

26th SESSION
Strasbourg, 25-27 March 2014

CG(26)13FINAL
27 March 2014

Post-monitoring of local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Rapporteurs: ¹ Jean-Marie BELLIARD, France (R, EPP/CCE)
Beat HIRS, Switzerland (L, ILDG)

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Summary

This is the first post-monitoring report on local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It emphasises the efforts made to improve the legislative framework, which now explicitly mentions the Charter. The rapporteurs welcome the carrying out of the population census in order to improve the delivery of public services at local level and are delighted that the authorities have expressed agreement about the need to ensure that legislation is consistent where local self-government is concerned. However, the report does express some concerns about the lack of measures in response to Recommendation 324, relating in particular to the absence of constitutional reform which would safeguard citizens' fundamental rights. The report also highlights a lack of action in respect of the recognition of municipal property and the improvement of inter-municipal co-operation.

The recommendation, pointing to the long-standing political and institutional deadlock at State and Federation levels, invites the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to guarantee the fundamental functions of local self-government, allocating sufficient financial resources to local authorities and revising the financial equalisation mechanism. Attention is drawn to the need for legislative review in order to guarantee a clear apportionment of powers, in line with the principle of subsidiarity. Encouragement is also given to the strengthening of inter-municipal co-operation and to legislation recognising municipalities' property. The authorities are invited to sign and subsequently ratify the Additional Protocol to the European Charter of Local Self-Government on the right to participate in the affairs of a local authority, and to support the post-monitoring process in 2014. Finally, the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina are urged to draw on the expertise of the Congress for any reform programmes which would strengthen devolution, in co-operation, with local stakeholders.

1. L: Chamber of Local Authorities / R: Chamber of Regions
EPP/CCE: European People's Party Group in the Congress
SOC: Socialist Group
ILDG: Independent Liberal and Democratic Group
ECR: European Conservatives and Reformists Group
NR: Members not belonging to a political group of the Congress

Post-monitoring of local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina

RESOLUTION 369 (2014)²

1. The Congress notes that:

a. Bosnia and Herzegovina joined the Council of Europe in 2002, and in doing so, committed itself to contributing to the creation of a common democratic and legal area throughout the whole of the continent, ensuring respect for its fundamental values: human rights, democracy and the rule of law, and to complying with European standards;

b. Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified the European Charter on Local Self-Government (hereafter “the Charter”) on 12 July 2002 without any declarations, which entered into force on 1 November 2002. The country thereby committed itself to embedding the principle of local self-government in its domestic law in order to guarantee its effective implementation, to transferring competences to local communities with concomitant financial resources and to ensuring a full implementation of the principle of subsidiarity to guarantee the establishment of local self-government as provided by the Charter.

2. It refers to:

a. its Recommendation 324 (2012) on local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

b. its Resolution 353 (2013) REV on post-monitoring and post observation of elections: developing political dialogue.

3. The Congress welcomes the implementation of the census-taking process which was launched in October 2013, and which was one of the Congress’ recommendations.

4. However, it observes that most of the recommendations addressed, in 2012, to the national authorities have not been implemented; nor has a timeline been set to take them on board in the foreseeable future, making these recommendations still eminently relevant.

5. It expresses its grave concern with regard to, in particular, the lack of clarity in the apportionment of powers between the different levels of local governance (for example entities, and lower levels of governance), and the absence of implementation of the principle of subsidiarity and some fundamental principles set out in the Charter.

6. In light of these considerations, the Congress:

a. will invite the ministers for local authorities of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska to address the Congress during its October session in 2014, and to discuss the developments envisaged by the respective authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the light of Recommendation 324 (2012);

b. invites its Monitoring Committee:

i. to organise urgently in 2014 in Sarajevo a seminar on the implementation of the Charter in Bosnia and Herzegovina in co-operation with the Association of Municipalities and Towns of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Republika Srpska and relevant NGOs and experts in the field of local democracy;

ii. to continue the post-monitoring process in 2014 in order to pursue the political dialogue with authorities of all levels of governance in Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to implement Recommendation 324 (2012) and the present recommendation – if adopted – on post-monitoring of local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and, in the meantime, to evaluate the progress made on a regular basis.

2. Debated and adopted by the Congress on 27 March 2014, 3rd sitting (see Document CG(26)13FINAL explanatory memorandum), rapporteurs: Jean-Marie BELLARD, France (R, EPP/CCE) and Beat HIRS, Switzerland (L, ILDG).

7. For the sake of efficiency, the Congress stands ready to adapt its action to the specificities of each entity in order to better target the desired objective.

Post-monitoring of local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina

RECOMMENDATION 356 (2014)³

1. The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe refers to:

a. Article 2, paragraph 1.b, of Statutory Resolution CM/Res (2011) 2 relating to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, which provides that one of the aims of the Congress shall be “to submit proposals to the Committee of Ministers in order to promote local and regional democracy”;

b. Article 2, paragraph 3, of Statutory Resolution CM/Res (2011) 2 relating to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, which provides that the “Congress shall prepare on a regular basis country-by-country reports on the situation of local and regional democracy in all member states and in states which have applied to join the Council of Europe, and shall ensure, in particular, that the principles of the European Charter of Local Self-Government are implemented”;

c. Resolution 307 (2010) REV2 laying down the rules of procedure for monitoring application of the European Charter of Local Self-Government;

d. Congress Resolution 299 (2010), which provides that the Congress will use the Council of Europe Reference Framework for Regional Democracy in its monitoring activities, as well as the reply given by the Committee of Ministers to Congress Recommendation 282 (2010) [CM/Cong(2011)Rec282final] encouraging the governments of member states to take account of the aforementioned Reference Framework in their policies and reforms;

e. Resolution 353 (2013) REV on post-monitoring and post observation of elections: developing political dialogue;

f. Recommendations 202 (2006) and 324 (2012) on local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2. The Congress notes that:

a. Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified the European Charter of Local Self-Government (ETS No. 122, hereinafter “the Charter”) on 12 July 2002 without reservations or declarations, and the instrument came into force in respect of the country on 1 November 2002;

b. Bosnia and Herzegovina has not signed the Additional Protocol to the European Charter of Local Self-Government on the right to participate in the affairs of a local authority (CETS No. 207);

3. Two years after the adoption of its last recommendation, the Congress notes with satisfaction:

a. the general compatibility of Bosnia and Herzegovina’s legislation on local self-government with the principles of the Charter, in particular the improvement of the legislative framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the entities which includes explicit references to the Charter;

b. the successful implementation of the population census carried out in October 2013, which is fundamental in order to draw up and implement effective public policies at local authority level;

c. the repeated expression of consensus by the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina about the need to ensure consistency in the legislation on local self-government at all levels.

3. Debated and adopted by the Congress on 27 March 2014, 3rd sitting (see Document CG(26)13FINAL explanatory memorandum) rapporteurs: Jean-Marie BELLiard, France (R, EPP/CCE) and Beat HIRS, Switzerland (L, ILDG).

4. The Congress notes, however, the lack of action on Congress Recommendation (324) 2012 on local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In particular, it notes with concern that:

a. this lack of action is due to the continuous political and institutional deadlock at State level as well as in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH). Such deadlock is preventing constitutional reform which appears essential for a series of fundamental issues, not least for guaranteeing the fundamental rights of all citizens and for fulfilling the obligations of the country's membership in the Council of Europe. If such a reform were not implemented, the interests of the population would not be properly defended;

b. the citizens are becoming increasingly bewildered in the face of a political system which has proven incapable of reforming itself in the interests of its population;

c. a lack of action regarding the implementation of Congress Recommendation (324) 2012 can be observed even in areas where constitutional reform is not an essential precondition for implementation, such as, inter alia, the recognition of municipal property and the improvement of inter-municipal co-operation.

5. In the light of the above, the Congress recommends that the Committee of Ministers urge the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to:

a. guarantee the fundamental functions of local self-government in practice, including the allocation of sufficient financial resources to local authorities, commensurate with their powers and responsibilities, in particular by revising the existing legal provisions on financial equalisation;

b. review the legislation on local self-government within the entities, and the sub-level of government with a view to ensuring clear apportionment of the powers of local authorities in line with the principle of subsidiarity, setting a timeline for the implementation of reforms related to the implementation of Congress Recommendation (324) 2012;

c. strengthen and promote inter-municipal co-operation and the joint delivery of certain public services, in particular across the Inter-Entity Boundary Line, in order to guarantee that all municipalities are able to exercise their powers despite the great fragmentation of the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to actively support existing initiatives in this direction;

d. adopt a legal framework recognising municipal property, thus enabling the calculation of the revenue base of local authorities;

e. consider signing and then ratifying in the near future the Additional Protocol to the European Charter of Local Self-Government on the right to participate in the affairs of a local authority (CETS No. 207);

f. support the post-monitoring process in 2014 in order to continue the political dialogue with authorities of all levels of governance in Bosnia and Herzegovina on the implementation of Recommendation 324 (2012) and the present recommendation;

g. call on the expertise and assistance of the Congress in drawing up, in co-operation with all the relevant stakeholders, and in particular with the national associations of local authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, any reform programmes aimed at increasing decentralisation in line with the Charter.

Post-monitoring of local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. Introduction

1. In accordance with Article 2 (3) of Statutory Resolution CM/Res(2011)2 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (hereafter “the Congress”) prepares regular country-by-country reports on the situation of local and regional democracy in all member States and in States which have applied for Council of Europe membership, and monitors the effective implementation of the principles of the European Charter of Local Self-Government.

2. Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified the European Charter of Local Self-Government on 12 July 2002 without reservations or declarations, and the instrument came into force in respect of that country on 1 November 2002. Bosnia and Herzegovina had not signed the Additional Protocol to the European Charter of Local Self-Government on the right to participate in the affairs of a local authority at the time of publication of this report.

3. Bosnia and Herzegovina is divided into two entities – the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska, which each have largely autonomous political power, as well as the district of Brčko, which is a district with a particular status. Besides the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Constitutions of both Entities describe the distribution of powers between the different levels of governance. Moreover both entities have adopted their own laws on local self-government. The rapporteurs referred to their previous report for more details on the institutional and administrative structure of the country.⁴

4. The situation of local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina has already been the subject of two Congress reports, in 2000⁵ and 2001,⁶ before the country’s accession to the Council of Europe and its ratification of the European Charter of Local Self-Government, and two monitoring reports in 2006⁷ and in 2012.⁸ The Congress adopted its Recommendation 202 (2006)⁹ on 14 November 2006 and its Recommendation 324 (2012) on 22 March 2012.

5. In 2011, the Monitoring Committee appointed Mr Jean-Marie Belliard (France, R, EPP/CCE) and Mr Beat Hirs (Switzerland, L, ILDG) rapporteurs for local democracy and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina respectively, and they carried out the latest monitoring visits in 2011 and 2012.

6. The rapporteurs draw attention to the fact that their previous report on the local and regional situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina concluded that the legislative framework as such in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the entities had improved and now includes explicit references to the European Charter of Local Self-Government.

7. The report also underlined that the judicial protection of local self-government had been strengthened in both entities and welcomes the establishment, in January 2010, of the Ministry of Administration and Local Self-Government of the Republika Srpska.

4. See CG(22)12 (2012):

https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1919969&Site=COE&BackColorInternet=C3C3C3&BackColorIntranet=CACC9A&BackColorLogged=EFEA9C#P142_13933

5. Report on local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina (candidate country for accession to the Council of Europe) (Doc. CG/CP(6)29 rev, 2 March 2000). Rapporteurs: Claude Haegi (Switzerland) and Gianfranco Martini (Italy).

6. Report on local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Doc. CG(8)23 Part II, 8 November 2001). Rapporteurs: Christopher Newbury (United Kingdom) and Peter Kittelmann (Germany).

7. Local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Doc. CG(13)30 Part II, 23 October 2006). Rapporteurs: Christopher Newbury (United Kingdom) and Karsten Behr (Germany).

8. See

<https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1925863&Site=Congress&BackColorInternet=C3C3C3&BackColorIntranet=CACC9A&BackColorLogged=EFEA9C>

9. Recommendation 202 (2006) on local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

8. However, the monitoring delegation remained concerned about a number of issues, for instance the fact that the constitutional guarantees governing the relations between the various levels of local self-government have not yet been put in place; the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina is very fragmented, which means that some municipalities are unable to exercise their powers; the apportionment of powers between the entities in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and between cantons and municipalities lacks clarity; and level of financial autonomy of local authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina is low.

9. These problems have direct consequences on the population whose interests are not properly taken into consideration in particular in the management of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

10. In the Recommendation 324 (2012), it was recommended that the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina urge their entities to draw up reform plans on decentralisation and implement the principles set out in the Charter in practice. It also called on the authorities to amend the Constitution of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and that of the Canton of Sarajevo in order to extend the area of powers specific to the capital city of Sarajevo and to establish a special status for the city of Banja Luka in the Republika Srpska, while allocating the two cities powers and resources commensurate with their particular situation.

11. The Congress strongly encouraged the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to conduct a population census without delay once the Law on the census of population, households and housing units had been definitely passed. Lastly, the Congress urged the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to consider, in the near future, signing and ratifying the Additional Protocol to the European Charter of Local Self-Government on the right to participate in the affairs of a local authority.

The post-monitoring process

12. In accordance with Article 2 h) of Resolution 353 (2013) REV, the Congress carries out, in the framework of the objectives set up in the reform programme of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe¹⁰ a regular follow-up of the implementation of its recommendations in order to ensure the effectiveness and impact of its monitoring and election observation activities.

13. The Monitoring Committee decided to carry on a post-monitoring process following the adoption of Recommendation 324 (2012) in order to maintain the political dialogue with the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the aim of discussing a roadmap and implementing the most urgent recommendations.

14. In the framework of the above-mentioned resolution, the rapporteurs carried out two post-monitoring visits which took place respectively on 4 September 2012 and on 10 and 11 December 2013.

15. During those two visits, the Congress delegation met members of the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Congress, the Vice-President of the Federation of BiH, the President of the House of Representatives of the Federation, the advisor to the Prime Minister of the Federation, the Minister of Justice of the Federation, the Minister of administration and local government of Republika Srpska, the Chair of the Committee on EU integration and regional co-operation of the Republika Srpska, and various experts. The detailed programmes of the visits are appended to the present report (see Appendix).

16. The rapporteurs wish to thank the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Congress and the authorities of the country for the information provided. They also thank the Head of the Council of Europe office in Sarajevo, Ms Mary-Ann Hennessey who contributed to the organisation and the smooth running of the visits.

10. Speech DD(2010)22rev delivered by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe at the 1075th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies – Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 20 January 2010

Proposals made by the Congress delegation as regards local and regional democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina following their visit in December 2013

17. The rapporteurs welcomed the implementation of the census-taking process which was launched in October 2013 (10 to 15 October), and which was part of the Congress' recommendations as well as many other international organisations. They were told that the process should be achieved by June 2014. The collection of data relating to the number of Bosnian muslims, serbs and croats who live in Bosnia and Herzegovina, but also on the distribution of muslims, orthodox and catholics or the language they speak became a key question for the political elites.

18. Apart from the census, it appeared to the rapporteurs that there had been no substantial changes in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the field of local and regional democracy since their last visit in 2012, even if the interlocutors from the Republika Srpska underlined a few developments in the field of local democracy.

19. With a view to contributing to a major and concrete progress in the awareness, by the BiH authorities, of the citizen's interests, the rapporteurs decided to focus their exchanges of views with the authorities on a few issues connected to the main provisions of the European Charter of Local Self-Government, in particular on the allocation of adequate financial resources in relation to local authorities' competences, the clear apportionment of powers, inter-municipal co-operation and on municipal properties.

20. The perception by the population of increased corruption of local and regional elected representatives as well as the critical economic situation in the country suggest that action by politicians at local and regional level is urgently needed.

21. The delegation decided to focus on the practical implementation of the principle of subsidiarity, based on key elements of the Charter, which constitutes the basis of local democracy, notably on adequate local finances and clear competences.

22. It seems to the rapporteurs that there is a high degree of confidence in the two associations, the Association of Municipalities and Towns of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Republika Srpska on the part of the various actors in the field of local democracy. This is why the delegation considers that these associations should be a privileged partner with which all the stakeholders in the country should co-operate as a priority.

23. In the light of the above, the rapporteurs wish to submit for the adoption of the Congress, the attached draft recommendation and resolution.

Recent events in Bosnia and Herzegovina (February 2014)

24. Following the visit, the delegation considered that it is important to take note of the recent events that have occurred in Bosnia and Herzegovina and which demonstrate- if further proof were needed - the absolute necessity to put an end to the almost permanent political deadlock, which impedes the economic development and a good political governance of the whole country at all levels. The riots and protests which occurred during the first days of February 2014 bear witness to this state of mind of the population which cannot endure this situation any longer.

25. Several demonstrations have been organised to protest against the government and against poverty - demonstrations that are unprecedented since the end of the war. On 7 February, a presidency building was set on fire. On 9 February, two political party members of the government coalition called for early parliamentary elections. The parliamentary elections are normally scheduled for October.

26. The rapporteurs share the declaration made by Luxembourg's Minister for Foreign Affairs Jean Asselborn who gave his support "to all those who want stability in Bosnia [...]. This is one of the most difficult issues that we have in the Balkans. We must defend the principle that Bosnia is a country and not a group of communities [...] It must move in the right direction as a country."

**APPENDIX – PROGRAMMES OF THE POST-MONITORING VISITS ORGANISED
IN 2012 AND 2013**

PROGRAMME

**EMPOWERING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THROUGH LEGISLATIVE REFORM:
RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE CONGRESS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

HIGH-LEVEL MEETING

4 September 2012, Sarajevo

9h30 – 10h00	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION
Opening speech:	Mr Sredoje NOVIĆ, Minister of Civil Affairs of BiH
Keynote Speaker:	Mr Lars O. MOLIN, Chair of the Monitoring Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities
Speaker:	Mr Alija BEHMEN, Mayor of the City of Sarajevo
10h30 - 12h30	DEBATE I Enshrining the principle of Local Self-Government in the State Constitution, in the light of Congress Recommendation 324 (2012)
Moderator:	Mr Srećko LATAL, Analyst at International Crisis Group
Key speakers:	Ms Lejla REŠIĆ, Minister of Administration and Local Self Governance of the Republic Srpska & Member of Chamber of Regions (the Congress) Mr Zoran MIKULIĆ, Minister of Justice of FBiH Ms Valerija GALIĆ, President of the Constitutional Court of BiH Ombudsman Office of BiH: - Ms Jasminka DZUMHUR, Mr Ljubomir SANDIĆ, Ms Nives JUKIĆ
Panel:	(see Debate II)
12h30 - 14h30	Lunch
14h30 - 16h00	DEBATE II Road Map for the implementation of the Congress Recommendations
Moderator:	Lars O. MOLIN, Chair of the Monitoring Committee of the Congress
Key Speakers:	Mr Alija BEHMEN, Mayor of the City of Sarajevo Mr Richard WILLIAMS, Director of OSCE Human Dimension Department Mr Svetozar PUDARIĆ, Vice president of FBiH & Head of National Delegation at the Congress Ms Karolina PAVLOVIĆ, Chair of the House of Peoples of the Parliament of BiH & Representative/Substitute at Chamber of Regions of the Congress

Panel:

Mr Dragoljub DAVIDOVIĆ, Mayor of the City of Banja Luka
Mr Mirsad KEBO, Vice president of FBiH & Secretary of National Delegation at the Congress
Ms Divna ANIČIĆ, President of the Assembly of Mrkonjic Grad Municipality & Representative at Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress
Mr Ljubo BEŠLIĆ, Mayor of the City of Mostar & Representative at Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress
Mr Jasmin IMAMOVIĆ, Mayor of Tuzla Municipality & Representative/Substitute at Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress
Mr Husein SMAJLOVIĆ, Mayor of Zenica & Representative/Substitute at Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress
Ms Snježana NOVAKOVIĆ-BURSAČ, Member of the Republic of Srpska National Assembly & Representative/Substitute at Chamber of Regions of the Congress
Ms Jelena KULIŠIĆ, Head of Department for Budget of Municipality of Trebinje & Representative/Substitute at Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress
Ms Vesna TRAVLJANIN, Director of the Association of Cities and Municipalities of FBiH
Mr Brano JOVIČIĆ, Secretary General of the Association of Cities and Municipalities of Republika Srpska
Mr Zlatan OHRANOVIĆ, Executive Director, Center for Civil Initiatives
Ms Arijana AGANOVIĆ, Coalition 143 Coordinator
Ms Kata MARIJAN KRŽELJ, Center for Civic Cooperation from Livno, Expert

16h00 – 16h30

CONCLUSIONS by the moderators

**CONGRESS POST-MONITORING VISIT TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA¹¹
Sarajevo (10-11 December 2013)**

Programme

Congress delegation:

Rapporteurs:

Mr Beat HIRS	Rapporteur on local democracy Chamber of Local Authorities, ILDG ¹² Member of the Monitoring Committee of the Congress Mayor of Rorschacherberg (Switzerland)
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Mr Jean-Marie BELLIARD	Rapporteur on regional democracy Chamber of Regions, EPP/CCE ² Member of the Monitoring Committee of the Congress Regional Councillor of Alsace (France)
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Congress Secretariat:

Mr Jean-Philippe BOZOULS	Head of the Department of Statutory Activities Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Local Authorities
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Ms Stéphanie POIREL	Secretary to the Monitoring Committee of the Congress
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The working languages, for which interpretation is provided during the visit, will be Bosnian and French.

11. Bosnia and Herzegovina – BiH; The Republika Srpska – RS; Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina – FbiH

12. ILDG: Independent Liberal and Democratic Group
EPP/CCE: European People's party Group in the Congress

**Monday, 9 December 2013
Sarajevo**

Meeting with the Head of the Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo:

- Ms Mary-Ann HENNESSEY, Head of Office
- Mr Esad MAVRIĆ, Project Manager

**Tuesday, 10 December 2013
Sarajevo**

Meeting with Experts:

- Mr Zlatan OHRANOVIĆ, Director of Centre for Civic Initiatives
- Mr Slaven LEKIĆ, Project Director of Capacity Development of Municipality Associations in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Ms. Zahira VIRANI, Resident Representative a.i, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Meeting with the Bosnia and Herzegovina Congress delegation:

Chamber of Local Authorities:

- Mr Semir EFENDIĆ, Mayor, Novi Grad Municipality
- Mr Bojo GASANOVIĆ, Mayor, East Stari Grad Municipality

Chamber of Regions:

- Mr Mirsad KEBO, Vice-President of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Mrs Lejla REŠIĆ, Minister for Administration and Local Self-Government, Republika Srpska
- Mrs Karolina PAVLOVIĆ, Chair of the House of Peoples of the Parliament of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Wednesday, 11 December 2013
Sarajevo**

High level meeting with the Heads of Entities and Ministers

- Mr Mirsad KEBO, Vice-President of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Mr Fehim ŠKALJIĆ, Chairman of the House of Representatives of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Mr Haris ABASPAHIĆ, Advisor to the Prime Minister of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Mr Zoran MIKULIĆ, Minister of Justice of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Ms Lejla REŠIĆ, Minister of Administration and Local Government of Republika Srpska
- Mr Branislav BORENOVIĆ, MEP, President of EU Integration and Regional Cooperation Committee, Republika Srpska