



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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Monthly Assessment report for the month of March 2010.

Delegations will find attached the partially declassified version of the above-mentioned document.

ANNEX

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NOTE

From Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC)
To Political and Security Committee
Third States contributing to EUPM
Subject : European Union Police Mission in (EUPM) Bosnia and Herzegovina Monthly Assessment report for the month of March 2010.

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

Monthly Report : March 2010

Reporting Period: 1 – 31 March 2010

Report number: 03/10

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 9 March 2010 the Management of the Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies was appointed by the BiH Council of Ministers (CoM).

EUPM contributed to the workshop on “Better Cooperation of Police and Prosecutor’s Offices in Bosnia and Herzegovina” on 10 and 11 March in Sarajevo.

On 4 March EUPM attended the official opening of the Twinning Project between the Netherlands and Denmark with BiH on “Assistance to the Ministry of Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry for Human Rights and refugees and other competent authorities in effectively managing migration”.

The RS Council of Peoples, at its session on 2 March, discussed the initiative for the protection of vital national interest (VNI), in relation to the RS LOPO, made by Bosniak Caucus in February.

On 10 March the Council of Ministers took the decision that the seat of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption will be located in East Sarajevo.

During the reporting period EUPM closely monitored and advised on a case of a ‘controlled’ drug delivery to Sarajevo.

On 29 March Canton 1 (Bihac) police located and searched a marijuana production plant near the Croatian border.

On 30 March the Assembly of Canton 3 (Tuzla) unanimously adopted the CLIA.

In an ongoing investigation into an alleged case of forced prostitution and child abuse of an underage girl residing in Bratunac, Srebrenica municipality, the responsible prosecutor ordered the interviewing and search of property of some 15 persons (mostly officials) from the area.

The Serbian parliament adopted a resolution condemning the massacre of some 8,000 Bosniak men and boys in Srebrenica in July 1995.

Mr Ejup Ganic remained in custody in view of a possible extradition, following the request of Serbia.

EUPM hosted a workshop on 17 March on the issue of corruption which gathered students and youth organizations.

2. COMMENTS OF HEAD OF MISSION

March has been a challenging month for Bosnia and Herzegovina. The emotional elements in the political process came back to the fore on the independence celebrated on 1 March in the Federation. The day was also marked by the arrest of the former Presidency Member during the war 1992-1995, Mr Ejup Ganic, in London on the basis of a warrant issued by Serbian authorities. Both events, in conjunction with the live-broadcasted opening plea of Mr Karadzic at the ICTY resonated strongly in media and with leading politicians. The political atmosphere continued to be strained. The election campaign appears to have been opened. This is reflected by statements and reactions of different political parties to these recent and other events, domestically and abroad. Although the security situation appears not to be affected, the psychological effects of reckless political rhetoric and, a possible lack of perceived adequate and timely reaction to them, may become an additional factor.

In a momentous move, the Council of Ministers appointed a number of state-level police directors and determined the seat of the Directorate for Police Coordination as well as of the Agency for the Prevention of Corruption on 9 March 2010. The decisions contribute to the further set-up of the institutions prescribed by the 2008 police reform laws and will step up anti-corruption measures.

The appointment process is being disputed by the Federation Police Director who was not short listed to any of the posts. The mission extended its support to the new Directorate by offering a targeted technical assistance package, contributing to a swift establishment of the institution.

At the margins of the seventh annual ministerial conference on cooperation in the field of border security in southeast Europe, held in Tirana on 4-5 March 2010, the Minister of Security, Mr Ahmetovic and I had the opportunity to jointly assess the progress made in this area throughout the region. Ministers and border police chiefs from all Western Balkans countries proved conscious of the continuous challenges of approximation to the Schengen area. Facilitated by the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), Ministers adopted an ambitious declaration and work programme, which coherently complements EUPM's objectives and IPA programming through a regionally-driven and owned process.

Important changes to the criminal code and the criminal procedure codes were adopted, further enhancing the legal framework to fight against organised crime and corruption. We also witnessed the adoption of the first revised cantonal law on internal affairs in Tuzla, opening the way for the conclusion of the residual tasks in the area of police reform. Also confirming that the technical level work is not affected by the political difficulties, the regular meeting of the Directors of law enforcement agencies, the State Prosecutor and the Ministry of Security took place in Sarajevo on 18 and 19 March. Chaired by the Police Commissioner of Canton Sarajevo (also the appointed Director of the Directorate of Police Coordination), the group discussed the current situation of the law enforcement sector, the state of play of the visa dialogue and reviewed recent joint operational activities. Following on to the anti-corruption campaign, several initiatives were launched locally, including by the Ministers of Interior of the Federation aiming to address corruption within police as well as by youth and student organisations; all of which is being supported by EUPM.

The visa dialogue did serve as a catalyst for finding solutions in areas of interest for EUPM's mandate implementation. This was visible through better inter-ministerial cooperation at different levels, including the Minister of Security and the Republika Srpska Minister of Interior. However, the criminal investigation of the Republika Srpska police and prosecution relating to ground suspicions of criminal activities committed by several officials, including the Minister of Security has had a negative impact

on inter-ministerial cooperation. The issue became public on 16 March. In an election-year the case fuelled political speculations. Irrespective of the outcome of this investigation, I recalled to our partners their responsibility and our expectation that they avert such a development in my regular meetings with Ministers at different levels.

EUPM finalised the mission implementation plan and continued intensive coordination with the EU Delegation and the European Commission. Operationally, the mission has reached full operational capacity with the arrival of the Head of the Policy office and the deployment of the Mission Analytical Capability in theatre.

On 30 March, the Civilian Operation Commander and I briefed the Political and Security Committee on the progress of the mission, presenting the ninth six-monthly review of EUPM. Member states supported the development of a viable exit strategy for the civilian crisis management in close cooperation with the European Commission.

3. MANDATE IMPLEMENTATION

NOT DECLASSIFIED

Pages 6 and 7: NOT DECLASSIFIED

NOT DECLASSIFIED

4. RESIDUAL TASKS

NOT DECLASSIFIED

5. POLITICAL AND SECURITY UPDATE

NOT DECLASSIFIED

NOT DECLASSIFIED

6. SECURITY

Security remains stable

7. MEDIA

Anti corruption awareness activities – EUPM supported anti corruption awareness activities in Banja Luka and the Brcko District in cooperation with the police services from the region, including other stake-holders and non-governmental organizations. Senior police officers participated.

EUPM hosts anti-corruption workshop with students and youth organizations – EUPM hosted a workshop on 17 March on the issue of corruption which gathered students and youth organizations. The participants compiled a list of concrete ideas on how to fight corruption within their circles.

EUPM organizes a strategic workshop of LEA Spokespersons Forum – On 22 and 23 March the Forum concluded with a number of proposals for public relations events in 2010. The Forum endorsed the continuation of cooperation with the Kids' Festival and the Police Day therein. Summer campaigns will highlight traffic and property safety as well as drug abuse. RS and Canton Sarajevo police will in addition remind citizens about the renewal of licences for weapons. The jointly implemented campaign of police agencies and EUPM will once again focus on the fight against organised crime and 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

Whole month – Support to the establishment of the Directorate for Police Cooperation

14 April – EUPM meeting of Regional Offices in Mostar

Approved by Commissioner Stefan Feller

Head of Mission

ANNEX I: Personnel situation

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