



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 11 December 2013

**7333/10
EXT 1**

**COPS 107
PESC 299
CIVCOM 127
COSDP 198
COWEB 74
EUPM 12**

PARTIAL DECLASSIFICATION

of document:	7333/10 RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED
dated:	11 March 2010
new status:	Public

Subject:	European Union Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina Monthly Assessment report for the month of February 2010
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Delegations will find attached the partially declassified version of the above-mentioned document.

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NOTE

From	Secretariat
To	Political and Security Committee Third States contributing to EUPM
Subject :	European Union Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina Monthly Assessment report for the month of February 2010

Delegations will find attached the EUPM Monthly Assessment report for the month of February 2010.



EUROPEAN UNION POLICE MISSION

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Monthly Assessment Report 02/10

1 – 28 February 2010

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the early morning hours of 2 February the Federal Police Administration assisted by several other police agencies from the Federation (Canton 9 and Canton 3 police), and SIPA, Brcko District police, Border Police, the Service for Foreigners Affairs, OSA (BiH Intelligence and Security Service), and the Republika Srpska (RS) Police, initiated *Operation Light*.

On 2 February, based upon the orders of the respective courts, assorted units of the Republika Srpska and Brcko District police commenced an operation, code named *Network*, aimed at drug trafficking, vehicle thefts and other related crimes.

BiH and Croatia and BiH and Serbia signed agreements replacing earlier agreements between BiH, the Federation of BiH, Croatia and Serbia, on mutual enforcement of court decisions in criminal matters.

Cantonal laws on internal affairs are progressing towards the final phase.

The Republika Srpska Law on Police Officials (RS LoPO) passed the second reading by the Republika Srpska National Assembly at the end of January. In the second chamber, the Council of Peoples, the Bosniak Caucus raised the protection of vital national interest on 2 February 2010.

On 1 February, based upon an Interpol warrant issued by the Republic of Croatia, Public Security Centre Banja Luka officers arrested a citizen of Serbia, suspected of being involved in the murder of a prominent newspaper editor and his associate in Zagreb on 23 October 2008 in an explosion.

The Republika Srpska Police Director Uroš Pena made a presentation at a UNICRI workshop in Lisbon on 4 and 5 February 2010, accompanied by the Deputy Head of Mission.

After an acrimonious debate, the RS National Assembly (RSNA) special session of 9-10 February passed a law on referendum and civic initiatives.

The Peace Implementation Council Steering Board met in Sarajevo on 24-25 February but found that there had been little progress on the '5 plus 2' agenda for OHR transition to EUSR.

Cathrine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission, visited Bosnia and Herzegovina on 17 and 18 February.

2. COMMENTS OF HEAD OF MISSION

Senior staff identified four key activities which I intend to pursue on the basis of the mission implementation plan over the coming months as a matter strategic priority. First, to further enhance coordination at ministerial level, both inside Bosnia and Herzegovina and regionally; second, to support the swift establishment of the Directorate for Police Coordination; third, a further strengthening and stabilization of the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA) and fourth, to promote operational results of increased inter-agency cooperation. In all four areas, already the past month indicated space for further progress.

The Minister of Security, Mr Ahmetovic, remained committed to an inclusive approach, exemplified by a widely mediatised meeting with the Republika Srpska Minister of Interior, Mr Cadjo. Mid-February, they mapped out together the necessary efforts to further enhance police data exchange and stressed the constantly improving cooperation between law enforcement agencies. I welcome and support this development which shall be continued by a joint visit of the Minister of Security and both entity ministers to Slovakia during March.

The preparatory measures for the establishment of the Directorate for Police Coordination have continued at a significant pace during February. The vacant positions were advertised and candidates interviewed. The mission monitored the process from a distance; a policy that allowed EUPM to highlight the strategic nature of the Directorate. The Chairman of the Council of Ministers and the Minister of Security announced that the Council shall appoint the Director and the two deputies by mid-March at the latest. This will allow the mission to develop and implement a joint work plan, paving the way for the IPA project in support of the law enforcement sector starting in late 2011. For this, close coordination has been established between the mission and the European Commission services in Sarajevo and Brussels.

SIPA continued also during February to carry out important operations both individually and in cooperation with other agencies. In parallel to the appointment of the Director of the Directorate, new key SIPA personnel will be selected. The establishment of the Directorate will also pave the way to update the legal framework governing SIPA and reset the agency for a new phase which will include also improved cooperation in the fight against corruption thanks to the emergence of a new anti-corruption agency.

The month started with two complex multi-agency operations targeting a large drug network and a group suspected of conspiring against the territorial integrity of the country. In total both operations involved over 1,100 police officers from various agencies who were deployed in a highly coordinated and effective manner. The mission closely monitored both operations. The first operation (code-named “Light”) was ordered by the State Prosecutor and coordinated by the Federation Administration of Police, including police from all other levels, including SIPA. The intervention led to seven arrests and the seizure of money, documents and items (computer, weapons). The second one (code-named “Network”) was led by the Republika Srpska Police and involved also several other agencies. The aftermath of these two large-scale police operations was followed up by EUPM ensuring a coherent EU and international community analysis of the situation. I informed fellow principals and the Civilian Operation Commander of EUPM’s positive assessment of the level of police and inter-agency cooperation.

The mission will become fully operational with the arrival of the Head of the Policy office and the deployment of the Mission Analytical Capability by April. The finalization of the mission implementation plan was brought forward internally and also by close consultation with ministerial counterparts and at police management level, including by targeted outreach activities of the Deputy Head of Mission in the regional offices, and with international community stakeholders, such as the US International Criminal Investigation Training Assistance Programme (ICITAP), and the UK Department for International Development (DFID) consultant in the Ministry of Security. The mission continues to be well placed in reaching out to all partners in a dynamic political environment.

The Political Directors of the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board (PIC SB) met in Sarajevo on 24-25 February 2010 with the EUPM Deputy Head of Mission in attendance. The communiqué recalled the need to meet outstanding objectives and conditions for a transition of the Office of the High Representative to a reinforced EU presence. The PIC SB also underlined that Bosnia and Herzegovina should intensify its efforts in the area of judicial reform and combating organised crime, corruption, and terrorism and commended the role that law enforcement agencies have played in that respect. The Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Security, Mr Ahmetovic, briefed the PIC SB and highlighted the progress made in his area of responsibility which was widely acknowledged.

February was also characterised by the presence of several high-ranking delegations of European officials. I attended a meeting with a European Parliament delegation on 15 February and on 17 February I briefed Ms Fajon, MEP, rapporteur for the visa dialogue in the committee for civil liberties, justice and home affairs, about EUPM's work. On 17-18 February, Cathrine Ashton, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the Commission visited Bosnia and Herzegovina and the EUPM HQ where I briefed her about the mission's progress and perspectives.

3. MANDATE IMPLEMENTATION

NOT DECLASSIFIED

Pages 7 and 8: NOT DECLASSIFIED

NOT DECLASSIFIED

4. POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

NOT DECLASSIFIED

5. POLITICAL AND SECURITY UPDATE

NOT DECLASSIFIED

6. SECURITY

Security remains stable.

7. MEDIA

Media interviews with the Head of Mission – On 2 February Radio Deutsche Welle interviewed HoM on the assessment of the security situation in BIH and the main focus of the follow-up mission, dedicated to the Berlin Conference of Ministers of Security, where BIH was represented by Minister of Security Sadik Ahmetovic.

On 4 February the newspaper Nezavisne Novine published an interview with HoM where he praised the Gornja Maoca operation. This and the professional conduct of RS Police-led operation *Network 2010* aimed at busting drugs traffickers and car thieves “*demonstrated that police in Bosnia and Herzegovina are capable of dealing with the most serious and complex operations.*”

On 10 February, within the scope of the “Corruption takes everything from you” public information campaign, the Head of Mission and the Republika Srpska Police Director took part in a RTRS TV show discussing various aspects of corruption.

8. RELATIONS WITH HOST COUNTRY AUTHORITIES

As EUPM is an established mission, currently there are no issues to report under this heading.

9. RELATIONS WITH EU, OTHER IC ORGANISATIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES

As EUPM is an established mission, currently there are no issues to report under this heading.

10. OUTLOOK

1-3 March 2010 – EUPM to host visit of CPCC Head of Europe Sector and EUPM desk officer

4-5 March 2010 – Head of Mission to attend the seventh annual Ministerial Conference on Cooperation in the Field of Border Security in Southeast Europe, Tirana, Albania

11-12 March 2010 – EUPM to host visit of CPCC Planning and Methodology Unit concerning Mission Analytical Capability

12 March 2010 – Deputy Head of Mission to open seminar on international police cooperation, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

18-19 March 2010 – Head of Mission to attend meeting of police and law enforcement directors, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

29-31 March 2010 – Head of Mission on official travel to Brussels, presentation of EUPM ninth six-monthly review report at the Political Security Committee

**Approved by Commissioner Stefan Feller
Head of Mission**

ANNEX I: Personnel situation

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