

## **Republika Srpska: Drina river HPPs will allow electricity exports for RS and Serbia, cross border project with Italian companies**

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Republic of Srpska and Serbia are the only in the Balkans that have electricity surplus and the construction of hydropower plants on the river Drina is the future - stated Chairman of the "Electric Power Industry of Serbia" Aca Markovic . As so far there was the struggle for energy, it will in the future be a struggle for water - Markovic said, adding that Drina is a wonder when it comes to energy, and that there is an estimated 20 billion kilowatt-hours of water resources.

He stressed the importance of China's entry into the energy sector in the region, singling out the Stanari plants in the Republic of Srpska and TPP Kostolac in Serbia.

Markovic said that China is ready to invest 10 billion euros in energy, and a meeting will be held about it with Prime Minister of the region and the representatives of China at the end of November in Bucharest.

He said that there are the great possibilities of joint projects on the river Drina, carried out by Serbia and Republic of Srpska, as well as Montenegro, and stated that there are always assets when it comes to good projects.

Markovic reminded of the power plant "Visegrad" which is connected with Serbia, as well as of the transmission line Sremska Mitrovica-Ugljevik.

He stressed the importance of the regional plan, "Drina highway" of 400 kilowatt-hours, or power grid that connects Srpska and Serbia, and the plan that Romania and Moldova, over Serbia, connect with Italy, and it will have links to the Republic of Srpska.

Source; Serbia Energy See desk