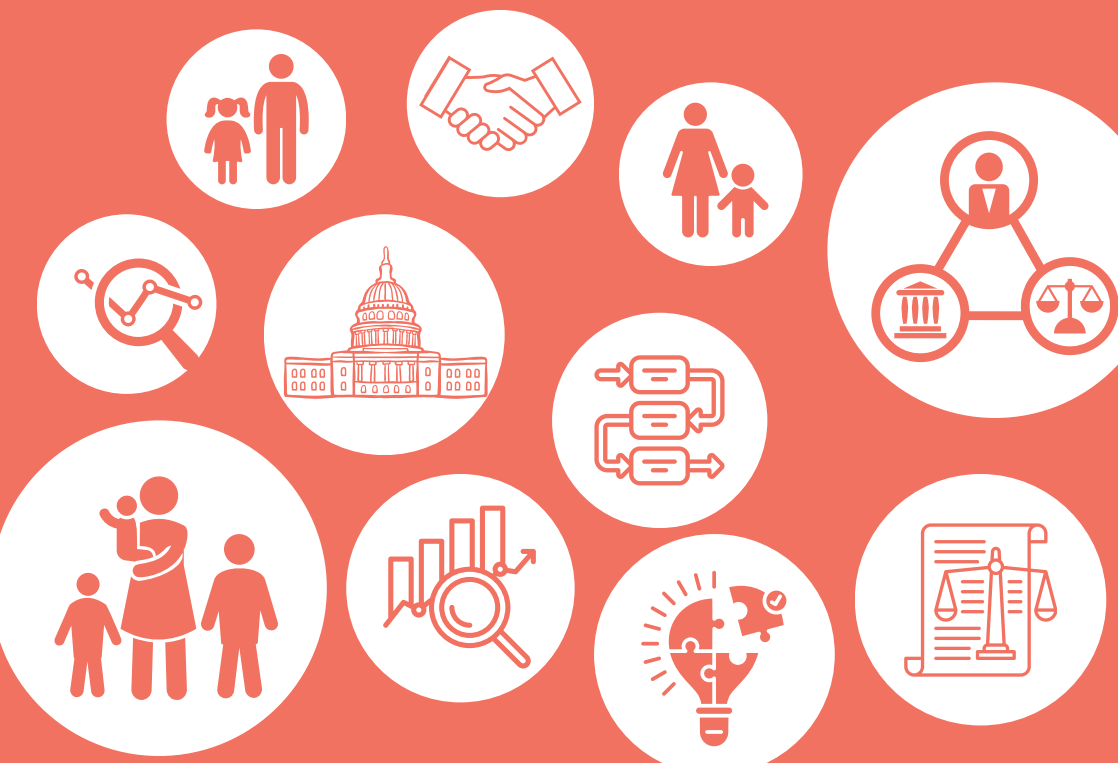


# Comparative Analysis of Compliance of Existing Youth Policies With the Needs of Young People from Single Parents and One-Parent Families in N. Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina



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# Introduction

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Recently, the socio-economic challenges faced by single parents and one-parent families have become a growing concern in many countries, including those in the Western Balkans—specifically, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina in this research. Single parents and one-parent families often experience a combination of financial difficulties, social exclusion, and limited access to essential services, all of which affect the children and young people within these families. The lack or absence of a other parental figure, coupled with additional economic strain, can impact a child's development, their educational achievements, and their social integration, creating long-term challenges that often extend into the teenage years and adulthood.

While youth policies in these countries aim to support young people, there are often specific and unique needs for those from single parents and one-parent families, making it easier to neglect this target group. Despite initiatives from governmental and civil society organizations, as well as researchers and activists working to create inclusive social systems, gaps still exist in the availability of social services, educational assistance, and job opportunities tailored to the needs and lifestyles of this vulnerable demographic. As a result, young individuals from single parents and one-parent families often face discrimination and are disadvantaged compared to their peers from traditional two-parent families.

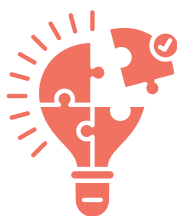


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This comparative research aims to examine the current state of youth policies in North Macedonia, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, focusing specifically on their effectiveness in addressing the needs of young people from single parents and one-parent families. By conducting a comprehensive analysis of existing policies, this study seeks to identify the challenges these youth face and how well these policies meet their needs. The research will also explore the role of governmental and non-governmental organizations in supporting these families and how existing frameworks can be improved to provide more equitable outcomes.



The results of this research are designed to contribute to the ongoing conversations about youth policies and social welfare in the Western Balkans, and ideally influence the next youth strategy plans.



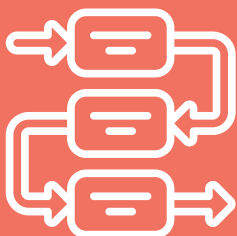
Our aim is to contribute to elevating the rights of single parents and one-parent families by providing specific recommendations for institutions. This research will address critical policy gaps and suggest practical solutions to improve the quality of life for young people from single parents and one-parent families.

# Methodology

This research uses a comparative approach to assess the legislative and policy frameworks for single parents and one-parent families in North Macedonia, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.



By incorporating both qualitative and quantitative methods, such as a review of legal documents, policy analysis, and statistical and demographic data evaluation, the study presents a systematic approach to identifying similarities, differences, and ultimately providing recommendations for future action by government institutions, as well as advocacy material for civil society actors.



The initial phase of the research involved data collection from primary sources, including legal documents such as family laws, social welfare regulations, and youth policies and strategies obtained from official government websites, legal publications, and institutional archives.

In the next phase, the definitions and framework were established to ensure clarity and consistency. The research framework includes essential support systems, such as financial assistance, social services, educational benefits, and youth policies aimed at social inclusion, education, and overall well-being. This framework facilitated categorizing and analysing policy measures, allowing for a systematic comparison across the countries.

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In the third step, a comparative examination was conducted focusing on:

**Legal definitions of "single parent" and "one-parent" families**



**Eligibility criteria and available benefits for youth from single parents and one-parent families**



**Youth policies related to education, financial assistance, and employment support, particularly concerning inclusivity for children from single parents and one-parent families**



**Evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of each country's legislative approach, with an emphasis on the accessibility and consistency of benefits**



**Each country's degree of policy centralization and its effect on accessibility for single parents and one-parent families**



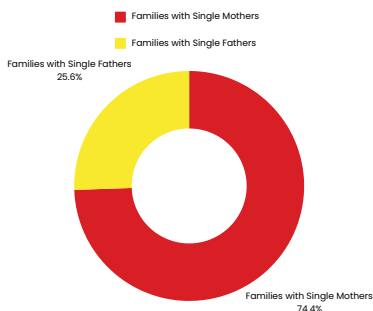
The next step involved analysing the demographic context, incorporating recent census data, demographic surveys, and government records. For Bosnia and Herzegovina, data was further analysed regionally, due to the country's specific functioning (by regions). By integrating insights from the analysis of each country, this step underscored best practices, identified policy gaps, and suggested areas for mutual learning.

Limitations of the study include challenges related to data constraints, particularly concerning recent statistics in certain areas, and inconsistencies in legal terminology that necessitated careful interpretation for comparability. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, fragmented data collection and policy documentation presented additional challenges due to unresponsive institutions. Supplementary sources and international reports were consulted to address these limitations and substantiate the findings.

In summary, this methodology, which integrates legal, policy, and demographic analysis, offers a thorough evaluation of the support structures for single parents and one-parent families in North Macedonia, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. By applying a comparative framework, the study highlights each country's distinctive strengths and challenges while encouraging cross-country learning and potential policy advancements to better support single parents, one-parent families and their children.

# North Macedonia

*Data from the 2021 Population Census in the Republic of North Macedonia shows that there are 26,000 families with single mothers who have at least one child under 25, and over 9,000 families with single fathers who have at least one child under 25.*



Under North Macedonia's Social Protection Law (*Official Gazette No. 104/2019*), a "single parent" is defined as an individual who independently exercises parental rights and responsibilities due to the absence of the other parent - whether they are unknown, deceased, missing, incarcerated for over three years,

or otherwise unable to fulfil their parental duties. The term "one-parent family" generally refers to families where one parent (such as those who are divorced or unmarried) raises children alone. Even though this term is commonly used informally by politicians, social services, professionals, and civil organizations, it is not formally defined in legal terminology.

From the legal point of view, North Macedonian legislation offers benefits for children and youth from single parents including allowances for child benefits, educational supplements, and rights to participation, specifically targeting children as defined by the Social Protection Law. However, children from one-parent families (for example, those with divorced or unmarried parents) frequently find themselves excluded from these benefits. Since 2016, there has been ongoing debate regarding the legal inclusion of one-parent families, but no law has been passed, resulting in insufficient support for the unique challenges these families face.



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On the other hand, when we talk about youth policies, children from single parents and one-parent families can access various educational and housing benefits. For example, students with single mothers or single fathers receive additional points for scholarships and prioritized access to student housing. However, children from one-parent families are almost always excluded from social support programs, such as allowances, unless they meet specific and usually almost impossible criteria related to single-parent status, meaning that those young people from one-parent families do not enjoy these benefits at all. This highlights the need for wider legal recognition of one-parent family structures.



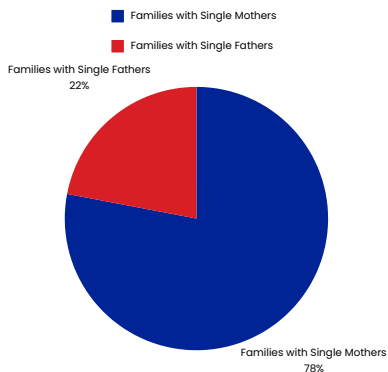
While the legislation in North Macedonia partially addresses the needs of youngsters from single parents, it does not consider those from one-parent families, and the absence of comprehensive legal acknowledgment leaves many young people without essential social protection. Improving legislative recognition could help tackle significant issues faced by children in these family structures, such as gaps in child support and access to education, ultimately promoting equal opportunities across diverse family types.

The Government of the Republic of North Macedonia adopted the National Youth Strategy 2023–2027 on September 26, 2023. The strategy aims to contribute to reducing the barriers faced by young people that hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. In this context, the defined goals and measures aim to provide adequate support for young people, especially those with fewer opportunities. The term "young people with fewer opportunities" refers to young individuals in a disadvantaged position compared to their peers because they face one or more exclusion factors and obstacles.



# Serbia

*In Serbia, according to the latest census, about 21.5% of families with children are single-parent families. Within this percentage, 16.81% are families where the mother is the only parent, while 4.73% are families where the father is the only parent.*



In Serbia, the Constitution briefly acknowledges the term "single parent" stating that a single parent and child are entitled to special legal protection. However, the term remains undefined, with specific details left to be determined by legislation ("Official Gazette RS," No. 98/2006 and 115/2021). The Family Law clarifies this by defining a "single parent" as one whose partner is unknown,

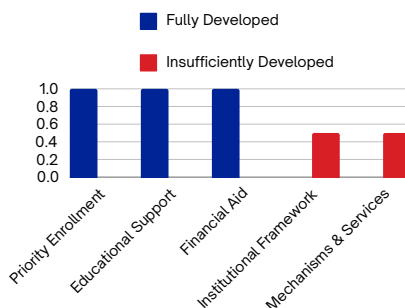
deceased, has been completely deprived of parental rights or legal capacity, or who resides solely with the child without a formal parental rights agreement. This status is also affirmed by court rulings in situations where cohabiting parents lack a parental rights agreement, or if such an agreement exists but is not in the child's best interest. Moreover, Article 28 of the Law on Financial Support for Families with Children defines a "one-parent family" as one where only one parent exercises parental rights. This includes cases where the other parent is unknown, deceased, incapacitated, not required to contribute to child support, stripped of parental rights, incarcerated for over six months, or unable to fulfill support obligations through legal means ("Official Gazette RS," No. 18/2005, 72/2011, and 6/2015).

Serbia's legislative framework outlines a basic structure for identifying and supporting single parents and one-parent families. While several laws address the needs of these families, such as access to social services, health benefits, and financial assistance, there is often significant dependence on broad definitions

that may create gaps in specific legal protections. The lack of clear definitions and consistent terminology across the Constitution, Family Law, and other regulations usually complicates understanding the rights of single parents and one-parent families. There is a need for improvement in definitions, as well as the criteria across laws that could improve the livelihoods and provide more support to these families.



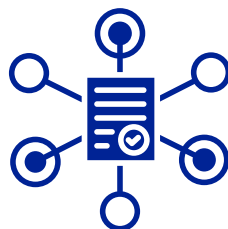
The Youth Law and the recent Strategy for Youth (2023–2030) in Serbia aims to develop a safe, healthy, and inclusive environment for young individuals, including those from single parents and one-parent families. The strategy underscores the need for inclusive social policies, prioritizing data collection and analysis of vulnerable youth groups. However, while there are provisions for children in single parents—such as priority enrolment in preschool, educational support, and financial aid adjustments—these initiatives lack a targeted institutional framework. Specific mechanisms and services designed for children from single parents and one-parent families remain insufficiently developed, which hinders their social integration and inclusion within broader youth policies.



*Status of Provisions for Single-Parent Families in Serbia*

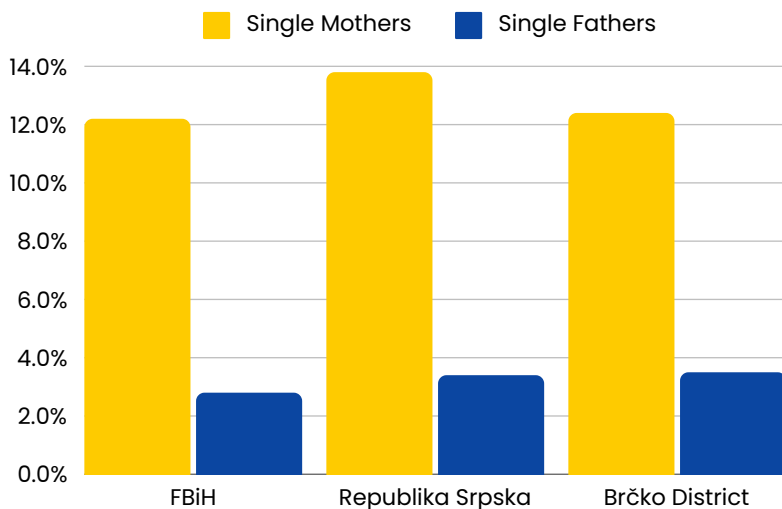
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Children from single and one-parent families in Serbia still face many challenges in accessing their rights within the legislative and youth policy frameworks. Although laws like the Family Law and the Law on Financial Support for Families with Children address some essential needs, such as social services, healthcare, and financial aid, the legislative approach is often disjointed and inconsistent. These children benefit from general policies aimed at vulnerable groups but often lack focused, targeted assistance. For example, while social services, education, and financial aid provisions exist, they frequently do not address the unique challenges encountered by one-parent families. A comprehensive legislative approach, with a specialized focus on addressing the distinct economic and social hurdles faced by these children, could enhance their inclusion and ensure they are not overlooked in broader social policy and youth development efforts.



# Bosnia and Herzegovina

*In Bosnia and Herzegovina, recent census data reveals that around 15.8% of families are single-parent households. Among these, 12.8% are led by single mothers, and 3% by single fathers. In the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH), the figures show that 12.2% of families are led by single mothers and 2.8% by single fathers. In Republic of Srpska, 13.8% of families are headed by single mothers, while 3.4% are led by single fathers. Meanwhile, in the Brčko District, single mothers account for 12.4% of families, and single fathers for 3.5%.*



*Single-Parents Households in BiH by Regions*

**It is important to note that Bosnia and Herzegovina lacks a unified Family Law at the national level; family matters are instead regulated individually within each entity.**

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In the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FB&H), the Family Law does not explicitly define the term "single-parent" Instead, this is addressed in the Law on Social Protection, Civilian Victims of War, and Protection of Families with Children, which describes a single parent as someone who is unmarried, not in a common-law partnership, and solely responsible for their children. In Republic of Srpska, the Family Law provides a narrower definition, stating that a single parent is an individual who independently exercises parental rights when the other parent is deceased or their identity is unknown.



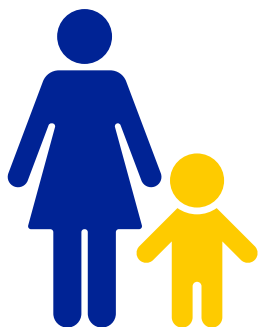
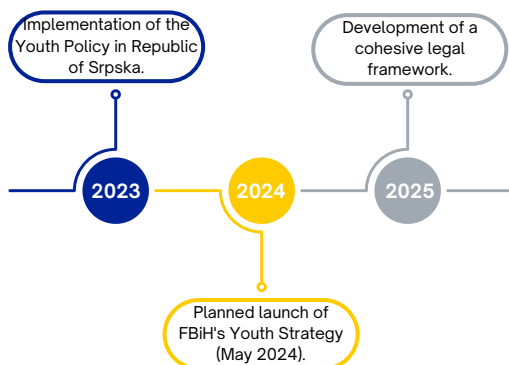
The Brčko District Law on Social Protection offers a more comprehensive definition, identifying a single parent as someone who cares for a child when the other parent is unrecognized, deceased, absent for over six months, or has lost parental rights or legal capacity. The term "one-parent family" is rarely used, lacks public recognition, and is absent from legal frameworks.



The methods for defining and supporting single parents in Bosnia and Herzegovina differ across entities, highlighting the absence of a cohesive national framework. Although social rights for children and youth in single parents—such as child allowances, fee waivers for preschool and educational support—exist, these benefits are not consistently applied across entities. This fragmentation creates disparities in support systems for single-parent families and limits access to benefits based on local policies. Establishing a unified framework with consistent definitions across the nation could better address the specific needs of single parents, enhancing equity and access to social support.

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Youth policies in Bosnia and Herzegovina are structured at the entity level. The Republic of Srpska has implemented a Youth Policy (2023–2027) to improve young people's living conditions and encourage their retention in the country. Similarly, FB&H's Youth Strategy, set to take effect in May 2024, aims to enhance social inclusion and the quality of life for young people. However, despite recognizing youth as a vulnerable group, these strategies do not specifically address the unique needs of young people from single-parent families. Introducing more specific legal and youth initiatives could strengthen support mechanisms for this demographic, providing a better foundation for their education, career development, and social inclusion.



Children from single parents and one-parent families in Bosnia and Herzegovina face many legal challenges but also benefit from certain protections due to the decentralized governance structure. While these young people gain from general social protection and educational support within their respective entities, they lack focused measures tailored to their specific needs.

Some cantons in FB&H recognize the particular social and economic hardships faced by these families and offer additional support, while others do not. Implementing a cohesive legal framework at the national level would ensure consistent protection and access to services for children from single parents and one-parent families across all regions, promoting greater equity and inclusion in Bosnia and Herzegovina's social policies.

# *Comparative Analysis of North Macedonia and Serbia*



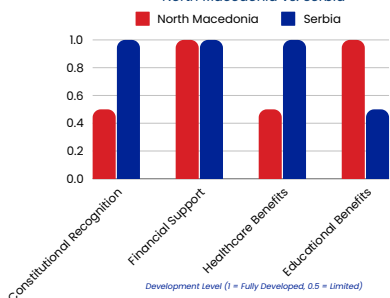


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North Macedonia and Serbia both legally recognize the status of single parents, with a particular emphasis on social protections. Both countries' laws provide some level of financial and educational support to children from these families, though the structures differ. Both countries have also considered, but not yet implemented, the establishment of a state-funded alimony fund to assist children in cases where the absent parent fails to provide child support.

Serbia offers a more robust legal foundation for single parents, recognizing their rights at the highest level in the Constitution and through specific laws such as the Law on Financial Support to Families with Children. This law ensures that both single parent and one-parent families are eligible for benefits, providing specific rights and protections for single parents and their children. Additionally, Serbia provides a unique healthcare benefit that extends to single parents and their children up to the age of seven, a provision not available in North Macedonia.

*Comparison of Support for Single Parents:  
North Macedonia vs. Serbia*



In contrast, North Macedonia's protections for single parents are defined within the Law on Social Protection, which primarily focuses on the social sphere, with limited integration in other areas, such as health. However, North Macedonia offers more inclusive educational benefits for children from both single parents and one-parent families under its Law on Student Standard.

This is unlike Serbia, where educational benefits are limited to children from single parents only.

While Serbia's legal framework is stronger in terms of constitutional recognition and broad social protections, particularly with added healthcare benefits for single parents, North Macedonia stands out for its inclusive educational policies that benefit both single parents and one-parent families, addressing a gap in Serbia's system.

# *Comparative Analysis of North Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina*

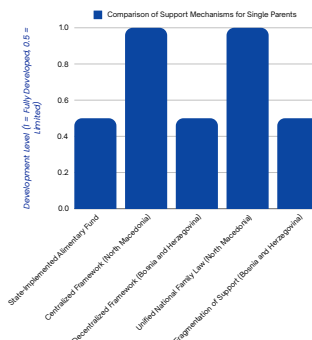


North Macedonia and Bosnia and Herzegovina both address single parents primarily through social welfare laws, offering basic support for single parents and their children. However, both countries face challenges in implementing comprehensive policy measures, including the absence of a state-implemented alimony fund, despite considerations of such a fund in both nations. Efforts to centralize support mechanisms for single parents and one-parent families have begun but remain underdeveloped in both contexts.



In Bosnia and Herzegovina, support for single parents is fragmented due to its decentralized governance structure. Each entity—the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FB&H) and the Republic of Srpska—enacts its own laws. The FB&H addresses single-parent families within its Law on Social Protection of Children, while Republic of Srpska incorporates them under the Family Law. However, the absence of a unified national family law and the lack of institutional recognition for "one-parent families" restrict support to single parents only.

North Macedonia, in contrast, provides a unified framework under its Law on Social Protection, ensuring clearer and more centralized guidelines. Additionally, North Macedonia's laws include educational support for children from both single parents and one-parent families. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the fragmented system offers minimal educational and social benefits, which are limited to single parents.



# *Comparative Analysis of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina*



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Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina both recognize single parents within their social and legal frameworks and have considered establishing a state alimony fund. While both countries legally acknowledge single parents, their approaches differ significantly. Serbia adopts a more comprehensive and centralized system, offering constitutional recognition and dedicated legislation, such as the Law on Financial Support to Families with Children, which ensures benefits for both single parents and one-parent families. Notably, Serbia provides unique healthcare support for single parents and their children up to the age of seven, a benefit not available in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Bosnia and Herzegovina, on the other hand, operates within a fragmented system where each entity—Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Srpska, and the Brčko District—develops its own policies. The lack of a unified national framework results in inconsistent support for single parents across regions.



Furthermore, the absence of legal recognition for "one-parent families" restricts eligibility for certain benefits. Educational and social support for single parents remains minimal and unevenly distributed.

Serbia's centralized and inclusive policies, combined with added healthcare support, provide a more robust framework for single parents. In contrast, Bosnia and Herzegovina's decentralized governance model limits its effectiveness, though regional approaches may cater to specific local needs. Overall, Serbia's legal framework offers stronger social and healthcare protections for single parents.

# Conclusions

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North Macedonia, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina each demonstrate unique strengths and areas for improvement in their legislation and youth policies concerning single parents and one-parent families.

North Macedonia stands out with its centralized and cohesive legislative framework, ensuring consistent definitions and benefits for single parents and one-parent families across the country. Its youth policies specifically address the needs of young people from these families, offering



accessible pathways to education and welfare benefits. This centralized approach makes North Macedonia a model for streamlined and inclusive support, providing predictability and stability for single parents seeking social services.



Serbia also benefits from a centralized legislative system that ensures a uniform standard for single parents and one-parent families nationwide. Its youth policies, though broad, encompass social inclusion and educational support for all young people, indirectly supporting those from single-parent families.

However, Serbia could strengthen its framework by incorporating targeted provisions specifically addressing the needs of young individuals from single parents and one-parent families, drawing inspiration from North Macedonia's focused youth strategy.

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Bosnia and Herzegovina, in contrast, faces challenges due to its decentralized governance structure, resulting in varied support levels across its entities. The differing definitions and policies in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Srpska, and Brčko District lead to inconsistent access to resources for single parents. While Brčko District offers the most comprehensive support, this standard is not reflected nationwide. Recent entity-specific youth strategies aim to improve conditions for young people but lack specific provisions for single parents, limiting their effectiveness in addressing this demographic's unique needs. A unified national framework could help bridge these gaps by standardizing family law and youth benefits across the country.

Overall, North Macedonia provides a model for integrated support, Serbia offers a stable legislative base with room for targeted enhancements, and Bosnia and Herzegovina demonstrates the potential for localized success despite its fragmented system. Each country can benefit from cross-learning: North Macedonia's targeted youth policy could inspire Serbia, while Bosnia and Herzegovina could look to North Macedonia and Serbia's centralized approaches for improving consistency. By adopting best practices from one another, all three countries could enhance their support for single-parent families and develop more inclusive, effective youth policies.



# Recommendations

These recommendations aim to address the systemic inequalities and challenges faced by single parents and one-parent families, some of society's most vulnerable groups. While the suggested measures prioritize the specific needs and contexts of each country, such as alimony funds, scholarships, preschool fee waivers, free counseling, and social housing, they are not exclusive to those regions. Many of these approaches can be adapted and applied more broadly to benefit families in similar circumstances elsewhere.

## **Recommendation 1**

### **Establishing a national (Government) alimony fund**

Creating the national alimony fund in North Macedonia, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina will ensure that there will be financial support for children when the absent parent fails to meet child support obligations. This initiative is important for single parents and one-parent families as it will help them in the economic challenges they are facing in their everyday life.

## **Recommendation 2**

### **First-year student scholarships (for vulnerable groups)**

Introducing the first-year university scholarships that currently do not exist, but specifically for students from vulnerable groups, including youth from one-parent families and single parents in North Macedonia could provide equal access to higher education and help in socio economic imbalances during their student life.

## **Recommendation 3**

### **Free counseling services for vulnerable youth**

Providing free psychological counseling and advisory services for our target group youth in North Macedonia is important for addressing the mental health challenges faced by young people in one-parent families and single parents.



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#### **Recommendation 4**

##### **Social housing for single parents**

Developing social housing programs in North Macedonia for the needs of single parents and one-parent families is essential to providing stability and security and will help avoid financial pressures, improve living conditions, and ensure that these families have a safe environment where children and youth can thrive and develop.

#### **Recommendation 5**

##### **Child allowance linked to minimum wage**

Establishing child allowances as a percentage of the minimum wage in Serbia would guarantee consistent and sufficient financial support for families with children. This measure is particularly significant for single parents, as it would ensure that economic assistance keeps pace with the rising cost of living, reducing financial vulnerability.

#### **Recommendation 6**

##### **Preschool fee waivers for single parents**

Exempting children from single parents and one-parent families in Serbia from means-testing criteria for preschool fee waivers would enable equal access to early childhood education – that is critical for cognitive and social development, and this initiative would ensure that children from vulnerable families are not left behind.

#### **Recommendation 7**

##### **Psychological support centers for vulnerable children**

Establishing dedicated centers in Serbia to provide free psychological support to children and youth from sensitive categories, including those from single parents, would address their mental health and emotional needs. These centers would serve as safe spaces for healing, guidance, and development, ultimately improving the well-being of children facing significant life challenges.

### **Recommendation 8**

#### **Equal recognition for all single parents and one-parent families**

Ensuring equal recognition and rights for all types of single parents in Bosnia and Herzegovina, regardless of how they were formed, is essential for promoting fairness and inclusivity. Removing discriminatory practices would help guarantee equal access to social services, financial aid, and legal protections, empowering families to lead stable and dignified lives.

### **Recommendation 9**

#### **Coordinate the regulations across entities**

Coordinating the regulations across entities and cantons in Bosnia and Herzegovina would ensure that all families, irrespective of their location or ethnicity, enjoy the same rights and benefits. This would eliminate disparities, improve access to support systems, and create a unified framework for family welfare.

### **Recommendation 10**

#### **Additional benefits**

Introducing percentage-based supplements to existing child and parental benefits for single parents in Bosnia and Herzegovina would provide tailored financial assistance. This measure would help address the unique economic challenges faced by these families, offering them a stronger safety net and improved quality of life.

Implementing these recommendations would not only improve the quality of life for these families but also foster social cohesion and inclusion, reduce poverty, and contribute to the overall economic and social development of the region, as they are a step toward ensuring that no family is left behind, regardless of their structure, circumstances or location.



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  - **Regulation on the Procedure for Granting One-Time Financial Aid** (Official Gazette of the Republic of North Macedonia No. 109/19)
  - **Regulation on the Procedure for Salary Compensation for Reduced Working Time** (Official Gazette of the Republic of North Macedonia No. 109/19)
  - **Regulation on the Procedure for Student Accommodation in Public Student Dormitories** (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia Nos. 55/10, 49/11, 50/15, 59/16, and 41/17)
  - **Regulation on the Type of Student Scholarships and the Procedure for Awarding Student Scholarships** (Official Gazette of the Republic of North Macedonia Nos. 258/20, 160/21)
  - **State Statistical Office of the Republic of North Macedonia** – <https://www.stat.gov.mk/>

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- **Alternative Report on the Situation and Needs of Youth in the Republic of Serbia 2024** – Krovna Organization of Youth of Serbia; Dr. Boban Stojanović, Aleksandar Ivković, MA Boris Količanin, 2024
- **Constitution of the Republic of Serbia** (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 98/2006, 115/2021)
- **Decision on Financing Textbook Procurement from the Budget for the 2024/2025 School Year** (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 48/2024)
- **Law on Financial Support to Families** (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 113/2017, 50/2018, 46/2021, 51/2021, 53/2021, 66/2021, 130/2021, 43/2023, 62/2023, 11/2024)
- **Law on Health Protection** (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 25/2019, 92/2023 – Authentic Interpretation)
- **Law on Pension and Disability Insurance** (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 34/2003, 64/2004, 84/2004, 101/2005, 63/2006, 5/2009, 107/2009, 101/2010, 93/2012, 62/2013, 108/2013, 75/2014, 142/2014, 73/2018, 46/2019, 62/2021, 125/2022, 138/2022, 76/2023)
- **Law on Preschool Education** (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 18/2010)
- **Law on Primary Education** (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 55/2013, 101/2017, 10/2019, 27/2018, 129/2021, 92/2023)
- **Law on Social Protection** (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 24/2011, 117/2022)
- **Law on Student and Pupil Standards** (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 18/2010, 55/2013, 27/2018, 10/2019)
- **Law on Textbooks** (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 27/2018, 92/2023)
- **Family Law** (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 18/2005, 72/2011, 6/2015)
- **Regulation on Conditions for Enrollment in Preschool Institutions** (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 44/2011)
- **Regulation on Student and Pupil Accommodation and Meals** (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 36/2019)
- **Regulation on Student and Pupil Loans and Scholarships** (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 36/2019)
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- **Youth Strategy in Serbia for the Period 2023–2030** (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 9/2023, February 8, 2023)

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- **Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina** (Annex IV of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and "Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina", No. 25/2009 – Amendment I)
- **Decision on the adoption of the Fund Spending Program with criteria for the distribution of funds for "Ongoing transfers to other levels of government and funds – procurement of textbooks for primary school students in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina from Grades 1 to 5 of the established federal budgets for the year 2023 of the Federal Ministry of Education and Science** (Official Gazette Federation of BiH number 98/23)
- **Decisions approving the grant of specifics (student generation) from the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina**, (number: 02-000158/24, act number: 01.11-04.11-03)
- **Decisions on the conditions, criteria and procedure for granting scholarships to gifted full-time students of a public higher education institution** (number: 10/1-11-027295/24 dated 03.10.2024), Ministry of Science and Education, Tuton
- **Decision on the development of the Youth Strategy of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina until 2027** (Official Gazette of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina No. 85/23)
- **Decision of the Government of Posavska County on awarding one-year scholarships to full-time students for the academic year 2023/2024**, year, number: 01-02-703/23 of 16. 11. 2023. Year
- **Decree on the manner and conditions of exercising the right to grant scholarships to the combatants-defenders of Bosnia and Herzegovina and their children** ("Official Gazette of Sarajevo Canton" number 41/22 and 37/24)
- **Law on Child Protection** (Official Gazette of the Republic of Srpska, Nos. 114/17, 122/18, 107/19, 119/21, 1452/23)
- **Law on Material support for families with children in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina** ("Official Gazette of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina", number: 52/22)

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- **Law on Social Protection of the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina** ("Official Gazette of the Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina", number: 04/04, 19/07, 02/08, 21/18 and 32/19)
  - **Law on Student Standards of the Republic of Srpska** ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Srpska", no. 63/21)
  - **Law on Supplementary rights of soldiers - veterans of Bosnia and Herzegovina** ("Official Gazette of Sarajevo Canton" number 31/22 and 8/24)
  - **Law on Supplementary Rights of Veterans** ("Official Gazette of the KSB" No. 7/16, revised text)
  - **Law on student standards of the Republic of Srpska** ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Srpska", no. 72/12)
  - **Law on the Basics of Social Protection, Protection of Civilian Victims of War and Protection of Families with Children of the FBiH** ("Official Gazette of the FBiH", no. 36/1999, 54/2004, 39/2006, 14/2009, 7/2014 - decision of the US BiH, 45 /2016, 19/2017 - dr. law, 52/2022 - dr. law, 16/2023 - dr. law)
  - **Law on the Ministries and Other Bodies of the Cantonal Administration of the Bosnian-Podrinje Canton of Goražde** ("Official Gazette of the Canton of Bosnian-Podrinje Canton of Goražde" No. 9/13 and 13/13)
  - **Law on the Rights of Veterans and Members of Their Families** ("Official Gazette of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina", no. 33/04, 56/05, 70/07, 9/10, 90/17, 29/22 and 60/24)
  - **Statistical Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina** - <https://www.bhas.gov.ba/>
  - **Regulation on full-time scholarships for veterans and their family members** ("Official Gazette of the Zenica-Doboj Canton" 4/14, 1/18 and 15/21)
  - **Rulebook on awarding scholarships and subsidizing accommodation in student dormitories** ("Official Gazette of HNK", number: 10/17)
  - **Rulebook on scholarships for students from the area of the Una-Sana Canton** ("Official Gazette of the Una-Sana Canton", number: 28/22)
  - **Rulebook on the manner and conditions of scholarship for students from the area of Herceg-Bosnia County**, number 06-01-34-1239/24, and the Decision on the amount of the monthly scholarship202. /2024. year, number 06-01-34-1250/24
  - **Youth policy of the Republic of Srpska from 2023 to 2027.** (Official Gazette 012/2023)

