



**THE PRESIDENT**

Munich, 1 October, 2012

Ms Alida Vračić, Director  
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## Invitation

### International Workshop

## Shaping the Future in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Civil Society after the October 2012 local elections

**Freising (near Munich / Germany), 16 - 18 November, 2012**

Dear Ms Vračić,

On 16 and 17 November, 2012, the **Southeast Europe Association** (Suedosteuropa-Gesellschaft / SOG) will organise an International Workshop on the topic **“Shaping the Future in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Civil Society after the October 2012 local elections”** in **Freising (near Munich / Germany)**. The workshop is a follow-up to the event in December 2009 (some of you have participated) and will be sponsored by the **German Federal Foreign Office**.

**I hereby cordially invite you to participate in the event.**

**For your information on the background and aim of the workshop see draft program attached.** We are very grateful to Tobias Flessenkemper, Petra Blaess-Rafajlovski and Markus Koller for their engagement in drafting the program of the event.

### **Procedures / structure of the workshop**

On Friday, November 16, we will start with opening remarks and a first panel aiming at discussing the current situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina after the local elections. Saturday, 17 November is dedicated to the workshop itself, where all topics will be briefly introduced by short interventions (5 minutes each) and then the floor is opened to a general debate. There will be no papers presented. Instead, an open discussion, roughly structured in an agenda of

relevant issues following the outlined 'topics to be discussed', shall lead directly into the exchange of views and opinions.

The final list of relevant issues depends on the participants and should reflect the current preferences and priorities in the activities of individuals and their respective organizations. It goes without saying that the main focus of our discussion should lay on civil society's analysis and fields of action. Please **provide us with your ideas** related to the topics offered in the draft program. You are explicitly encouraged to add those relevant issues you consider to be discussed and / or reflect the current preferences and priorities in the activities of your organization.

The workshop will take place **under Chatham House Rule** in order to facilitate an open exchange of views and ideas. The conference language will be **English**, with no translation provided.

We sincerely hope that you find this workshop a timely undertaking and that you will be able to join us to make it a success. In this case, we kindly ask you to send back the attached registration form to Suedosteuropa-Gesellschaft at [info@sogde.org](mailto:info@sogde.org). **We would appreciate it very much to have your response as soon as possible, at the latest by 5 October 2012.**

Should you be able to attend we will subsequently send you a more detailed agenda and practical information regarding the workshop. Please note that **this is a personal invitation** that is not transferable to other persons.

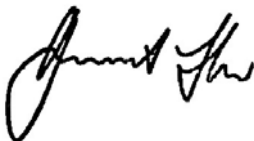
#### **Travel arrangements / Accommodation**

Flight expenses, where necessary, can be covered by the Southeast Europe Association. In these cases we – as general rule – will book and pay for your travel (economy class round-trip-ticket) to Munich (and Freising) and back (arrival in Munich usually on 16 November, departure from Munich on 18 November). For this reason, we kindly ask you to inform us about your preferred travel schedule. Please note that the Southeast Europe Association cannot pay for any additional costs by changing a reservation once it is finalized.

Of course, we will host you during your stay in Germany (accommodation and meals). Also kindly advise, if necessary, on special requirements concerning flight schedules.

Looking forward to meeting you soon,

Sincerely yours



Gernot Erler, MP  
former Minister of State  
President of Southeast Europe Association

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#### **Contact persons:**

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