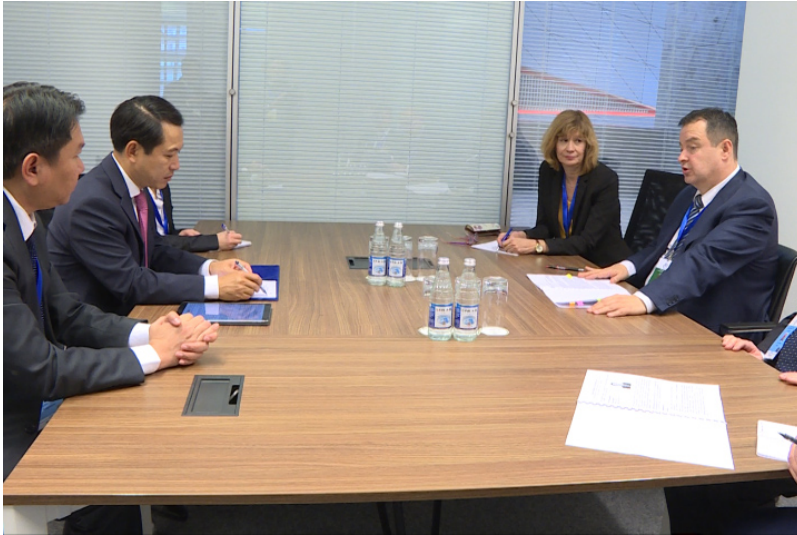




On the fringes of the 18th Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement in Baku, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia Ivica Dacic met with Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Saleumxay Kommasith.

In the friendly and substantive talks, the interlocutors highly valued the political cooperation between the two states and peoples, while also noting considerable room for the promotion of economic cooperation.

Minister Dacic informed his collocutor about the current political developments in the Republic of Serbia and the Western Balkans, expressing his gratitude for the principled position of Laos and its non-recognition of the unilaterally declared independence of Kosovo.

The Lao Foreign Minister underlined the key directions of Lao PDR's foreign policy based on fundamental principles of adherence to international law and respect of the territorial integrity of sovereign states.

In this context, he underscored the unambiguous position of extending firm support to the territorial integrity of the Republic of Serbia.

The Serbian and Lao Foreign Ministers agreed on further steps towards the development of bilateral cooperation in all areas of mutual interest.