



## Senators' qualifications – Statement in relation to section 44 and 45 of the Constitution – For senators appointed to fill casual vacancies

### SENATOR'S NAME

Maria Kovacic

**1. Do you know the place of birth of each of your parents and grandparents (whether biological or adoptive)?**

YES  NO

**1a. Please provide any relevant details:**

(for example, why you do not know the place of birth of a parent or grandparent)

*Other relevant details relating to your knowledge of your parents' and grandparents' places of birth*

I know the region of birth, but not the specific town/village of birth for my paternal grandmother.

Please provide particulars of, or documents related to, any details provided in response to question 1a. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**2. Do you have a parent or grandparent that you know was born in another country? This may be a biological or adoptive parent or grandparent.**

(If you do not know any of your parents' or grandparents' places of birth, please mark the 'N/A' box.)

YES  NO  N/A

**2a. If 'yes', please provide the following details, to the extent known:**

Relationship to you (eg mother or adoptive father)	Place of birth	Date of birth
Mother	Misi, Bosnia & Hercegovina	7 June 1934
Father	Turcinovici, Bosnia & Hercegovina	10 October 1937
Maternal Grandfather	Misi, Bosnia & Hercegovina	circa 1906
Maternal Grandmother	Misi, Bosnia & Hercegovina	circa 1910
Paternal Grandfather	Turcinovici, Bosnia & Hercegovina	circa 1905
Maternal Grandmother	Siroki Brijeg, Bosnia & Hercegovina	circa 1906

### NOTES

- (1) This statement is required by resolution of the Senate of 3 April 2019, paragraph (7).
- (2) If there is insufficient space on this form for the information you are required to provide, you may attach additional pages for that purpose. An electronic file of this form is available on [www.aph.gov.au/senators\\_interests](http://www.aph.gov.au/senators_interests).
- (3) Email a signed copy of this statement to the Registrar of Senators' Interests: [senators.interests@aph.gov.au](mailto:senators.interests@aph.gov.au).

**2b. Please provide any other relevant details:**

*Other relevant details relating to your parents' and grandparents' places and dates of birth*

I have noted the region of birth for my paternal grandmother as her place of birth is unknown to me. The dates of birth of my grandparents is unknown to me and unknown to my parents who are also in their late 80's.

Please provide particulars of, or documents related to, any details provided in response to questions 2a and 2b. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**3. Have you provided details in question 2a in relation to each parent and grandparent that you know was born in another country?**

(If you do not know any of your parents' or grandparents' places of birth, please mark the 'N/A' box.)

YES     NO     N/A

**3a. If 'no', please explain why you have not provided those details:**

*Explanation of why you have not provided details relating to each parent and grandparent that you know was born in another country*

**4. Do you know which citizenships have been held by each of your parents and grandparents (whether biological or adoptive)?**

YES     NO

**4a. Please provide any relevant details:**

(for example, why you do not know the citizenships held at a particular time by a particular parent or grandparent)

*Other relevant details relating to your knowledge of your parents' and grandparents' citizenships*

All 4 of my grandparents identified as "Croatian". They were all born in the early 1900's in the then Austro-Hungarian empire. Post WW1 this became Yugoslavia, which no longer exists. They all passed away prior to the Civil War of Independence (1995), which saw the creation of Croatia and Bosnia & Hercegovina as 2 countries. They died as citizens of Yugoslavia, which no longer exists. My own parents are Australian citizens.

Please provide particulars of, or documents related to, any details provided in response to question 4a. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications

**5. Do you have a parent or grandparent that you know acquired citizenship of another country by descent, naturalisation or other means? This may be a biological or adoptive parent or grandparent.**

(If you do not know any of your parents' or grandparents' citizenship, please mark the 'N/A' box.)

YES     NO     N/A

**5a. If 'yes', please provide the following details, to the extent known:**

Relationship to you (eg mother or adoptive father)	Country of foreign citizenship	Period foreign citizenship held
Maternal Grandmother	Former Yugoslavia	Birth til death (before 1995)
Maternal Grandfather	Former Yugoslavia	Birth til death (before 1995)
Paternal Grandmother	Former Yugoslavia	Birth til death (before 1995)
Paternal Grandfather	Former Yugoslavia	Birth til death (before 1995)

**5b. Please provide any other relevant details:**

*Other relevant details relating to your parents' and grandparents' foreign citizenships*

**Please see response to question 4a**

By the nature of their circumstances, my grandparents didn't venture from the villages/regions where they were born (or moved after marriage). I am told they were never residents of any other country (temporary or otherwise).

Please provide particulars of, or documents related to, any details provided in response to questions 5a and 5b. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**6. Have you provided details in question 5a in relation to each parent and grandparent that you know acquired citizenship of another country by descent, naturalisation or other means?**

(If you do not know any of your parents' or grandparents' citizenship, please mark the 'N/A' box.)

YES     NO     N/A

**6a. If 'no', please explain why you have not provided those details:**

*Explanation of why you have not provided details relating to each parent and grandparent that you know acquired citizenship of another country*

Please also note that both my parents were born in what is now the former Yugoslavia, and hold Australian Citizenship.

**7. Do you know which citizenships have been held by each of your current and former spouses and similar partners?**

(If you do not have a current or former spouse or similar partner, please mark the 'N/A' box.)

YES     NO     N/A

**7a. Please provide any relevant details:**

(for example, why you do not know the particular citizenships held at a particular time by a current or former spouse or similar partner)

*Other relevant details relating to your knowledge of the citizenships of your current and former spouses and similar partners*

My husband was born in Australia.  
My former husband was also born in Australia & I have no knowledge of any other citizenships that he holds.

Please provide particulars of, or documents related to, any details provided in response to question 7a. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**8. Do you have a current or former spouse or similar partner who you know is or was a citizen of another country?**

(If you do not have a current or former spouse or similar partner, or you do not know the citizenship of any of your current or former spouses or similar partners, please mark the 'N/A' box.)

YES     NO     N/A

**8a. If 'yes', please provide the following details, to the extent known:**

Relationship to you (eg wife or former de facto partner)	Country of foreign citizenship	Was foreign citizenship held at the time of marriage? (if applicable)

**8b. Please provide any other relevant details:**

(for example, whether you acquired foreign citizenship because of a spouse's foreign citizenship)

*Other relevant details relating to your knowledge of the citizenships of your current and former spouses and similar partners*

n/a

Please provide particulars of, or documents related to, any details provided in response to questions 8a and 8b. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**9. Have you provided details in question 8a in relation to each current or former spouse or similar partner that you know is or was a citizen of another country?**

(If you do not have a current or former spouse or similar partner, or you do not know the citizenship of any of your current or former spouses or similar partners, please mark the 'N/A' box.)

YES     NO     N/A

**9a. If 'no', please explain why you have not provided those details:**

*Explanation of why you have not provided details relating to each current or former spouse or similar partner that you know is or was a citizen of another country*

**10. Have you ever been a subject or citizen of any country other than Australia?**

YES     NO     UNKNOWN

**10a. If 'yes', please provide the following details, to the extent known:**

Country of foreign citizenship	Manner in which foreign citizenship was lost (if applicable)	Date of losing foreign citizenship (if applicable)

If you contend that you have renounced or lost your foreign citizenship, you **must provide at least one document** that you are satisfied supports your contention. (The document may be an official document, or if you have no official document, a statutory declaration.) This will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**10b. Please provide any other relevant details:**

(for example, how you lost your foreign citizenship, or why the response to question 10 is unknown)

*Other relevant details relating to the loss of your foreign citizenship*

n/a

In addition to the requirement to provide at least one document mentioned under question 10a, please provide particulars of, or documents related to, any other details provided in response to questions 10a and 10b. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**11. Are you now a subject or citizen of any country other than Australia?**

YES  NO  UNKNOWN

**11a. If 'yes', please provide the following details, to the extent known:**

Country of foreign citizenship	Date of acquiring foreign citizenship

**11b. Please provide any other relevant details:**

(for example, why you are prevented from renouncing your foreign citizenship, or why the response to question 11 is unknown)

*Other relevant details relating to possible disqualification by reason of section 44(i) of the Australian Constitution*

I completed a process in 2021 to determine citizenship eligibility (or any automatic conference of citizenship) for both Croatia and Bosnia & Hercegovina. I have been formally advised that I do not hold citizenship of either country, and am not eligible for citizenship of either country unless I make steps apply. I have never done so.

Please provide particulars of, and documents related to, any details provided in your response to questions 11a and 11b. These will be published with this checklist on the Committee's website.

**12. Are you under sentence or subject to be sentenced, for an offence for which you have been convicted, which is punishable by imprisonment for one year or longer?**

NOTE: A person convicted of an offence with a maximum penalty of imprisonment for one year or longer may be disqualified even if the sentence imposed on the person for the offence is less than the maximum penalty.

YES  NO

**12a. If 'yes', please provide any relevant details:**

*Relevant details relating to possible disqualification by reason of section 44(ii) of the Australian Constitution*

n/a

Please provide particulars of, and documents related to, any details provided in your response to question 12a. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**13. Are you an undischarged bankrupt or insolvent?**

YES  NO

**13a. If 'yes', please provide any relevant details:**

*Relevant details relating to possible disqualification by reason of section 44(iii) of the Australian Constitution*

n/a

Please provide particulars of, and documents related to, any details provided in your response to question 13a. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**14. Do you hold an office of profit under the Crown, other than an office expressly exempt from section 44(iv) of the Australian Constitution?**

(Offices of profit under the Crown include, for example, many public sector jobs in Australia.)

YES  NO  UNKNOWN

**14a. Please provide any relevant details, to the extent known**

(for example, the relevant body in which you hold the office of profit and your role, or why the response to question 14 is unknown)

*Relevant details relating to possible disqualification by reason of section 44(iv) of the Australian Constitution*

n/a

Please provide particulars of, and documents related to, any details provided in your response to question 14a. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**15. Do you have a direct or indirect financial interest in any contract or other agreement with the Commonwealth public service? Do not count an interest that is expressly excluded from section 44(v) of the Australian Constitution, such as a shareholding in a company that has 25 or more other shareholders.**

NOTE: Section 44(v) may disqualify you even if you are not a party to the relevant contract or agreement. A disqualifying financial interest may arise, for example, from an agreement between the Commonwealth public service and a trustee of a family trust of which you are a beneficiary.

YES  NO  UNKNOWN

**15a. Please provide any relevant details, to the extent known:**

(for example, your direct or indirect financial interests, or why the response to question 15 is unknown)

*Relevant details relating to possible disqualification by reason of section 44(v) of the Australian Constitution*

n/a

Please provide particulars of, and documents related to, any details provided in your response to question 15a. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**16. Since becoming a senator, have you taken the benefit whether by assignment, composition, or otherwise, of any law relating to bankrupt or insolvent debtors?**

YES  NO

**16a. Please provide any relevant details, to the extent known:**

*Relevant details relating to benefit taken of any law relating to bankrupt or insolvent debtors*

n/a

Please provide particulars of, and documents related to, any details provided in your response to question 16a. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**17. Since becoming a senator, have you, directly or indirectly taken any fee or honorarium for services rendered to the Commonwealth?**

YES  NO

**17a. Please provide any relevant details, to the extent known:**

*Relevant details relating to any fee or honorarium taken for services rendered to the Commonwealth*

Please provide particulars of, and documents related to, any details provided in your response to question 17a. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**18. Since becoming a senator, have you, directly or indirectly taken any fee or honorarium for services rendered in the Parliament to any person or State?**

YES  NO

**18a. Please provide any relevant details, to the extent known:**

*Relevant details relating to any fee or honorarium taken for services rendered in the Parliament to any person or State*

n/a

Please provide particulars of, and documents related to, any details provided in your response to question 18a. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.



**19. Please provide any additional details relating to your qualification under the Australian Constitution or the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*:**

n/a

Please provide particulars of, and documents related to, any details provided in your response to question 16. These will be published with this Statement on the Register of Senators' Qualifications.

**I confirm the information in the statement provided above, and any additional information provided in support of my statements, to be true and correct, to the best of my knowledge.**



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Signature of senator

11 July 2023

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Date



EMB-AU-CBR

Broj: 102-30-7-34873/21

Canberra, 06.12.2021. godine

Na osnovu člana 163. Zakona o upravnom postupku („Službeni glasnik BiH“, broj: 29/02, 12/04, 88/07, 93/09, 41/13 i 53/16), postupajući po zahtjevu lica Maria Kovacic, Ambasada Bosne i Hercegovine u Kanberi izdaje

## POTVRDU

Kojom se na osnovu provjere državljanškog statusa za lice Maria Kovačić, izvršene od strane Ministarstva civilnih poslova Bosne i Hercegovine, potvrđuje da Maria (Ivan) Kovačić, rođena 11.02.1970. godine u mjestu Queanbeyan, NSW, Australija, nije upisana u matične knjige koje se vode prema mjestu rođenja njenih roditelja. Također, nisu pronađeni upisi roditelja imenovane, prema dostupnim podacima o mjestu rođenja.

U skladu sa navedenom provjerom, Ministarstvo civilnih poslova Bosne i Hercegovine potvrdilo je da Maria (Ivan) Kovačić nije upisana u matične registre državljana Bosne i Hercegovine, niti je na osnovu dostupnih podataka bilo moguće potvrditi da su njeni roditelji državljani Bosne i Hercegovine.

Administrativna taksa u iznosu od 47 AUD naplaćena je u skladu sa članom 2. Zakona o administrativnim taksama BiH („Službeni glasnik BiH“ broj: 16/02) i tarifnim brojem 39. Tarife administrativnih taksi („Službeni glasnik BiH“ broj: 16/02, 19/02, 43/04, 8/06, 76/06, 76/07, 3/08, 42/08, 3/10, 98/12, 15/14, 78/14 i 73/17), te Cjenovniku konzularnih usluga DKP BiH Kanbera.

  
Zorica Zirojević  
Otvornik poslova a.i.



*Embassy of the Republic of Croatia  
Canberra*

CLASS: 224-01/21-01/2  
REG. NO: 521-AUS-01-21-3  
Canberra, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

This is to certify that upon verification of the Croatian Citizenship Registry as of 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021, **Ms MARIA KOVACIC**, born on 11<sup>th</sup> February 1970, in Queanbeyan, Australia, holder of Australian passport No. PB1089632, **DOES NOT HOLD CROATIAN CITIZENSHIP.**

  
Sandra Tvrković  
Counsellor

