
DODIK'S ISRAEL RAPPROCHEMENT REVIVES SEPARATIST CONCERNS IN BOSNIA

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The recent rapprochement with Israel by Serb politician Milorad Dodik, the former president of Republika Srpska, or RS, one of Bosnia and Herzegovinas two entities, has brought separatist rhetoric in the country back onto the agenda.

Dodik, the dismissed separatist president of RS and president of the Alliance of Independent Social Democrats, or SNSD, has frequently visited Israel, while the opening of an Israeli Trade Office in Banja Luka has drawn attention to growing ties between Israel and the Bosnian Serb entity.

Dodik, who has repeatedly said RS could declare independence, continued to voice separatist claims after his party achieved significant success in Bosnia and Herzegovinas Oct. 4 general election.

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