

In Focus



Editorial



Željko Komšić
Chairman
Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The work of the security agencies in BiH and the bodies that support their work, one of which is the EU Police Mission, is of key importance for the future progress and development of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Our country can progress towards the Euro-Atlantic integrations only if we have strong police and security agencies, both at the state and lower levels. We are all witnesses of organized crime being the biggest obstacle in a country's development, which is not the case only in BiH. I am convinced that we would have much less organized crime and corruption if all competent bodies would fully support the law enforcement agencies.

The support to the judiciary and the prison system, as well as to the fight against organized crime and corruption that the EUPM has been providing through this difficult process and to become a full member of the EU family. Like most BiH citizens, I wish to see us reach our strategic goal, full membership in NATO and the EU, as soon as possible. The staff of the EU Police Mission should certainly get some credit for our progress to that aim. Thus, I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for their dedicated work. I hope that their support will not stop after BiH joins the EU and that they would remain ambassadors of BiH in their own countries. ■

Efforts made by the EU and its missions in BiH, such as the EUPM, are helping Bosnia and Herzegovina and its citizens to go as fast as possible through this difficult process and to become a full member of the EU family. Like most BiH citizens, I wish to see us reach our strategic goal, full membership in NATO and the EU, as soon as possible. The staff of the EU Police Mission should certainly get some credit for our progress to that aim. Thus, I would like to take the opportunity to thank them for their dedicated work. I hope that their support will not stop after BiH joins the EU and that they would remain ambassadors of BiH in their own countries. ■

Taming the Beast

EUPM and BiH police start anti-corruption campaign

On December 7, the EU Police Mission and Bosnia and Herzegovina's law enforcement agencies launched a joint anti-corruption campaign "Corruption takes everything from you", aimed at educating and raising awareness on combating organized crime and corruption, and improving the safety and security of the population.

The campaign's opening event began with a mock parliamentary session whereby a select group of politically active high school students debated the issue of corruption and decided whether to pass the Law on the Agency for the Fight against Corruption. In an event rarely seen within the BiH Parliament building, the young "parliamentarians" unanimously agreed to pass the law.

Joint effort

"The fight against corruption is one of the most important elements for the stability and prosperity of our society," said BiH Deputy Minister of Security Mijo

Krešić in his campaign-opening statement. "Defining corruption is simple, fighting it is complex and requires the involvement of every individual, every segment of the society. Suppressing corruption is the task of the state and can only be achieved through combined measures."

Looking at the campaign messages, Head of the EU Police Mission, Commissioner Stefan Feller, emphasized the accountability of each individual in fighting corruption. "We all want to live in a society that is not just based on the possibilities of the powerful few. In such a society, corruption is like cancer. You have to take charge and to accept the responsibility to take the fight against corruption seriously. You have started to do that today, and this is something that will be important, crucial, for this society for many years to come."

Republika Srpska Police Director Uroš Pena agreed, stating that corruption has

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A Changing Europe for a Changing World

The European Union's Lisbon Treaty, after almost eight years in the making, finally came into force on the 1st of December 2009, following its ratification by the Union's 27 member states. The Treaty is designed to provide the bloc with a greater voice on the world stage and streamline decision-making processes, with two notable posts being created - President of the European Council, and High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

Since negotiations on the Treaty began eight years ago, it has met countless snags. Nonetheless, the obstacles have been overcome, compromises have been made and the Treaty is now set to give Europe a new direction and shape. The engine that Europe has been running on for the past 17 years was designed to drive the policies of the EU as a 15-member bloc. The Lisbon Treaty tweaks the European machinery to steer the 27-member Union more effectively in the increasingly competitive global political landscape and raises the EU's stature in international affairs.

Providing the EU with modern institutions, the modifications set out in the Treaty aspire to make the EU a more democratic, efficient and transparent union. Among other, significant changes in the Treaty include: a smaller, stronger commission and parliament; a change from unanimity voting to majority voting (except in areas of military and defense); the removal of national vetoes in a number of areas; and the Charter of Fundamental Rights as a legally-binding document.

José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, said of the Treaty's ratification: *"The Treaty of Lisbon puts citizens at the centre of the European project. I'm delighted that we now have the right institutions to act and a period of stability."*

A single voice

The old Henry Kissinger adage of: "Who do I call if I want to call Europe?" seems now to have been largely answered. The new President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy, the new face of the European Union, will provide external representation for the 27 member states at international summits and will be responsible for coordinating and chairing European Council meetings.



At the Lisbon opening ceremony he stated: *"The Treaty of Lisbon will allow us to take decisions more speedily and more democratically. It obliges us to play our part on the world stage. Between the time of the 2001 Laeken Declaration and the entry into force, today, of the Treaty of Lisbon, eight years have gone by. It is now time to close that institutional chapter and to take up the Treaty of Lisbon for what it is, a treaty of opportunities, a powerful tool with which to tackle the challenges of our time"*.



A stronger international force

Most notably, the new High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton, has been handed the responsibility of spearheading the foreign policy of the EU. This post offers

an interesting and unique new dimension to the EU. Rather than becoming merely Solana's successor, Ashton's post combines the diplomatic strength of the Common Foreign Security Policy (CFSP) with the economic strength of the Directorate-General for External Relations into what is called the "European External Action Service" (EEAS), creating a vast diplomatic service with direction and clout.

The EEAS will have within its competencies the power to manage the EU's general foreign relations, its security and defence policies, and will have control of the EU intelligence-sharing hub, the Joint Situation Centre (SitCen). The EEAS will become fully operational by 2012.

What was known as the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) will now take on a new identity as the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) - a clear statement of Europe's intent to take a stronger initiative in the areas of defence and security, and to play a more potent role in its international missions by extending the scope of the so-called Petersberg Tasks.

Although the Treaty takes a gradualist approach to the problematic intergovernmental nature of the EU's second pillar, it does offer better opportunities for strengthened collective action. The door is now open for member states to go further if they so wish. Concurrently, it remains careful in preserving the national security interests of member states.



The Second Pillar of the EU

The Second Pillar of the EU is the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) Pillar concerning foreign policy and military matters including:

- Foreign Aid
- European Defence and Security Policy (ESDP)
- Peacekeeping
- EU Battle Groups
- Helsinki Headline Goal ■

Ashton quoted on her appointment: "I am looking forward to working closely with colleagues in the Council, the Commission, the European Parliament and the Member States to strengthen Europe's foreign policy. We will do this with determination and with full respect for the values that the European Union stands for, above all peace and prosperity, freedom and democracy, the rule of law and the universality and indivisibility of human rights".

ESDP's rebirth: Ten years on

Having deployed 22 missions on three different continents in five years, from Kabul to Kosovo, from Bosnia to Baghdad, the EU's ESDP missions have been ambitious and challenging. Much success has been met in the very short time operations have deployed. Its missions in Kosovo and Bosnia and Herzegovina have done much to strengthen the rule of law; the military deployment in Congo professionally protected the country's civilians from violence; while the monitoring mission in Georgia contributed significantly to the stability and normalization of the state following the conflict in 2008.

The EU has taken stock of its recent operations. The quest to achieving long-term peace and security has now been refocused. Launching a truly 'integrated'

mission combining both civilian and military aspects of crisis management is fundamental to achieving long-term peace and security. The Lisbon Treaty now looks to hold out that promise by making steps to integrating both its civilian and military elements, improving the effectiveness of ESDP operations.

The Lisbon Treaty will likely make better coordination within the EU and offer more integrated solutions. For the EU to bolster its success in its overseas operations, this looks to be a move in the right direction.

The new shape of the EU is a welcome one. It will bring unity of effort and maximize resources. With a more streamlined, transparent and democratic EU, the Union should make decisions rapidly and efficiently. The EU will also be brought back to its citizens. Promisingly, civilian and military crisis management operations will be suitably changed to match the ever-growing requirements of its international missions. The EU is learning fast. It is more aware and understanding of its role and ability in the world. Time will tell how well the Lisbon Treaty adjusts the Union to fulfilling its potential on the world stage. ■

Significant Changes in Lisbon Treaty:

- New Council President, New High Representative for Foreign affairs and Security Policy
- Charter of Fundamental Rights now a legally-binding document
- Smaller and stronger Commission
- Smaller and stronger Parliament
- Change from Unanimity voting to majority voting
- New Common Security and Defence Policy

taken root in the society and the state needs to find mechanisms to fight this evil.

"Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior is certainly a part of the activities in the fight against corruption, but we need a multidisciplinary approach to this problem," he elaborated. "If you only tackle [corruption] through police work, you will not achieve the desired results. This is, simply put, the job of all agencies, all ministries, local communities... Because - and let's be clear on this - the ownership of security must not be anyone's privilege."

Federation BiH Minister of Interior Muhidin Alić added that corruption is present in all segments of BiH society, placing the fight against organized crime and corruption on the top of the priority list for this institution in 2010.

"Corruption undermines the fundamental values of every society, such as the equality of all people before the law; it lowers citizens' trust in the system and this is why it is necessary to take all steps to prevent it," he said.

Individual responsibility

Within its two-month run, the "Corruption takes everything from you" campaign will place special emphasis on low-level corruption present in everyday lives and affecting the citizens most at a personal level. It will address the issue of a "habit" of giving gifts - which have in recent years turned into envelopes with substantial amounts of cash - to doctors, clerks and other public servants for the services they are supposed to provide within their jobs and the services they are already paid for by taxpayers' money.

This approach led to the image of a disgruntled BiH citizen becoming the trademark of the campaign. His representation - dressed and happy in one moment, then stripped of everything and miserable after giving the requested bribe - aims to raise awareness of the unlawfulness of such behavior, emphasizing that both giving and taking bribe are criminal acts punishable by the law. Through this vivid example, the citizens will be encouraged to report corruption cases to the anonymous crime hotline, *Krimolovci*, manned by the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA), BiH's FBI. ■

■ Catherine Ashton



From Germany with Love

One woman's quest to secure the borders, share experiences and become a part of local folklore

A native of Berlin, Germany, Lena Maria Kruger is on her first international deployment on an ESDP mission as a police officer at the EU Police Mission Headquarters in Sarajevo, working as an adviser for the Border Police Department. Having spent seven years as a police officer in Germany, a large part of which was specializing in the analysis of international information exchange in politically motivated crime, she holds the rank of Detective Inspector. She has also been involved in homicide investigations, and worked on narcotics, organised crime and cases of sexual abuse of children whilst stationed in France.

Her job with the EUPM is varied and engaging. Supporting and advising the BiH Border Police at headquarters- and field office-level requires close working relationships with her BiH counterparts. Developing a mutual trust and creating the platform for an effective and efficient agency for the BiH Border Police constitutes a challenge for Kruger, yet is at its core a motivating role to take on. We followed Kruger on her daily activities to try to illustrate working life as a police officer with the EUPM in BiH.

We met Kruger in the morning in the vibrant canteen of the EUPM Headquarters in Sarajevo to discuss what the day ahead had in store for us. She told us we would be visiting one of the EUPM's Field Offices in Bosansko Grahovo on a routine check-up with the BiH Border Police officers who would be meeting us there.

German model

Talking about her experiences so far working for the EUPM, Kruger said: "Here in the EUPM Headquarters, you can hear the variety of languages. It's interesting as you can really benefit from these different backgrounds, different languages and different experiences. When you shuffle around the offices in your daily work, you'll see the UK's best practice. Then you go to another office and you'll see how Italy solves cases. It is very captivating and I could hardly recommend it more".

As we headed upstairs to her office where



■ Lena Kruger with BiH Border Police colleagues, Velislav Kovač (left) and Adnan Kosovac (right)

some routine paperwork needed dealing with before setting off to the field, we discussed her current responsibilities. "At the moment I run a chain of duty trips together with the Border Police to improve the analysis capacities of criminal intelligence at the field office level. My counterparts and I agree on the needs and requirements on the field office-level and about the necessary changes to the upcoming procedures".

A lot of the job requires advising, and taking 'snapshots' of the situation on the ground, she explained. "As it is unrealistic to think that we can monitor everything, we closely inspect example cases - in particular those of international importance. 'Snapshots', if you like", she said. "We give them suggestions, support their ideas, and provide what expert knowledge we can to them. We try to direct them subtly towards the EU way of thinking."

Mutual trust

The several-hour drive up to North-East Bosnia gave us time to further discuss work on the border. "My work in BiH started on the border here," she explained. "It was helpful that the model of the Border Police here is based on the German model. I also have some personal contacts with expertise in the field which can prove very useful."

There's also a permanent bilateral training program with Germany, so there's a good level of cooperation between Germany, the BiH Border Police and the EUPM - we all have the same aim."

We pulled up to the Grahovo field office where a couple of Kruger's counterparts greeted us upon our arrival. She stood and chatted for a while, discussing issues about future cooperation, with the BiH Border Police officers seeming enthusiastic about the proceedings. In the field office building, talks continued and the atmosphere was remarkably positive.

"There are different ways to approaching counterparts", said Kruger after an in-depth discussion with the officers. "In my opinion, we have to develop a mutual trust in what we are doing. We are not here only to look at what they are doing, but to open up to them and share our tactics, experience and expertise."

We went on to discuss the border situation in BiH. She emphasized how different the situation is now compared to the pre-war years. "Organizing border security on borders that did not exist in the former Yugoslavia is a special kind of problem".

Sevdah Reunion

We returned to Sarajevo late in the afternoon. Kruger went off to a meeting with her

department to determine future strategies for cooperation with the BiH Border Police. Later, she mentioned that she would be playing a small concert in Sarajevo that evening. "I'll be playing the guitar and singing, mainly 'Sevdah' - a traditional Balkan genre of music." It was interesting to learn that she had been heavily influenced by the traditional music and culture in the country, particularly in a musical sense.

We turned up at the venue alongside several colleagues from the EUPM, and were surprised to hear her talent for music. It was especially pleasing to see the local crowd really warm to her ability to perform their own traditional music with such charm.

After her fascinating performance, we asked about how she ended up playing reg-

ular concerts around Sarajevo. "I spontaneously picked up a guitar one evening in a bar and started singing. Before I knew it, everyone around me was really enjoying it. Someone then offered for me to play at one of their bars". She said she was initially surprised at the local acceptance of her performances.

To see someone with such a healthy balance of on-the-job professionalism and pragmatism alongside a genuine creative flair illustrates the sheer variety and cultural wealth of staff members working at the EUPM. "You see the same here in BiH with its multiethnic population. Understanding



them is enriching and goes a long way in helping save their individuality," modestly concluded Kruger. ■

Sevdah - a traditional Bosnian music form, originated after the Turks came to medieval Bosnia. The word "sevdah" is generally thought to originate from Arabic, meaning love, desire. Sevdah is characterized by a slow or moderate tempo and rich harmony, leaving a melancholic feeling with the listener. With the combination of Oriental, European and Sephardic elements, sevdah songs are very elaborate, emotionally charged and traditionally sung with passion and fervor.

Interview: Antonio Molinaro, Police Expert

EUPM as Basis for New Doctrine

Since December 2007, Police Expert Antonio Molinaro was one of the EU Police Mission's two Desk Officers and main points of contact at the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC) in Brussels. He ensured that all issues for which the EUPM required the Council's support or guidance were properly addressed. After two years in the post, Molinaro is returning home to Italy, and we could not let him go without asking him a few questions about his experience as the EUPM "ambassador" with the CPCC.

What would you say your legacy is after working for two years in the CPCC?

I consider the two years spent in the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability the equivalent of attending a Doctorate. In fact, after 10 years in this field, I had the chance to be in the European Union's most advanced unit for ESDP [European Security and Defence Policy] activities. I really enjoyed the time spent here, both at a professional and personal level.

How would you evaluate the work of the EUPM and your work with the EUPM in the past two years?

During my daily activities, without the strong support that I received from the mission, it would have been hard to face and solve most of the problems. The experienced people I found in the mission are a constant guarantee. Based on that, I

strongly believe interesting and concrete results will be achieved in the next couple of years as the EUPM strives to fulfil a difficult mandate, the fight against organised crime and corruption.

What lessons have you learned, and what experiences will you take with you?

First of all, let me say that it took some time to adjust myself to the different working rhythm of the EU machine. Coming from a different working methodology, it was quite difficult to become immediately operative. One of the most valuable lessons learned was the importance of working as a team. Sharing experiences and information is the best way to find solutions in the short time required in this field. I hope to transfer this into my next assignment in Italy.

Speaking of such, where will you go from here?

I will go back to Italy and, for the time being, I will return to my previous office - International Relations in the Department of Public Security in the Ministry of Interior. I will follow, as before, from a strategic perspective the activities of the Italian police forces deployed abroad.

What is the most valuable piece of advice you would give to your successor?

I strongly recommend visiting the mission as often as possible. Sometimes per-



sonal contacts are more important than tons of emails. The EUPM is the oldest ESDP mission and a lot of lessons learned could be utilized for other missions or, even better, for creating a new doctrine for the future.

Anything you wish to add in the end?

I would like to express my personal gratitude to the EUPM Head of Mission, Brigadier General Stefan Feller, whom I've known since 2000 when we were sharing our professional experience in UNMIK mission in Kosovo. Furthermore, I want to thank the people in the EUPM I met during my assignment in Brussels and all the colleagues in CPCC.

Good luck to all of you and "Ad Majora". ■

Walking in Local Shoes: BiH for EU Press

For the fourth time, the European Union Police Mission hosted a visit of EU journalists to Bosnia and Herzegovina, this time focusing on the judiciary and penitentiary system in the country, as well as the efforts, successes and setbacks in the fight against organized crime and corruption.

From December 6-10, five journalists met with high ranking BiH and international stakeholders and experts, who gave them a clear overview of the current situation in the country and the region.

High Representative and EU Special Representative Valentin Inzko, Head of the European Commission Delegation Ambassador Dimitris Kourkoulas, and EUPM Head of Mission, Commissioner Stefan Feller, the EUs joint activities and policies in BiH and how the crisis management and institution-building efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina are being coordinated.

BiH stakeholders focused on challenges in the fight against organized crime, such as lack of experts, insufficient technical resources, coordination problems and the lack of specific legislation. Deputy Minister of Security Mijo Krešić, State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA) Director Mirko Lujčić, Republika Srpska (RS) Police Director Uroš Pena, and Sarajevo Canton Prosecutor Oleg



Čavka briefed journalists on the the scope of organized crime in BiH to giving an overview of both successes and problems faced by the country.

Organized crime in BiH

Referring to a number of successful police operations carried out in 2009, which saw the dismantling of international organized criminal groups involved in smuggling of persons, drugs and arms, as well as vehicle thefts, Krešić said that these actions were good examples of successful regional cooperation between BiH,

Croatia, Slovenia and Serbia. *"Thanks to the extraordinary results achieved by the law enforcement agencies this year, I can rightly say today that BiH is becoming less of a transit country for organized crime and more a serious partner in the fight against it."*

Two prominent cases were looked at in more detail: the fall of Muhamed Ali Gaši and his gang from Sarajevo, and the arrest of Đorđe Ždrale and Darko Elez from East Sarajevo and their groups of notorious criminals.

"Two organized criminal groups led by Ždrale and Elez were believed to be involved in extortions, drugs and arms trafficking, as well as a number of murders in East Sarajevo dating back to 1997," said Director Pena. *"When they felt the police closing in, they fled the country."*

RS Police continued collecting evidence in order to bring them to justice. Contacts with Germany and Serbia were established and information exchanged. As the result of this cooperation, Ždrale was arrested in February 2009 at the Frankfurt Airport and extradited to BiH. He is currently awaiting trial.

September 2nd saw the arrest of Darko Elez in Belgrade. In a joint operation carried out by the police of RS and Serbia 24 members of his criminal group were arrested at the same time in Serbia and BiH. Since Darko Elez has both BiH and Serbian citizenship, he will be tried for organized crime in both countries.

"These cases serve as examples of how successful the fight against organized

The journalists said of the visit to BiH...

"I appreciate the fact that we were taken seriously, which is not always the experience that we journalists have. The senior officials we met were very well informed and came across as true professionals. I think the way people addressed us reflects also the important position of the Press Department within EUPM. Next time, I would just like to have an opportunity to talk with the operatives on the field."

Norbert Mappes-Niediek,
South East Europe Correspondent, Germany

"The briefings were useful in terms of getting to understand the complexity of the rule of law system in BiH. My stories will develop in several directions. Information that I have collected will be used for further investigative work for which I will definitely come back to BiH. Off the record meetings were very good as thanks to such information one can predict some events and understand issue better. It's also easier to follow the processes and not only daily news. I appreciate the fact that EUPM also invited a lot of BiH officials experts and not only international, what is typical on EU-sponsored press trips."

Agnieszka Skieterska,
Gazeta Wyborcza and Polish Radio, Poland

"The press trip provided for a good overview of the rule of law situation in the country and issues which

will be dealt with by the EUPM in the next two years. The entire trip was very useful. It gave me a chance to follow up on several political issues, particularly the talk with the High Representative, which was quite interesting."

Marc Hoch,
Sueddeutsche Zeitung, Germany

"This was my first visit to an ESDP mission. It was good to meet people of different nationalities, working together with the high level of ambition and at the same time speaking quite frankly about their frustrations on the achievements on the ground. So, even if it cannot solve the biggest problems by itself, this Mission illustrates positively what added value EU can bring."

We also met BiH prosecutors and police officials who gave us the impression that they are doing their best to improve the situation. So there is still hope."

Fabrice Randoux,
Europolitics, Belgium

"As far as I am concerned, all briefings were very interesting. They provided for a very good understanding of the EUPM and overview of the rule of law situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. I learned a lot."

Savine Cornu,
Ouest France and Brussels2, France

crime can be if all involved work as a team," said Prosecutor Oleg Čavka.

Čavka was in charge of the Gaši case which is by many considered the first high-profile organized crime trial in BiH. In the first instance verdict, Muhamed Ali Gaši and seven members of his criminal group have been found guilty of attempted murder, money laundering, racketeering, usury and extortion, as well as illegal construction and illegal acquisition of property. They received sentences ranging from one to 20 years. The Court ordered the confiscation of Gaši's property, including 406,000 BAM and two buildings in Sarajevo.

Nevertheless, police in BiH still face many problems: "There is a lack of systematic exchange of information, or clearly defined coordination mechanisms during the planning of joint operations. But when overcome, law enforcement agencies' fight against organized crime can be successful and effective," explained Feller. "The EU Police Mission will continue its work on strengthening the cooperation, communication and coordination among all links in the rule of law chain in the next two years."

Prison tour

A visit to Zenica Prison gave special insight into the penitentiary system in BiH, leaving a significant impression on the EU journalists. The largest top security prison in BiH accommodates 830 inmates, which is equal to six other correctional facilities in the Federation BiH. This prison also has a Section for Juvenile Delinquents and a so called Forensic Section for mentally challenged inmates.



"Had these issues been regulated properly, these two sections would not be a part of Zenica Prison, but a part of the Mental Institution and Juvenile Correction Facility. These are people with different criminal profiles and should not be serving their sentences together with other high risk offenders." said Josip Pojavnik, Deputy Director of Zenica Prison.

"The agreement on the construction of the joint mental institution has been reached this summer and the facility is being built in Sokolac. The construction works are to be finalized by the end of 2010, when all those cases will be sheltered under one roof and given the medical care they are in need of," explained Claus Andersin, EUPM Senior Prison Expert.

Cross Border Crime and Human Smuggling

Briefing at the BiH Border Police provided the journalists with background information on the impact that illegal immigration and cross-border smuggling can have on the EU. The presentations proved that, although understaffed, BiH Border Police was able to conduct large scale operations, such as Tara I and Tara II, where in close cooperation with Montenegrin, Croatian, Austrian and Serbian Police, over 100 people involved in human smuggling on the route from Albania towards the EU were arrested. They are believed to have smuggled some 200 persons to the EU countries.

"Thanks to these two operations, we managed to change both the perception and the situation. BiH is thus no longer attractive or safe for human smugglers," explained Vinko Dumančić, BiH Border

Who briefed press corps

- **Valentin Inzko**, EU Special Representative/High Representative
- **Dimitris Kourkoulas**, Head of the EU Delegation to BiH
- **Police Commissioner Stefan Feller**, EUPM Head of Mission
- **Colonel Domenico Paterna**, Deputy EUPM Head of Mission
- **Mijo Krešić**, BiH Deputy Minister of Security
- **Mirko Lujčić**, Director of State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA)
- **Vinko Dumančić**, Director of BiH Border Police
- **Jadranka Lokmić**, Deputy Chief BiH Prosecutor
- **Sena Uzunović**, Deputy Chief Organized Crime/Corruption Department, BiH Prosecutor's Office
- **Brian Donley**, EUPM SIPA Chief Advisor
- **Stephen Goddard**, EUPM Chief Anti Organized Crime Department
- **Boyd McKechnie**, EUPM Chief Political Advisor
- **Uroš Pena**, Republika Srpska Police Director
- **Saudin Terzić**, Assistant Director for Law Enforcement Sector, Indirect Taxation Agency
- **Oleg Čavka**, Sarajevo Canton Prosecutor
- **Andelko Hrgić**, Chief SIPA Crime Investigation Department
- **Dragan Vukadin**, SIPA Senior Inspector ■

Police Director.

Before traveling back to their respective countries, the journalists expressed their gratitude towards the EUPM and BiH law enforcement agencies for both in-depth briefings and frank and open discussions. ■



EUPM Campaign Wins European Excellence Award

The European Union Police Mission won the European Excellence Award 2009 for the anti-organized crime campaign "Dare!", which was jointly implemented by EUPM and all law enforcement agencies of BiH in 2008. At the ceremony in Vienna's Hofburg Palace on December 10, among 400 nominees which included industry names such as Audi, Coca Cola and Mattel, Chief of the EUPM Press and Public Information Department Kilian Wahl took the stage and received the award for the best project in the Issues and Reputation Management category.

"I am very pleased to win in this particular category as it is at the heart of our communication strategy," says Kilian Wahl. "Issues and Reputation Management is instrumental for international missions such as we are which are implementing their mandates in foreign countries introducing a lot of changes and tackling

issues that have not sufficiently dealt with in the past."

The European Excellence Awards, which honours the most outstanding communication achievements, take a comprehensive look at the full spectrum of public relations disciplines throughout Europe, and are presented only for the most outstanding accomplishments within this arena. Competition was tough as this year's European Excellence Awards saw more than 1,250 entries from all over the continent.

Says Wahl: *"Winning the most prestigious communications award at the European level of course means a lot to us. More importantly, however, is the fact that it is a real recognition of all the efforts of our colleagues in the police forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. They were implementing this campaign together with us. And we will continue*



■ Sanela Osmanović, Kilian Wahl and Monja Koluder

with our joint communication efforts and large scale media campaigns."

The anti-organized crime campaign "Dare!" was implemented in October and November 2008. It confronted BiH citizens with the impact of organized crime on everyday lives and provided them with safe and anonymous communication channels to the police in form of the *Krimolovci* (Crime Stoppers) hotline and the *Krimolovci* website, www.krimolovci.ba.

The campaign significantly improved the cooperation between the BiH police and the citizens, and the number of calls to the *Krimolovci* hotline increased by 300 percent - and it kept steadily rising. Information received led to breakthroughs in large-scale investigations, some of which saw the arrest of organized criminal groups involved in drugs and human trafficking. ■

News Brief

BiH Prosecution: Taking 'Crisis' Out of Crisis Communication

In the continuation of workshops implemented in 2007 and 2008, the second week of December 2009 saw the third installment of public relations training for the representatives of BiH prosecutor's offices which is now focused on crisis communication. Organized by the EU Police Mission and dubbed "Advanced Training for Interview Skills and Press Work in Crisis Situation", the seminar provided prosecution spokespeople with the advanced tools necessary for successful crisis communication management.

Kilian Wahl, Chief of the EUPM Press and Public Information Office, stressed the importance of the training for the improvement of the future PR work in the prosecutors' offices.

"There is an imbalance between the communication capabilities of the police and the prosecutors which has led to biased reporting and does not reflect in the media that the police and prosecution are actually one investigation team," said Wahl. "By increasing the communication standards of the prosecutor's offices, we hope to see more transparency and better coordinated media statements which will increase the trust people have in both institutions."

The program focused on established public relations methods and procedures within each prosecutorial office, with the theoretical element refreshing knowledge on 'do's and don'ts' in crisis communication, and the practical exercises exploring appropriate reactions in real-life situations.

"When planning this training, we picked

real life case studies, analyzed what happened and what went wrong by looking at the media coverage," said Sabina Duman, training moderator. "We went through them step-by-step and discussed what would have been the right step to reduce negative publicity."

The case studies dealt with institutional communications in BiH, and took into consideration the BiH Constitution as well as media-related legislation, freedom of access to information, protection of personal identity, criminal cases, and the work of the prosecutors and police. The case study training method focused on the public relations efforts of relevant BiH institutions, their preparation for work with the media and the ability to reduce the negative impact, as well as the ability to take on responsibility and work together. ■



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