

# OHR's Statement at the International Agencies' Joint Press Conference in Banja Luka



## **SDHR Bas-Backer Meeting with RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik**

As you know, the Special Deputy High Representative Peter Bas-Backer is today completing his two-day visit to Banja Luka . As we speak, he is meeting with RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik. Topics on the agenda of today's meeting include education reform, PBS reform and the importance of passage of the outstanding education legislation at the state level.

At the meeting, Ambassador Bas-Backer will make clear the concerns of the international community with the latest developments regarding BHTV 1, given the fact that freedom of the media and freedom of expression are two of the fundamental rights essential for free and pluralistic democracy.

He will also be discussing the issue of the state property in BiH. This issue also featured prominently in Prime Minister Nikola Spiric's presentation to the BiH House of Representatives. You would recall that he said that: "The implementation of the Agreement on Succession of Property and regulation of the status of the state property would be one of the priorities of the new State Government."

The OHR finds this statement very encouraging, especially PM Spiric's call for more support to the work of the Commission for State Property. The OHR is more than ready to support BiH authorities in this task.