



REPUBLIKA SRPSKA REGIONAL REPRESENTATION IN BRUSSELS **NEWSLETTER**

issue 2014/01

TOURISM ORGANIZATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA (TORS) PARTICIPATED AT HOLIDAY FAIR 2014 IN BRUSSELS



Tourist organization of the Republic of Srpska (TORS) participated in the International Tourism Fair in Brussels - "Salon des Vacances (Brussels Holiday Fair) 2014" which was held from 6 to 10 February 2014. The fair is the largest in Belgium within tourism industry and it attracted exhibitors from over 70 countries worldwide. Beside TORS, the Tourist Organization of Banja Luka and travel agency "Zepter Passport" participated at the Fair and presented their offer. Republic of Srpska Representation in Brussels extended its support to the organization and participation at this event, which enjoys the reputation of one of the most important fairs of tourism industry in Benelux.

REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA TOOK PART AT EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS OPEN DOORS DAY

SATURDAY MAY 17 2014

FESTIVAL OF EUROPE

OPEN DOORS DAY OF
THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS



Festival of Europe and European Citizens!

European Union every year organizes the event Open Doors Day – Festival of Europe. On this occasion, the European institutions open their doors to all interested citizens to get familiar in an interactive way with the work and role of the EU institutions.

The event was held in the heart of Europe, in Brussels on Saturday 17 May 2014.



Republic of Srpska was present this year in the exhibition together with 31 other European regions, where it presented its tourism, gastronomic and cultural offer, as well as significant EU projects and present achievements in the Committee of the Regions of the European Union. For more information visit http://europa.eu/about-eu/basic-information/symbols/europe-day/index_en.htm

FLOOD RELIEF TO REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA



State of emergency is declared in Republic of Srpska due to immense floods that have paralyzed the life of the country. This is one of the

worst natural disasters in the recorded history of Bosnia and Herzegovina but also of the region as a whole. Rising rivers forced hundreds from their homes and blocked traffic on the main roads to the neighbouring Serbia and Croatia. Cut in energy supply and shortages in drinking water hit thousands of homes. Many fear of the coming period as the flood destroyed most of the agricultural lands and deprived the people from their future income. All available resources and rescue teams of Republic of Srpska are engaged in their full capacity but we are entering the critical phase of flood protection.

In the view of all the above said, we are kindly asking you to assist us, to the best of your abilities. We are in urgent need of financial help and different products such are clothes, disinfection means and various water equipment. In case you can offer any financial aid the Government of Republic of Srpska has open an account for this purpose with details as follows:

Ministry of Finance of Republic of Srpska: Unique foreign treasury account

Address: *Trg Republike Srpske 1 -78000 Banja Luka*

SWIFT: *BLBABA22*

Account Number: *BA39 5517 9048 0118 3851*

Purpose: *Flood relief*

You can also make your payment through the PayPal website:

<http://www.vladars.net/eng/Pages/paypal.aspx>

Deeply convinced that you are aware of the gravity of the situation, which the Republic of Srpska and its people are facing, we would appreciate if you could provide any assistance that would enable us to continue our fight with the water and protect, above all, human lives.

Should you need any additional information please feel free to contact us at anytime.

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration and gratitude.



PROFESSORS AND STUDENTS FROM THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY – LEUVEN VISIT BANJA LUKA



The Republic of Srpska President Milorad Dodik organized a reception for professors and students from the Catholic University Leuven from Belgium. They discussed political and economic situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, its prospects for the EU integration, the constitutional position of the Republic of Srpska and the other topics of their interest. The professors from the Catholic University Leuven thanked President Dodik for the reception, stressing that they were honored to talk with him and to get to know current state of affairs in the Republic of Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

“POŠTE SRPSKE” TOOK PART AT POSTAGE STAMPS EXHIBITION IN BRUSSELS



The postal operator from the Republika Srpska, “Pošte Srpske”, participated in an exhibition of postage stamps in Brussels. The importance of philatelic publications was highlighted during the exhibition and it presents the best way to promote Republic of Srpska, its history, nature, cultural and historical heritage and traditions of its people. Managing director of “Pošte Srpske” Jasminka Krivokuća presented a publication of the stamps referring an Anniversary of the Republic of Srpska. The exhibition was attended by Jean-Eric Paquet, Director of BiH, Serbia, Albania and Kosovo in the DG Enlargement – European Commission, Pierre Mirel, predecessor of Paquet, George Ziegler, Acting Head of the Unit of the BiH at DG Enlargement, representatives of the diplomatic corps in Brussels, representatives of the Association of philatelists from Belgium and representatives of the Belgian post office.

SARAJEVO: MEETINGS OF ALDA AND LDA BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA (MOSTAR, PRIJEDOR, ZAVIDOVIĆI)

On 18th and 19th March, Delegation composed by Dženana Dedić (LDA Mostar), Jasna Zvekić (LDA Zavidovići), joined by Dragan Došen (LDA Prijedor), and led by Stan-ka Parać Damjanović (ALDA Regional Programme Coordinator), visited in Sarajevo the Delegation of the European Union, UNDP Head Office, USAID Head Office and the Office of the Council of Europe.

The main purpose of the visit was to introduce the work of in local communities and provide information about implemented and planned projects in relevant areas in order to strengthen the capacity of civil society, the development of local democracy, social services, youth empowerment, as well as networking with partners in the EU and neighbouring countries in the region.

Especially important for all LDAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina are the planned activities of UNDP in strengthening local democracy through programs LOD (Reinforcement of Local Democracy), as well as the EU Delegation and USAID program in the field of reconciliation in local communities. Very important for the future activities of ALDA (Association of Local Democracy Agencies) in BiH is the recognition of Local Democracy Agencies as relevant partners, which have necessary human resources, long standing experience and organizational capacity to successfully develop and implement projects in their local communities and at the regional level.

REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA PARTICIPATES IN OPEN DAYS 2014



12th European Week of Regions and Cities
Brussels 6 - 9 October 2014

Republic of Srpska participates at the 12th OPEN DAYS 2014 European Week of Cities and Region, 6th - 9th October 2014. Open Days is the biggest annual event on regional and urban development 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 will be a part of the conglomerate "Adriatic – Ionian Macro Region" together with actors from the regions of Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro and Greece co-participating. This is the sixth 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 fifth Plenary Session of the Euro Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly – ARLEM. During the session ARLEM annual report on "The state of the territorial dimension of the Union for the Mediterranean", report on "A cohesion strategy for the Mediterranean" and report on "Sustainable urban mobility in the Mediterranean", discussed and adopted. The Assembly that gathers 84 members from the EU 28 Member states and 15 Mediterranean partners representing regional and local bodies also adopted the work program for 2014.

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