



## **High Representative with Portuguese State Secretary: BiH Citizens Must Be Supported**

While there is often a lack of political consensus in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the International Community is working to help BiH citizens, High Representative Valentin Inzko said today during a meeting in Sarajevo with Portuguese Secretary of State for European Affairs Dr. Bruno Mações.

He said conditions in Bosnia and Herzegovina remain challenging because some politicians have used constitutional mechanisms to block urgently needed legislation and have failed to put forward policies that can lead the country out of its economic and social difficulties.

The High Representative said the direct intervention of citizens, through peaceful demonstrations and plenums – and most importantly at the ballot box in October – can create a more dynamic and courageous engagement of BiH citizens in the political process..

“The time has come to revive our vision,” the High Representative said. “Bosnia and Herzegovina is not a technical exercise but a political challenge. We must redouble our efforts and we must do this quickly.” He said the OHR is ready “to play an active role in moving BiH forward.”