

First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Ivica Dacic met today with Heads of Diplomatic Missions of Latin American countries to the Republic of Serbia.

During the talks with the Ambassadors of Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Mexico and Charge d'Affaires a.i. of the Embassy of Venezuela, Minister Dacic highlighted the importance attached by Serbia to cooperation with Latin American countries. He emphasized, in particular, the desire of Serbia and its firm commitment to maintain and promote traditionally good relations with the Latin American countries and those of the Caribbean region, based on the mutual friendship and strong historical ties. The footing of these relations is cooperation in a number of activities of common interest but also the orientation of Serbia to be a reliable partner to the Latin American countries.

The Head of Serbian Diplomacy informed senior diplomatic representatives about the foreign policy priorities of Serbia, its EU accession process and Serbia's OSCE Chairmanship priorities. He put a special emphasis on the current international issues, themes related to the

Latin American and Western Balkan regions.

Pointing to the significance of Serbia as a central and key country in the Western Balkan region, Dacic advocated intensification of political dialogue through the exchange of visits among officials and cooperation with regional organizations. He said that priority in the further development of relations was promotion of economic cooperation with the mentioned countries that is currently below the real possibilities.

Expressing their thanks for having the opportunity to attend the meeting and have talks with the Serbian Foreign Minister, the Ambassadors underlined interest in further strengthening and promoting cooperation with Serbia, to which their Embassies would fully contribute.

The Head of Serbian Diplomacy thanked, once again, to Latin American Ambassadors for their principled position concerning the issue of Kosovo and Metohija as well as for their support and donations related to last year's heavy floods in Serbia.