Statement: HR welcomes Stanisic Transfer to the Hague

The OHR welcomes the transfer of Mico Stanisic to the ICTY today. Mr. Stanisic stands accused of grave crimes, for which he must now answer before the Tribunal. His is the second transfer to the ICTY by the RS authorities, and a further sign that the RS authorities are, 9 years after the Dayton Peace Agreement, starting to take their ICTY responsibilities seriously.

“Many others indicted war criminals, including Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, remain at large. It is essential that Mr. Stanisic’s transfer to the Hague become but a step in a process, a process that must continue, and one which will see the other indictees transferred without delay to the ICTY. This is a welcome step forward, but the journey isn’t over until the last indicted BiH war criminal is in the Hague,” said the High Representative, Paddy Ashdown today.

“Only by the RS authorities demonstrating that they are fully cooperating with ICTY will the obstacle that is blocking this country’s progress towards the EU and NATO be removed” he added.