly switched to online modality. We plan to initiate SB WIE AG formation and revival, and Section is involved in local and international activities linked to promoting women in STEM.

**Chapters**

Active Chapters in the Section are: PES and Joint Chapter IAS/IES/PELS. University of Sarajevo SB PES Chapter is the most active SB Chapter, followed by the PES Chapter of IBU SB. Only University of Sarajevo SB PES Chapter have reported on time and received rebate.

**Industry**

We have traditionally lot of activities with industry (PES BH Days, etc.) but due to pandemic they were minimally organized and linked to conferences sponsorship and subsequent presentation (online).

**Activities since the last report**

In the context of pandemic and health measures preventing social events and gathering, many activities switched to online modality. The main activities in our Section are linked to preparation, conducting and follow up of the conferences technically co-sponsored by our Section. INDEL 2020 was successfully organized in November 2020 in Banja Luka, hosted by University of Banja Luka and Joint Chapter IAS/IES/PELS. The event included in addition to academic part, presentations from industry sponsors.

**Planned activities**

We are now in preparation of the InfoTech 2021 Jahorina. YPAG is planning to continue with online workshops, and PES Chapter will have regular elections and we expect new initiatives.

**How Region 8 can be of help to your Section, members, and activities**

List any challenges you Section is facing and what support is required from the Region 8. Please, also, give us your suggestions for agenda items that you want to be discussed during the R8 Committee meeting.

**Any other issues of interest**