

# High Representative Visits Brussels Ahead of Key Period of BiH Assessment

The High Representative, Paddy Ashdown, will visit Brussels this week to brief key institutions and individuals on recent developments in BiH. The High Representative will address members of the North Atlantic Council and the EC Political and Security Committee, and meet key EU and NATO officials. He will also chair the Peace Implementation Council Political Director's regular meeting.

These briefings come just ahead of a crucial period of assessment for BiH. In late April Nato will again look at BiH's progress towards fulfilling the necessary criteria for PfP membership. About a month later, the European Commission's Consultative Task Force will visit BiH in order make an assessment of BiH's progress in fulfilling the criteria necessary for signing a Stabilization and Association Agreement. The EC's

On Tuesday (5 April) the High Representative will address the North Atlantic Council and the EU Political and Security Committee. He will also hold talks with Commissioner Rehn in Brussels. On Wednesday (6 April) the High Representative will make a short stop-over in London, where he will meet UK Foreign Minister Jack Straw. In the evening he will return to Brussels, where he will meet the EU's High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy Javier Solana. On Thursday (7 April) the High Representative will meet NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer.

Note for journalists: OHR will issue details following each meeting, and, where possible, details of press opportunities for each event separately during this week.