

TV Address by the High Representative, Wolfgang Petritsch

(Scheduled to be broadcast Thursday evening by RTV BiH, RT RS, OBN and Radio Fern.)

Good evening.

You are certainly familiar with the main conclusions of the Conference in Brussels:

- urgent need for economic reform,
- accelerated return,
- and the establishment of a modern state with an efficient government.

These are the objectives that need to be accomplished so that Bosnia and Herzegovina become a successful state.

Of course, this won't be easy, and it requires your help. But it will be worth while.

The establishment of a market economy is a new challenge. It has proven itself in the West, and I am convinced that this is the only way to attract investment and create new jobs – jobs for you.

Furthermore; some of you will have to move out of apartments and houses that belong to somebody else. You have to respect the rights of others. This way, law and order will be established.

Your politicians will have to genuinely start working in your interest and on drawing Bosnia and Herzegovina nearer the European integration process.

And you? You will have to help in all of that.

You have to accept that BiH's current problems are your problems, too, and that you personally are responsible for solving them.

You have to support politicians who sincerely wish to change the current situation – by voting for them and by expressing your opinions freely.

I am convinced; it is high time. The Conference in Brussels has once again shown that the International Community is losing patience. It is looking for real change and progress in BiH.

Help bring these changes about. Accept responsibility. Because the situation could be even worse than it is now.

For this reason, let's go to work now. There's a lot of work. Help me, and I will help you.

Thank you very much.