Prof. dr Miloš Šolaja, University of Banja Luka - Faculty of Political Sciences (Center for International Relations)

## BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA BETWEEN AMBIGUITIES AND NATO ASPIRATIONS

Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina and NATO have a very interesting history since the end of the Cold War. From NATO intervention trough post-Dayton 'peace imposing,' 'peace making' and peace keeping missions, defense reform to NATO aspirations and MAP candidacy submission. Complex internal structure and political system initiates few processes that affect BiH way to NATO. As far as country is composed of two differently established entities genuinely reflects different strategic approaches od interested foreign actor in the region. Since 2008 emerged new policies of global actors became visible that invoked changes of relations of internal actors in BiH. Nevertheless officially defined standing point were due to NATO accession have not been changed external relations were radically changed reflecting changed in actual relations of autonomous and semi-sovereign entities and national communities in a frame of Euro-Atlantic integrations. On the one hand they define their own strategies that differ inside showing different internal interests. On the other hand as a strongest actor in internal processes are institutionalized international play established as a part of peace process in BiH. Their real influence since 1995 and start of peace process are also strongly changed reflecting ambiguity relations with local players. Because of unresolving crucial internal relations in BiH state of institution efficiency and democracy process are ultimately questionable. That produces uncertain atmosphere that is not a appropriate environment to define strategic approach in terms of NATO.

Key words: BiH, NATO, International actors, strategy,