



**Statement by  
H.E. Igor Davidović, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the  
OSCE on the Joint statement by High Representative Catherine  
Ashton and Commissioner Štefan Füle on the Serbian Declaration on  
Srebrenica, as issued on 31 March 2010,  
to the Permanent Council, 15 April 2010**

Dear Mr. Chairman,

The tragedy in Srebrenica remains a painful reminder not only for citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina but for the entire world community. It is and should be a reminder for all of us as well as a warning sign for our collective conscience.

The stabilization of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region of the Western Balkans depends on the normalization of the societal relations between the neighboring countries. This can only be achieved through process of reconciliation at all levels of society. It is important to understand the differences between the individualization of criminal responsibility towards crimes committed on one side and the condemning of all crimes which have taken place during the conflicts on the other, on the territory of the former Yugoslavia are key points on the path to build up confidence, reconciliation and co-operation in the Region.

Nevertheless, it is up to every country and its leadership to decide on how and in which way to condemn the atrocities. It is inconceivable that this can happen without due process of justice, reaffirming standards of the International Law and International Court of Justice Judgment. Therefore the full and unrestricted co-operation with the ICTY remains an essential requirement for continuing progress towards the EU.

The international community needs to ensure it has the appropriate mechanisms in place to prevent and address such crimes in future. The OSCE can also draw lessons for its own efforts, to the extent that the early warning mechanisms must be relevant and timely with the post-conflict operations - *(such as facilitating the return of all refugees, implementing property law, fostering human rights, monitoring war crimes trials and promoting interethnic dialogue.)* more to address both immediate effects as well as root causes.



*Stalna misija Bosne i Hercegovine pri Uredu Ujedinjenih naroda u Becu,  
OSSE i drugim medjunarodnim organizacijama, B E C  
Permanent Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United Nations Office  
at Vienna, OSCE and other International Organizations, V I E N N A*

We stress the importance of bringing those responsible for the tragedy in Srebrenica and all other tragedies, including primarily general Mladic, which have taken place on the territory of former Yugoslavia, to justice. It is important to point out our collective burden in healing the wounds and ensuring that crimes against humanity are never repeated. Concluding, again I would like to express profound condolences and solidarity with the families of thousands of the victims of the Srebrenica tragedy and massacre in 1995.

Thank you Mr. Chairman