Statement: BiH Parties Should Seek to Normalise Relations Between Entities, Not Throw Barriers to Integration

The Senior Deputy High Representative Martin Ney today expressed his disappointment over the events following the attendance of the BiH Minister of Defence and his staff at the RS Day events on 9, January, 2006.

“I am disappointed that the SDA chose to politicise the attendance of the Minister of Defence and his staff. I see the invitation to them as a clear signal that the RS fully accepts the creation of a single BiH army, and their decision to attend as asserting their rightful place as representatives of the single Army that represents all the citizens of BiH,” said the Senior Deputy High Representative.

“I am therefore disturbed by the inappropriate comments of Deputy Minister of Defence Becirbasic, which the OHR feels serve to undermine the single state level command and control of the single BiH Army. BiH should be seeking to normalise relations between the entities, and not be constantly throwing up barriers to integration between constituent peoples,” he added.