

BULLETIN
No. 226, October 15th, 2009

The Ministry of Administration and Interior will organise, between 28 and 30 October 2009 the Ministerial Conference of the Salzburg Forum.

The conference work sessions will take place on 29 and 30 October 2009, at the venue of the Parliament Palace, the Human Rights Hall.

This event will be attended by delegations of the Member States, the delegations of the European Union and of the Sweden Kingdom - as the state currently holding the Presidency of the EU Council, as well as by representatives of the SECI Centre and Europol.

Background information:

The Salzburg Forum was created in July 2001 upon Austria's initiative and currently gathers the home ministers of *Austria, Bulgaria, Czech, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary, Croatia* being an observer state in the Forum's sessions.

This Forum has become an increasingly important platform of dialogue, debates and opinion exchange in view of **harmonizing the positions of the participant states regarding regional security**.

The action priorities established by the current Presidency of the Forum have mainly to follow the top-priority objectives of the European Union Council, as reflected into the provisions of the Common Conclusions adopted within the framework of the Bi-annual Ministerial Conference, as well as into the topics of the work groups organised during every Presidency of the Forum.

Romania is currently holding the Presidency of the Salzburg Forum.

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The journalists accredited with the Ministry of Administration and Interior are invited to participate in this event, getting an accreditation until October 23, 2009, 14.00 hrs.

You can send your accreditation request by email: comunicare@mai.gov.ro or by fax: +4021.310.30.72.

BULLETIN
No. 247, October 29th, 2009

The press conference within the framework of the Salzburg Forum held in Bucharest

On October 29, 2009, Vice-Prime Minister, minister of administration and interior Vasile Blaga, together with his Austrian counterpart Maria Theresia Fetker, had a press conference within the framework of the Salzburg Forum held in Bucharest.

On this occasion, the minister of administration and interior referred to the priorities of the Romanian Presidency of the Salzburg Forum, to the topics addressed over the today reunion, mentioning the action directions on short term.

The Romanian presidency of the Salzburg Forum set a number of objectives and action directions for the next six months in the following areas: enhancing co-operation, intensifying collaboration at regional level and expanding police co-operation in the wider context of the policies relating to the Western Balkans and the Eastern neighbourhood of the European Union.

Today meeting held in Bucharest represents an important step forward in accomplishing the Stockholm Program for 2010 - 2014.

A first conclusion of this reunion of the home ministers from the Salzburg Member States was that the most effective way of combating serious crimes is preventing them through exchange of information and good practices, as well as through coordination of these prevention actions.

There was also discussed the Schengen Area enlargement through Romania's and Bulgaria's accession to this territory in March 2011, as scheduled.

The Federal minister of interior Maria Theresia Fetker highly appreciated the police co-operation and the surveillance actions developed so far by the two states.

Background information

On 29 October 2009, the Ministry of Administration and Interior organised the Ministerial Conference of the Salzburg Forum, at the venue of the Parliament Palace.

This event gathered home ministers and secretaries of state of the Salzburg Forum Member States, namely Austria, Bulgaria, Czech, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary, Croatia participating as an observer state. Representatives of the European Commission, SECI Centre and Europol were also present in the reunion.

After four years of full membership within the Salzburg Forum, it is for the first time that Romania has held the Presidency of this organism of dialogue and consultations, context in which the bi-annual ministerial conference was organised here, in Bucharest.

The Salzburg Forum, based on Austria's initiative in 2000, is a platform of multilateral dialogue and cooperation on internal security.