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Enlargement/Bosnia and Herzegovina

Statement by Tineke Strik

Statement by **Tineke Strik**, Greens-EFA spokesperson on Bosnia and Herzegovina, following the Council recommendation to grant candidate status* to Bosnia and Herzegovina:

"By granting candidate status, EU ministers have taken a consequential step to revive the accession process and regain trust and credibility in the Western Balkans, after neglecting the region for years."

"Despite a lack of progress by Bosnia and Herzegovina political actors, this is an important sign of commitment towards the citizens, also in light of the changed geopolitical context."

"It is now essential to urge Bosnia and Herzegovina politicians to take responsibility and implement much needed democratic reforms so further steps can be taken in the accession process."

*The candidate status is subject to confirmation by the next European Council.

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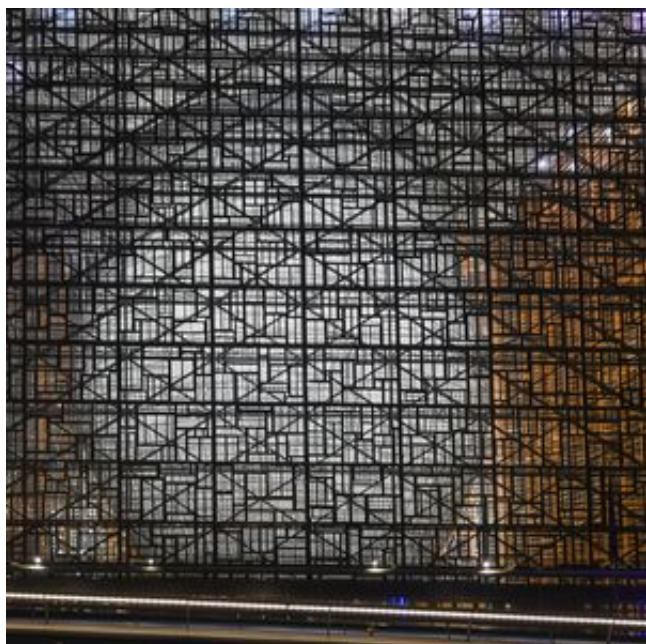


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Tineke Strik

Member

Contact person



Guendalina De Sario

Press & Media Advisor FR-IT-ES (for French, Italian and Spanish press)

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