

From Bosnia-Herzegovina

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The position paper on euthanasia from the Task Force of the EAPC seems a helpful, clearly written paper. The ultimate test here will be how easy or difficult it is to translate into Bosnian and use it as a background paper for discussion and debate!

Currently, the paper is not relevant to day-to-day practice in Bosnia-Herzegovina. There has never been any open discussion about euthanasia either pre-war, during the 1992–95 war or subsequently.

We have a particularly complex cultural, social, professional and political post-war environment, which has not been conducive to discussion about such an

emotive subject. Although there is likely to be much common ground among the three main religions here, Muslim, Catholic and the Orthodox Church, rooted in opposition to euthanasia.

However, as we move increasingly towards encompassing European policy and law it is highly likely that, with a new Minister of Health to be appointed in the near future for the next four years, the subject will arise as a formal issue. As individuals some of us have been watching the trends in Europe and discussed the subject among ourselves.