
JUST HOW MUCH INFLUENCE DOES RUSSIA HAVE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA?

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In December 2020, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov was publicly snubbed by two members of Bosnia and Herzegovina's tripartite presidency – the Bosniak representative Šefik Džaferović and his Croat colleague Željko Komšić.

It was a gesture that yet again exposed the fraught relationship between the Bosniak-Croat Federation and the Republika Srpska – the two entities that make up Bosnia and Herzegovina – and once again brought into question Russian influence in the region.

Officially, the reasoning behind why the two members of the presidency declined a scheduled meeting with Mr Lavrov was because he had previously met one-on-one with the Serb member and chairman of the presidency Milorad Dodik, during which no insignia of the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina were present.

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