

<u>High Representative Valentin Inzko visited today Historical</u> Museum

High Representative Valentin Inzko visited the Historical Museum today during the "Open Door" week by which the Historical Museum is trying to raise awareness for their current situation.

"I think it is important to draw attention to difficult situation of the seven cultural institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina. They include the National Museum, the Museum of History, the Museum of Literature, the BiH Art Gallery, the National and University Library, the National Library for the Blind and Vision Impaired, and the National Film Archive. Unfortunately this is nothing new – for years the status of thes institutions has not been addressed. I hope the Council of Ministers in drafting the 2012 budget will also take the measures necessary to ensure that funding is allocated" said Inzko.

This issue is not simply one of public amenities; these institutions are repositories of the cultural heritage of BiH and its peoples. Documents and artefacts that testify to this heritage – a priceless component of European culture – are now in danger of being damaged because provision for their upkeep has not been made. These institutions could be used as valuable resources for teaching, for tourism and for projecting a positive image of BiH.

Photo gallery: