Rental contract between Napredak and KSC signed in Bugojno

The OHR welcomes that the Croatian Cultural Association Napredak can finally move back into the Hrvatski dom/Dom kulture building in Bugojno. After long and difficult negotiations, a rental contract was signed on Monday between Napredak and the current user of the building, the Cultural and Sports Center (KSC).

Since 1993 Napredak has repeatedly asked for repossession of this building. Until the arrival of the Special Envoy of the High Representative to Bugojno in February 1999, contacts between the parties involved were reduced to minimum. The Special Envoy immediately initiated intensive negotiations, which received the full support by Senior Deputy High Representative, Ambassador Dr. Matei Hoffmann, who personally addressed this issue during his visit to Bugojno on 27 Oct 1999.

The OHR considers the rental agreement an important step in the reconciliation process in Bugojno. Napredak will be again in a position to contribute to the cultural life of Bugojno and provide Croat residents and returnees with cultural activities, thereby making them feel at home and welcome.

As soon as the Law on Restitution comes into force, a final decision on the repossession of the building by Napredak will be made by the Municipality in accordance with the Law.

The OHR urges the local authorities to resolve other urgent issues now – issues that have been pending for too long, such as appropriate accommodation for BiH Croat school children.