



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

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## **SPEAKER OF THE FLEMISH PARLIAMENT MR. JAN PEUMANS VISITS REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA**

In separate bilateral meetings Mr. Peumans met with the President of Republic of Srpska National Assembly (RSNA), Mr. Igor Radojicic, President of Republic of Srpska, Mr. Milorad Dodik and Prime Minister, Mrs. Željka Cvijanović and discussed current political and economic situation in the Republic of Srpska as well as opportunities to cooperate between Republic of Srpska and Flanders. Main focus of discussion was process of European integrations in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and role of the Entities and Cantons of BiH in that process. Also, during the RSNA special session President Peumans addressed the members, presented Belgian model of federalism and stated that some elements of Belgian federalism might inspired political leaders in BiH to solve existing disputes and he was going to be happy if his visit contributed to that.



## **PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (RSNA) VISITS GERMAN SPEAKING COMMUNITY**



President of the RSNA, Mr. Radojčić visited the Parliament of the German Speaking Community in Belgium and met with President of Parliament Mr. Alexander Miesen. During the cordial talks, President Miesen explained organizational model of German Speaking Community. The Community is located within the region of Wallonia, but has autonomy and competence in several areas, and has its own parliament and government with several ministries. President Radojčić was interested in the mechanisms of communication and coordination between regions and communities in Belgium. President Radojčić invited President Miesen to visit Banja Luka and the National Assembly of the Republic of Srpska.

## **TOURISM ORGANIZATION OF REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA (TORS) PARTICIPATED AT TOURISM FAIR IN UTRECHT**



In the second week of January 2013, among the exhibitors from 150 countries, TORS had a remarkable promotion of tourism potentials in Republic of Srpska at International Tourism Fair "Vakantiebeurs 2013". Republic of Srpska Representation in Brussels extended its support to the organization and participation of TORS at this event, which enjoys the reputation of one of the most important fairs of tourism industry worldwide.

## **CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPRESENTATIVES IN A STUDY VISIT AT VOKA**



Having already hosted a group of representatives of the Republic of Srpska Chamber of Commerce in December 2012, VOKA – Flanders' Chamber of

Commerce and Industry in Ghent hosted another group in February 2013, in a week long study visit. During the visit representatives of VOKA and Republic of Srpska Chamber of Commerce exchanged their experiences, compared different models of management within the Chambers and obtained new knowledge about each other in general. VOKA - Ghent and Republic of Srpska Chamber of Commerce participate together in the project NET – Networking, Education, Teaching the Chamber network in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## **REPUBLIKA SRPSKA PARTICIPATES IN OPEN DAYS 2013**



Republic of Srpska participates at the 11th OPEN DAYS 2013 European Week of Cities and Region, 7th - 10th October 2013. Open Days is the biggest annual event on regional and urban develop-

ment organized by the Committee of the Regions and the European Commission's Regional Policy Directorate General. Agency for Development of SMEs of the Republic of Srpska setup a conglomerate "Adriatic – Ionian Macro Region" together with actors from the regions of Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia and Greece co-participating. This is the fifth consecutive time that Republic of Srpska participates in Open Days.

## **REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA REPRESENTATIVE AT THE ARLEM PLENARY SESSION**



Republic of Srpska's representative attended the fourth Plenary Session of the Euro Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly – ARLEM in Brussels. During the session ARLEM annual report on the territorial dimension of the Union for the Mediterranean, report on Technical Education and Vocational Training in the Mediterranean and Report on sustainable tourism in the Mediterranean were presented, discussed and adopted. The Assembly that gathers 84 members from the EU 27 Member states and 16 Mediterranean partners representing regional and local bodies also adopted the work program for 2013.

## NEW REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA GOVERNMENT CONFIRMED



The basic direction of operations of the new Republic of Srpska Government is the preservation of the constitutional position of Republic of Srpska with all its competencies, and the Dayton Agreement is a permanent basis and framework for its actions, said Republic of Srpska Prime Minister Željka Cvijanović in her address to Parliament. The new Prime Minister introduced her new Government to the RS National Assembly on March 12. The Government includes new ministers in six posts. Newcomers in the cabinet are Radislav Jovičić, as Interior Minister, Gorana Zlatković, in charge of Justice, Maida Ibrišagić Hrستیć, at Trade and Tourism, Stevo Mirajnić at Agriculture, Goran Mutabđžija at Education and Culture while Igor Vidović is Regional Cooperation and Economic Relations Minister.

Meanwhile, Petar Djokić will remain as Labour Minister, Željko Kovačević will stay at Energy and Industry, Zoran Tegeltija as Finance Minister, Lejla Rešić, in charge of Government and Local Government, Nedeljko Čubrilović at Transport, Srebrenka Golić at Town Planning, Davor Čordaš at Refugees, Slobodan Stanić at Health, Jasmin Komić at Science and Nada Tesanovic at Sports.

## REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA – AZERBAIJAN BUSINESS FORUM HELD IN BANJA LUKA



The Republic of Srpska – Azerbaijan Business Forum was an outcome of several months of activities by the Ministry of Economic Relations and Regional Cooperation of the Republic of Srpska and Embassy of Azerbaijan in BiH and of mutual interests and recognized potentials for strengthening of economic cooperation between the Republic of Srpska and Azerbaijan. During the first part of the Forum, investment opportunities in the Republic of Srpska were presented and in particular those in wood processing industry, infrastructure and tourism. Second part of the Business Forum was intended for bilateral discussions between the interested businessmen who had the opportunity to negotiate directly about the potential cooperation.

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