

DATUM

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NINAMEDIA CLIPPING

DAILY REPORT ECONOMIC REVIEW



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ECONOMY REVIEW

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New Debt for the Military or Aid for Citizens

Serbia unexpectedly borrowed a further EUR 500 million through a direct agreement with an investor, without a public auction or disclosure of the bond buyer's identity. This prompted suspicion because the state claims to have EUR 5 billion in its account. The interest rate on the debt is 4.75%, and its maturity is six years. Officially, the funds are intended for military modernisation and the purchase of defence equipment, but the borrowing coincided with the announcement of an aid package for citizens, leading to speculation about its real purpose.

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Fuel Excise Duty Further Reduced by a Total of 20 Percent

Finance Minister Siniša Mali said that Serbia had successfully issued six-year eurobonds worth EUR 500 million through a private placement with international investors, carrying a coupon rate of 4.75%. He said the proceeds would be used to modernise the defence system, while strong investor interest confirmed confidence in the stability of Serbia's public finances and economic policy.

TV Tanjug

Proposals for Long-Term Visas; Problems with the New System; Focus on Migration Diplomacy

The European Union's new Entry/Exit System (EES) limits professional drivers to stays of 90 days within any 180-day period in EU member states. According to European Commissioner for Internal Affairs and Migration Magnus Brunner, member states are currently unwilling to change those rules. Because of the problems that have arisen, he said he had visited Serbia, Montenegro and other Western Balkan countries that are most severely affected, and proposed that they reach individual agreements with EU member states.