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COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES IN THE REGION OF SOUTH-EAST EUROPE

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Abstract: Using measures for sustainable development and reducing the risk of disasters in order to protect the population, goods and the environment, is the duty of every state in the fight against the security challenges that disasters bring. Disaster risk reduction is a multidisciplinary policy designed to implement various measures to strengthen community resilience and preparedness for disasters. The region of Southeast Europe is recognized as extremely endangered by natural disasters. The countries of the region, especially their national risk management policies, continue to be based in part on solutions from earlier times. The subject of the research is focused on the analysis of disaster risk management policies in the countries of Southeast Europe, their comparison and review of similarities and differences. The countries of this region base their policies on similar solutions aimed at reducing the risk of disasters. There are shortcomings in the full implementation of the adopted international frameworks in the national risk management policies and normative-legal frameworks in certain countries of this region.

***Keywords**: politics, risks, emergencies, disasters, Southeast Europe.*

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1. INTRODUCTION

People are constantly under the influence of dangers of natural and technological origin, so it is important that people understand them, and the consequences of disasters that grew over time, formed visions of disasters that existed in the early period of social development, religious beliefs and rituals in that period they represented some of the ways to deal with catastrophes and risks from catastrophic events (Cvetković, 2017: 13). With the development of technology, there is an opinion that it could be important in solving problems caused by disasters, in this regard, the construction of embankments, dams and the use of better materials in construction is one of the methods in dealing with floods (Cvetković, 2017: 14). Using measures for sustainable development and reducing the risk of catastrophic events to protect the population, goods and the environment, it is the duty of each country to combat the security challenges posed by disasters, so risk reduction is an important element of risk management policies and other activities. relate to the provision of assistance and reconstruction to countries that are exposed to disaster risks (Cvetković, Filipović and Gačić, 2019: 13).

Working to develop a political, legal and institutional framework for disaster risk reduction increases the ability of states to manage risks, in this regard the publication of the Yokohama Strategy Declaration indicates the responsibility of states to provide protection to their citizens from natural disasters, actively working to develop and strengthen state capacities as well as legislation in order to combat the harmful effects of natural and other hazards, promote regional and international cooperation to prevent, reduce and mitigate natural and other disasters with emphasis on human and institutional capacities, technology exchange, information collection and dissemination and work on resource mobilization (Cvetković, Filipović and Gačić, 2019: 11).

Building on disaster risk reduction, risk management is a set of different measures and activities that are undertaken precisely with the aim of implementing conceived and designed policies into daily operation. Guided by this, it is very important to mention that in the region of Southeast Europe, different measures are applied for the implementation of disaster risk reduction policies and that they are conditioned by different demographic and socio-cultural perspectives. Precisely because of that, the research question from which it starts, refers to the examination of whether there are differences in the policies themselves and the ways of their implementation, and what are the most common advantages and disadvantages of their functioning in real life.

Despite international efforts to reduce disaster risk, international frameworks are not fully implemented on a national basis. Each country implements international frameworks in its own way into its national risk management policy. Also, each country in its own way creates and regulates a policy of disaster risk management, although it is endangered in the same way with neighboring countries, and from the same disasters. Therefore, it is necessary to look at and compare national disaster risk management policies in our region, in order to see the similarities and differences. This research is an initial step that precedes future and more detailed research, which will serve as a comparison, as it will create an initial basis that will serve for later systematization of knowledge about the comparison of risk management policies in the Balkan Peninsula and Southeast Europe.

2. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

The paper starts from the research question whether there are differences in the quality of disaster risk management policies in the region of Southeast Europe. Problems and comparison of risk management policies

in neighboring countries in domestic scientific sources have not been addressed to a significant extent. Their comparison and explanation of similarities and differences is a necessity, both from a scientific and practical point of view, in order to bring the prevention, response and recovery of the countries of the region to more frequent disasters to the best possible level, given that no country's disaster risk management policy The Balkan Peninsula does not contain the best solutions for all aspects of disasters. Mutual cooperation between the countries of the region and pointing out the shortcomings in disaster risk management policies is a kind of good neighborly policy, given that the area of disaster spread often has a cross-border character, and that the region of Southeast Europe is defined as extremely endangered. The best recent example was the floods in 2014 caused by unprecedented precipitation, which spread to the areas of the Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also our country, which suffered the most severe consequences. This phenomenon required a very quick response from both our country and the neighboring countries, given the speed of the floods and their devastating consequences. This indicates the importance of proper, meaningful and precise formation of national disaster risk management policies.

Although significant efforts have been made internationally to create an international policy framework for disaster risk management, disasters are more frequent, with more intense and devastating consequences. Although nature cannot be influenced to a greater extent, it can influence the regulation of national disaster risk management policies. The increase in the scope of the consequences of catastrophes was partly due to non-compliance with international frameworks, whose main goal is that. International policies have not been fully implemented in national policies, and recommendations and obligations have not been regulated. Regulating this area in the right, optimal way, as well as the possibility of adapting it to new situations, given the tendency to increase the frequency and intensity

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of disasters, is a need of every country around the world. Southeast Europe, as a region highly vulnerable to various natural disasters, such as floods, forest fires, droughts, earthquakes, heat waves, and even hurricanes, as seen in the example of Greece, calls for the best possible solutions containing different legal normative frameworks that regulate the policy of disaster risk management of each country separately.

The subject of the research refers to the analysis of disaster risk management policies in the region of Southeast Europe and the Balkan Peninsula, more precisely related to the Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Northern Macedonia, Bulgaria and Greece, as well as their comparison, but also to point out their similarities. and difference. The spatial determination of the subject of research refers to the countries of the region of Southeast Europe, more precisely the countries of the Balkan Peninsula - the Republic of Croatia, Bulgaria and Greece as members of the European Union, but also the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and Northern Macedonia. Given the previously identified subject of research, the aim of the research is to scientifically describe the existing similarities and differences in national disaster risk management policies in the countries of the region of Southeast Europe. The research is aimed at examining the manner and nature of differentiation of the mentioned national disaster risk management policies. The practical goal of the research is a more meaningful understanding of the differences and similarities in disaster risk management policies in the region of Southeast Europe, based on theoretical knowledge and empirical results.

2. DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES

2.1 Montenegro

When it comes to the risk of natural disasters, Montenegro is at risk of floods, droughts, heavy rainfall, snowfall, stormy winds, heat waves, landslides, avalanches and forest fires. The causes of floods are heavy rains which, in addition to floods, cause landslides and landslides due to excessive moisture in the soil, while some of the reasons for the appearance of erosion processes are general exposure of the terrain, vertical disintegration of vegetation and unsustainable soils, as a consequence of inadequate use of natural resources. Anthropogenic activities in certain river flows, which refer to the exploitation of gravel and sand, are a secondary factor that contributes to floods (FAO, 2018: 7).

Regarding the legal framework that regulates the field of disaster risk reduction, several normative acts should be pointed out, in that sense the field of protection and rescue is regulated by the Law on Protection and Rescue ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", no. 13/07, 32/11 and 54 / 16) consisting of a series of measures to be taken to detect and prevent the occurrence of hazards, mitigate and eliminate the consequences of natural disasters, technological accidents, radiation, chemical or biological pollution, the consequences of war and terrorist activities, epidemics and other accidents from which pose risks to the population, material goods and the environment, it defines how protection and rescue is managed and coordinated, in that sense the consistent application of this law is regulated by: Rulebook on the content and methodology on the basis of which protection and rescue plans are made ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 31/17); Rulebook on detailed content and methodology of preparation, manner of harmonization, updating and storage of protection and rescue plans ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 34/17); Rulebook on the manner of organizing and engaging civil protection units ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 38/17); Rulebook on Unique Alarm Signs and Manner of Notification and Alarm (Official Gazette of Montenegro, No. 34/17), Decision on Appointment of Managers, Deputy Managers and

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Members of the Coordination Team for Protection and Rescue (Official Gazette of Montenegro, No. 52/17), The Decision on the appointment of the Operational Headquarters for Protection and Rescue ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 52/17), as bylaws, while other important issues in this area are regulated by the Law on Explosive Substances ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", no. 49/08, 31/14 and 31/17) which prescribes the necessary conditions for the production, trade, procurement, storage and use, explosives for the protection of life, health and safety of humans, flora and fauna, environment and property and other issues of importance for performing these activities, then the Law on Transport of Dangerous Goods ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 33/14) which regulates the transport of dangerous goods using road, rail, sea and air transport, but this area is also in regulates through ratified international agreements, then the Law on Flammable Liquids and Gases ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", no. 26/10, 48/15) which regulates the protection of life, health and safety of people, flora and fauna, environment and property, construction and reconstruction of facilities, storage, holding, trade, handling and use of flammable liquids and gases, it should be noted that The Ministry of Internal Affairs of Montenegro is responsible for these three laws (Strategy for the GDR, 2017: 12).

The Law on Protection and Rescue establishes a general legal framework governing the handling of natural disasters, technological and other accidents, in addition to this there are other laws that indirectly regulate issues important for protection and rescue, these issues are regulated by: Gazette of the Republic of Montenegro ", No. 27/07 and" Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 32/11, 48/15 and 52/16); Law governing hydrometeorological affairs ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 26/10 and 30/12); Law on Protection and Health at Work ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 34/14); Law on the Red Cross of Montenegro ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Montenegro", No. 28/06); Law on Forests

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("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 74/10, 40/11 and 47/15); Law on Environment ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 52/16); Law regulating protection against ionizing radiation and radiation safety ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 56/09, 58/09, 40/11 and 55/16); Law on Foreign Trade in Arms and Military Equipment ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 40/16); Law on Spatial Planning and Construction of Facilities ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 64/17), etc. (Strategy for the GDR, 2017: 13-14).

2.2 Bosnia and Herzegovina

Data on hazards on the territory of BiH have been available through EM-DAT since 1989, the analysis of these data determines the risks in this climate, in that sense BiH is facing both natural and technological hazards, EM-DAT data for period 1989-2006. indicate that the most common disasters are related to floods and droughts, but this area is exposed to other natural hazards such as earthquakes, storms, stormy winds accompanied by thunder, snowstorms, floods, landslides, landslides, frosts and forest fires, available EM-DAT data show the percentage of hazards, so landslides are represented in the percentage of 8% in relation to other hazards threatening BiH, floods with 31%, droughts account for 15%, forest fires 8%, transport accidents 15%, epidemics 8%, while in terms of frequency it is noticeable that floods are the most frequent events and that the victims of these events are the most numerous compared to others, ie that floods affected most of the population of this country compared to other hazards and that the damage was caused by droughts. economic losses, having in mind these data, it is recognized that BiH is the most vulnerable to floods and droughts compared to all other hazards, analysis of data of appropriate per However, there is a declining trend of incidents as well as the number of deaths at the state level, which can be attributed

to a decrease in the number of events or capacity building, measures and activities in the field of disaster preparation and mitigation. compared to the period 1999-2003. year, which indicates an increase in vulnerability, in terms of economic losses, there are data for the period 1999-2003. as well as for the period 2004-2006. year and are related to the great droughts of 2000 and 2003 in the total amount of 408 million US dollars, while the report of the National Center for Geophysics of the United States (NGDC) mentions that the losses due to the earthquake are measured in the amount of 5 million US dollars for the past 33 years, at the annual level, economic losses account for only 1% of gross domestic product, while data on the number of victims are available only for droughts and show that 2% of the population at the state level suffered. was affected by droughts, ie the number of 71,397 people (Banja, 2007: 15).

Legislation in BiH within which it is possible to institutionally define and implement landslide risk management concerns normative acts that regulate areas related to planning and construction of facilities, geological research, nature protection, water management, forestry and agriculture, organization and activities of civil society. Protection, the field of local self-government, then the field of emergency procedures, documents related to action plans and strategies, laws and bylaws, procedures, competencies and implementation at the level of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republika Srpska and Brcko District, these issues are resolved by law deals with geological research in the Federation of BiH ("Official Gazette of FBiH", No. 9/10 and 14/10); land use is regulated by the Law on Spatial Planning and Land Use at the level of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina ("Official Gazette of FBiH", No. 2/06, 72/07, 32/08, 4/10, 13/10 and 45/1; Law on Waters ("Official Gazette of FBiH", No. 70/06), Law on Forests (Official Gazette of FBiH, No. 20/02, 29/03 and 37/04), Law on Mining of the Federation of BiH ("Official Gazette

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FBiH ", No. 26/10), the Rulebook on Geotechnical Research and Testing and the Organization and Content of Geotechnical Engineering Missions ("Official Gazette of FBiH ", No. 2/06, 72/07 and 32/08), the Law on Geological Research of the Republic Srpska ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 110/13), also the law dealing with spatial planning and construction ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 55/10); Law on Waters "Official Gazette of RS", No. 50/06 and 92/09), then the law governing nature protection ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 50/02), the Law on Forests ("Official Gazette of RS", No. 75/08) (Abolmasov, 2016: 28).

2.3 Croatia

About 80% of damages and economic losses in Croatia due to natural disasters in the period 1980-2014. years are a consequence of natural disasters, mainly those of atmospheric origin, according to the State Commission for the Assessment of Damage from Natural Disasters, of all the reported damage, most often due to droughts, followed by strong floods and frosts, therefore weather data, climate and water status as well as their extremes must be part of national strategies for managing and reducing possible risks of catastrophic events (Güttler, Horvat and Tadić, 2016: 190). Natural and technological disasters are a significant social and economic burden for Croatia, which is why identifying and analyzing hazards, risks and consequences with a view to the possible consequences of climate change, essential elements of the European Union's disaster prevention framework and prevention policy at all levels of government. , in this regard, a “Disaster Risk Assessment for the Republic of Croatia” was prepared in 2015 in cooperation with the State Administration for Protection and Rescue and with the participation of state and public services, with the State Hydrometeorological Institute being a partner in preparing several important risks. In this regard, risk assessment is the basis for

work on disaster risk reduction in Croatia, but also important are the steps related to the assessment of risk management capacity and the development of a Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy, after which specific action plans will be adopted. Natural hazards can be significantly reduced by better scientific understanding possible natural hazards in certain areas, ie. threat assessment to build a culture of security and resilience at all levels; better application of various construction and urban norms in accordance with risk assessment and adaptation to expected climate change; raising the level of community awareness by educating about the possible impacts of natural hazards and measures that an individual can take to reduce harm and protect lives; by introducing the latest technological and scientific methods for monitoring and forecasting hazardous natural phenomena and strengthening early warning systems with an integrated approach to risk management (Güttler, Horvat and Tadić, 2016: 190).

The legal framework for disasters is more focused on crisis management than on preparedness and mitigation, given that service activities in Croatia account for 63% of GDP, hazards of technological origin can have a direct impact on economic conditions in the country, also planned land use is necessary. in order to reduce the impact of floods on this resource as well as on the population, Croatia is with the countries from the region a member of the flood management project on the Sava River (Banja, 2007: 26).

2.4 Bulgaria

In terms of disaster management, Bulgaria is guided by the set goal of moving from a response-oriented management system to a comprehensive system that integrates all other phases of disaster management, and an expert audit in this regard indicates that Bulgaria can move to a system of equal importance. prevention, preparedness and recovery activities, with

the existing available resources for responding during emergencies, by supplementing the already developed Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (Partner verification bulgaria, 2015: 14). The existing system of protection of the population in Bulgaria has a good foundation, in this regard the Law on Disaster Protection defines the roles of different parts of the Unified Rescue System, but it is possible to upgrade by switching from a system focused on responding to a comprehensive risk management system. European Union on protection of the population through working groups, trainings and exercises, as well as through bilateral agreements with neighboring countries, that training is carried out within the regional service of fire safety and protection of the population (RDPBZN-Montana), also Bulgaria has included its Red Cross in activities related to preparedness and response, ie to the disaster management system, and this cooperation could serve as an example for the NGO sector and for companies (Partner verification Bulgaria, 2015: 14). The establishment of this management system implies the implementation of a comprehensive approach with risk assessment and the creation of risk management plans; then it is necessary to implement appropriate legal changes in accordance with the chosen approach to disaster risk management, and cross-sectoral working groups would be in charge of implementing activities in that direction; it is necessary to improve the cooperation of all stakeholders and capacities at the local, state and regional level through the creation of local and regional platforms for disaster risk reduction that would complement the national platform; it is necessary to provide funding for risk management activities in order to control whether the objectives of the national platform for disaster risk reduction are met, this process would be coordinated by the Ministry of Interior; dialogue and exchange of risk information between stakeholders and NGOs needs to be strengthened; the needs of local authorities when planning risk management should also be taken into account and provided with resources; then assessment and monitoring pro-

grams should be developed and implemented throughout the disaster management process; the system should be flexible enough and based on local needs but also in line with global trends (Partner verification Bulgaria, 2015: 15). The Law on Disaster Protection (SDA) (SG No. 102/19.12.2006) in Bulgaria regulates the protection of the population and the management of disasters and it forms the legal basis governing this area, its provisions were later amended in order to improve the system and binding with some other laws such as laws regulating environmental, spatial planning and critical infrastructure issues (Partner verification Bulgaria, 2015: 16).

2.5 North Macedonia

The basis and roof of the normative-legal framework which regulates the risk management policy in the Republic of Northern Macedonia is the Constitution, and further the matter is regulated by the Law on Protection and Rescue, National Strategy for Protection and Rescue, National Plan for Protection and Rescue from Natural Disasters and Other Accidents. crisis management, the Law on Defense and the Law on Firefighting (Saliu et al., 2011). Saliu et al. (2011) state that the Law on Protection and Rescue serves to regulate the protection and rescue system in the Republic of Northern Macedonia, as well as to preserve ecosystems, cultural and natural assets. One of its members talks about the purpose of the law, which aims to create a synchronized system for detecting, possibly preventing and mitigating natural disasters. The bodies of state administration and local self-government, public companies, as well as the citizens themselves are responsible for its implementation. The need to observe the potential danger is emphasized, as well as its detection, and then monitoring and study. Also, Saliu et al. (2011) talk about several principles on which the protection and rescue system is based, and some of them are that eve-

ryone has an equal right to protection and rescue, when choosing between rescuing people and property, people have priority, then it is about the duty of every citizen to help in accordance with their abilities, but also about the duty of the state, its bodies and cities to work on preventive and operational protection measures in time. It also prescribes multi-level response, where the local self-government has priority, followed by the state and the international community. The plan at the level of the entire country has been prepared according to: the Methodology for the content and manner of hazard assessment and protection and rescue planning and the Regulation on handling and use in the field of protection and rescue. The National Plan contains prevention measures, as well as operational measures in which all state bodies are actively involved, as well as public companies and local self-government. Every catastrophe can easily turn into an international one, so considering that, there is a need to prescribe quick and simple solutions that give effect. The National Plan is capable of adapting to new situations, all with the aim of responding to the disaster as efficiently and quickly as possible. The plan, as its integral parts, contains the role of state bodies, a list of critical infrastructure, measures of prevention, response and remediation of the consequences of disasters. The role of the private sector is also important, with which the state develops a partnership, because during the catastrophe, the unity of citizens and the state is important (Saliu et al., 2011).

2.6. Greece

Greece is an area where earthquakes are common, they cause severe consequences, in addition to being sudden, they are characterized by side effects, so a better management is needed in the mitigation phase and not only during response and recovery, in that sense the Earthquake Planning and Protection Organization (Earthquake Planning and Protection Organi-

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zation - EPPO) is a state body that regulates policy and action in relation to earthquakes and this mitigation policy can be defined through the most important activities which include: application of special rules in infrastructure design which introduces resilience; earthquake risk and danger assessment as well as the presentation of earthquake zones at the state level, then the use of accelerometer systems, but also the production of maps that provide an overview of the areas in which the movements and movements studied by neotectonics are recorded; planning preparatory measures, ie earthquake preparedness measures; cooperation with all relevant actors in cases of devastating earthquakes by providing technical and professional assistance; providing support to applied earthquake research through funding of scientific projects on topics relevant to earthquake risk and participation in these projects (Gountromichou, Manousaki, Doga and Lekkas, 2014: 1). The Earthquake Protection Organization lists as the most important policy preparedness activities those activities related to earthquake risk management planning and education policy, in order to strengthen the resilience of communities, people and institutions, and strengthen capacity for effective recovery after a catastrophic event by improving risk assessments, and through raising the level of culture and awareness based on a bottom-up approach with decentralized approach and public participation, earthquake education policy has been very well developed in Greece in the past few decades with a lot of information and educational material printed for that purpose, also many initiatives related to earthquake risk management planning have been implemented in the past and most related to guidelines, appropriate forms and data sets that helped authorities in making earthquake plans (Gountromichou, Manousaki, Doga and Lekkas, 2014: 2).

3. CONCLUSION

Disaster risk management policy, nowadays, is a very important factor for national and international policies. Observing the increase in the frequen-

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cy, intensity and devastation of disasters, the cause of which is most often associated with increasingly pronounced climate change, disaster risk management policy will become a key factor in the future. Disasters and their consequences, both on the population and infrastructure, then economic and economic flows, food production, require a studious and comprehensive approach. Properly and precisely regulated policy of disaster risk management should be the goal of every country in the world, regardless of whether they are economically developed or developing countries.

Disasters, especially natural ones, know no borders, so it is important to point out that the regulation of risk management policy in the right way, must primarily come from the international level. Just as it is important to prescribe and adopt international frameworks for disaster risk reduction, their implementation and application within risk management policies at the national level is equally important, if not greater. The analysis of professional literature and normative-legal regulations noticed the lack of full application of ratified and adopted international frameworks in national disaster risk management policies. Each state applies international frameworks and agreements to the extent appropriate to national interests and capabilities. The region of Southeast Europe and the Balkan Peninsula is recognized as extremely endangered by natural disasters. The countries of the region, especially the members of the former SFRY, continue to base their national risk management policies in part on the solutions prescribed during the socialist era. The consequences of wars and political turmoil have left their mark on insufficient communication and developed relations necessary for bilateral and multilateral cooperation within the region. The catastrophic floods of 2014 showed the need for cooperation in the field of prevention, response and rehabilitation of the consequences of disasters.

The analysis of normative-legal sources came to the conclusion that national disaster risk management policies are indeed based on approxi-

mately similar principles and postulates. The part of risk management policy related to disaster mitigation is indeed regulated in a similar way in the countries of Southeast Europe. Starting from the claim that preparedness for the coming disasters is regulated in a similar way in the countries of the region, it was also confirmed. Finally, the claim that part of national disaster response policies is based on similar solutions has been confirmed. The analysis of the normative-legal framework of the countries of the region of Southeast Europe, established the same similarity in all national governance policies, and that is the tendency of all countries to focus on disaster prevention, rather than disaster response and recovery, as has been the case so far. . States seem to have realized that it is economically much more profitable to invest in prevention measures than to pay damages after a disaster. This aspiration is in line with international frameworks governing disaster risk management policies, such as the Hyogo and Sendai frameworks. All countries in the region understand the importance of creating a database of potential dangers and disasters, as well as risk maps, as well as preparations for their possible occurrence.

With the National Strategy for Emergency Situations, Montenegro has stepped in the direction of improving the system for disaster risk reduction, guided by guidelines in the direction of integrating these goals into national policy and affirming these goals through bilateral, regional and wider international cooperation. When it comes to BiH, the Ministry of Security, through the Protection and Rescue Sector, treats the issue of including disaster risk management in national policies as very important. The Croatian legal framework is more focused on crisis management than preparation and mitigation, and appropriate risk, threat and vulnerability assessments are also needed. In terms of risk management, Bulgaria is guided by well-laid foundations in the form of the Law on Disaster Protection, but is also guided by principles and guidelines that point to a dif-

ferent orientation and direction from a system that responds to a system of comprehensive approach and equal evaluation of prevention, preparedness and recovery activities. Bulgaria also has a National Disaster Protection Program and a National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy. Northern Macedonia has a Law on Protection and Rescue, a National Strategy for Protection and Rescue, as well as a National Plan for Protection and Rescue from Natural Disasters, and further activities regarding the functioning of the regulatory framework governing disaster risk management are based on the need for missing laws and regulations. which would complete the legal framework for protection and rescue. When it comes to Greece, the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction has established a network of government agencies and other relevant agencies.

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