

THE PRESS COUNCIL IN BIH AT THE 16TH AIPCE ASSEMBLY

THE ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT PRESS COUNCILS OF EUROPE - AIPCE

09 - 10 October, 2014, Brussels, Belgium

The Independent Press Councils of Europe are Strengthening Cooperation

As an equal member of the AIPCE, the Press Council in BiH attended, this year again, the yearly Assembly of the Alliance of Independent Press Councils of Europe - AIPCE 2014. The Assembly was held in Brussels, on October 9th and 10th, organized by the Belgium self-regulatory bodies, the Walloon and Flemish Press Council of Belgium, with the support of the European Commission.



More than 100 participants from Press Councils of Europe and the World were present at the Assembly. The representatives of the Press Council in BiH at the 16th AIPCE assembly were Ms. Ljiljana Zurovac, Executive Director and Ms. Maida Bahto-Kestendzic, Project Coordinator for Complaints.

*The Mayor of Brussels organized a reception for the AIPCE representatives
at the Town Hall in Brussels.*

The main topic of this year's Assembly was defining the Strategy for future action of the Alliance and defining the conditions for membership for new self-regulatory bodies in Europe.

The Alliance confirmed that equal members of the Alliance of the Independent Press Councils of Europe, could be the self-regulatory bodies that operate independently, and which are geographically located in Europe or are members of the European Union. At the same time, the Alliance confirmed its dedication towards continuing the cooperation with the press councils of the world.

Strengthening cooperation and communication amongst its members will be the priority in the future works of the Alliance, through regular communication and information exchanges through a common Google group and dynamic web portal. With the goal of easier and more productive organizing of yearly meetings and mutual work, a working group with a one-year mandate was

nominated, by the representatives of the Press Councils of three member countries, which will prepare the next Assembly.

The evolution of media self-regulation was also discussed, as well as the European Union and the freedom of press, while the report and plans for media support to 2020 were presented, by the General Director for Communication Networks, Content and Technology and the General Director for Enlargement of the European Commission. Especially interesting was the presentation of practical cases of suits against media and adjudications of the European Court for Human Rights, on the basis of Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights - Freedom of Expression, which was presented by Dr. Dirk Voorhoof from Gent University, as part of the topic “The European Court for Human Rights at the Barricades for Freedom of the Press and Journalism?”

The visit of the Press Council in BiH representatives to this year’s AIPCE assembly was made possible by UNESCO/EC and Federal Ministry of Culture and Sports.

The seventeenth yearly Assembly of the Alliance of Independent Press Councils of Europe - AIPCE 2015, will be held in Vienna, Austria.