

OHR's Statement at the International Agency's Joint Press Conference

The OHR would just like to comment on the pensioners' demonstration a couple of days ago. These demonstrations were a wake-up call for the BiH authorities, and for all of us.

By using their democratic right to protest, the pensioners have reminded the BiH authorities that they need to increase the pace of reform. Pensions in this country can increase – but only if the governments push through the reforms necessary to promote economic growth and ensure that more money goes to citizens rather than criminals.

In this regard, the OHR was very much encouraged by the decision of the Council of Ministers to adopt the Law establishing a state customs administration and reforming the tax system. This law, more than anything else, will ensure that more money is made available for pensioners, teachers, doctors and others.

The OHR urges the parliament to pass this law as soon as possible, in the name of all those hundreds of thousands of citizens who live at or below the poverty line in this country.