



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov decorated today First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Ivica Dacic with the Russian Federation Order of Friendship, at the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Belgrade.

Minister Dacic underlined, at the ceremony, that it was his great honour, and enormous personal and professional satisfaction, to be awarded this decoration.

Minister Dacic pointed out that no country and no people are closer to Serbian people than Russia and the Russian people. He underscored that he was honoured by the fact that Russia and its President Vladimir Putin were attested friends of the Serbian people, and that they recognized his intention and endeavour to enhance the relations between the two countries.

"There are many attempts at putting pressure on Serbia to pursue an anti-Russian policy, for the sake of some benefits. Serbia will never conduct an anti-Russian policy. I love Russia, but that is because I love Serbia", stressed Dacic.

Minister Dacic expressed his distinct pleasure that the decoration was bestowed upon him by Lavrov, in particular, who – according to Dacic – had been of greatest help to Serbia.

Minister Dacic concluded that the Order of Friendship was the highest point of his own and his family's love for Serbia and Russia, adding that the Order was, therefore, invaluable.