



INTERNATIONAL

Kosovo thanks Andorra for its support in joining the Council of Europe

They discussed a possible accession to the Francophonie organization

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The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kosovo, Donika Gërvalla-Schwarz, thanked Andorra for its aspiration to become a full member of the Council of Europe during her visit to the Principality; «Currently, we are in the second level of the process, and we are pleased to have the support of the majority of European countries for accession,» said Gërvalla-Schwarz.

For her part, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Imma Tor, remarked that Andorra and Kosovo have a very good bilateral relationship, due in part to the fact that Andorra was one of the first countries to recognize Kosovo's independence in 2011, and since that time, «we have had very close relations in particular with the framework of international organizations, where we have shared points of view and positions,» explained Tor.

During the visit, Gërvalla-Schwarz asked for the support of the Principality because Kosovo wants to become a member of the Council of Europe, and after sharing Andorra's long experience as a member of this organization, «we have expressed our full support since Principality of Andorra to this accession of Kosovo to the Council of Europe».

Another topic that was touched upon during the Foreign Affairs working meeting was a possible accession of Kosovo as a full member of the International Organization of La Francophonie, although Tor pointed out that Kosovo has not filed his candidacy, but it intends to do so very soon.

In the framework of bilateral relations, the minister explained that Kosovo would like to strengthen cooperation, in particular so that young people from the country can come to do short work stays in the Principality of Andorra. In this sense, Tor explained that it is an issue that must be studied in detail, since «it is an offer that we received today». As detailed by Tor, Donika Gërvalla-Schwarz sta-



► Meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Donika Gërvalla-Schwarz.

visited the General Council where she was received by the general trustees, and for to finish the institutional visit, she had a meeting of a more cultural nature, at the hands of the Minister of Culture and Sports.

SFGA/JAVILADOT

YOUTH STAY // The Minister of Kosovo also proposed during the working meeting with the Department of Foreign Affairs, the possibility that young people from her country could come to Andorra for a stay. In this sense, Tor explained that «we have to examine it very precisely, both in the legal field and in immigration matters, but what Kosovo has told us is that they have a good tradition in the framework of quality hospitality and catering, and since Andorra at specific times needs labor in this sense we can examine bringing in young people». The minister detailed that it was a general proposal, which could be compared to work and holidays agree-

ments for students who can come to do their internships in establishments.

Gërvalla-Schwarz was very happy to be in Andorra, since «I believe that Kosovo and Andorra share very similar values and principles that have allowed the two nations to fight for history and be strong in their position to maintain their independence and growing for the benefit of its citizens», she stated, adding that this visit can contribute to further strengthening relations.

Along these lines, the minister pointed out that in the coming weeks or months, the two teams will study the details of a deeper cooperation, since «we have many things to share and learn from each other, and to make the relations not only excellent in the political sphere, but that they materialize in the exchanges between people». ≡



Imma Tor

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

«We have expressed full support from the Principality of Andorra to this accession of Kosovo to the Council of Europe»

ted that Kosovo would be interested in sharing experience in the field of digitization, a sector where Tor pointed out that «they are making quite a lot of progress in this area and, therefore, we will be able to share experiences»,

On the other hand, Gërvalla-Schwarz showed her satisfaction at being able to travel without a visa to the countries associated with the Schengen area. «For the first time I have traveled to Andorra with my only Kosovar passport and without the need for additional documents» she celebrated while adding that «it is time for more young Kosovans to visit Andorra, and vice versa. We have a lot to share and to learn from each other.»

The head of External Affairs explained that «we are very pleased to have received the minister in Andorra today», who also met with the head of government, and



Donika Gërvalla-Schwarz

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF KOSOVO

«We share very important values that have led the two nations to fight to maintain their independence»

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LEGISLATION

The BOPA website already includes the updated legislation

The page collects all the revised texts of laws and regulations

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The Official Gazette of the Principality of Andorra (BOPA) has extended free access services open to all citizens to the Legal Portal which can be accessed through the link: www.portaljuridicandorra.ad where from today you can consult the updated and consolidated legislation of the Principality.

The web portal offers the revised texts of laws and regulations from 1989, when the first BOPA appeared, and the historical versions of each law and regulation that have had modifications. A status sheet for each document is also available on the website, with the modifications made, search engine, document index and printable versions.

The Legal Portal has been created thanks to the agreement signed by the Government and the General Council in October 2023 with the company A un Clic. This



►► Legal portal of Andorra.

All regulations appear since 1989, the year in which the first BOPA appeared

pact establishes that the expenses of the service provider will be borne equally by the Executive and the Parliament. In this way, easy and free access to current rules is guaranteed as one of the basic principles of transparency and democratic quality. ≡

IMMIGRATION



►► Imatge de l'edifici d'immigració.

125 new residence and self-employment permits

25 authorizations are for liberal professionals and 100 for other cases

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The Government has approved the General Quota Regulation for residency and self-employment immigration authorizations, which covers a total of 125 permits. The

se new approved authorizations are 25 for liberal professionals and 100 for other cases of residence and self-employment.

As of today, all the authorizations provided for in the last call for April 2023 have been sold out. The overall number of residence and work permits that could be issued was 250, which were divided into 50 for liberal professionals and 200 for other cases. ≡

EDUCATION

80% of high school diplomas will be recognized in Spain

It was agreed by the Hispano-Andorran Joint Education Commission at a meeting in Madrid

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80% of Andorran professional baccalaureate degrees will be recognized in Spain. This was agreed by the Mixed Commission for Hispano-Andorran education at the annual meeting held this Friday in Ma-

drid and which was chaired by the Secretary of State for Education and Universities, Josep Anton Bardina, and his Spanish counterpart, José Manuel Bar. Specifically, the professional baccalaureate degrees of nursing technician, computer systems and network support technician, administrative management support technician, and socio-community technician will be homologated with their equivalent Spanish qualifications.



►► A snapshot of the meeting.

In this way, Andorran students who hold any of these four professional baccalaureate degrees issued by the Ministry of Institutional Relations, Education and Universities will have their degree recognized by the Spanish Ministry in charge of education, in the same

way that the Andorran ministry will recognize the equivalent Spanish degrees. The professional baccalaureate degree in application development support technician is excluded from this recognition, as there is no equivalent degree - neither in content nor in form -

in the neighboring country. As for the rest of the initial professional diplomas, the two administrations will continue to work on their recognition. On the other hand, the meeting also served to discuss aspects such as the staff and school infrastructures of the Spanish education system in the Principality, the pedagogical projects common to the three education systems - especially the application and deployment of the National Bullying Plans, Equality, and Childhood and Adolescence - as well as the attention to diversity that is being carried out in the educational systems present in our country. Another item on the agenda was the use of technology and screens in the classroom, digital skills and the Cervantes Institute's DE-LE tests (Diplomas of Spanish as a Foreign Language) which celebrate in Andorra. This commission, as stipulated in the educational agreement between the two countries, meets annually alternately in Andorra and Spain. ≡

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