

High Representative Establishes Additional Structures to Strengthen the Rule of Law

The High Representative, Paddy Ashdown, today issued two decisions appointing, respectively, the Director and Deputy Directors of the Agency for Information and Protection and the seven member Board which will manage the selection of senior FBiH Ministry of the Interior officials.

The High Representative made these appointments as a result of the failure of the responsible institutions to agree. These appointments are central to putting in place structures that have an effective capability for fighting organised crime and corruption in BiH, and providing a safe environment for all the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The High Representative judged that the people of BiH can not afford to wait any longer for these institutions to be established.

The High Representative has appointed Sredoje Novic the Director and Emir Bijedic and Dragan Lukac the Deputy Directors of the BiH Agency for Information and Protection from the list agreed to by the Council of Ministers. The High Representative's second decision appoints the seven members of the Independent FBiH Board responsible for managing the selection of the Director of Police and the Director of Administrative Services of the FBiH Ministry of the Interior. The seven members are; Kemal Begovic, Bajro Golic, Mensur Hadzimusic, Zoran Cegar, Dragoljub Tomic, Djordje Miseljic and Olivija Tesevic. These seven were selected by the FBiH House of Representative's Commission on Nominations and Appointments but were not ratified by the FBiH House of Representatives.

Both of the High Representative's decisions are effective immediately.