

'First step towards construction of Adriatic-Ionian highway'

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"BiH Ministry of Transport and Communications announced a public tender for drafting of project documents, which will serve as base for construction of Adriatic-Ionian Highway, the part that will pass through BiH.

This, daily reads, presents first big step towards reviving of his huge infrastructure project. Article explains that Adriatic-Ionian Highway has same importance as Corridor Vc, being that it will pass through five or seven states and will connect south Europe with central and Western Europe; it will enable stronger development of naval ports in several countries and it provides opportunity to be connected to Silk Road through Turkey all the way to China.

The Ministry provided BAM 4.4 million for project documents, but they noted that details will be known only in summer 2017. The Ministry noted that they are only beginning to research technical, economic, social and environmental feasibility studies. Also the Ministry stressed out the fact that Council of Ministers decided that this road would be funded through public-private partnership and tis includes possibility to use EU funds.

According to initial estimates, the Highway should be passing through Pocitelj-Neum-Trebinje and Transport expert Seval Kovacevic said that considering the route of Corridor Vc it would be best if the Highway would go from Pocitelj interchange, towards Hutovo Blato, southern part of Popovo Polje and towards Trebinje, Dubrovnik and Montenegro.

According to estimates BiH could get majority of funds from the EU funds and also via Croatia, as EU member."