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BiH enters the period of dangerous uncertainty

Bosnia and Herzegovina is again the most corrupt country in the region, ranking 99th to 105th on the Corruption Perceptions Index, which is the worst ranking so far

Sarajevo, November 17, 2009 --- Bosnia and Herzegovina faces the new fall on the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) scale and now, with 3.0 index takes 99th to 105th position, among 180 countries included in the research, it was revealed on the CPI presentation for Bosnia and Herzegovina held on November 17th at Holiday Inn hotel in Sarajevo.

This year's CPI, the most representative global corruption research undertaken by Transparency International, included Bosnia and Herzegovina for the seventh time, and according to the CPI BiH is the most corrupt country in the region for the second consecutive year, and this year it reached the worst ranking so far. As a reminder, in 2008 BiH was 92nd, scoring 3.2.

The Index ranks countries from those with the lowest level of corruption to those where the corruption is most present, on the basis of marks for each individual country (ranging from 10 – no corruption, to 1 – absolute corruption), drawing from relevant research the Index is consisted of.

Bosnia and Herzegovina shares the 99nd to 105th place with Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Madagascar, Senegal, Tonga and Zambia and is ranked lower than all of the former Yugoslavian republics, from which Slovenia with 27th place takes the highest position, followed by Croatia ranked 66nd with 4.1 index, then Montenegro, ranked 69 with 3.9 index, followed by Macedonia ranked 71st with 3.8 index, and Serbia ranked 83rd with 3.5 index. Bosnia and Herzegovina, according to the Index, is not only the most corrupt country in the region, but is also again on the very bottom of the list compared with other European countries, making Russia the only European country that ranked lower than BiH. The trend of progress is noticeable for almost all Eastern-European countries, apart from Bosnia and Herzegovina, that has been stagnating on the very margins of the European countries list. This was also confirmed by the latest European Commission Progress Report that also states that BiH has not achieved significant progress in fighting corruption.

“BiH enters the period of dangerous uncertainty, and corruption becomes a dominant problem that endangers implementation of overall reforms in the country”, stated Emir Djikić, President of the Board of Directors of Transparency International BiH, at the CPI presentation. “It is essential to implement necessary anti-corruption laws as soon as possible, and to begin with their implementation in order for BiH to be able to compete with other countries in the region, at least in this area. It is also necessary to ensure law implementation and processing of corruption, considering that the situation, particularly in this segment, is absolutely unsatisfactory”, concluded Djikić.