

BIH NGO PUSH FORE REACHING DEAL ON POLICE REORMS

- ☒ The HIGH Representative Miroslav Lajcan decided to allow one more round of negotiations on police reform and he expects that now finally the deal on police reform will be reached. This came as a result of the meeting he had with three NGO s that fully supports his proposal. Previuosly and Republika Srpska Prime Minister Milorad Dodik According to Silajdzic that accord is the most that can be achieved in the present political climate. [SeTimes 09/10/07; Nezavisne Novine 09/10/07]

WASHINGTON SUPPORTS MACEDONIA'S NATO ASPIRATIONS

- ☒ Last week, US Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs Rosemary DiCarlo visited Skopje .During the Meeting with Macedonian prime minister, she informed that the country has made great progress over the past year in the areas of human trafficking, the economy and legislation on religious communities and pointed out that reaching a political consensus between the ruling parties and the opposition is very important not only for NATO aspirations but for the future in general. She confirmed that

Washington supports Macedonia's NATO aspirations and in order to accelerate the process Macedonia must work on implementation of the Political and Judicial reforms, like those related with forming Judicial Council and issues concerning a deal struck in May between ruling VMRO DPMNE and Albanian Union for Integration[Vecer, Makfax, MIA 10/10/07]

NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY WITH A NEW RESOLUTION FOR BALKAN COUNTRIES

- ☒ During the 53rd Annual Session in Reykjavik, Island, NATO Assembly approved a resolution calling on all member countries to support the invitation for Macedonia, Albania and Croatia for joining the Alliance at the Summit in Bucharest. According to the resolution, membership of these countries will in the future improve security and stability in the Euro-Atlantic zone. Therefore it encourages the three countries to make efforts to implement necessary reform as soon as possible. Apart from Western Balkans and NATO next round of enlargement, about 35 legislators from NATO member, partner and observer countries also discussed Policy statements on Afghanistan, climate change, missile defense and the Alliance

relation with Russia.[Makfax 10/10/07, NATO – PA 10/10/07]

CROATIA TO JOIN THE EU AROUND THE END OF THIS DECADE

- ☒ Croatia is on course to become the European Union's 28th member, but its entry date will only be set when membership talks are nearly complete, Enlargement Commissioner Olli Rehn said in an interview to the Croatian daily Jutarnji List. Rehn mentioned that unlike Turkey, for which he said "we knew it would not be a walk in the park", Croatia has opened 12 of a total of 35 chapters comprising the EU's legislation. He added that he expect Croatia to become the 28th member state around the end of this decade, if it takes decisive steps in reforming its judiciary and economy," Croatian Prime Minister, Ivo Sanader, whose conservative HDZ party faces a tough challenge from rebounding Social Democrats at a general election next month, has said he wants Croatia to join in 2009, while analysts say 2010 or 2011 is more realistic. According to analysts and EU officials the toughest reforms, in the judiciary, public administration, state subsidies and the fight against corruption, still lay ahead. [Routers 11/10/07; Jutarnji list 11/10/07]