## <u>Destruction of property on the site of the Mosque Ferhadija in</u> <u>Banja Luka</u>

The Office of the High Representative has today, Thursday 17 October, witnessed the destruction of property on the site of the Mosque Ferhadija in Banja Luka. The destruction includes the levelling of a house and the removal of trees on the site of the former Mosque. This work is being carried out by the RS authorities without consultation with the religious authorities. The Office of the High Representative deplores this action which is seen as a provocation. A letter has been sent to the President of the Republic of Srpska, Dr Plavsic, asking for an urgent explanation. OHR intend to pursue this issue at the highest level.