

December the 9th, 2005
Bucharest

BULLETIN

Minister Vasile Blaga – “No reasons for being worried for January the 1st, 2007”.

The Ministry of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, is not worried regarding the Romania's accession to the European Union on the scheduled date, following the intense activities developed this year, stated minister Vasile Blaga during a meeting with Edouard Balladur, the President of the Foreign Affairs Commission for the French National Assembly, former Prime-Minister of France.

Minister Vasile Blaga stated that M.A.I. will ensure, in less than a year, a high level of control and surveillance at the level of the future outer border of the European Union. The Minister of Administration and Interior showed that this requirement, which represents one of the aspects to which the safeguard clause and the warning letter transmitted by the European Commission to the Romanian authorities are related, will be fulfilled up to November the 1st, 2006, through the development of the contract concluded with the European concern EADS and through the investments based on the PHARE funds.

The Minister of Administration and Interior presented to Edouard Balladur the results of the negotiations of the contract with EADS, assuring him of the fact that the overlaps with the PHARE programmes were totally removed. At the same time, Vasile Blaga briefly presented the integrate system of border securing that is going to be created, appreciating that it will be the most modern system of this kind in Europe, which will allow Romania to successfully ensure safety for the more 680 million European citizens. **“We set precise deadlines and we know exactly what we have to do every month up to the accession date.”**, underlined Minister Vasile Blaga.

Minister Vasile Blaga also announced that, up to June 1st, 2006, six months before the initial scheduled deadline, M.A.I. will end the employment programme at the level of the Border Police, with a view to fully ensuring the personnel at the future outer border of E.U., issue that represents one of the major concerns of the European Commission. From the beginning of this year, Vasile Blaga said, the number of the border police officers increased by 4,252 cadres, and the total number of the personnel in the public order domain significantly increased in 2005, as over 14,200 officers and agents were employed.

The former French Prime-Minister Edouard Balladur appreciated the practical way in which the Ministry of Administration and Interior addressed the problems raised during the accession process and expressed his hope that, by keeping on the same rhythm regarding the reforms, Romania's accession will occur at the scheduled time, that is January the 1st, 2007.

December the 7th, 2005
Bucharest

BULLETIN

**MINISTER VASILE BLAGA HAS MET THE REPORTER FOR ROMANIA FROM THE CDU-CSU
FRACTION OF THE GERMAN FEDERAL PARLIAMENT**

By June 1, 2006, the Ministry of Administration and Interior will conclude the employment programme at the Border Police, with a view to full covering of the personnel deficit, required by the European Commission, has announced Minister Vasile Blaga today, during a meeting with Deputy Gunther Krichbaum, member of the Commission for European Affairs and Reporter for Romania of the CDU-CSU fraction of the German Federal Parliament.

According to the Minister of Administration and Interior, this requirement will be fulfilled six months before the established deadline, during this year the personnel of the Border Police having already been extended by 4,252 cadres. Totally, over 14,200 vacancies have been filled or are going to be filled until the end of this year, in order to cover the

personnel shortage existing at the level of the public order and safety structures of the M.A.I., stated Minister Vasile Blaga.

Minister Vasile Blaga presented, during the meeting with the delegation led by the German deputy, the progresses recorded by the Ministry of Administration and Interior in accomplishing the commitments assumed within the framework of the E.U. accession process, and specified the activities scheduled for the first months of next year.

Vasile Blaga underlined that the commitments included in the priority actions programme for E.U. accession have been fully accomplished in advance, including the one referring to the securing of the future outer border of E.U.; in this domain, the new form of the contract with EADS provides specific clauses and precise deadlines for creating this system. “**Romania will have one of the most modern integrate systems of border security in Europe**”, the Minister of Administration and Interior has assured the German Member of Parliament.

**December the 6th, 2005
Bucharest**

BULLETIN

The Forum of the South-East European Cities and Regions the 6th Edition.

On 8th and 9th, December, 2005, in Sinaia, the session of the 6th Forum of the South-East European Cities and Regions is taking place.

Organised during the semester of Romanian presidency of the Council of Ministers by Prahova Council in cooperation with the European Council – the Congress of the Local and Regional Authorities, this forum brings together representatives of the local and regional authorities from the South-Eastern Europe, as well as experts of the European Council who want to get informed of the situation in the region and to establish collaboration relationships with this part of Europe.

This event is expected to be attended by Mr. Bogdan Chiritoiu, counsellor of state of the Romanian president, Ulrich Bohner, executive director of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Calin Popescu-Tariceanu, Prime-Minister of the Romanian Government, Vasile Blaga, minister of administration and interior, and other Romanian and European officials.

In the context of this forum different issues will be approached regarding the development of the local communities, the role of the regional and local authorities, the maintaining of stability of democracy in the region, the increase in the participation of the citizens in the local communities, the quality of public services, and the inter-regional cooperation initiatives.

Background information

The current forum has a tradition of 12 years.

These manifestations originate from the Economic Forums for the European Regions, organised by the Congress of the Local and Regional Authorities, in collaboration with the European Foundation for the Support of the Regions Development (FEDRE), between 1996 and 1999, as follows: Geneva (January 1996), Dortmund (June 1996), Moscow (November 1996), Vienna (September 1997), Bucharest (June 1998) and Weimar (My 1999).

These were followed by the Forums of the South-East European Cities and Regions, organised within the same partnership and developed in Skopje (November 2000), Istanbul (October 2001), Novi Sad (April 2002), Prijedor (September 2003) and Budva (October 2004).