



NEWSLETTER

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



Dear Readers,

On March 1st, we proudly celebrate the Independence Day of Bosnia and Herzegovina – a day that holds profound significance in the heart of every citizen. A day that reminds us of the unwavering will of the people of BiH, who chose sovereignty, freedom, and a future of independence. It stands as a powerful testament to our commitment to building a democratic, peaceful, and united country, where diversity is celebrated, and every citizen has a role in shaping a brighter future.

As we mark this important occasion, let us renew our dedication to the values of freedom, justice, and equality, and remember that the journey toward a prosperous and united Bosnia and Herzegovina is ongoing. Together, we continue to build a nation that is proud of its heritage and optimistic about its future.

Happy Independence Day Bosnia and Herzegovina!

Sincerely,

Elmedin Konaković
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina





The Independence Day of Bosnia and Herzegovina



Washington D.C.



Washington D.C.

State of Maryland has officially declared March 1 as Bosnian-American Community Day, as announced at a reception hosted at the Embassy of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Washington, D.C. The event was organized in celebration of March 1, Bosnia and Herzegovina's Independence Day.

In addition to representatives from the Maryland-Bosnia and Herzegovina Exchange Council, the reception was attended by officials from key U.S. institutions, including the White House, the State Department, and representatives from Washington, D.C., and the State of Maryland.

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Embassy of Bosnia and Herzegovina in London hosted a formal celebration of Bosnia and Herzegovina's Independence Day. The event was attended by Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps Alistair Harrison, numerous representatives of the diplomatic corps in London, Honorary Consul of BiH for the UK (Midlands region) Anes Cerić, as well as members of the Bosnia UK Network and the BiH diaspora in the UK. Ambassador Osman Topčagić highlighted the significance of March 1, and the importance of marking historical anniversaries, while reaffirming BiH's commitment to EU and NATO integration as a path to lasting stability and prosperity.



London



Ljubljana

On the occasion of the Independence Day of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Embassy of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Ljubljana organized an exhibition of established Bosnian artist Admir Halilović called „Ego eques“ in the City Hall in Ljubljana. This cultural event was opened by the Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Republic of Slovenia, H.E. Dario Novalić.

EU in Bosnia and Herzegovina @eu BiH
Happy Independence Day to Bosnia and Herzegovina!
The EU will continue to stand with BiH and its citizens.
We are neighbours, we are close partners, and we are working together for an EU future for BiH!

US Embassy Sarajevo @USEmba... · 1d
On BiH's Independence Day, we extend our best wishes to BiH and all of its citizens and reiterate our commitment to a strong and enduring friendship between our two countries. #USAinBiH

Julian Reilly @JulianReillyUK · 2d
Bosna i Hercegovina.
Zemlja za sve.
Jedinstvena.
Snažna.
Prkosna od sna.
Sretan Dan nezavisnosti 🇧🇦!

NATO BiH @natobih · 2d
Happy #IndependenceDay 🇧🇦 Bosnia and Herzegovina!

United Nations BiH @UN_BiH · 2d
We wish a happy Independence Day to all the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina! 🇧🇦 #BiH #IndependenceDay 🇧🇦🇧🇦🇧🇦

Sweden in BiH @SwedenBiH · 2d
Happy Independence Day Bosnia and Herzegovina!

Grateful to all our partners for their unwavering support of Bosnia and Herzegovina's independence, sovereignty, and Euro-Atlantic future.





European Affairs Ministers Meeting in Warsaw

Informal Meeting of General Affairs Council in Warsaw

Minister Konaković participated in the informal Meeting of General Affairs Council held in Warsaw. The meeting focused on enhancing regional cooperation and fostering stronger ties between the Western Balkans and the European Union. Minister Konaković highlighted Bosnia and Herzegovina's ongoing European integration efforts and stressed the importance of continued EU support for BiH accession process.

Minister Konaković meets with Kaja Kallas, Vice-President of the European Commission and Marta Kos, EU Commissioner for Enlargement and Italian MFA Antonio Tajani

Minister Elmedin Konaković engaged in a high-level discussion with Kaja Kallas and Marta Kos, senior European Union officials. The EU HR Kallas and Commissioner Kos, expressed their strong support to BiH integration process and its path to full membership in the EU.

Minister Konaković also met with Italian Foreign Minister Tajani and thanked him for organizing the meeting "Friends of the Western Balkans" in Rome. Interlocutors underscored the importance of a collaborative approach to support Bosnia and Herzegovina's alignment with EU standards and strengthen its role in the European framework.

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Meeting with EU Officials in Rome



Meeting with the Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani



Meeting of Western Balkans Foreign Ministers and Friends of the Western Balkans Group

Minister Konaković Attends Meeting of Western Balkans Foreign Ministers and Friends of the Western Balkans Group in Rome

Bosnia and Herzegovina's Minister of Foreign Affairs Elmedin Konaković participated in meeting with Foreign Ministers from the Western Balkans and members of the "Friends of the Western Balkans" group. The discussions focused on strengthening regional cooperation, advancing European integration efforts, and enhancing stability in the Western Balkans. Minister Konaković emphasized the importance of continued support for Bosnia and Herzegovina's EU accession process and fostering deeper collaboration with the region's international partners.

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Minister Konaković met with U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs Alexander Kasanof

During his working visit to the United States, Bosnia and Herzegovina's Minister of Foreign Affairs Elmedin Konaković, held constructive talks with Alexander Kasanof, the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs. The meeting centered on strengthening bilateral relations and enhancing cooperation in areas such as security, economic development, and regional stability. Interlocutors agreed on the importance of continued support for Bosnia and Herzegovina's European integration process and the expansion of diplomatic and strategic partnerships.

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Meeting with DAS Alexander Kasanof



Minister Konaković with U.S. Senator Pete Ricketts

Minister Konaković met with U.S. Senator Pete Ricketts

During his visit Minister Konaković also met with U.S. Senator Pete Ricketts. The meeting focused on fostering stronger ties between the two nations, particularly in areas of economic cooperation and regional stability.

Senator Ricketts expressed their commitment to supporting Bosnia and Herzegovina's European integration efforts.

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Minister Konaković meeting with U.S. Congressman Mike Turner

The discussions focused on strengthening bilateral relations between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the U.S., particularly in the areas of security, economic development, and Bosnia and Herzegovina's European integration process. Congressman Turner emphasized the importance of continued support for Bosnia and Herzegovina's reform efforts and European aspirations. Interlocutors discussed initiatives to enhance cooperation in defense and security matters, with a focus on regional stability. Additionally, Minister Konaković expressed appreciation for the U.S. ongoing support of Bosnia and Herzegovina's efforts in achieving a more stable and prosperous future. They also explored opportunities to expand cooperation in trade and investment, underscoring the potential for mutual benefit.

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Meeting with U.S. Congressman Mike Turner





Minister Konaković at the 61st Munich Security Conference

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina Elmedin Konaković participated in the 61st Munich Security Conference held on February 16-17, 2025. During the Conference, Minister Konaković held a series of bilateral meetings focusing on strengthening bilateral ties, enhancing diplomatic, political and economic cooperation, reaffirming Bosnia and Herzegovina's commitment to regional stability and achieving Bosnia and Herzegovina's European perspective.

For more information, click on the photos below.



Meeting with Bulgarian President Rumen Radev



Meeting with Irish Prime Minister Micheál Martin



Meeting with Czech Foreign Minister Jan Lipavský



Meeting with Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan



Meeting with French Parliamentarian and Foreign Policy Committee Member Liliana Tanguy



Meeting with Albanian Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Igli Hasani



Meeting with Tanja Fajon, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia



Meeting with Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Republic of Croatia Goran Grlić Radman



Bosnia and Herzegovina Commission for cooperation with NATO

The fourth meeting of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Commission for cooperation with NATO

The fourth meeting of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Commission for cooperation with NATO was held at the BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Wednesday, 12 February 2025. The agenda included consideration of Bosnia and Herzegovina's 2024 Reform Programme draft.

The methodology for the preparation of the draft of this document followed the established dynamic, i.e. all the institutions involved in the work of the Commission have updated and submitted their proposals for the activities incorporated in the draft of the said document.

The draft 2024 Reform Programme of BiH was adopted unanimously at that session and will, in accordance with the legal procedure, be submitted to a further, regular procedure that includes an eConsultation process, obtaining the opinions of BiH's competent institutions, and submitting it to the BiH Council of Ministers for consideration and adoption.

Also, the Commission for cooperation with NATO of Bosnia and Herzegovina had the opportunity to host representatives of NATO HQ Brussels and the political department of NATO HQ Sarajevo and to share its experience and working methods within the Commission itself, as well as during the drafting of the Reform Programme, and to familiarize guests with future activities and requirements at the level of institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina. NATO representatives once again reiterated support and dedication to further intensify partnership and cooperation with BiH, and expressed support to the work of the Commission, assessing its work as transparent and inclusive.

NATO representatives HQ Brussels and NATO representatives HQ Sarajevo briefed members on the planned steps regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina's Individual Partnership Programme (ITPP) 2025-2028, as an additional mechanism of NATO-Bosnia and Herzegovina partnership based on the partner country's unique and specific needs.

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Deputy Minister Josip Brkić Held Political Consultations with Hungarian Foreign Ministry Security Policy Secretary

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Josip Brkić, engaged in political consultations with the State Secretary for Security Policy at the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The discussions centered on enhancing cooperation between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Hungary, with a focus on security and regional stability. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to furthering bilateral relations, particularly in areas of defense and political collaboration, emphasizing shared regional and international security goals.

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Political Consultations in Sarajevo



Minister Elmedin Konaković met with the Head of the OSCE Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina Brian Aggeler

They discussed the current political situation in our country, cooperation between BiH and the OSCE, reform processes, regional relations, and security challenges. Minister Konaković emphasized BiH's determination to continue good cooperation with the OSCE and assessed that the OSCE's principles, obligations, and values today are especially important for common security. The interlocutors agreed that it is necessary to work together to preserve peace and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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Meeting in Sarajevo



Meeting in Sarajevo with SEDE and AFET delegations

Meeting with delegation of Defence and Security Subcommittee (SEDE), European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs

Minister Konaković met with the delegation of the Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE) - the European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET), led by Niclas Herbst (EPP Germany). Besides Herbst, the delegation also included Hélder Sousa Silva (EPP, Portugal), Marjan Šarec (Renew Europe, Slovenia) and Mārtiņš Staķis (The Greens/EFA, Latvia). They discussed the current political and security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the EU path and global and regional challenges.

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Minister Konaković spoke with the German Government's Special Representative for the WB, Manuel Sarazzin

Minister Konaković thanked the Federal Republic of Germany for its continuous bilateral and multilateral support to Bosnia and Herzegovina on its path to membership in the European Union. He expressed hope that the countries of the Western Balkans will remain on the German Government's agenda even after the elections in the Federal Republic of Germany. The Minister emphasized the dynamic political situation in the country in the light of the most recent events, but also in Europe and the world. This is a time when it is essential to work continuously on ensuring long-term stability and security in the Western Balkans, Europe and the world.

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Meeting with the German Government's Special Representative for the Western Balkans





Secretary of the Ministry Ambassador Dilberović at the Symposium

Secretary of the Ministry Ambassador Edin Dilberović participated at the Symposium “The Future of EU Integration for the Western Balkans - Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Doorstep of the European Union”

On February 26, 2025, Acting Secretary of the Ministry Ambassador Edin Dilberović participated in the Symposium on the topic: „The Future of EU Integration for the Western Balkans – Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Doorstep of the European Union,” organized by the International Academy of Sciences and Arts in Bosnia and Herzegovina, at the Bosniak Institute in Sarajevo.

The Symposium provided an opportunity to discuss current issues related to Bosnia and Herzegovina’s EU accession process, with the participation of prominent academics and others with notable foreign policy and diplomatic experience.

Ambassador Dilberović gave a lecture titled „European Union Conditions for the Bosnia and Herzegovina’s Path to Membership: Tools or Barriers,” in which he reflected on the conditions set and successfully implemented for Bosnia and Herzegovina in its EU accession process.

Bosnia and Herzegovina Stands with Ukraine

On the 24th of February at the OSCE Reinforced Permanent Council in Vienna, representatives convened to mark the third anniversary of Russia’s war in Ukraine. Bosnia and Herzegovina reaffirmed its unwavering support for Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.

Ms. Aida Hodžić, Acting Assistant Minister, delivered a statement emphasizing that peace cannot be taken for granted—it must be protected.



Ms. Aida Hodžić, Acting Assistant Minister

Bosnia and Herzegovina remains aligned with the EU’s Common Foreign and Security Policy and recognizes the broader security implications for the Western Balkans.

"This anniversary serves as a solemn reminder of the human cost of war," Ms. Hodžić stated. "We stand firm in our commitment to a rules-based international order and call for intensified diplomatic efforts to achieve a just and lasting peace."

Bosnia and Herzegovina urges the international community to uphold the principles of dialogue, multilateralism, and cooperation.



Bosnia and Herzegovina's accession to the Single Euro Payments Area

On 25 February 2025 Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina participated in coordination meeting on the activities regarding the accession of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA) organized by the Central Bank of Bosnia and Herzegovina (CBBH). The CBBH has started coordination activities in order to meet SEPA terms (drafting and adopting the appropriate EU regulation, as an important priority for the relevant institutions in the coming period).



Bosnia and Herzegovina's accession activities

The benefits of joining SEPA and building the necessary infrastructure, with interoperability with EU payment infrastructures, among other things, are measurable in the form of a reduction in fees for cross-border payments, better connections with the diaspora, reduction of informal money flows, attraction of foreign investments, and potential growth of capital markets. developing new financial products and services, such as digital wallets and mobile payment applications.

SEPA is one of the priorities of the Growth Plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina. The SEPA region consists of 38 European countries, including several countries which are not part of the euro area or the European Union (including Albania and Montenegro).

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina will continue to actively participate in all activities with relevant institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the aim of achieving membership in the SEPA area.

Women in Diplomacy Network attended lecture on "Islam in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Women, Resilience, and Social Cohesion"

The event organized by the Islamic Community in Bosnia and Herzegovina gathered ambassadors and women in diplomacy to strengthen cooperation and highlight the role of women in international affairs. Dr. Dževada Garić, head of the Department for the Western World at the Directorate for Foreign Affairs and Diaspora, delivered a lecture on "Islam in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Women, Resilience, and Social Cohesion," emphasizing the contributions of women in preserving social unity despite challenges.



Aida Hodžić, Acting Assistant Minister for Multilateral Relations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, underlined the significance of the women's network in diplomacy, which was launched to empower women in diplomatic roles.

Aurelie Valtat, Head of Political Section at the EU Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina underscored the need for collaboration among women from different cultural and religious backgrounds, acknowledging the shared challenges they face.

The event concluded with an interactive session that reinforced the importance of strengthening women's engagement in diplomacy, international relations, and social cohesion.





The Consul General of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Istanbul Dragan Mihaljević met with the Governor of Istanbul Davut Gula

The Consul General thanked the Governor for the cooperation and pointed out that the relations between the two countries are very successful in the political and cultural, educational, and social spheres. It was emphasized that it is necessary to make additional efforts with the aim of improving economic relations between the two countries.

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Meeting in Istanbul



Ambassador Limo presented his letters of credentials

Ambassador Nijaz Čardaklija presented letters of credentials to the President of the Republic of Tajikistan

The non-resident Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Republic of Tajikistan Nijaz Čardaklija presented his credentials to the President of the Republic of Tajikistan Emomala Rahmon. During the conversation after the presentation of credentials, the President of Tajikistan emphasized the importance of establishing a legal framework for mutually beneficial cooperation, and mentioned that the first round of bilateral political consultations could be planned this year.

Armin Limo, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste based in Jakarta, handed over letters of credentials to the President of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste Dr. Jose Ramos-Horta

After the presentation of the letter of credentials, the interlocutors emphasized the need to improve bilateral relations between the two countries in all fields. They exchanged views on current issues in the region and the world.



Ambassador Limo presented his letters of credentials in the Presidential Palace in the capital Dili



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Bosnia and Herzegovina Armed Forces Day Celebrated in Ankara

A reception hosted by Mirsada Čolaković, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Ankara, and Colonel Nikola Ištuk, Military Attaché of Bosnia and Herzegovina, was held in Ankara on the occasion of Bosnia and Herzegovina Armed Forces Day.

The reception was attended by Deputy Minister of National Defence Musa Heybet, Commander of Naval Forces Admiral Ercüment Tatlıoğlu, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Director for EU Affairs Ambassador Mehmet Kemal Bozay, representatives of missions in Ankara, Military Attachés and many guests.

In her opening speech at the reception Ambassador Čolaković stated that the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina have proved over the years that they are ready to deal with various challenges and that the armed forces provide vital support after natural disasters.

In his speech, Admiral Tatlıoğlu stated that the relations between the Turkish and Bosnia and Herzegovina peoples are based on a strong historical and cultural background.



Day of Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina Reception in Ankara



Balkans MICE Roadshow 2025

About 40 representatives of tourist operators from Indonesia attended the presentation.

Presentation of touristic attraction of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Balkans MICE Roadshow 2025

In Jakarta, a presentation on the potential of business tourism in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia and Croatia was held under the name The Balkans MICE Roadshow 2025. Bosnia and Herzegovina was represented by Fortuna Tours from Mostar. The Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to Indonesia Armin Limo in his welcoming speech introduced the attendees to the tourism potential of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the director of Fortuna Tours Mr. Mili Bijavica and assistant director Ms. Sanja Kaljužny gave a detailed and high-quality presentation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the field of business tourism.

Ambassador Čohodarević visited FDHL one of the leading Pakistani real estate developers and asset management company

On February 3, 2025 Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Emin Čohodarević visited the Future Development Holdings (FDHL) in Islamabad, one of the leading Pakistani real estate developers and asset management company, to discuss prospects of cooperation between Bosnian and Herzegovinian and Pakistani companies.

During the meeting, the Ambassador and FDHL management discussed potential co-operation to intensify contact between Bosnian and Herzegovinian and Pakistani companies and businessmen. Summing up the results of the meeting the Ambassador said: "The Bosnian and Herzegovinian Government and the Embassy are keen to see a more active business and investment relationship between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. I look forward to working with FDHL to support closer contacts in the interests of both our countries".





THIS IS BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Necropolis of Radimlja

The Radimlja necropolis is, in terms of its artistic qualities, one of the most valuable and significant necropolises of Stećak tombstones in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in general. It is located in Vidovo Polje, 3 km west of Stolac, on the Čapljina - Stolac road. Due to the large number of specimens, the diversity and representation of all basic forms, the relatively high artistic quality of workmanship, the wealth of plastic decorations, relief representations and inscriptions mentioning famous historical figures, as well as its unusual location and accessibility, the Radimlja necropolis is one of the most valuable monuments of the medieval period in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

[Learn More](#)



Stećak is a type of medieval stone tombstone. Its name comes from the present participle of the verb to stand, i.e. standing.



XL International Festival Sarajevo "Sarajevo Winter" 2025 and the Cultural Olympics under the Patronage of the Council of Europe

Sarajevo is once again hosting the jubilee XL International Festival Sarajevo "Sarajevo Winter," taking place from February 7 to March 21, 2025, followed by the Cultural Olympics from March 21 to September 21, 2025. These significant cultural events are being held under the patronage of Alain Berset, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, who expresses his satisfaction in granting support to events that align with the Council's activities and values.

The Festival Director and President of the Cultural Forum of Bosnia and Herzegovina highlights that the Sarajevo Winter Festival has been under the patronage of the Council of Europe and UNESCO since 1993, which is a recognition of all the artists and institutions from the country and around the world who participate over the decades.

This year's jubilee is marked by the themes of the European Cultural Convention and the European Convention on Human Rights, emphasizing universal values of dialogue, artistic diversity, and freedom of expression.



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