

<u>Private sector growth and new jobs will be the indicator of progress in Brčko</u>

Principal Deputy High Representative and Brčko Supervisor Michael Scanlan met with representatives of the Brčko District Chamber of Commerce and "STUDEN & CO Holding". He was briefed on the state of the District's economy and measures that need to be taken to create a vibrant atmosphere for business development, new investments, and the creation of well-paid private-sector jobs.

The Supervisor underscored that the establishment of a multimode transportation nexus, an accountable and service-oriented public administration, and a standard of zero tolerance for corruption and political patronage will allow Brčko to become a safe and desirable destination point for investments.

The demining effort, a key factor in expanding tourism in a safe environment, is moving forward on schedule to ensure the Brčko District will be mine-free by the fall of 2024.

The timelines for the implementation of all these pro-private sector job growth reforms were discussed in the Supervisor's meeting with the District Government and Assembly leadership, as well as the heads of SDS, NiP, SBB, and SP caucuses and independent MPs Mejra Šečić, Đorđe Popović, and Abdulah Ilijazović.

The latter discussions conclude the Supervisor's meetings with representatives of all the caucuses and independent MPs in the District Assembly regarding the necessary legislative outputs for achieving the discussed objectives this spring.

The Supervisor further underscored that the District authorities, and in particular the executive bodies, have an added obligation to openly and transparently convey how the positive changes will be adopted and the real benefits they will bring to the people they serve.