Javier Solana, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy, met with EUSR Paddy Ashdown on police reform in BiH

Javier Solana, EU High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy discussed recent developments on the police reform inBosnia and Herzegovina with the European Union Special Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Paddy Ashdown.

He recalled that the basic principles on which a comprehensive political agreement with the EU should be based, namely: securing exclusive state-level competencies; removing political interference from policing and ensuring that police regions are determined on the basis of technical and professional criteria.

He reiterated that these principles are non-negotiable and are not going to change. All parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina should to focus on trying to define an agreement by mid-September in order to pave the way for the launching of negotiations on a *Stabilisation and Association Agreement* by the end of this year.