



Coordination Body of the Government of the Republic of Serbia for the Municipalities of Presevo  
Bujanovac and Medvedja

# **Information on the Activities of the Coordination Body**

(January to December 2013)

The Coordination Body of the Government of the Republic of Serbia for the Municipalities of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja reports on the activities undertaken in 2013. Significant achievements and results were obtained in the past period:

**a) In the field of infrastructure and economy** – In 2013, the Coordination Body invested 176,039, 776.51 RSD in the infrastructure projects of the three municipalities. In the municipality of Presevo, 64, 985,704.85 RSD were invested in reconstruction of the roads in the villages of Trnava, Crnotince and Bukurevac, construction of the pavements and a car park in the village Cemal Sehu, reconstruction and paving of roads in the villages of Norca and Oraovica and in reconstruction of the roads in the villages of Lower and Upper Sosaja and Miratovac. The sewage system was fixed and a transformer was built. 83,389,571.66 RSD were invested in the infrastructure of the municipality of Bujanovac. These funds were used to pave the regional Trnovac-Breznica road, build a road in the village of Klinovac, pave with asphalt a road in the village of Karadnik, reconstruct the streets in the villages of Rakovac, Levosoje and Lopardince and put Vardarska Street in Bujanovac into order. 27, 664, 500.00 RSD were invested in the infrastructure of the municipality of Medvedja. The funds were used for restoration of the pedestrian zone, putting the sewer into order, connecting the sewer pipes and repairing the street lighting.

In order to strengthen the economy and promote economic growth, 60 million RSD in grants were given to the entrepreneurs of the three municipalities.

Continuing its activities for encouraging the economic development of the municipalities of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja, the Coordination Body organized the first Fair of Investment Potential on April 25, 2013. In addition to the Coordination Body, participants in the organization of the Fair of Investment Potential included the Chamber of Commerce of Serbia, representatives of the municipalities and the Local Economic Development Offices in Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja.

Since the beginning of 2013, the Coordination Body has been committed to undertaking the activities for reviving the former pivot of the economic development of Bujanovac, which is the socially-owned enterprise "Gumoplastika". "Gumoplastika" was founded in 1959, while it deals with the processing of plastics, rubber and metals, as well as with the manufacturing of footwear. Bankruptcy proceedings were instigated against the enterprise in 1998. Thanks to the joint efforts of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Coordination Body, "Gumoplastika" is now, after 15 years, out of bankruptcy and it has begun another era of business operations as a limited liability company.

The Coordination Body, in cooperation with representatives of the municipality of Bujanovac and the Government of the Republic of Serbia, shall find foreign investors for the purpose of reviving the company's production activities.

**b) In the field of integration** – With the support of the British Embassy, the Coordination Body's Office organized a free "School of the Serbian Language for the Youth from the Albanian Community in the Municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo" this year, too.

Interns from the Albanian community gain important knowledge at the Coordination Body's Office in Belgrade. Thanks to the "Internship Program" of the Office of Human and Minority Rights, two interns who successfully completed the program in the previous cycle, are now working in the Coordination Body's Office in Belgrade. Apart from the two new female interns at the Belgrade-based Coordination Body's Office, there are, at this point, three more persons from the Albanian community engaged at the Coordination Body's Belgrade Office.

**c) In the field of politics** – The Government of the Republic of Serbia reached a decision on adopting the report on the meetings held between the Coordination Body's President and representatives of the Albanian political parties. 13 ministries participate in the discussions, while the Coordination Body coordinates the meetings.

**d) In the field of education** – 1,000 first graders from the three municipalities were provided with school bags and school supplies, for which 804, 602.40 RSD had been allocated.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the Albanian National Council, 88 textbooks and workbooks were provided to primary schools students who attend school classes in the Albanian language, as well as two textbooks to pre-school students. The Coordination Body's Office provided scholarships to the third generation of young people from the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo that study at the University of Novi Sad. A total of 285 scholarships were awarded to students from the three municipalities.

The third generation of students enrolled in Subotica Faculty of Economics' Department in Bujanovac. The Coordination Body's Office financed the development of the urban and main project, which are necessary for the construction of the department's building.

**e) In the field of health care and social welfare** – The second phase of construction of the outpatient maternity ward in Presevo commenced and most of the equipment necessary for the institution was provided. The Health Minister, Slavica Djukic Dejanovic, visited the maternity hospital's building and stressed the readiness of the Ministry of Health to provide assistance with the operation of the institution.

Funds for the recovery of household damages in the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo, which were caused by floods, were provided from the budget's reserve funds.

**f) In the sphere of international relations** – The Coordination Body's Office cooperated fully and closely with the following international partners: the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia, the British Embassy, the Embassy of the United States, the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the USAID, the EU Progress and PBILD programs and with many others. Also, a great many meetings were organized with the international partners. The Coordination Body's President, Zoran Stankovic, met with the ambassadors of the U.S, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Sweden, Germany, Norway, Austria, Turkey, Albania, Switzerland and Greece. He also met with representatives of the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the EU Delegation to Serbia and with representatives of the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities.

**g) In the sphere of communication with the public** – Earlier this year, the Coordination Body's President, Professor Zoran Stankovic, addressed the citizens of the three municipalities with a letter, in which he informed them in their mother tongues about the activities of and the results achieved by this governmental body. The Coordination Body's office continuously informs the public about its work by publishing its reports and articles on the Internet ([www.kt.gov.rs](http://www.kt.gov.rs)), as well as by sending its reports to the Government of the Republic of Serbia, the media and international partners.

### **The main activities of the Coordination Body in 2013, presented in chronological order:**

- **The visit of the High Commissioner on National Minorities –**



The High Commissioner on National Minorities, Knut Vollebæk, visited Bujanovac in January and met with the President of the Coordination Body, Professor Zoran Stankovic. Professor Stankovic and H.E. Vollebæk discussed the next steps in improving higher education in South Serbia. Together with the Mayor of Bujanovac and Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Ambassador Vollebæk and Professor Stankovic visited the location on which the building of the Faculty of Economics' Department's was planned to be constructed. On that occasion, the major building project, which was funded by the Coordination Body's Office, was presented, too. Ambassador Vollebæk strongly supported the project and said that the initiative was a good example of cooperation between the local and central governments.

- **Scholarships for studying in Novi Sad** – The Coordination Body’s Office has been providing scholarships to young people from the municipalities of Presevo and Bujanovac, who wish to study at the University of Novi Sad, for three years. By this program, the young from South Serbia are encouraged to acquire higher education in their country. Out of 52 applicants, 12 candidates were selected for receiving scholarships. To help them pass the entrance examination effortlessly, a three-month course in Serbian was organized for the candidates whose native language isn’t Serbian. The selected candidates passed the entrance exam and became students of the Faculties of Agriculture, Natural Sciences - Mathematics, Philosophy, Medicine and Technical Sciences. This is the first year that the right to scholarship was enjoyed by a candidate from the Roma community.



The Coordination Body’s Office’s scholarships are currently received by 32 students from the two municipalities. Granting scholarships to young people for studying in multiethnic Novi Sad won’t only contribute to an improvement in the relations between ethnic communities in South of Serbia, but it will also contribute to their professional advancement. We believe that upon acquiring the knowledge, these young people will improve the environment from which they come and contribute to the development of their municipalities.

- **The visit of Minister Verica Kalanovic to Presevo** – The Coordination Body’s Office organized the visit of Minister Verica Kalanovic to the municipality of Presevo, where she attended a panel discussion dedicated to the economic and regional development of the three municipalities in South Serbia. The minister spoke with the mayor of Presevo and representatives of the Coordination Body about the municipality’s infrastructure projects and about the potential for the construction of an industrial zone.
- **Funds awarded through the Coordination Body’s Office’s open competition** – An open competition for the implementation of the citizen associations’ projects was announced in March. The commission for selection of the projects included one representative from each municipality and representatives of the Coordination Body’s Office. 18 organizations applied in the competition, while the funds amounting to 797,500.00 dinars were awarded to two organizations from Bujanovac.

The funded projects include those that promoted the development of education in South Serbia. Namely, 279 students, most of them Roma, from the fifth to the eighth grade of the "Branko Radicevic" elementary school in Bujanovac received free textbooks. Around 200 primary and secondary school students from the Roma communities in Bujanovac and Presevo underwent training and enrolled in the desired secondary schools and faculties. One of the trainees enrolled in the University of Novi Sad and became a scholar of the Coordination Body’s Office.

- **The Fair of Investment Potential -**



In cooperation with the Serbian Chamber of Commerce, the Fair of Investment Potential of the municipalities of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja was organized in April. The municipalities of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja presented their economic potential at the fair and familiarized everyone with the investment possibilities in these three municipalities. The participants in the fair, who were from the municipalities, had the opportunity to talk directly with their potential partners - investment funds, local institutions, state agencies and other companies and banks.

22 companies were presented at the fair, out of which eight were from Presevo and Bujanovac each, while six were from the municipality of Medvedja. The fair was opened by the Minister for Regional Development and Local Self-government Verica Kalanovic, the President of the Coordination Body, Professor Zoran Stankovic, the Head of the EU Delegation to Serbia, Vincent Degert, the U.S. Ambassador to Serbia, Michael Kirby, the Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia, Peter Burkhard, and by the President of the Serbian Chamber of Commerce, Zeljko Sertic.

During the Fair, a round table on the "State Support to Small and Medium-sized Enterprises - Sources of Financing" was organized, which was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Finance and Economy, the Ministry of Regional Development and Local Self-government, the National Agency for Regional Development and the Agency for Foreign Investments and Export Promotion of the Republic of Serbia. The representatives of all those institutions confirmed their commitment to the economic development and empowerment of the underdeveloped municipalities in the southern part of Central Serbia.

- **Third generation of interns trained in state institutions** – The Office of Human and Minority Rights, with the support of the British Embassy and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, organized a third cycle of the "Internship Program for Minority Communities in State Institutions of the Republic of Serbia".

During a six- month period, the interns were involved in a series of activities, which included a visit to the National Assembly, numerous training courses, visits to the institutions and attendance of the events from the sphere of cultural life. Two interns from the Albanian community, who are from the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo, worked in the Belgrade-based Coordination Body's Office for six months. Thanks to a six months' work with their mentor, they gained valuable knowledge for their further professional advancement and personal development.

- **The Coordination Body's Office provided funds for repairing the damage caused by floods** – The Coordination Body's Office provided from the budgetary reserve the funds for repairing the damages caused to the households in Presevo and Bujanovac by floods, in the amount of 7,300,000.00 dinars. This March, a large number of households in the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo suffered from flood damage. According to the reports of the municipal teams for assessment of the damage, a total of 158 households in the two municipalities suffered the damage. Thanks to the provided funds, the citizens of Presevo and Bujanovac received the necessary financial assistance, which ensured adequate living conditions to them.

- ***The School of the Serbian language for youth from the Albanian community*** -



In November 2012, the Coordination Body's Office, with the support of the British Embassy, started implementing a free *School of the Serbian language*. The Serbian language classes were organized for young people from the Albanian community, aged from 15 to 30, who are from the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo. 310 students applied for the school, whereas 250 of them passed the final test. Four teachers of the Serbian language, with the assistance of the local teaching assistants from the Albanian community, worked on the students' development and adoption of the Serbian language skills for seven months.

During the implementation of the School of Serbian Language project, the students had the opportunity to talk to the British Ambassador, H.E. Michael Davenport, as well as to the President of the Coordination Body, Professor Zoran Stankovic. During the meeting, the participants in the project demonstrated the knowledge they had gained during the classes.

In May 2013, the students of the school of the Serbian language took the final test, after which they were awarded the certificates of the “Bozidar Adzija” Institute from Belgrade. The certificates were presented to the students by the President of the Coordination Body, Professor Zoran Stankovic, the President of the Albanian National Council, Galip Beciri, and by the Head of the Social Affairs Department of the municipality of Bujanovac, Bajram Fejzulahu.

The school of the Serbian language is a very important project, as it makes it possible for young people from the Albanian community to learn Serbian, which is a step forward to their integration.

- The out-patient maternity ward in Presevo** – The most important project in the health sector is the construction of an out-patient maternity ward in Presevo, which had been one of the main demands of the Albanians since the abolishment of the institution in 1989. The first phase of works on the out-patient maternity ward in Presevo was completed in December 2012. The funds for the second phase of works on the construction of the facility were provided from the budgets of the Coordination Body (10,300,000.00 RSD), the Ministry of Health (15,000,000.00 RSD), the Ministry of Regional Development and Local Self-government (about 10,000, 000.00 RSD) and the municipality of Presevo (23,157,879.90 RSD).



For the purpose of making a list of the equipment necessary for the operation of the facility, the Coordination Body’s Office organized a visit to the out-patient maternity hospitals in Lazarevac and Ruma. In addition to representatives of the Coordination Body, the maternity out-patient hospitals were visited by the Mayor of Presevo, the Deputy Mayor and the Director of the health center. The EU Progress program provided most of the necessary equipment for the facility, the value of which is 250,000.00 EUR. The municipality of Presevo conducted the procedures for the procurement of the remaining equipment for the out-patient maternity ward. The Coordination Body participated in the fitting out of the ward with approximately 9 million dinars from its transfer funds.

Given that there is currently a lack of specialists in Presevo, it was agreed to establish cooperation with the health center in Vranje. Doctors from Presevo health center will undergo training in Vranje health center, whereas doctors from Vranje health center will, in the beginning, perform deliveries in Presevo. The Ministry of Health will provide three specializations for the employees of Presevo health center, so that the institution could carry out deliveries by itself in the future.

- The talks with representatives of the Albanian political parties** – Upon two meetings held between the President of the Coordination Body, Professor Zoran Stankovic, and representatives of the Albanian political parties, during which the problems of the Albanians in South Serbia were discussed, the Albanian leaders suggested the topics for discussion with representatives of the Government of the Republic of Serbia. On June 4, the Government of the Republic of Serbia reached a conclusion on adopting the report on the meetings held between the President of the Coordination Body and representatives of the Albanian political parties. The government, thus, accepted the talks on the seven topics proposed by the Albanian leaders. The government gave full support to the Coordination Body and to Professor Zoran Stankovic to lead the discussion process and coordinate the meetings. Thirteen ministries are involved in the process, whereas Secretaries of State and/or Assistant Ministers are responsible for the talks on behalf of each ministry.

The First Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic, and then Prime Minister Ivica Dacic, met with representatives of the Albanian political parties, by which the government's commitment to solving the problems in South Serbia was confirmed. The meeting between the Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia and leaders of the Albanian parties ended with an agreement that the results of the undertaken measures would be analyzed every three months. Following the meeting with the Prime Minister, at the proposal of the Coordination Body, two preparatory meetings were held. It was then that the schedule of the talks and the order of the topics to be discussed were proposed.



It was agreed that the issues of health care and social welfare would be discussed at the first meeting. In this regard, the Coordination Body organized a meeting in October, during which the Minister of Health, Slavica Djukic Dejanovic, visited Presevo and talked with the Albanian political leaders on all matters within the Ministry of Health's responsibility. It was agreed that the construction of the out-patient maternity ward in Presevo should be completed by April 2014, which had been one of the major requirements of the Albanians since 1989. Also, other requirements of the Albanians, which are within the competence of the Ministry of Health, would be fulfilled within the above-mentioned deadline. The meeting was very constructive, so that it was positively assessed by the Minister of Health, the Coordination Body, the representatives of the Albanian political parties and the international community.

The second topic covered was from point four and it referred to the Law on the Seats and Territories of Courts and Public Prosecutor's Offices. Since the said law was undergoing a procedure in October and November, the Coordination Body, at the request of the Albanian leaders, organized a meeting in Bujanovac, which was attended by the State Secretary at the Ministry of Justice, Nedjo Jovanovic. The Secretary of State visited Bujanovac on Monday, November 18, when he discussed with the Albanian leaders the draft Law on the Seats and Territories of Courts and Public Prosecutor's Offices, which provides the following: a magistrates court in Vranje, including the magistrates court's Department in Bujanovac, a magistrates court in Presevo, a basic court in Bujanovac for the territory of the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo, a high court in Vranje for the area of the basic court in Bujanovac, a commercial court in Leskovac for the territory of Bujanovac and Presevo and the basic public prosecutor's office in Vranje, including its department in Bujanovac, for the area of the basic court in Bujanovac.

MP Riza Halimi submitted amendments to the draft Law on the Seats and Territories of Courts, which provided for the establishment of the following: a magistrate's court in Bujanovac, a basic court in Presevo, including a judicial unit in Medvedja, the basic public prosecutor's offices in Presevo and Bujanovac, a High Court in Bujanovac for the territory of the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo, and the higher public prosecutor's office in Bujanovac for the territory of the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo. During the meeting, the Albanian political leaders explained their demands regarding the proposed network of courts and prosecutors' offices in Bujanovac and Presevo, insisting that all amendments of MP Riza Halimi be adopted.

The Secretary of State, Nedjo Jovanovic, explained the new draft Law on the Seats and Territories of Courts and Prosecutor's Offices, noting that that the principle of access to justice for all citizens was fully realized, and that the residents of Bujanovac and Presevo got more by this law, given the multi-ethnic character of the region. That principle was consistently applied in all the municipalities in the country. That is why the number of basic courts increased from 34 to over 60. When proposing the network of courts, road infrastructure, distance from the nearest court and the rights and liberties of the national minorities were taken into account. According to Mr. Jovanovic, the main criterion by which the Ministry was guided was the inflow of legal cases compared to the number of judges.

It was pointed out at the meeting that the results of the 2011 census weren't the main criteria for defining the network of courts and prosecutor's offices, which was the main objection of the Albanians. After the meeting, and due to other issues, the representatives of the Albanian parties decided to suspend the talks.

The Albanian leaders sent a letter to the Prime Minister and the First Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia, requesting an explanation in connection with several claims, mostly those regarding the results of the most recent census. The decision to suspend the talks was reached shortly before the meeting with the Minister of Education, Science and Technological Development, which was scheduled for November 26.

- **Grants for the economic development of the municipalities of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja –**

The Coordination Body's Office, this year, too, provided the funds amounting to 60 million dinars for financing economic projects, by which the development of small and medium-sized companies, entrepreneurs and agricultural cooperatives would be supported and encouraged. In the open competitions, a total of 59,582, 131.80 dinars were awarded for the encouragement and development of 22 companies from the three municipalities. In the municipality of Presevo, the funds amounting to 21,040,858.86 dinars were allocated for the development of eight companies. In the municipality of Bujanovac, the amount of 26,959, 141.14 dinars was allocated for the development of 10 companies, while 4 companies in the municipality of Medvedja received a grant in the amount of 11,582,131.80 dinars.



So far, the Coordination Body's Office has been awarding grants to the companies from the three municipalities for two years. At the 2012 open competition, 15 entrepreneurs from the three municipalities received grants amounting to 40 million dinars, while over 40 new employees were hired owing to the program.

The implementation of the program for the allocation of funds for subsidies is of strategic interest to the municipalities of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja. The conducted competitions resulted in the increased number of employees, the empowering of small and medium-sized companies, entrepreneurs and agricultural cooperatives to effectively connect on the local, regional, national and international markets, an improvement in the production aimed at achieving economic growth, an improvement in the competitiveness on domestic and foreign markets and in an improvement of the production intended for exports or imports substitution.

- **Free school supplies for primary school students –**



The Coordination Body's Office has been providing school bags and supplies to the first graders from the three municipalities for five years so far. President of the Coordination Body, Professor Zoran Stankovic, handed out backpacks and school supplies to first graders in the multiethnic schools in the villages of Reljane, Biljaca and Levosoje, which are situated in the municipalities of Presevo and Bujanovac, wishing they were successful and happy at school. The Coordination Body's Office invested 804,602.40 RSD in the purchase of school bags and supplies for 1,000 first graders.

- **Olympic class held in Bujanovac –** The "Olympic class" was organized for children from the municipality of Bujanovac in order to highlight to them how important it was to play sports, develop skills and knowledge, foster friendship and team spirit. Primary school students from Bujanovac participated in five workshops, during which the following Olympic values were fostered: the joy of the game, *fair play*,



respect, excellence and the unity of the spirit, body and mind. The children learned that the most important thing in everything they do was to do their best and believe in their dreams.

The children from Bujanovac were greeted by Vlade Divac, the famous basketball player and the President of the Olympic Committee, President of the Coordination Body, Professor Zoran Stankovic, and the Mayor of Bujanovac, Nagip Arifi.

The Olympic class was organized by the Olympic Committee and the Sports and Olympics' Fund, in cooperation with the Coordination Body's Office and the municipality of Bujanovac.

- **Scholarships for secondary school students** – The Coordination Body's Office awarded scholarships to secondary school students from the three municipalities this year, too. The scholarships were received by 285 secondary school students, 190 of them from Presevo, 73 from Bujanovac and 22 from the municipality of Medvedja. These scholarships are social in character. The monthly scholarship amount is 6,000.00 dinars and it is paid out during the school year, from September to June.

- **Another School of Serbian for youth from the Albanian community** - The Coordination Body's Office



organizes the *School of Serbian* for youth from the Albanian community in the municipalities of Bujanovac and Presevo this year, too. The classes in the *School of the Serbian language* will be organized from October 2013 to April 2014. Free books for learning the language were provided to all the students. The classes are held twice per week, on weekends, on the premises of the Faculty of Economics' Department in Bujanovac and on the premises of the secondary technical school in Presevo. Three teachers of the language school from Novi Sad, who were selected in a tender to organize the language classes, will try to

improve the school beneficiaries' knowledge of the Serbian language. The local teaching assistants from the Albanian community will help them achieve the goal.

Unlike the previous year, the candidates showed better knowledge of Serbian at the initial test that was taken this year. Therefore, in addition to the groups of students whose knowledge of the language is at the basic level (beginner 1 and 2), groups of students whose knowledge of Serbian is at a higher level (intermediate 1) were set up in both the municipalities.

The beneficiaries of the Serbian language course are mostly secondary school students. However, a large number of students of the Faculty of Economics' Department in Bujanovac is noticeable, as well as of the students of other faculties and of those who completed their education.

The number of candidates that applied to learn the Serbian language this year exceeded the Coordination Body's Office's expectations. This is another proof that the youth from the Albanian community is motivated to speak the language of the environment as well as possible. There are many of those who attended the school of Serbian last year and who wish to improve the acquired knowledge.

The Coordination Body's Office's initiative, thanks to which the young Albanians gain the knowledge of the Serbian language, is supported by the British Embassy.

- **The Stakeholder Committee** – At the proposal of the Faculty of Economics and the Office of the High Commissioner for National Minorities, the *Stakeholder Committee* was established, which is tasked with making recommendations for an improvement in the quality of education received at the Faculty of Economics' Department in Bujanovac. This body is composed of representatives of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, the Coordination Body's Office, the Faculty of Economics in Subotica, the municipality of Bujanovac, the Albanian National Council, the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, the OSCE Mission to Serbia, the EU Delegation to Serbia and the "Friends of South Serbia" group.

Maintaining the high quality of teaching at the Faculty of Economics' Department in Bujanovac is one of the priorities of all stakeholders involved in the process of providing the conditions for receiving higher education in South Serbia.

The first meeting of the *Stakeholder Committee* was held in October, during a visit of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, H.E. Astrid Thors, to Serbia. Highlighted at the meeting was the willingness of all involved in the process to provide the conditions necessary for a smooth operation of the department in Bujanovac and an uninhibited studying of the students. At the proposal of the Head of the EU Delegation, H.E. Michael Davenport, the EU Progress program shall make the *Feasibility Study*, in which further steps necessary for the development of the said institution of higher education will be specified. All those present at the meeting gave their support and expressed a desire to be involved in the preparation of the *Study*. Preliminary results of the *Study* will be presented at the next meeting of the *Stakeholder Committee*. The said results will, via the Internet, be presented to the public, too.

- **Another generation of interns in Belgrade** – The Coordination Body's Office in Belgrade has, so far, been involved in the "Internship Program for Young People from Minority Communities" for three years. Two female interns from the Albanian community in the municipalities of Bujanovac and Medvedja will be acquiring new knowledge and skills at the Coordination Body's Office in Belgrade from November 2013 until April 2014. The project is implemented by the Office of Human and Minority Rights, with the support of the British Embassy, the Royal Dutch Embassy, the OSCE Mission to Serbia and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).
- **Marking the anniversary of Subotica Faculty of Economics' Department in Bujanovac** –



The Coordination Body's Office and the Faculty of Economics in Subotica officially marked the beginning of the third year of operation of the Faculty of Economics' Department in Bujanovac. The event was attended by the President of the Coordination Body, Professor Zoran Stankovic, the Dean of the Faculty of Economics, Nenad Vunjak, the Rector of the University of Novi Sad, Miroslav Veskovic, the Mayor of Bujanovac, Nagip Arifi, the Rector of the University of Tetovo, Vulnet Ameti, the State Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, Muhedin Fijuljanin, the

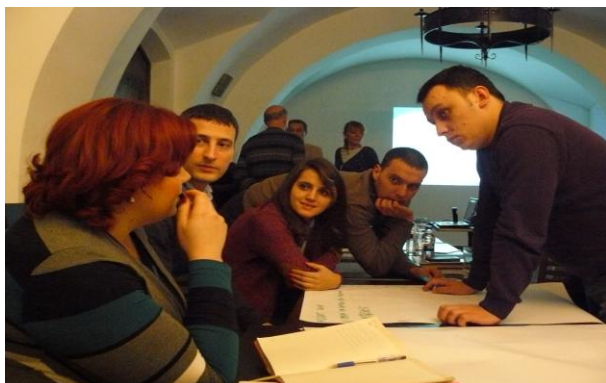
Head of the EU Delegation to Serbia, Michael Davenport, the Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia, Peter Burkhard, and by the President of the Albanian National Council, Galip Beciri.

This year, 109 students were enrolled in the department. There are also 69 students whose studying is funded from the budget of the Republic of Serbia. The teaching at the Faculty of Economics' Department in Bujanovac is done in two languages, while the professors are from Subotica and Tetovo.

The Coordination Body's Office provided the translation and printing of the textbooks for students of the third and fourth year from the Albanian community. For the needs of constructing the department's building, the Coordination Body set aside the funds for the development of urban and main project.

- **The successful past year and the activities planned for the coming one** – The Coordination Body's Office analyzed the work done and the results achieved in 2013 and prepared a draft plan of activities for the coming year.

In 2014, the out-patient maternity ward in Presevo will start operating and the construction of the building of the Faculty of Economics' Department in Bujanovac will commence. The Coordination Body's Office will continue to encourage the economic development of the three municipalities by awarding grants to businessmen. In 2014, we will continue taking the activities for providing the textbooks used in teaching in the Albanian language and will organize a series of activities in the field of culture. Also planned for 2014 are the resumed talks with the Albanian political leaders from South Serbia on the remaining issues contained in the Government's Report.



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