OHR condemns attack against Krunoslav Vukovic

The Office of the High Representative condemns the recent attack against the Governor of the Posavina Canton, Krunoslav Vukovic, in Donja Mahala near Orasje. The OHR welcomes the fact that an investigation is underway and expects it to be carried out quickly and efficiently, and the perpetrator to be prosecuted vigorously.

The OHR notes that the individual alleged to have committed the act, Marko Benkovic, former HDZ Mayor of Orasje, was removed from office in 1998 for persistently obstructing the peace implementation process. Mr Benkovic is also allegedly involved in a variety of criminal activities in the Posavina/Brcko region. It is high time Mr Benkovic's activities in general are properly investigated.

The OHR applauds the positive leadership that Governor Vukovic has shown since taking office, and wishes him a speedy recovery. The OHR calls upon the Cantonal authorities to continue their fight against crime and corruption in Posavina Canton, and to take all appropriate measures against local power-holders who protect criminal activities.