

<u>High Representative meets French State Secretary for European</u> **Affairs**

High Representative Valentin Inzko met today in Sarajevo with the French Secretary of State for European Affairs Harlem Désir for an exchange of views on the current political situation and the impasse in the reform processes in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The High Representative also discussed the consequences from the recent floods with the State Secretary.

The High Representative thanked State Secretary Désir for France's active engagement and continuous assistance to BiH. "The active and unified engagement of the EU and the wider international community continues to be of vital importance to ensure progress in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The conclusions from the April meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council were an important affirmation of that vision," the High Representative said.

Speaking of the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, the High Representative commended France's role in ensuring, together with the City of Sarajevo, that Bosnia and Herzegovina is sending an important message of peace to the world today. "The many events taking place in and around Sarajevo focus on solidarity, peace, dialogue and cultural diversity – only by cherishing these universal values can we achieve lasting reconciliation, especially among younger generations", Inzko said.