

OHR RTRS News Summary, 14 December 1999

News Headlines

- RS Government holds session
- 2000 budget planned for 621 million KM – RS Government
- BiH Presidency and Council of Ministers meet with German President Rau
- Agreement on Slovenian donation to BiH worth \$3,175,100 signed in Sarajevo – ONASA
- BiH Council of Ministers does not harmonize Law on Council of Ministers with BiH Constitutional Court decision
- ICTY sentences Goran Jelusic to 40 years in prison – BETA
- RS Defense Minister Milovanovic confirms two RS Army soldiers were questioned by ICTY in Banja Luka
- Petritsch explains draft Permanent Election Law
- IPTF to be permanently present in Srebrenica, Visegrad, Srbinje, Brcko and some other BiH municipalities – UN IPTF
- International organizations hold press conference in Sarajevo
- Session of BiH Federation RTV held in Sarajevo
- IMC fines NTV
- Klein delivers British donation to BiH Federation Interior Ministry worth \$160,000 – ONASA
- BiH Federation public criticizes authorities – Ferguson
- Bosniak population loses confidence in BiH Federation authorities – US State Department
- 150 missing Croats exhumed in Bugojno – Croat member of BiH Federation Commission for Missing Persons
- Professors in Bosnian Podrinje Canton go on strike – ONASA
- One person killed and two injured in Kosovo – Lavoir
- Albanians arrested in Kosovska Kamenica for throwing Molotov cocktails at Serb house
- Rau meets with Reinhardt and Kouchner
- Kouchner agrees with Albanian politicians on forming future Kosovo government – BETA
- McNamara accuses western governments of being responsible for violation on Serbs in Kosovo
- Albanians killed 24 Serbs in Kosovska Kamenica over last two months- Kosovska Kamenica Church National Board
- Evil terrorism now present in Kosovo – Serbian Assembly member Janicevic
- Kosovo Democratic Council submits list of alleged Serb criminals to KFOR and UN
- World News
- RS Economic Chamber Director Suzic meets with Chinese economic delegation
- SNSD holds press conference on next RS National Assembly session and demilitarization of Brcko
- Solution for Sarajevo is to declare it district – SNS
- RS Minister of Victims of War and Labor Gligoric meet with Brcko Veterans Association
- PEC adopts regulation on illegal use of real estate – OSCE spokesman McCorley
- Belgrade lawyers' delegation and OSCE discuss judicial issues in Kosovo
- Security situation in Kosovo catastrophic – Serb National Council
- Rugova supports independence of Kosovo but rejects its' division
- WFP to increase funds for refugees in Serbia
- If Serbia does not want to discuss redefining relations, referendum in Montenegro is unavoidable – Montenegrin Government President Vujanovic
- Sports
- Weather

News Summary

Petritsch explains draft Permanent Election Law

High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch explained the issues of the Permanent Election Law draft at a press conference in Sarajevo. He said that the draft is completely constitutional and is in accordance with European standards. It was checked by the European Council Venice Commission and approved by the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board. President of the Working Group for creation of the Law, Francois Froment Maurice is an expert in constitutional law and is convinced that that election law supports the unique constitutive structure of BiH. Petritsch added that there were objections that the constitutional regulations that regulate the election of Presidency members opposes the European Charter on Human Rights, according to the universally acknowledged legal principles, individual regulations have an advantage over the general ones. In this case, individual regulations, in terms of election of Presidency members, have an advantage over the general ones. There were also objections that citizens cannot vote for a presidency member who is a member of their nationality, but that is a regulation included in the BiH Constitution. According to it, there are three members in the BiH Presidency: one Bosniak and one Croat, directly elected in the BiH Federation and one Serb, directly elected in the RS. Voters are free to vote for any candidate that is on the list in the entity where the voter is registered to vote. Petritsch pointed out that the draft was created by legal experts from BiH.

01:45

RTV BiH Federation session held in Sarajevo

A session of the RTV BiH Federation Council was held in the OHR premises in Sarajevo. High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch pointed out that establishment of this network is of vital importance for the overall strategy of restructuring the broadcast system in BiH. Kemal Hrustanovic was elected Council President and Slavo Kukic for Vice-president. According to the OHR announcement, RTV BiH Federation must act in accordance with the Dayton Agreement and Constitutions of BiH and BiH Federation. The work of the station must be in accordance to the IMC rules.

00:45

IMC fines NTV

The Independent Media Commission has ordered NTV Banja Luka to pay a fine of 1000 KM for serious violation of the IMC Code. The IMC ruling says that NTV broadcast footage of a documentary shot in Chechnya on 29 November, which was not suitable for children and elderly people. This action presents a serious violation of the IMC code and requires a serious penalty, according to the IMC.

00:38