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**The Association Bosnia and Herzegovina 2005** was established in the fall of 2003 as a support mechanism to facilitate domestic and international dialogue on the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina. It provides a framework for analysts, scholars, and professionals to influence the policy process through policy-relevant research and debate.

The Association gathers established figures as well as emerging voices in an internally-driven process that is closely focused on promoting ownership-oriented strategies during a period that will prove critical for the country's future development and its very existence as a viable state.

The Association aims to stimulate a debate based on facts, not partisanship. By facilitating informed debate rather than advocating specific solutions, it intends to act as a catalyst for effective, policy-relevant ideas to emerge and gain influence at a time when the country is in urgent need of a vision to achieve full, sovereign statehood.

This process culminated in an international conference held in Geneva on 20-21 October 2005 to mark the tenth anniversary of the Dayton peace accords. The conference was attended by over 400 people and provided an important stimulus to reform proposals in Bosnia, gathering international and Bosnian decision-makers, civil society activists, and observers.

The Association is about to establish an office in Sarajevo to monitor the implementation of some of its proposals and serve as a nucleus for a future think tank. Already in November, a closed seminar co-organized with the London School of Economics provided policy inputs to the incoming Austrian Presidency of the EU with regards to the Western Balkans; the seminar was intended to be the first in a series of half-yearly events to be held on behalf of each incoming Presidency, to support policy continuity from the outside.

More information about the Association and the full range of its future activities are available at: <http://www.bosnia2005.org>