

# **OSCE, OHR and CoE Welcome Important Steps Towards Signing of Bologna Declaration by BiH**

The OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Council of Europe and the Office of the High Representative welcome the steps taken by both entity education ministers towards the signature of the Bologna Declaration in September.

Today, FBiH Education Minister Zijad Pasic and RS Education Minister Gojko Savanovic signed a joint letter to the Greek EU Presidency to accompany their reviews of achievements to date and implementation plans based on the objectives of the Bologna Declaration.

“The objectives set out in the Bologna Declaration are key elements of BiH’s higher education reform strategy. We are pleased that the BiH authorities are taking the necessary steps to ensure that BiH will become a signatory to the Declaration in September and encourage their continued commitment towards making this goal a reality,” said Ambassador Robert M. Beecroft, Head of the OSCE Mission to BiH.

Senior Deputy High Representative Gerhard Enver Schrömbgens said it was “impossible to overstate” the importance of BiH signing the Bologna Declaration. “This is the first step towards making BiH degrees recognised throughout Europe. The Bologna process will have a direct impact on the wellbeing of students because it will commit the BiH education authorities to bringing university education here up to European standard – that means better courses, better teaching, better examination systems: in short, a better deal for BiH young

people.”

The Bologna Process is a Europe – wide development bringing higher education across Europe together on the basis of common criteria and standards. For students in BiH, it will mean increased mobility both within BiH and abroad, easier recognition of qualifications and improved quality of degree programs.