

**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**
Att. Mrs. Borjana Kristo, Chairman

25 June 2024

Dear Mrs. Kristo,

On behalf of the Eurochambres and its members, allow me to convey sincere expressions of respect to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as to you personally.

Eurochambres is one of the largest business organisations based in Brussels, representing the interests of 20 million companies and gathering more than 40 national and around 1,700 regional and local chambers. Chamber member companies, of which over 93% are small and medium-sized companies, employ over 120 million workers.

The Foreign Trade Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina has been an associate member of Eurochambres since 2001 and during these years has actively represented the interests of the business community of Bosnia and Herzegovina at EU level.

We are highly encouraged that Bosnia and Herzegovina recently received positive recommendations for candidate status for membership of the European Union, with the obligation to fulfil 14 conditions in the area of the rule of law and the fight against corruption, as well as the strengthening of economic integration with the EU single market. Within this mechanism, BiH will be provided with financial support with the aim of strengthening economic integration within the Western Balkans through a common regional market, which would enable a 10% growth in the economies of the region's countries.

In this regard, we would like to express our support for the efforts of all Western Balkans countries, including of course Bosnia and Herzegovina, in implementing the main pillars of the Growth Plan. Taking into account the fact that these obligations relate in part to business conditions, we are available to share our expertise on the gradual integration into the EU single market and compliance with relevant EU legislation. We especially emphasize the active role of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Eurochambres in advocating for the European path, considering that the Foreign Trade Chamber of BiH and its President, Vjekoslav Vuković - member of our Board of Directors - represent and articulate the interests of the business community of BiH effectively in all relevant Eurochambres bodies.

We also acknowledge the Foreign Trade Chamber of BiH's efforts to include an increasing number of companies from Bosnia and Herzegovina in the European Parliament of Enterprises that we organise every second year, so that the legal framework for building a business environment has as strong a voice as possible towards the European Union institutions.

Eurochambres encourages the involvement of the business community of Bosnia and Herzegovina (and thus the Foreign Trade Chamber) in decision-making processes, and in the accession process in particular, as well as the active role of women entrepreneurs in the Eurochambres Women Network. These would represent strong steps towards European integration.

Yours sincerely,



Ben Butters, Eurochambres Chief Executive Officer

cc: Vjekoslav Vukovic, President of the Foreign Trade Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina