



**Adis Ahmetovic**  
Mitglied des Deutschen Bundestages

## Press release

Accession Status for Bosnia and Herzegovina - "They are finally moving closer together - EU and Bosnia and Herzegovina"

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### **Accession Status for Bosnia and Herzegovina - "They are finally moving closer together - EU and Bosnia and Herzegovina"**

"As the SPD parliamentary group's rapporteur for the Western Balkans, I strongly welcome the European Union's decision to grant Bosnia and Herzegovina candidate country status. This step is long overdue and an important signal - and the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the diaspora deserve it.

We must consider the Western Balkans as a geopolitically important region and resolutely press ahead with integration into the EU, also to prevent Russian as well as Chinese influence from becoming even stronger. The Western Balkans must not become another gateway for the next major European conflict.

From a personal point of view, I am also very pleased about this evening - it has something historic about it. Many people with my background also live in Germany. I'm glad that after my parents fled the Bosnian war in 1992, now 30 years later as a German foreign politician I was able to play a part in pushing forward the decision to grant candidate status to Bosnia and Herzegovina."