

# The European Perspective

Newsletter of the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina

No 4, April/May 2013



## TOPICS IN FOCUS

### ***A Different Balkan Story: Op-Ed by High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton***

Op-Ed written by Catherine Ashton on the Western Balkans, published in The New York Times and The International Herald Tribune on 25 April.

As much as anywhere in Europe, the recent history of the western Balkans has been written in blood. From its role in igniting the First World War, via the occupation and resistance of World War II, and to the battles and barbarity that followed the breakup of Yugoslavia, the people of the region have suffered enough.

### ***National Integration Programme – a strategic document for the integration process***

BiH is the only country aspiring to join the EU that does not have a National Programme for EU Integration - a strategy which would confirm and drive the determination to reform. As a result, the priority given to different EU related reforms is not defined. Problems in the integration process are addressed in an ad hoc basis meaning that BiH is falling behind its neighbours in the region.

### ***It is important to identify the leaders of crime***

In an interview for Dnevni avaz, the Project Leader of EU Support to Law Enforcement in BiH, Karl Lesjak, talked about the importance of identifying criminal leaders.

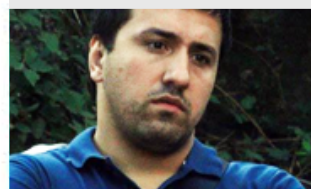
It is necessary to seize illegally acquired property - We want to establish efficient police capacities and aim at main organisers of crime

## VOX POPULI

### ***What do you think the impact of Croatian accession will be on BiH?***



**Aida Brzina**  
from Stolac



**Ognjen Pavlović**  
from Zvornik



**Adna Alihodžić**  
from Goražde

## EU PROJECTS



***Enabling police to effectively apply the Law on Free Access to Information***



***Bosnia and Herzegovina's honey accredited for export to the EU***



***Inaugural round table of the EU funded project "Implementing One Stop Access to Budget Data"***

## EU NEWS IN FOCUS



### ***A wave of citizenship in the Mediterranean***

An Op-Ed by Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament and President in Office of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean, and André Azoulay, President of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue Between Cultures.



### ***The economic crisis – The EU's response***

The EU is responding to the global economic crisis through actions on different levels. They include: fiscal consolidation and strengthened economic governance, reform and repair of the financial sector, reforms to boost growth and job creation, supporting EU countries in difficulty, while the reforms produce results.

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