**STUDY VISIT TO SERBIA**

**25 September - 2 October 2016**

**FMA Secretariat:**

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**Profiles of the speakers**

**Monday, 26 September**

* **Ambassador Michael Davenport- Head of EU Delegation to Serbia**

Ambassador Michael Davenport presented his credentials to the Serbian President on 19 September 2013.

Prior to this posting, he had served as the Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Serbia since January 2011.

Before coming to Serbia, Davenport was Director for Russia, Central Asia and the South Caucasus in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) in London. Between 2007 and 2010 he advised successive Foreign Secretaries on Britain’s relations with Russia and the wider region and was responsible for the FCO’s network of twelve diplomatic missions.

His first foreign posting as a British diplomat was to Poland in 1990, where he was responsible for establishing the first British Know-How Fund, supporting Poland’s early political and economic reforms after the fall of Communism. In the mid-nineties Michael headed the FCO’s UN Peacekeeping Section before learning Russian ahead of a posting as First Secretary to Moscow in 1996. In 2000 Michael returned to Poland as Commercial Counsellor and Consul-General in the run-up to polish accession to the European Union, and in 2004 was appointed Deputy Ambassador to Cairo.

Michael did his first degree in French and German language and literature at Cambridge University, after which he taught English at Graz University in Austria. Later he studied law at the College of Law in London and qualified as a Solicitor of the Supreme Court in 1988, having trained at the City firm of Macfarlanes.

* **Mrs. Marinika Tepic- Chairperson of the European Integration Committee**

She was born in Pancevo (1974), where she finished primary and secondary school, and she graduated from University of Belgrade, as the youngest graduate of the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade in May 1995.

Immediately afterwards, she acquired first work experience as an English teacher in primary school "Vasa Zivkovic" in Pancevo, and in 1997 started her career in professional journalism, first in Newspaper Publishing Institution "Libertatea" and then as a journalist, editor, correspondent and associate of 021 Media Radio, TV production UrbaNS, TV B92, BIRN, IWPR ...

She has been a longtime civil society activist through the organisation of the Civic Action Pancevo (GAP), as well as a participant in the activities of several other non-governmental organisations primarily aimed at coping with the past, and dealing with fundamental and minority rights, anti-fascism and so on.

She left the field of journalism in 2009 and was employed through the public competition in the Office for Decentralisation of the Republic of Serbia, which was founded by the Government of the Republic of Serbia. That same year, she was elected a Deputy Director of the Office for Decentralisation of the Republic of Serbia, and finished her mandate in July 2012.

She is Deputy member of the Committee on Human and Minority Rights and Gender Equality, the Commitee on Administrative Budgetary, Mandate and Immunity Issues and the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

On 12 July 2012 she was elected Provincial Secretary for Sports and Youth of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, the mandate of which was marked by drafting and implementation of the country's unique Development Strategy of School Sports in Vojvodina, primarily aimed at public health, as well as the development and introduction of the three-year project "Health Education on Reproductive Health", applied in over 70 secondary schools throughout Vojvodina (over 80% of territorial representation of APV), which aims to introduce this subject (sex education) in the education system of the Republic of Serbia. Also, she encouraged and supported promising athletes, gifted students in all fields of science and art, and provided systemic support to sport disciplines of interest to the APV, and Olympic athletes from Vojvodina.

She performed the function of the Provincial Secretary for Sport and Youth in the full term until the election on 3 June 2016, when the electoral will of the citizens confirmed her mandate of a Member of Parliament.

At the National Assembly, she is a member of the League of Social Democrats of Vojvodina – Green Party Parliamentary Group.

She is a member of the LSV Presidency and the LSV Main Board.

After the constitution of the Assembly, on 1 July 2016, she was elected Chairperson of the European Integration Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia.

**Tuesday, 27 September**

* **Mr. Aleksandar Vucic- Prime Minister of the Republic Of Serbia**

Mr. Aleksandar Vučić served as First Deputy PM in charge of defence, security and fight against corruption and crime in the previous cabinet since September 2013.

In the same period, he was the General Secretary of the National Security Council.

Prior to this, he held office as Minister of Defence and Deputy Prime Minister responsible for defence, security and fight against Corruption and Crime in the period from July 2012 until the government reshuffle in September 2013.

Vučić was born in Belgrade on March 5, 1970 and graduated from the Faculty of Law of the Belgrade University as one of the best students of his generation.

In 1992, he joined the Serb Radical Party (SRS) and soon became a member of the Serbian parliament.

In 1994 he became the Party's Secretary General.

In the period before the NATO military intervention in 1998, Vučić became minister for information in the government of national unity.

He was elected to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Parliament on three occasions.

Vučić held office as the SRS deputy caucus whip in the Serbian parliament.

As one of the founders of the Serb Progressive Party (SNS) in 2008, he was first its deputy president and in June 2012, after SNS won the election and Tomislav Nikolić became Serbia's president, Vučić was appointed the party's acting leader.

At the early electoral assembly in September 2012, Vučić was unanimously elected new SNS leader.

Vučić briefly served as Minister of Defence and First Deputy Prime Minister from July 2012 to August 2013, when he stepped down from his position of Defence Minister in a cabinet reshuffle.

After the 2014 Serbian parliamentary election Vučić's Serbian Progressive Party won 158 out of 250 seats in Parliament and formed a ruling coalition with the Socialist Party of Serbia. Vučić was elected Prime Minister of Serbia.

In the 2016 Parliamentary elections, Vučić announced formation of the new government by early June. After a two-month delay, Vučić announced the new cabinet on 8 August, consisting of eight old and eight new ministers, retaining the coalition with the Socialist Party. The government was approved by the National Assembly on 10 August.

* **Ms. Jadranka Joksimovic- Minister for European Integration**

Ms. Jadranka Joksimovic graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences of Belgrade University in 2002/03, Department of International Relations. She is a member of the Main Board of SNS, a few months ago and a member of the Presidium of the party. The party also performs the function of the Secretary of International Relations.

Joksimovic worked in the Serbian Radical Party from 2005 to 2007 as an international relations assistant to Aleksandar Vucic and in the editorial office of the magazine “Velika Srbija”.

She is one of the signatories – the founder of the Serbian Progressive Party in 2008. During 2008 and 2009 she worked in the Serbian Parliament as an associate to the parliamentary group "Forward Serbia" (Napred Srbijo).

In May 2012 she was elected a Serbian MP from the list of the Serbian Progressive Party.

She became a member of the Assembly of Serbia after the elections in May 2012, and was chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for the control of the security services, members of the Committee for European Integration, as well as of the Stabilisation and Association Council.

She was Minister without portfolio responsible for European integration from April 2014 to August 2016.

Since the establishment of the Serbian Progressive Party, she is the secretary for international relations.

* **Mr. Vladan Vukosavljevic-Minister of Culture of the Republic of Serbia**

Mr. Vladan Vukosavljevic graduated from the Faculty of Law in Belgrade. He had several study visits to France and Germany. Attended a post-graduate special course at the Faculty of Law on the subject of International Treaties.

He worked in foreign trade, for the Belgrade Company “Universal”. He was the general manager and owner of a real estate and legal services company.

Since 2002 he has been the CEO and co-owner of the public relations company “Logos Public Relations”.

He wrote for magazines “Lawyer”, “Literary Word” and “NIN”.

Since 2004 he has been a member of the Crown Cabinet of HRH Crown Prince Alexander, and he was the Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Milos Crnjanski Foundation.

He was appointed Secretary for Culture of the City of Belgrade in 2013.

In August 2016, he was appointed Minister of Culture and Information in the Government of the Republic of Serbia.

* **Mr. Ivica Dacic- Foreign Affairs Minister**

Mr. Ivica Dacic is currently the First Deputy Prime Minister of Serbia and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia.

He has had a keen interest in politics from an early age, studying political science at Belgrade University where he earned a bachelor’s degree.

He has been associated with socialism since his youth. Dacic was involved with the Youth Wing of the Belgrade Socialist party, and also served as its chairman.

He previously held the office of Prime Minister until he assumed his current role.

He has held a number of government offices during his political career.

He was member of the Serbian parliamentary delegation at the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly. He was president of the caucuses in the parliaments of the Republic of Serbia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In 1992 he was elected member of the Citizens’ Council at the parliament of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. In 2004 he was elected member of the Serbian parliament.

He was minister of information at the so-called transitional Serbian government from October 2000 to January 2001.

Mr. Dacic is the leader of the Socialist Party of Serbia since December 2006.

He was first deputy prime minister and minister of the interior in the Serbian government from July 2008 to July 2012. He was prime minister and interior minister from July 2012 until April 2014. He was First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs from April 2014 to August 2016.

 Mr. Dacic is also known as an avid sports fan. He has served in leadership roles in several sports associations, including serving as Vice President of the Yugoslav Olympic Committee.

* Mr Marko Cadez

Marko Čadež is President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia (CCIS) and a member of the EUROCHAMBRES' Board of Directors from a non-EU country. He was elected President of the CCIS in December 2014 from his previous positions of Vice President in charge of modernization of the chamber system and Director of the CCIS Representative Offices in Germany and Austria. He is a member of the Economic Council of the Serbian Development Agency. He served as President of the Managing Board of the Serbian Investment and Export Promotion Agency (SIEPA).

 He is a communications and Serbian – German relations expert and one of the founders and a member of the Managing Board of the Serbia – Germany Forum.

 He was born on 1 June 1977 in Belgrade. He completed his studies in Germany and graduated from the Academy for Marketing Communications in Frankfurt in 2001.

 From 2003 until his arrival to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, he was employed with the German Embassy in Belgrade as its Spokesperson for nearly a decade. He was the Deutsche Welle Coordinator for Serbia and Montenegro as well as a Programme Coordinator and Advisor for politics and communications with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Belgrade.

* **Mr.Igor Božić- Televiz N1**

Mr. Igor Božić has been involved in journalism since 1993.

He studied at the University of Belgrade from 1990 to 1994.

Mr. Igor Božić started his career as a reporter at the BK TV from 1995 to 1998.

He then continued as a Deputy News Director at B92 from 2001 to 2008. From 2007 to 2011 he was Editor of B92 News channel at TVB92.

Mr. Igor Božić was Executive Editor of "Blic" for Ringier Axel Springer Media AG from May 2011 to October 2011.

During the years of 2011 to 2013 he worked as a News Director at RTV Vojvodina where he led the news operation for Radio, TV and Web department in Vojvodina public broadcast service.

From 2013 to 2014 he was Media Director at Represent Communications where he was analysing media scene, advising clients in the field of media appearances, training company managers for media appearance, and delivering ideas for creating custom content to online and broadcast media.

He has been Executive Producer at N1 TV news channel in Serbia since March 2014.

* **Mr. Bosko Jaksic- daily POLITIKA**

Mr. Bosko Jaksic was born in Belgrade in 1949, where he studied and graduated from the Faculty of Economics.

He writes for the daily newspaper Politika since 1972.

He reported from many international meetings from the US-Soviet summit in Vienna, to the OSCE summit in Stockholm.

He attended the changes in Poland and interviewed Lech Walesa.

He has long been engaged in the Middle East: the war in Lebanon, the Islamic revolution in Iran, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He was on both sides of the Iran-Iraq war and the first Gulf War followed from Saudi Arabia.

He published a book about Israel and reported the war in Kampuchea and the famine of Ethiopia.

During 1984 he worked in Washington as a scholar at "Washington Post".

Mr. Jaksic was a permanent correspondent for Policies of Cairo for five years.

He was a foreign affairs editor for the period 1993-94 and East Chief editor of the newspaper. The next four years he was a correspondent in Rome and wrote extensively on Italy.

He one of the three who directed policy after the democratic changes in 2000.

He reported the intervention in Afghanistan and the war in Iraq.

Until his retirement in 2014 he was head of the foreign section. Now the commentator specializes in domestic and foreign policy issues.

* **Ljubica Gojgic- RTV Vojvodina**

Born in Uzice in 1970, Ljubica started working in B92 television broadcaster in 2001; she was special correspondent in The Hague and the author and host of the show "The process of TV."

She worked for seven years for the weekly "NIN", accompanied by political and social events.

 She worked in the daily "Pittsburgh Post-Gazette" in Pittsburgh (USA) and before that was a reporter in the "Foundation of Journalists of Europe" in Paris, as a participant in a program sponsored by the European Union and the Government of France.

 She worked in the daily newspaper "Democracy".

 At the beginning of her career in journalism, from 1992 to 1995 she worked at Radio INDEX-in as a reporter, editor and host of the cultural magazine.

 She has worked in the Belgrade office of UNMIK, as an assistant press attache.

She speaks English and French.

 Her interests include international law, politics and art.

* Mr. Beckmann-Dierkes KAS representative

Mr. Beckmann-Dierkes was born in Neubeckum / Westphalia in 1964.

From 1970 to 1983 he attended primary and secondary school and continued his higher education with studies in Political Science, Geography and Medieval History

at Westphalia Wilhelm University Münster from 1983 to 1991.

During the year of 1991, he completed his Master’s degree on “Contents and Methods for Extracurricular Political Youth Education in German Democratic Republic“.

In the years 1990 to 1992 he started his career as an Officer for Youth Education, he also worked for the Labour Centre Königswinter and for the Christian Political Foundation.

He later on became an Executive Secretary of Junge Union in North Rhine-Westphalia from 1992 to 1993.

For the next three years, 1993 to 1996, he was the Scientific Officer of the Conference Centre Wendgräben and later on he became the Director of this Centrefrom 1996 to 2007.

In the year 2007 to 2008 he was Head of Domestic Programmes, he worked on European and International Cooperation and at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

In the years 2008 to 2012 he was Desk-Officer for Central and Eastern Europe /

Scandinavia and Baltic Sea Cooperation / EU-Russia -Dialogue and he also continued his work for European and International Cooperation and at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

From 2012 to 2015 he was Representative of the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation

in Latvia, Lithuania, Scandinavia and Baltic Sea Cooperation.

Since 2015 he is the Representative of the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation

Serbia and Montenegro.

**Wednesday, 28 September**

* **Ms.Aleksandra Lekic- Head of International Department, Confederation of Autonomous Trade Unions of Serbia**

Confederation of Autonomous Trade Unions of Serbia is a trade union organization with the longest tradition in Serbia. It was born on March 9 1903 by a decision of various professional and local organizations, to associate and establish, for the first time in Serbian history, one trade union confederation - the Workers’ Confederation of Serbia. Federations of workers in the branches of construction, metal manufacturing, commerce and printing as well as Workers Society of Belgrade participated in its creation.

Today, The Confederation is composed of 29 professional federations and 106 local confederations, covering all professions and the whole Serbia. According to the latest data based on application cards, it has about 480 000 member. Membership in the organization is voluntary.

* **Mr.Zoran Stojiljkovic- Vice President of TUC NEZAVISNOST**
* **Ms. Zlata Zec- Executive Secretary of TUC NEZAVISNOT**

Trade Union of Health and Social Care Workers (TUHSCW) “Nezavisnost” Serbia, affiliated to the Trade Union Confederation (TUC) “Nezavisnost”, was founded in 1996. It is set up from dissatisfaction which has appeared owing to the former regime negligence for people that work in health service.

This organization has accrued to the biggest independent trade union of health and social care workers in Serbia.

This organization has eventually gained position that belongs to it- to negotiate with Government as a deputy about salaries of people that work in Health Service and about providing primary work conditions. The current activities are: negotiating about new laws that directly refer to position of sanitary workers (on public level) and struggle against criminality (on institution level). The organization has been garnet organized, and momentary comprises 156 Health Services Institutions all over Serbia.

* **Mr. Igor Novakovic- Research Fellow, International and Security Affairs Center**

Mr. Igor Novakovic is the Research Director for International and Security Affairs Center (ISAC Fund) since 2010 and Associate-Council for Inclusive Governance (CIG) since 2012.

He was an intern in the Center for Civil-Military Relations from September 2009 to January 2010.

His publications include:

 “Neutrality in 21st Century - Lessons for Serbia”

 “Bulgarians in Serbia and Serbian-Bulgarian Relations in the Light of Serbia’s European Integration”

“From Four Pillars of Foreign Policy to European Integration: Is There a Will for Strategically Orienting Serbia's Foreign Policy?”

”Serbia and Hungary - Political and Economic Perspective”

 “Serbia and Albania - Preparing for a New Start”

“SERBIAN-ALBANIAN RELATIONS: STATE AND PERSPECTIVES”

“Petrovaradin: Juce, danas, sutra”

Concerning his education, he completed his BA in History at the Faculty of Philosophy University of Novi Sad from 2001 to 2005, his MA in Politics and International Relations at the University of Bologna from 2006 to 2008 and his MSc, in European Studies at the University of Novi Sad from 2005 to 2010.

* **Mr. Sasa Jankovic- Ombudsman of Serbia**

Protector of Citizens is Saša Janković, a law graduate from Belgrade. On 4 August 2012 he was elected by the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia to a second five-year term as Protector of Citizens. All parliamentary groups, i.e. 167 MPs, voted in favour of Mr. Janković’s re-election.

Saša Janković was first elected as Protector of Citizens on 29 June 2007 with a majority of 143 votes.

Janković was born in 1970 in Loznica. He graduated from the Faculty of Law in Belgrade in 1996. In 2005, he completed the specialist security studies at the Faculty of Political Sciences of the University of Belgrade and acquired the title of specialist for national and global security.

From 1994 to 1997 he worked as a journalist in Beta Agency. From 1997 to 2000 he worked as an Expert Associate in the Ministry of Youth and Sports. From 2003 until the appointment to the function of the Protector of Citizens, he was a National Legal Advisor in the Democratization Department of OSCE Mission to Serbia, in Belgrade.

He published several scientific and expert works in Serbian and English languages.

He has received numerous awards from the international and Serbian expert communities for his contribution and dedication to the protection and improvement of human rights and democratic progress in Serbia as the Protector of Citizens.

* **Ms. Sonja Biserko- President, Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia**

Sonja Biserko holds a degree from the University of Belgrade Faculty Of Economics. She served as a diplomat for the former Yugoslavia in London and at the United Nations in Geneva for over 20 years until 1991 when she resigned her diplomatic position in protest over the policies of Slobodan Milošević amid rising nationalism throughout Yugoslavia.

 In Geneva in 1991 she organised one of the first meetings of the Yugoslav opposition to Milosevic. In 1994 she founded the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia (HCHRS) and she is the organisation's current President.

Biserko's ongoing work for human rights has included documenting the resurgence of nationalist sentiment that followed the war in Kosovo, the continuing threats to minorities, attempts to falsify or deny the historical record and efforts to undermine multi-ethnic society in the former Yugoslavia. Through active support for minority and refugee communities within Serbia and Kosovo she has sought in particular to promote dialogue between Serbs and Albanians in Kosovo.

Sonja Biserko is the author of Srbija na Orijentu (Serbia in the East) and Yugoslavia's Implosion: The Fatal Attraction of Serbian Nationalism. Among some 140 other publications she has written about the Srebrenica genocide, the fall of Vukovar, the wars in the former Yugoslavia and war crimes and accounts of the trials of Slobodan Milosevic and Vojislav Seselj.

Sonja Biserko was a founding member of a European movement in Yugoslavia, the Center for Anti-War Action in the Belgrade Forum for International Relations. She is senior fellow in the United States Institute of Peace.

* **Mr. Vladimir Vuletic- Professor, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Philosophy, Belgrade University**

Mr. Vladimir Vuletic (1965) is a sociologist and associate professor at the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade. He published the study globalization - the current debate (2006), Between the national past and a European future (2008), Globalization - notebooks (2009), and he edited anthology Globalization - Myth or Reality (2003). He continued his studies at the London School of Economics in Political Science (2002/3 and 2007/8). He writes for The views since 2002.

* **Mr. Rados Djurovic- Director, Asylum Protection Center**

Mr. Rados Djurovic is one of the founders and President of the Association for Partnership composition Regional Development.

He is executive director and lawyer at Asylum Protection Center since 2007.

**Thursday, 29 September**

* **Mr. Istvan Pásztor- President of the Assembly of AP Vojvodina**

Mr. István Pásztor was born 20 August 1956 in Novi Kneževac and is an ethnic Hungarian politician in Serbia.

He graduated from the Novi Sad Law School.

Currently, Pásztor is chairman of the Alliance of Vojvodina Hungarians party and president of the Assembly of Vojvodina.

He was formerly a leader of the Hungarian Coalition, which also included two other ethnic Hungarian political parties in Serbia.

Pásztor was the candidate of the Hungarian Coalition at the 2008 Serbian presidential election. He won 2.26% of the vote in the first round, and supported Boris Tadić in the second round.

* **Mr. Igor Mirovic- Head of the Government of AP Vojvodina**

Mr. Igor Mirovic was born in 1968 in Krusevac.

He graduated from the Faculty of Economics in Novi Sad.

He was politically engaged from an early age. Even 14 years ago he was the president of the Novi Sad Board of the Serbian Radical Party. In several terms he was elected as councilor of the City of Novi Sad, provincial and national MPs.

He was appointed Vice-President of the Assembly of Novi Sad in the period from 1992 to 1994. He served as Deputy Minister of Finance of the Republic of Serbia from 1998 to 2000, and Director of the Public Institute for Construction of Novi Sad from 2004 to 2008.

In the provincial elections of 2008 he was elected to parliament as a candidate in the local elections and the constitutive session of the Vojvodina Assembly on 16 July 2008 he was elected Vice President of the Vojvodina Assembly.

The Serbian Progressive Party moved in autumn 2008. Vice-President of the party was elected in September 2012. He writes poetry and has so far published two collections of poems: "Sky over Byzantium" (1994) and "Kremen Flame" (2003).

In September 2013 he became Minister of Regional Development and Local Government, and this function is performed until the elections in March 2014.

Mr. Igor Mirović on 20 June 2016, he became president of the provincial government.

* **Mr. Heinz Albert Huthmacher- Director of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation**

Mr. Heinz Albert Hutmacher, political scientist, since October 2013 directs the FES office in Belgrade. He's since 1979 with the FES, first as a scientist, then as head of the Coordination Centre New Federal States, Deputy Head of Division Western industrialized countries, as well as head of the FES offices in London, Prague and Budapest.

* **Ms. Natasa Vuckovic- Vice President of the Democratic Party and Secretary General of the Center of Democracy Foundation**

Vice President of the Democratic Party. Deputy Head of the Parliamentary Group of the Democratic Party in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia. President of the Democratic Party a relevant committee for foreign affairs and European integration.

Ms. Natasa Vuckovic graduated from the Faculty of Law in Belgrade in 1990 and she is a lawyer since 1994. Ms. Vuckovic is a Diploma specialist in European law that she gained at the European University of Nancy in 2006.

In the period 2001-2003 she was an advisor for international cooperation in the cabinet of the President of the Federal Assembly of Yugoslavia / Serbia and Montenegro. In 2003 she was parliamentary candidate of the Democratic Party. In the 2004 local elections she was elected councillor of the City Assembly of Belgrade.

Ms. Natasa Vuckovic is member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia in four convenes: 2007-2008, 2008-2012, 2012-2014, and 2014-2016. During these mandates she was a member of the Committee of Foreign Affairs, European Integration Committee and the Administrative Board and the Chairman of the Committee of European Integration.

From 1990 to 1994 she was politically active in the Democratic Party. She was Secretary for International Cooperation DS 1991-1994 and Secretary of the Presidium of the Party.

Ms. Vuckovic is one of the founders of the Democratic Centre in 1996 and the reunification of the Democratic Party and the Democratic Centre, the Democratic Party was a member of the Executive Committee. At the Assembly of Parties in 2006 she was elected as a member of the Central Committee. Vice President of the Municipal Board of DS Savski venac.

Since 1994, she is very active in civil society when a group of friends founded the Center for Democracy Foundation - a non-governmental organization for the development of civil society. Since the establishment of the Fund she serves as General Secretary.

Since January 2013, she is the President of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Internal Affairs of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

In the XVIII General Assembly of the Democratic Party held on 31 May 2014, she was elected Vice President of the Democratic Party.

In the parliamentary elections of 24 April 2016 she was elected a Deputy in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia.

She is the Deputy Head of the Parliamentary Group of the Democratic Party in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia.

* **Ms. Aleksandra Joksimovic- Director of the Center for Foreign Policy**

Ms. Aleksandra Joksimovic was born in 1963.

She graduated in 1985 from the Faculty of Music Art in Belgrade. She did a specialisation at Harvard Business School in 2004, and in 2006 she did her master studies at the Faculty of Political Sciences in Belgrade. She is currently a PhD candidate in international relations at the University UNION.

She is the executive director PFZ - Zepter Holding since 2008. She was Assistant Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2001 to 2004. She was head of the piano department at the Music High School Dr Vojislav Vuckovic from 1986 to 2000.

She was a spokesperson and international secretary of the State Democratic Party.

* **Mr. Milan Pajevic- President of the Advisory Board of the Internarional and Security Affairs Center**

Mr. Pajevic is one of the founders of the ISAC Fund and its Chairman of International Advisory Board. From 2004 to 2005, he served as CEO of the G17 Institute (ESPI Institute) and acted as the chief Foreign Policy adviser to Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia.

In 2000, Mr. Pajevic was designated Ambassador at the MFA, serving as Foreign Policy Adviser to Deputy Prime Minister of Yugoslavia and the National Coordinator of the Stability Pact for South East Europe. He resigned from the post of Ambassador and terminated his employment at the MFA in 2004.

Prior to that, in 1999, Mr. Pajevic was one of the creators of the G17 PLUS expert network (NGO) and became its first Foreign Policy adviser. In 1992, he was among the founders of the European Movement in Serbia, and from 1994 to 2000 he served as its Vice-president in charge of international cooperation. Between 1993 and 2000 Mr. Pajevic was employed as Director General of Stubovi kulturepublishing house.

From 1991 to 1993, Mr. Pajevic was involved in the private sector abroad (Zepter International).

Mr. Pajevic holds a B.A. in Political Science and International Relations from the Faculty of Political Science, University of Belgrade.

He has been always very active in policy formulation, analysis, and recommendations. His contribution is sought after on Serbia’s international policy and in particular EU - related matters.

**Friday, 30 September**

* **Mr. Darko Bulatovic-Mayor of Nis**

Mr. Darko Bulatovic was born in 1967, graduated from high school in Nis.

He was President of the Municipality of Red Cross since July 2012 to 13th May 2014, he resigned from that position because 2 months earlier he was appointed as Acting Director of "South East”.

He graduated from the School of military reserve officers, and at the Higher Military School Military Academy he achieved the rank of lieutenant.

He was participant of wars from 1991 to 1999. He was 2 times wounded, and in 2004 he was declared unfit for work in the army and retired to the town and the acting warden of the Central Prison of the Army of Serbia.

He graduated from the Law Faculty of the University of Nis in 2010.

In June 2013 he was elected President of the football club "Radnicki" from Nis.

Although at the end of January 2014 he rejected the possibility to take the director's chair in the "South East", on the 19th March 2014 he was appointed acting director of the state enterprise.

In June 2014, he resigned as the president of the Football Club "Radnicki" from Nis.

For many years he was an official of the Serbian Radical Party, but after a split in the party he joined the Serbian Progressive Party.

In February 2015, he resigned as the city councillor of the Red Cross.

In September 2015, he resigned from the City Committee and the Working Group of the SNS, to pursue work in the "South East".

 He was elected Mayor on 11 July 2016.

* **Mr. Rade Rajkovic- President of the City Assembly**

Mr. Rade Rajkovic was born in June 1970 in Nis.

He graduated in 1999 from the Faculty of Technology in Leskovac, Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, and in 2012 he gained a master's degree in microbiology at the State Science Faculty of the University "St. Cyril and Methodius" in Skopje.

During his studies, he was president of the pro-government alliance of students of the University of Nis (1996 to 1998), and in 1997 the president of the Student Alliance of Serbia.

He was a member of the administrative board of the Student Centre Nis, Student clinic and resort Serbia.

In August 1999 he was appointed by the Government of Serbia as the director of the Student Cultural Center in Nis. He held this position until 2005.

On March 2015 he was elected president of the Municipal Committee of the Movement of Socialists in Nis.

At the local elections of April 2016, he was the seventh on the list of SNS, and 29th of June he was elected President of the Assembly of the City of Nis.