

## In Focus



■ Haris Silajdzic, Chairman of the BiH Presidency, Javier Solana, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, Dimitrij Rupel, Slovenian Foreign Affairs Minister and Olli Rehn, EU Commissioner for Enlargement at the signing of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement June 16 in Luxembourg

## BiH Ties the Knot with EU

*Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union signed a Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) and an interim agreement on trade and trade-related matters at a ceremony held in Luxembourg on 16 June. Both agreements will enter into force on 1 July 2008.*

The signature is an important step on the country's path towards EU membership. "It is a turning point, which marks a new phase in our relations," said EU Commissioner for Enlargement Olli Rehn.

### EU's commitment to BiH

High Representative Javier Solana congratulated the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina and stressed that the SAA agreement is "an agreement for ever".

In a similar vein, Miroslav Lajcak, the High Representative and EU Special Representative to Bosnia and Herzegovina, said that "the country is now set on the road to EU membership, a road that once embarked upon, no country has ever veered off."

Brigadier General Vincenzo Coppola,

the Head of the EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, also hailed the signing of the SAA as "a powerful signal to the people of BiH that their future lays in Europe."

General Coppola explained that the trade-related interim agreement is the first step to establish a common market with the EU. He underlined that investors will expect a functioning police and judiciary which coordinate their work closely throughout the country.

Continuous police and judiciary reform will assist in this process and will also contribute to a fast implementation of the road map for visa liberalisation to which the government committed on 26 May.

### More challenges lie ahead

The EU representatives who were present at the SAA signing ceremony all stressed that the road towards EU membership may be long, and that much hard work and compromise lie ahead of the political leaders of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"There is so much work left," said Rehn.

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## Editorial

The signature of a Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Member States of the European Union in Luxembourg on 16 June marked a historical turning point. Bosnia and Herzegovina has undoubtedly entered a new phase in the EU integration process. The first contractual relationship between BiH and the EU has been established, thus taking a concrete step towards peace, stability, democracy, prosperity and all other values symbolised by the family of the European states. The signature of the SAA is the best reward to BiH authorities and citizens for the progress achieved so far. Also a positive signal has been sent to all European and other partners, especially business partners, that Bosnia and Herzegovina is ready and capable of undertaking significant efforts in all areas.



The SAA should contribute to the political and economic stabilisation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as to the establishment of close and permanent ties with the European Union. Political dialogue, a clear perspective of future EU membership, a strengthening of regional cooperation, and a progressive harmonisation with EU legislation are some of the most important aspects of the SAA.

Benefits will, therefore, be of a political, but also of an economic nature, and citizens will notice them soon.

The contractual sides of the Agreement have expressed belief that the SAA will create a new climate for economic relations, especially for trade and investments. The provisional agreement, which will be applied once the SAA is ratified, contains parts relevant to trade and transport, anticipating the reduction and abolishment of customs fees for certain goods imported from EU countries. Citizens will therefore have at their disposal a larger number of products at lower prices. Business people will also benefit from the purchase of cheaper production material, machines and equipment.

However, the abolishment of customs tariffs implies stronger competition for local producers. They should not feel frightened, but encouraged to improve their businesses,

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"Some new laws have to be adopted and reforms have to be implemented, for it is a time to build consensus for the reforms connected to the EU."

In an exclusive interview to *Dnevni Avaz*, Solana said that it is important to show that the country is ready for a swift implementation of the SAA in order to reach the next phase, namely the application for the candidate status.

"How much time this will take depends only on the political leadership of BiH, and their readiness to overcome political and other obstacles in the implementation process," he said.

Despite some politicians' warnings in the press that Bosnia and Herzegovina may not be ready to live up to the expectations regarding the implementation of the agreement, the Chairman of the BiH Presidency, Haris Silajdzic, said he is an optimist.

"Everything that applies to the EU has to apply to BiH," he said. "Our citizens have to be equal, which they are not at the moment."

## Western Balkans on the road to EU

The agreement aims to support efforts to strengthen democracy and the rule of law and to complete the country's transition to a market economy. It also aims to contribute to political, economic and institutional stability and to gradually develop a free trade area between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union.

The interim agreement aims to implement as speedily as possible the provisions of the SAA dealing with the free movement of goods. An interim committee will be established to ensure the correct implementation of the provisions.

The signature completes the Slovenian Presidency's goal to have all five countries of the Western Balkans sign an SAA by the end of their six-month mandate. ■



■ BiH Prime Minister Nikola Spiric, Chairman of the BiH Presidency Haris Silajdzic, and Slovenian Foreign Affairs Minister Dimitrij Rupel at the SAA signing ceremony

# Visa-free Travel Gets Closer for BiH Citizens

*The signing of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) is already starting to make a difference within one of the most prominent and sensitive issues for citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina - visa-free travel.*

*Only those who have been through the gruelling process of obtaining a visa for visiting any EU country know how imperative this change is for the people of BiH. Two-month preparations for even the simplest week-end trip, paperwork from every institution imaginable - from the workplace to the bank and the municipality - extremely expensive fees, standing in line for hours in pouring rain, dealing with terse security guards or clerks... The process is a nightmare and a humiliation. Changing it could change the citizens' outlook of the country's future.*



■ Dialogue on visa liberalisation: (left to right) Jacques Barrot, Nikola Spiric, and Olli Rehn

According to the roadmap, key conditions to visa-free travel for BiH citizens are biometric passports, document security, border management, the implementation of the *Law on Movements and Stay of Aliens and Asylum* of 2008, the prevention and fight against organised crime, as well as the assurance of fundamental rights for all citizens.

## Up to 90 days

The list of requirements set forth in the roadmap is long, and it is hard to estimate how long it will be before BiH citizens can travel to EU countries without visas.

"We are now looking into forming a plan for the application of the roadmap conditions," says Samir Rizvo, Chairman of the BiH Interdepartmental Work Group for negotiations about visa liberalisation.

The first steps have been taken and the proverbial ball has started rolling. However, even when the roadmap requirements are met, BiH citizens will still have to abide by strict travel guidelines.

"Once visa-free travel is granted, BiH citizens will be able to enter EU countries only with their travel documents," adds Rizvo. "However, this does not mean that BiH citizens will be able to travel to the EU and just stay there - the stay is limited to 90 days, after which they have to either return to BiH, or regulate their stay within the specific country as is done now."

The road ahead is long, but at least there is now some light at the end of the tunnel. As the application of conditions commences, the process will be closely monitored by the European Commission, who will report regularly on the implementation of the roadmap and will eventually consider the possibility to present a proposal for the lifting of the visa obligation for citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina. ■

Dialogue on visa-free travel with Bosnia and Herzegovina, launched by the European Commission Vice President Jacques Barrot, commenced on 26 May in Brussels.

"I attach the greatest importance to facilitating people-to-people contacts, in particular for the younger generation," said Barrot. "I am convinced that easy travel conditions will increase mutual understanding and improve our relations in all fields."

## Roadmap to EU

The dialogue, aimed at giving clear indications and guidelines on changes that need to be implemented before visa-free travel can be granted, progressed into the *Roadmap for Visa Liberalisation*, which was prepared by the European Commission and officially presented to BiH authorities on 5 June.

"The roadmap on visa facilitation is certainly another important step towards the EU integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina," said Barrot. "It offers more advantages to the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as it will encourage the country to continue implementing the relevant reforms and reinforcing cooperation at the regional level and with the EU in areas such as strengthening the rule of law, fighting organised crime and combating corruption."

# Security Reform: EU Officials Discuss the Way Ahead



*A two-day seminar on security sector reform hosted by the EU Police Mission in cooperation with the Slovenian Presidency of the European Union and the Slovenian Centre for European Perspective was held in Sarajevo on 5 and 6 June 2008.*

*The panellists, including representatives of the European Commission, EU Member States and the BiH Parliament, focussed on various reform agendas: police and international police cooperation, criminal justice and the judiciary, border and migration issues, as well as the role of national parliaments and civil society.*

In his opening remarks Brigadier General Vincenzo Coppola, the Head of the EU Police Mission, noted that the challenges with regard to security sector reform in a difficult political environment such as Bosnia and Herzegovina are two-fold: "First, the reform touches upon some of the key political questions of the country - on which there is often little or no agreement - let alone a common vision. Second, reforms are necessary to make structures and policies compatible with the EU and prepare for the accession process."

Natasa Vodusek, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia to BiH, which currently holds the EU Presidency, emphasised the need for a clear separation between organised crime and the state: "The first step in this regard is to explore the causes, forms, dimensions and depth of organised crime in all the segments of society. This endeavour will be successful if BiH moves from the status quo in the security sector."

■ Her Excellency Natasa Vodusek, Michael Leigh, and Brigadier General Vincenzo Coppola

## Police reform: the way ahead

Participants unanimously concluded that BiH Parliamentarians are to take the leading role in the police reform process.

"A meaningful police reform will bring tangible benefits for the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina: increased security, a more efficient fight against crime, and possibly, as a result, the introduction of visa-free travel to the EU," said Coppola. "These are all the reasons for which BiH Parliamentarians should take the leading role in the process."

The Head of the EU Police Mission appealed for a more practical and pragmatic approach to police reform in order to make the existing structures work better: "The approach to police reform has to

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thus strengthening their own competitiveness on the European market, having already experienced an open market towards countries of the region through an agreement on free trade and CEFTA.

Great tasks are ahead for Bosnia and Herzegovina. The implementation of the obligations stipulated by the Stabilisation and Association Agreement and the fulfilment of the priorities of the European partnership are the only way to progress towards the next phases of the EU integration process, primarily towards candidate status. BiH is aware of what lies ahead and is ready for reforms that will lead the country towards its main objective - to become a part of the family of peace, stability, and economic prosperity - a full member of the European Union. ■

By Osman Topcagic,  
Director of BiH Directorate  
for European Integration

change in order to reflect the evolving reality of the country. We will move from a 'top-down' to a 'bottom-up' approach, which calls for strong coordination, thus enabling the existing structures to work better."

The end of the first semester, just a few days before the signature of the SAA between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the EU, was a perfect time to reflect upon the EU's involvement in previous years and the way ahead in the next phase of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

Michael Leigh, the European Commission's Directorate-General for Enlargement, confirmed that the destiny of all countries of the Western Balkan lies in the EU. "By signing the Stabilisation and Association Agreement on 16 June, the EU will have completed the essential phase of this agreement." ■



■ Antonio Molinaro, EUPM Desk Officer at the CPCC, and Tatiana Jancewicz, Legal Adviser to EUPM's Head of Mission

# We Keep Risks at Distance from the EU

*Civilian crisis management is still quite a new field of activity for the EU. What do you consider the EU's main challenges?*

That is a very important question. My challenge, as well as the European Union's, is to fully professionalise civilian crisis management operations. It is about setting realistic goals and consolidating both the commitments and the support of the Member States to these missions.

*Does the EU have sufficient resources and knowledge/skills to run large-scale missions?*

The resources of our missions are very scarce. They principally come from the Ministries of Interior and Ministries of Justice. When allocating these resources to us, they have to compete with national priorities. That is a problem for them because their mandate is domestic security, so we must make a very good case for them to give personnel to us. I think we have a good case - but we must make it each and every time - and that is that we keep risks at a distance from the European Union. So we can consider that as a sort of defense of EU's own internal security.

*What would you like to improve as the new EU Operations Commander?*

A lot has already been done in the few months since the CPCC was set up, but I would like to further improve planning and execution, in particular by focusing on specific goals. With this regard it is important to make a distinction between deployment and employment. Deployment is getting people on the ground, but that is only half of the effort. The biggest effort is to employ this scarce personnel, these experts, in such a way that we use their potential to the full, and we have to develop our planning capacities to make this happen.

*What do you want to accomplish as the new EU Operations Commander?*

Although my mandate is limited in time, the end of my mandate seems to me very far away. There are many immediate and pressing needs with regard to operations. Some operations face operational difficulties because of the circumstances in which they have to be carried out, so we need to support them. I will mention Afghanistan as an example where the environment is extremely dangerous and



■ Kees Klompenhouwer presents his vision to the EUPM Spokesperson in Sarajevo's Holiday Inn

difficult. Another priority is to better explain to Member States and to the outside world what the value is of what we do. Because I am convinced that what our professionals are doing is quite valuable and we owe it to them to publicise this in a more systematic way.

*As a former Ambassador to Serbia and former Director of the Eastern and South-Eastern Europe Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands you have extensive knowledge and experience about this region. What do you find particularly interesting about this region?*

First of all, this region is quite close to Europe. In a geographical sense it is part of Europe. And it has also to become part of Europe in a political, social and civil sense. This means that we have to overcome the politics based on identity and help them to build a tolerant and prosperous society. And I think our civilian missions are particularly suited to help them do that.

*The EU Police Mission was the first ever mission in the field of the European Security and Defense Policy. What lessons has the EU learned from this mission?*

I think we are now in the stage of thinking about what lessons we have yet to learn. So I cannot give you definitive answers, rather some preliminary thoughts. One is that sometimes you have to think outside the box and when you build a police force you must also think about

helping to build a judiciary. So, this calls for an integrated approach. Another notion is that some concepts that you are supporting are very broad, such as the concept of police reform. It is very broad. And in order to be successful, we have to narrow down what exactly we want to achieve. In this context I think we should primarily concentrate on strengthening the capabilities of the law enforcement agencies here to do their work.

*The EU Police Mission has a non-executive mandate and focuses mainly on police issues. EULEX, which is currently being deployed in Kosovo, has a more global mandate, including justice and customs aspects. Do you think future missions should all have a broader mandate or is this typical of the situation in Kosovo?*

I think it is typical for Kosovo. The political situation, the Declaration of Independence, called for a very broad approach. And normally objectives should be more narrowly defined.

*If you had only one sentence to say to the people who participate in ESDP missions worldwide what would it be?*

It is that I have a great appreciation for their commitment and for the quality of their work.

*Similarly, what would you say to EU Member States to convince them to continue contributing staff to ESDP missions worldwide?*

It is a message in two parts. First of all, it is in your interest, in your security's interest, to support these missions. Secondly, we can make it work.

*You just participated in a seminar on security sector reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the context of EU accession which was organized by the EU PM and the EU Presidency. Big changes lie ahead of the country. EUPM's mandate will expire by the end of 2009. The OHR will at some stage be closed and responsibilities handed over to the EUSR who will eventually be merged with the EC Delegation to BiH. How do you see the way forward?*

The seminar made clear - as well as discussions that I have had with various officials here - that there will still be a need for expertise that we can offer, in fact that we are offering. I had preliminary discussions with the European Commission representative, because the European Commission will be in the lead probably in the next phase, and how to best make this expertise available in the context of the efforts of the Commission's needs and that could, for instance, be a way forward. We are keeping other options open as well, depending on the outcome of the discussion on the transition from OHR to EUSR. All these are very early considerations and the decision will ultimately rest with the Member States. ■



## Police in BiH



## EUPM Aids SIPA in Training Press Liaison Officers

*Head of the EU Police Mission, Brigadier General Vincenzo Coppola, and Director of the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA), Mirko Lujic awarded certificates to eight SIPA police officers on June 2 for successfully completing public relations skills training, which promoted them into Press Liaison Officers.*

*"SIPA has recognised that police in every democratic society has to be open, transparent and accountable, while citizens have a right to be informed in a timely fashion about police activities," said Coppola during the award ceremony in Sarajevo. "The EU Police Mission has assisted SIPA in developing a communications strategy with an aim to strengthen professional relations between SIPA and the media."*

The training, prepared by EU Police Mission and SIPA, was conducted by Sarajevo Media Centre and the Centre for Strategy and Communication of London, who trained these selected senior staff member of SIPA in developing their television performance, public speaking and communication strategy skills.

*"This training has been organised at the time when SIPA has grown into a strong state police agency, with effective working results. This is the turning point where we need to concentrate on making the public fully aware of our capabilities*

*to ensure the security of our country, but also to generate their strong support for the future challenges that will be faced successfully only in partnership of SIPA and BiH citizens," says Dragisa Stanisic, one of the newly appointed press liaison officers who will further promote SIPA's transparency from Regional Office Tuzla.*

All eight police officers from SIPA enthusiastically expect that their media liaison will improve public awareness of important tasks SIPA is conducting to ensure an overall orderly society.

*"We need to be more proactive as far as our external communication is concerned especially since we play a key role in fighting major and organised crime, which is crucial for the long term prosperity and sustainability of BiH," says Selma Delalic, acting SIPA Spokesperson who also attended the training.*

Lujic is determined to further support the press liaison with media as one of the crucial aspects for the work of his agency.

*"Better media relations and public communication will ultimately strengthen the image of SIPA as the state police agency dealing with most complex and demanding police tasks of fight major and organised crime," concluded Lujic.*

SIPA's Press Liaison Officers will be based in the three regional offices of the agency. In addition to their regular police duties, they will be the first point of contact for media inquiries. ■

# EUPM Supports Organisation of Police Day for Kids

*Law enforcement agencies from across Bosnia and Herzegovina gathered at Zetra with their patrol vehicles, motor-bikes, special equipment and police dogs to present their work to BiH children during the EUPM-hosted Police Day within the Kids Festival. All ingredients were there to turn the children's encounter with their police into an unforgettable experience.*

"Traffic safety was the focus of our workshop," says Nebojsa Maric, community policing officer from Sarajevo Police. "Thanks to the EUPM, we simulated a cross-road with traffic lights and organised a workshop on how to behave in traffic both as a pedestrian and a driver."

## Traffic safety

Every child received a traffic safety leaflet to bring back home as a reminder of the traffic safety lecture they got at the Kid's Fest. They also received a sticker on the importance of wearing a seat-belt.

This was the first Kid's Fest that Zdravko and his Special Support Unit (SSU) from the Travnik Police attended. "We have really appreciated the opportunity to spend a day with kids, as this does not fall under our so-called regular duties. It was enjoyable to answer a million of questions the kids have had about our job, uniforms, and equipment."

Danica, from the Zenica Police, has been a regular visitor of all Kid's Festivals so far. Together with her community policing team, she is in constant touch with parents and teachers throughout the year in the preparation for the Kid's Fest.

"This year, we managed to provide trans-

## Visit to SIPA Special Support Unit

In addition to Kid's Festival, children from Gorazde and East Sarajevo also visited SIPA's Special Support Unit base in Lukavica.

"Our officers can put up with many things, including the most severe types of criminals, the most dangerous situations and the worst conditions, but we cannot resist the charm of these youngsters and their merriness," said Mirsad Vilic, the Chief of SIPA' Special Support Unit. The children enjoyed the spectacular performances of the Special Support Unit, who roped down one of the buildings and taught the kids self-defence techniques. ■



■ Police helicopter was the biggest hit of the Kid's Festival

portation to over 1,000 kids from the Zenica-Doboj Canton," she says. "I am pleased to see that every year there is less and less hesitation from kids to approach a police officer."

Members of the forensics team of the Ljubuski and Tuzla Police Administration were also present, displaying their CSI equipment and special vehicles. They were surrounded by kids who wanted to have their fingerprints taken, be tested on a polygraph or see how a metal detector functions.

"I have always wanted to see how a polygraph works in reality and I got a chance today. You know, I am a big fan of the 'CSI Miami' TV series," cheers Mirna, a 15-year-old girl from Celebici, Konjic.

## Air police

Brcko motorcyclists got their fan club too. "I want to be a motorbike police officer when I grow up. This is so cool," said 10-year-old Mladen from Doboj.

The Federation Ministry of Interior's helicopter was a hit. Every single kid wanted to have a photo of it, so they kept the pilot busy all day long. He was helping kids in and out of the helicopter, showing them how communication equipment works and assisting them to adjust their earphones.



■ Children gathered around local police and EUPM police officers, while the youngest ones could not stay away from the flashing lights of the police motorcycle

"They were so impressed with the helicopter that I was tempted to take kids for a ride," says the pilot through laughter.

"Daddy, daddy, look at this airplane," screams five-year old Amina from Sarajevo. "Honey, this is not an airplane, it is a helicopter," replies her daddy, but she is long gone, running towards the blue-and-white bird.

"When talking to the kids, I realised how much they appreciated the programme of our Police Day," says Halid Emkic, Brcko District Police Spokesperson. "I think we managed to strike the right balance between awareness-raising and entertainment."

This year's Kid's Fest offered more than thirty activities, both educational and entertaining: creative and pedagogical workshops and films, performers from all over the world - magicians, jugglers, dancers, balloon artists, clowns and mimes - international kiosks, theatre plays, as well as a video corner with ARTE and Prix Jeunesse short features. A special flavour to this year's event was added by the Kid's Circus from the Netherlands and the worldwide premiere of the *Lucky Luke Adventures*. According to the organisers of the festival, the event attracted more than 40, 000 kids from across Bosnia and Herzegovina. ■



# Improving the Prison System in BiH

*The EU Police Mission organised a workshop on prison service development in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 11 June 2008 in Sarajevo. At the Workshop, the EU Police Mission presented the findings of its analysis of the prison system and discussed the way ahead towards developing a sustainable, professional prison service with secure, safe and orderly functions.*

Following the escape of Radovan Stankovic from the Foca prison last year, the international community tasked the EU Police Mission to look into ways to improve the correctional system in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This led to the appointment of a prison expert, Claus Andersin, tasked to determine what can be done to help the BiH authorities improve prison security.

"Unfortunately, the prison system resembles the fragmentation of most of the structures in this country," said Brigadier General Vincenzo Coppola, Head of the EU Police Mission. "We are starting to understand the failures of the existing prison system and to think about new solutions."

General Coppola explained that BiH is undergoing significant reforms in the security sector. The police and the judiciary are under scrutiny, and changes will affect the penitentiary system too. Prosecutors and courts do not function in a vacuum; they are linked to the police on the one hand, and the prison system on the other. Without one or the other, the credibility of the whole system is at risk.

"Prisons are the last element, or link, in the criminal procedure chain," said General Coppola. "Like in all chains, the weakest link determines the strength of the chain. Prison security thus reflects the security of the whole society."

He announced that this workshop is the first of a series of similar meetings to help local authorities establish a system which will allow those who are responsible for the correctional system in Bosnia and Herzegovina to coordinate their decisions and make the system work better.

## An international expert's perspective

Andersin, who visited all detention centres throughout the country last spring, stressed the importance of using a more strategic, statistics-based approach: "Prison managers have to



■ Mustafa Bisic, Assistant to BiH Minister of Justice, and Brigadier General Vincenzo Coppola, EUPM Head of Mission, introduce the topic to the participants

set clear goals and objectives based on prisoners' needs. They should rely on statistical data in order to determine where they are going to be in 2011."

He emphasised the need for a strategic joint plan as one of the key factors for the establishment of an efficient prison management system. In order to do so, prison managers first need to analyse the current situation, i.e. find out what kind of prisoners they deal with and what kind of resources and programmes they need to work with them. He also drew attention to a need for proper contingency planning and a reinforcement of cooperation with police with this regard.

Both Dusko Sajin, the Head of the Department for Detention Institutions in the Republika Srpska, and Mustafa Bisic, Assistant Minister of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina, emphasized the need for infrastructural improvement.

Sajin explained to his colleagues that he has taken specific measures since Stankovic's escape: "We decided to construct a ward with maximum security in the Foca prison. We expect that this ward will be up and running by the end of this year."

As to Bisic, he announced the launch of an international tender procedure for the construction of a state prison by the end of this year: "This will be the most modern and secured prison in BiH and it will meet all the requirements for imprisoning perpetrators of the gravest crime cases." ■

## EUPM Participates in EU Open Door Day



■ SIPA Support Unit officer Ramo Kadric demonstrates self-defence to Brussels' children at EUPM's stand during the EU Open Day on June 7

Together with its 'sister' missions from Palestine, Iraq, Guinea-Bissau, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kosovo and Afghanistan, the EUPM participated in the EU Open Door Day on 7 June.

The self-defence tricks of two members of SIPA's Special Support Unit, Igor Lajic and Ramo Kadric, and the flamboyant uniforms of our colleagues, Elena Benkova and Alain Alouthmani, drew a lot of visitors, especially children, to our stand.

Visitors were impressed about the European Union's action around the world. It was a unique opportunity for them to find out more about the European Security

and Defence Strategy (ESDP) and the overall situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"It was a great opportunity to raise citizens' awareness about the European Union's action in the area of civilian crisis management," says Kilian Wahl, Head of EUPM's Press and Public Information Department.

Besides being a great opportunity to talk to citizens and present our work, the EU Open Door Day is also a unique moment in which all ESDP missions come together as one big family striving towards similar goals, no matter where in the world. ■

# Newcomers

The mission gives a warm welcome to the following colleagues who have recently arrived as part of the German and Italian contingents.



## GERMANY



**Frank Geilert**, 50, holds the rank of first captain and works as the station commander of a police inspection unit in Germany. He joined EUPM as an **Inspection officer** in **Mostar**. His police experience ranges from the uniform and traffic police to a criminal investigations department and the Ministry of Interior. Before joining the police, he worked as a precision mechanic for four years. Frank has previous mission experience, namely with UNMIK as a chief of operations, first with the border police (2000-2001) and later on with the uniform police (2004-2005). Frank says that *"the mission's mandate motivated him to join us and help BiH to have a proper police."* He is divorced, with one daughter, and his favourite hobby is tennis.



**Michael Ruegenhagen**, 48, joined EUPM as an Adviser in the **Field Office Brcko**. Back in Germany, he holds the rank of Captain and works as Chief of Investigation in a police station. His fields of expertise are mainly investigation and management. He worked for two UN missions in Kosovo. Michael said that he joined the EUPM because he "wanted to continue to work in an international mission in the Balkans to see the ongoing progress". He is married, and his favourite free time activities are various kinds of sports: gym, running, skiing and climbing.



**Jane Karin Steiner**, 40, is a Master Sergeant with the German police. She joined EUPM as a **Donors Support Coordinator** with the **Police Reform Department**. Her motivation to join EUPM was to get a change from her work back home, where she works as a patrol officer. She started her career with the state police in 1992 and applied for the Federal Police (BP) in 2005. Her police experience includes many years of work as a patrol officer in downtown Berlin, as a member of a plain cloth unit to catch pick-pockets and with the Border Police at the airport in Berlin. Her previous international police experience includes two missions in Kosovo, where she was working with the Professional Standard Unit and Witness Protection. Jane is single and her favourite free time activities are cycling and running.



**Joerg Rober Winter**, 46, joined EUPM as the Chief of the **Inspection Department**. He studied at the national police academy and holds the rank of chief superintendent with the German police. He has 29 years of police experience as a patrol officer, a trainer in police law and police operational skills and a member of the department for police operations at the Ministry of the Interior. Back in Germany he works as the Deputy Leader of a police district, consisting of about 430 police officers, south of Frankfurt. (The district has 260,000 inhabitants, six police stations, a 30-man team of plain clothes officers and a special detective group for violence in sport, especially soccer.) This is his first mission abroad and he hopes this mission will improve his skills and abilities as a police officer. Joerg is married, without children. He spends his free time working on his house and his big garden. As a German who grew up by the river Rhine, he celebrates carnival every year. He also likes to go running and, since he quit smoking, he recently participated in a marathon in Mainz.



## ITALY



**Dario Cottone**, 33, joined EUPM as **Inspection Team Officer**. He is from Palermo, Sicily, and joined the Carabinieri Corp in 1996 with the rank of Inspector. He has been working in the Naples area for four years, both in a Carabinieri Station and in an investigation team. After that, he worked for the Europol National Unit in Rome for almost six years. As a member of the Organised Crime Unit, he was in charge of maintaining the information flow between Europol and the competent national bodies. He was also seconded to the Europol Headquarters in The Hague as Italian Liaison Officer. He said that he is *"looking forward to this interesting professional experience with EUPM"*.



**Giuliano Gallone**, a 44-year-old High Chief Inspector with the Italian Carabinieri, has recently joined EUPM as a **Crime Adviser** at the **Field Office** in **Tuzla**. He has a university degree in Business Administration and joined the Carabinieri in 1985. Giuliano's police experience is mainly related to personnel administration. He has namely been working as a Chief of Per-

sonnel in Genova since 1994. He has broad international experience, namely with the UN in New York in from 1998 to 1999, with the NATO in Sarajevo from 2000 to 2001, with the IPTF UNBIH in Sarajevo in 2002 and with the first EUPM mission from 2002 to 2004. He is married, with two children, and his favourite free time activities are horse-riding and tennis.



**Francesco Mutri**, 35, joined EUPM as a **Criminal Investigation Adviser** with **SIPA's Regional Office** in **Sarajevo**. He has a degree in communications and holds the rank of Chief Inspector with the Italian police forces. Back in Italy he was working as the Team leader of an anti-crime squad. His police experience includes various positions: team leader of an anti-riot squad in Rome (1997); team leader of a narcotics team in Rome (2000); commander of an Emergency Response Unit in Comacchio (2006) and team leader of an operative anti-crime squad (2007). He has extensive mission experience, namely as a Liaison Officer with the Italian Interforce Police Liaison Office (in February 2004) and as an Observer and Duty Officer with TIP2 in Hebron (April 2005). He is in a relationship, and his favourite free time activity is playing with his 'Cane Corso' dog.



**Carmelo Tocci**, 48, is an Inspector with 30 years of experience. He joined the EUPM's **Anti-Organised Crime Department's Interface Cell for Criminal Intelligence (ICCI)**. Back in Italy he was working as an administrative officer with the Regione Carabinieri Lazio. Throughout his career he has been working in various positions inside the Carabinieri. From 1992 to 1996 he worked as a security officer at the Italian Embassy in London. After that he returned to Rome and joined an investigation team as a detective, fighting drug trafficking and organised crime. From December 2003 to June 2004 he served in BiH at the NATO Headquarters -Joint Forge- in the Italian National Intelligence Cell (NIC). In 2006 he served in Valona, Albania, for six months as an officer to the Center for International Antitraf-ficking (C.I.A). Carmelo lives in Rome, he is married, with two sons, Mirko (14) and Fabio (20). His hobbies are tennis, jogging and snorkeling. In the winter he really likes skiing. ■



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