

## <u>High Representative Meets with Minister for Foreign Trade and</u> Economic Relations

High Representative Valentin Inzko met with the Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Relations Mirko Šarović in Sarajevo today to discuss the overall political situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The interlocutors also addressed the current economic climate in the country and the main challenges facing BiH in this respect.

During the meeting, the High Representative encouraged close cooperation between State and Entity authorities in making the best use of BiH's comparative advantages. He stressed the need for the country's economic development in addition to promoting political reform.

"Agreements among parties are the only way forward, there is no alternative, because continued standstill will have a negative impact on perceptions of the country here at home and abroad, which in turn discourages investments that would bring much needed new jobs", Inzko said.