

### VISA RELIEF FOR MONTENEGRO AND ALBANIA

- ☒ According to Foreign Minister of Montenegro, Milan Rocen, introducing new Montenegrin passports, scheduled for the spring of 2008, will necessarily lead to visa relief for Montenegrins. He also added that a unified EU visa application center would be open in the Slovakian embassy to Podgorica. Meanwhile, Albanian Government (independently) approved the Agreement for liberalization the visa regime with the EU. It is expected this agreement to make the visa issuing process simpler for official delegations, member of business community, journalist, representatives of religious communities, researchers and students. [Setimes, Fokus, Makfax 2/8/07]

### BELGRADE ASKS FOR DIRECT TALKS ON KOSOVO FUTURE STATUS

- ☒ Serbia will insist on direct negotiations regarding Kosovo future status without time limit and they would only accept status decisions made by United Nations Security Council. Because Marti Ahtisaari plan

proposed an internationally supervised independence for the province Belgrade will reject it in the new phase of talks, Belgrade media reported. Previously, the Prime Minister Kostunica said that the Serbian government is ready to start true and essential talks on autonomy for the Albanian ethnic minority in Kosovo and Metohia, based on UN resolution 1244. He also reminded that just as all European and other countries seek solutions for their ethnic minorities' problems through various types of autonomy, this universal rule must also apply for Serbia. Last week Serbian Government adopted rules by which negotiation should be led. Afterwards, this proposal will be sent to the Contact Group and the embassies of its member countries in Belgrade. [Setimes.net, B92, Beta 3/08/07]

### BIH POLICE REFORM AGREEMENT

- ☒ According to Miroslav Lajcak, EU Special Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, agreement on police reform will be reached by the end of September. He also pointed out that the success on this agreement depends on the political will of both opposed concepts from Sarajevo and Banja Luka. Police reforms are one of the main prerequisites set by the European Union before the signing of Stabilization and

Associations with BiH. [Makfax 03/09/07]

### TURKEY WITH A NEW CAMPAIGN FOR EU

- ☒ The new Turkish government is working on new campaign for EU that will be launched just before upcoming EU Commission's Annual Progress report. This campaign will not only include communication strategy, but also a new reform package that have been long demanded by EU. The Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, as a part of the campaign, will visit Paris, Brussels and London with the purpose to convince his counterparts in the country's determination for full membership. In order to receive better progress report and to finally satisfy EU top expectations this new comprehensive agenda of the Prime Minister will help Turkey to rearrange the existing Penal Code and amend Article 301 regarding freedom of expression. It is also expected from the country to expand freedom of religion, rights of trade unions, exert judicial control over rulings by the military courts and military expenditures and take legal measures to prevent corruption. [Turkish Daily News, 03/08/07]