

Congressional Action

Now, U.S. Representative Celeste Maloy (R-UT) is calling on the U.S. Department of the Treasury to investigate whether Schmidt and members of BiH's Central Election Commission engaged in sanctionable conduct under the Global Magnitsky program in connection with Dodik's removal from office.

[Read Rep. Maloy's letter here](#)

The Facts

WHY THE U.S. MUST SANCTION CHRISTIAN SCHMIDT NOW

1

POWER WITHOUT A MANDATE

Christian Schmidt exercised sweeping power without being elected, raising questions about the legitimacy of his authority over Bosnia and Herzegovina — especially given that he was never formally approved by the U.N. Security Council.

2

RULED BY DECREE

Schmidt legislated by decree — suspending Republika Srpska laws, removing elected officials from office, and unilaterally amending Bosnia's criminal code to criminalize disobeying him. His 2023 decision made failure to implement a High Representative's orders a criminal offense.

3

TARGETED AN ELECTED LEADER

Schmidt used his criminal code changes to target a democratically elected leader — enabling the prosecution, conviction, and eventual removal of Milorad Dodik after Dodik refused to implement Schmidt's decisions.

4

ATTACKED ELECTION INTEGRITY

Schmidt attempted to undermine Republika Srpska's election integrity — defunding the SNSD, its largest political party, and mandating biometric IDs, QR-coded ballots, scanners, and cameras at polling centers that threaten the right to a secret ballot.

5

SANCTIONABLE CONDUCT

Schmidt's conduct constitutes sanctionable interference in a democratic process under existing Western Balkans and Global Magnitsky authorities. OFAC must investigate whether he and others abused their positions to undermine democratic institutions and the rule of law.