



"Participation in the OSCE Mediterranean Conference was an opportunity for a bilateral meeting with the new Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Spain. This meeting was of high importance for Serbia since Spain is the EU country which offers the biggest support to the territorial integrity of Serbia. The position of Spain is a major obstruction to setting the recognition of Kosovo as an ultimatum for the continuation of the European integration process of Serbia.

We have both noted that bilateral relations between our two countries were exceptional. I have invited my colleague to visit Serbia, so as to strengthen our cooperation even more.

I also met with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovakia Miroslav Lajcak, who will take over the OSCE Chairmanship on 1 January. It is important for Serbia that during this period the Organization be managed in compliance with status neutrality. Bearing in mind that Albania applied for OSCE Chairmanship in 2020, we have requested that Albania respects status neutrality and the principles of the Organization, as a prerequisite for our accepting its candidacy. In such case, the OSCE Troika would be comprised of Slovakia and potentially Albania, but it is also important that the OSCE position I have mentioned be maintained in the years to come.

The topic of the Conference was also the inclusion of all OSCE member states, in order to ensure the best possible cooperation with the Mediterranean countries. Serbia will soon submit its application for membership in the Union for the Mediterranean.

We wish to increase our presence in Spain. A few months ago we established a Consulate headed by an Honorary Consular Officer in Zaragoza, and now we have opened a Consulate in Seville. We would also like to open a Consulate in Barcelona, since Spain is a big country, and a friendly one, and we wish not only to foster good political and economic relations with it, but also to provide assistance for our citizens residing in this region," the Serbian Foreign Minister said following the meetings in Malaga.