



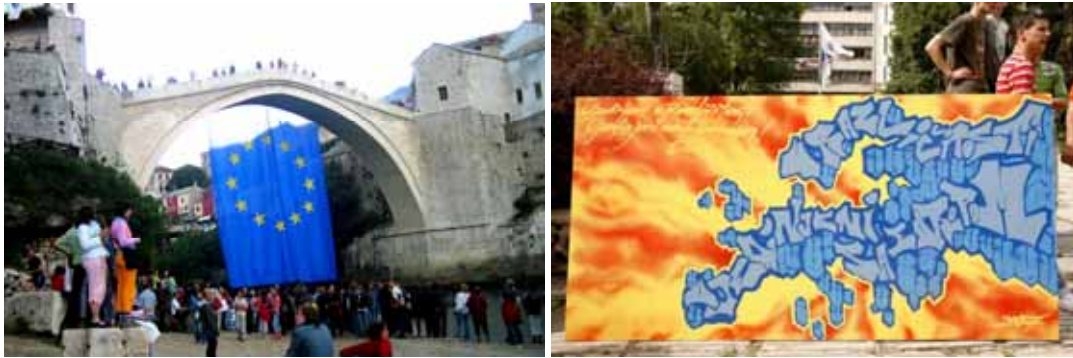
EUROPEAN UNION

Delegation of the European Commission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Review of Europe Day Activities and Events 2007 in Bosnia and Herzegovina

This year as we are celebrating 50th anniversary of the Rome Treaties the Delegation organised a series of events throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to emphasize the message that EU has not forgotten BiH.

The celebrations started in Mostar on May 5th where the highlight of the day was draping an 18 metre EU flag from the famous "Old Bridge" accompanied by a series of youngsters diving head first into the river against this background, while a children's orchestra performed the EU Anthem. Information material was distributed to the public and the event received widespread media coverage in BiH.



From 6th to 9th May in Sarajevo, Mostar, Zenica, Tuzla, Banja Luka, Brcko, Bihac, Siroki Brijeg, Trebinje and Bjeljina young people were invited to present their view of Europe through an essay, poster and a graffiti competition. All the entries were brought to Sarajevo on 9th for a public exhibition and award ceremony in the central pedestrian zone.

In cooperation with the Goethe Institute in BiH we organized 2 weeks of European films in 8 smaller cities which do not have a cinema, bringing European works to a wider audience.

On 9th May the festivities began with a special concert for 600 children in the BiH Parliament plenary hall, where the Youth Symphony Orchestra of South East Europe performed Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf". The children were welcomed by the BiH Prime Minister Dr Nikola Spiric and HoD Dimitris Kourkoulas.



The Evening reception started with speeches by the HoD and the Prime Minister, followed by a performance of Joseph Haydn's Concert for Flute and Orchestra in D Major and the complete Beethoven's 5th Symphony. The Youth Symphony Orchestra of South-East Europe brings together musicians from the whole region and some members of the EU Diplomatic corps in BiH.

For the first time the complete BiH Presidency attended together with Ministers from the State and Entity governments. Altogether more than 500 people from the political leadership, Diplomatic community, public administration, NGO sector and other important guests enjoyed this special evening.

In order to reach a wider audience the whole event was broadcast live on the nationwide Public Broadcaster and to make the evening more informative we organised a ½ hour discussion between the major political leaders on BiH's European future. A compilation DVD accompanies this report.

In Doboj, small town which straddles the Federation and Republika Srpska we organised a debate on the EU followed by a series of school visits by the local NGO partner to disseminate information on the EU.

Europe Day activities concluded with a 3 day celebration in Trebinje starting from 10 May. Each day was devoted to a different type of cultural and sport activity (concerts, exhibitions, street dancers, basketball and football matches).

Photos and reports are also available on www.europa.ba