

BULLETIN

No. 578, the 7th of September, 2006

“Romania has succeeded to exceed the European standards, in the field of home security”

Romania has succeeded to exceed the European standards, Peter Altmaier, Parliamentary State Secretary within the German Federal Ministry of Interior, stated yesterday.

The statement was made during “The Policy of Enlargement and Security within the European Union” Round Table, being organized by the European Commission – Berlin Branch, where Mr. Vasile Blaga, Minister of Administration and Interior, presented the main progress directions that Romania has achieved in view of the EU accession.

Peter Altmaier, who wanted to underline that he represents the official position of the German Ministry of Interior, welcomed Romania’s remarkable progress, especially those in the field of the home security and police co-operation.

Romania’s EU accession will not draw any new threats to the internal security of the European Union by all means; moreover, it will add some extra valences in this area, Altmaier also said.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, is currently paying an official visit to Germany (between 5-7 September 2006), in order to present before the Home Affairs Commission from the German Federal Parliament – Bundestag, the stage of our country’s preparedness for the EU accession, in the internal affairs field.

Taking into consideration yesterday’s talks with the members of the Home Affairs Commission of the German Bundestag, the Minister of Administration and Interior is confident that our country will be supported in the debates on the EU Accession Treaty, stating that **the Monitoring Report to come in September will include no even one yellow flag in the home affairs area for Romania.**

Vasile Blaga showed that the problems which the European Commission and the Member States were concerned with have already been solved.

Thus, out of the five red flags and the eight yellow ones that MAI had at the beginning of 2005, remained from the previous governing, only one yellow flag was mentioned in the Monitoring Report issued in May of this year. The problems signaled by this last flag, referring to the increasing of the preventive actions in countering the trafficking in human beings as well as to the victims’ assistance, were removed this summer, as the necessary institutions were set up and made operational.

“I am optimistic on the stage of our reforms, but also realistic enough to realize that we still have lots to do”, pointed out Vasile Blaga during the discussions held yesterday.

“The talks held strengthened the German MPs’ appreciation on the progress achieved by Romania”, the Commission’s President showed in turn.

Yesterday, during his visit in Germany, Minister Vasile Blaga also met with a parliamentary group of the CDU/CSU, led by Thomas Silberhorn, the spokesperson of CSU in the area of the European affairs, one of the German MPs who were preoccupied with our country’s preparedness in view of the EU accession.

Thomas Silberhorn showed a high interest in the Romanian’s evolution in countering organized crime and corruption.

Also yesterday, the Minister of Administration and Interior presented, upon the German MP’s request, some statistics on the above-mentioned area: during the past 20 months, the Romanian Police identified over 14,500 crimes relating to the organized crime phenomenon (over 10,000 persons having been charged with different crimes), and over 9,000 persons who are currently being investigated for corruption-related crimes. During the same period, the drug seizure increased by over 450 percent, Minister Vasile Blaga also said to the German official.

BULLETIN

No. 574, the 6th of September 2006

The Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, presented the stage of the measures taken in view of the EU accession, in the Home Affairs Commission of the German Bundestag

The Monitoring Report to come in September will include no even one yellow flag in the home affairs area for Romania, Minister Vasile Blaga stated during the talks held with the members of the Home Affairs Commission from the German Bundestag where he was present today, trying to prove that our country achieved real progress and there would be no reasons for the activation of the safeguard clause.

Minister Vasile Blaga is confident that our country will be supported in the debates on the EU Accession Treaty, considering the today's talks.

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BULLETIN

No. 569, the 4th of September 2006

IN GERMANY, THE MINISTER OF ADMINISTRATION AND INTERIOR - VASILE BLAGA WILL PRESENT THE STAGE OF OUR COUNTRY'S PREPAREDNESS FOR THE EU ACCESSION, AS REGARDS THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS ISSUES

Between the 5th and the 7th of September, the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, will pay an official visit to Germany, and the Romanian official will take this opportunity to present before the Home Affairs Commission from the German Federal Parliament – Bundestag, the stage of our country's preparedness for the EU accession, in the internal affairs field.

The Romania minister's visit is made upon the invitation of the President of the Home Affairs Commission from the German Federal Parliament, Mr. Sebastian Edathy, and it is aimed at a direct and objective confirmation of the intention to continue the undertakings necessary for fulfilling the conditions in view of joining the European Union on the 1st of January 2007.

This event has a special significance to us, considering that Germany is currently ratifying the Romania's and Bulgaria's EU Accession Treaty, as well as the fact that this meeting will be attended by members of the Home Affairs Commission, as representatives of the German parliamentary parties.

During this visit, the Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, will have a series of official meetings, among which that with the spokesperson of the Christian Social Union on Foreign Policy, European Affairs, Defense, Human Rights and Development Co-operation – Thomas Silberhorn –, which will discuss the issue of the Romanian authorities' progress achieved in the field of the bilateral co-operation between Romania and Germany, as well as the stage of our country's preparedness for joining the EU.

The part that Romania will play in the European Union, from the internal affairs point of view, will be intensely debated at the headquarters of the European Commission Representation in Berlin, at the Round Table on "***The EU Security and Enlargement Policy***". The Minister of Administration and Interior, Vasile Blaga, as well as the Parliamentary Secretary of State within the Home Affairs Federal Ministry, Mr. Peter Altmaier, will attend this meeting, held in the presence of over 100 participants.

Minister Vasile Blaga will also have a meeting with the Vice-president of the German Bundestag, Ms. Susanne Kastner, a good opportunity to restate some aspects of interest for the German MPs, on the specific domain of the Ministry of Administration and Interior.