

First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia Ivica Dacic met today in Vienna his Austrian counterpart, Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurtz.

Minister Kurtz congratulated Serbia on the EC report which positively assessed Serbia's progress towards the EU.

"This success is the credit of both PM Vucic and Minister Dacic. Austria will continue to support further the European path of Serbia and I hope that this year we will be able to open a few more chapters", said the Austrian FM.

Minister Dacic thanked his Austrian fellow Minister and his country, Austria for the support given to Serbia, positively assessing the Commission's Report, too.

Minister Dacic said that he would ask his host to help Serbian nationals resident in Vienna with the agreements concerning the recognition of Serbian driving licences in that country, to which Minister Kurtz responded by saying that the work on this issue was being completed.

"The European Commission's 2016 Annual Progress Report on Serbia made positive comments on what Serbia has done, and we are also going to give consideration to comments on what needs to be done in the coming period", stated Minister Dacic.

The Serbian Foreign Minister expressed the hope that the process of negotiations with the EU would be over by the year 2020.

"Our undoubted strategic goal is entry into the EU and we will strive to open another negotiating chapter before the end of this year and to have our negotiating process completed by 2020. At the same time, we will make an effort to conduct dialogue with Pristina and strengthen relations with the neighbours and EU countries", concluded Minister Dacic.