



# REPUBLIKA SRPSKA REGIONAL REPRESENTATION IN BRUSSELS **NEWSLETTER**

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## EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS OPEN DOORS DAY: FESTIVAL OF EUROPE AND EUROPEAN CITIZENS!



Representative office of the RS in Brussels participated for the first time at Festival of Europe and European Citizens in Brussels. The European institutions opened their doors and thereby the public was able to visit European Parliament, European Commission and Council of Ministers, Economic and Social Committee and Committee of the

Regions. Numerous information at many booths discovered what impact Europe had on our daily life. The festival included a children's village and (citizen's) debates, concerts and street activities. Republic of Srpska Representation in Brussels had a booth and was presented in the Committee of the Regions of the EU.



## KAHO SINT-LIEVEN AND UNIVERSITY OF EAST SARAJEVO: EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS A CHANCE FOR THE BEST

Representatives of University College KAHO Sint-Lieven from Flanders and University of East Sarajevo from Republic of Srpska met in Trebinje (RS) and committed to engage together on future more practical collaboration. Students from the Faculty of Production and Management and the Academy of Fine Arts from the city of Trebinje, will soon be able to continue their studies and academic training at universities in Belgium and vice-versa. Exchange of teachers between the Universities was also discussed and it was expected to start at the beginning of the first semester of 2013/2014 school year. Professor Mr. Andre Govaert from KAHO was also named University of East Sarajevo Honorary Ambassador.

## BULGARTABAC BUYS TOBACCO FACTORY BANJA LUKA



Bulgarian company “Bulgartabac” took over a majority stake of Tobacco Factory Banja Luka with an obligation to keep for the following three years, the current number of 250 employees. The memorandum signed by the Prime Minister of Republika Srpska Mrs. Željka Cvijanović and executive director of “Bulgartabac” Vencislav Čolakov commits “Bulgartabac” to keep the core business of only cigarette factory in RS over five years with provision of investment related to the purchase of new equipment, long-term sustainability and increased production, the regular payment of salaries and payment of taxes and contributions.

## AJC - YOUNG CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY – PARTICIPANTS FROM RS



NGOs' representatives from the RS participated in Young Citizens Assembly (YCA) in Brussels. YCA gathered around 40 young people and concerned with the question of social injustice. The idea was to foster reflections, creativity, imagination, and express a citizen's voice through exploring and implementing different media tools. Le Bureau international Jeunesse (BIJ) and DG Education and Culture of the European Commission organized the Conference.

## ENTREPRENEURS CLUB “SAINT-GILLES” INTERESTED IN PROMOTING BUSINESS

Representatives of the Entrepreneurs Club St. Gilles “Entreprendre à Saint-Gilles” visited the RS and met with the representatives from National Tourism Organization, Chamber of Commerce and Agency for development of SMEs of the Republic of Srpska. During the stay they checked tourism potentials of the RS mainly for hunting, fishing and spa tourism which there was a vast interest for among Belgian society. The other possibilities of common business activities were discussed also.

## REPRESENTATIVES OF FRENCH SPEAKING COMMUNITY VISIT RS



Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports of the Republic of Srpska, in cooperation with “Perpetuum Mobile - Center for Youth Development and Community” organized a week long study visit for the guests from Belgium, Russia and Serbia. This was opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences in order to strengthen the youth sector in the Republic of Srpska as well as to present projects which promote international cooperation of youth organizations and young people. The visit brought better mutual knowledge about youth policies from different participating regions, reinforced links between them and paved a way for future collaboration in the field of the youth.

## THE RS ADVENTURE TOURISM PROMOTED IN BRUSSELS



Republic of Srpska Representation in Brussels and National Tourism Organization run a campaign of tourism promotion in public places throughout this European capital. This was a project aimed at a better promotion of the RS tourism potentials in this market and remembrance of the World Rafting Championship which took place in the RS in 2010. Well developed infrastructure for those with passion in rafting, canyoning, hunting or fishing waits for the guests.



## INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT FOR PEACE AND RECONCILIATION HELD IN RS



For the first time in over 20 years the Summit gathered leaders from the region in order to discuss issues of new style of leadership in governing a modern

state. Speakers of the Parliaments of Serbia, Croatia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic of Srpska as well as other distinguished participants offered a new language of non-violent communication based on human needs to create understanding and thus strengthen an inter-national, inter-religious and political dialogue. They also proposed a whole new set of adaptive actions giving everyone a chance to put forward their perspective and to compel politicians to implement the necessary steps to achieve progress. It is aimed at using the momentum derived from this Summit to establish a state of the art Leadership Institute in the Republic of Srpska, which will continue to teach the principles of leadership, communication, professional campaign practices, and candidate development for the next generation of political leaders.

## SEPCA ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING IN BANJA LUKA



Director of Police of the Republic of Srpska and President of the SEPCA (Southeast Europe Police Chiefs Association) Executive Board, Mr. Gojko Vasic, hosted the

SEPCA Annual General Assembly Meeting in Banja Luka, Republic of Srpska, from April 24th to 26th, 2013. SEPCA was formed in January 2002 to build police co-operation in South Eastern Europe (SEE), and in particular, to create partnership between the National Police Chiefs who are the active members of this Association. It operates at a strategic level, and in addressing the security challenges, risks and threats it is a serious partner to EUROPOL, INTERPOL and other international organizations. Ten countries from the SEE region are active members of SEPCA. The Banja Luka Annual General Assembly Meeting gathered representatives of the Republic of Srpska, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Austria and Italy, as well as the members of several important and well-known international organizations and police agencies EUROPOL, INTERPOL, FEDPOL, DCAF, ICITAP, IACP, SEESAC, UNDP, PCC, RCC, MARRI and WPON.

## PLAN FOR SOUTH STREAM SIGNED IN BANJALUKA

The Map of the Route for the realization of the energy projects on the territory of Republika Srpska within the South Stream Project has been signed in Banjaluka. The Map was signed by President of Republika Srpska, Mr. Milorad Dodik and Deputy President of the Management Board of the Russian company Gazprom, Mr. Alexander Medvedev. "The construction of the portion of the gas pipeline will enable not only the improvement of citizens' standards but also the improvement of the potentials for companies, while gas power plants will also be constructed within the joint project," Mr. Dodik stated. He added that the locations for the power plants were being looked for at the moment. Mr. Medvedev stated that he expected that all technical and economic preparations for the portion of the gas pipeline through Republic of Srpska should be completed by the end of the year.



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