

Anita Duraković, PhD., Associate Professor
Faculty of Law University „Džemal Bijedić“ Mostar
Anita.Durakovic@unmo.ba

Jasmina Alihodžić, PhD., Associate Professor
Faculty of Law University of Tuzla
jasmina.alihodzic@untz.ba

Ramajana Demirović, PhD., Associate Professor
Faculty of Law University „Džemal Bijedić“ Mostar
Ramajana.Demirovic@unmo.ba

THE RIGHT OF FOREIGNERS TO ADOPT IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

***Summary:** Adoption is a special form of family-legal protection of children without parental care, which establishes the parental relationship. We distinguish adoption that takes place within the borders of one state, i.e. internal adoption and adoption in which there is an international element, i.e. international adoption. The international element can appear in subjects of adoption, i.e. their nationality, domicile or habitual residence, as well as in the place of adoption decision. The focus of the work is the legislative framework related to the issue of the right of foreigners to adopt in Bosnia and Herzegovina. As the existence of a complete and high-quality normative framework is a *conditio sine quo non* for a successful and legally valid international adoption, in this paper we will try to shed light on the basic issues related to the rights of foreigners to adopt in Bosnia and Herzegovina and related issues of international jurisdiction and applicable law. In this context, and aware of the importance of the Hague Convention on Adoption from 1993 and the need to harmonize Bosnia and Herzegovina's legislation with the *acquis* of the European Union and comparative trends in comparative law, the authors of this paper give proposals to improve the existing legislative framework.*

***Key words:** international adoption, the right of foreigners to adopt, choice of law rules, international jurisdiction.*