

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 18/7/2006

OHR BiH Morning Media Brief

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
World news: Middle East crisis	BiH Delegation in Brussels	Ivanic meets troika in Brussels
BiH citizens in Israel and Lebanon	US Congressmen in BiH Presidency	Kostunica to present action plan
BiH , Serbia at EU meeting in Brussels	Delic entitled 60 % of his salary?	BiH Presid. met US Congress deleg.
Catholic cemeteries desecrated in TZ	October elections, update	Dodik on RS CoP re RS Telecom

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
Revoked sentence to Jelavic	Jelavic's sentence annulled?	Paravac on Delic's salary
World news: Middle East crisis	World News	US Congressmen in BiH Presidency
Interview with BiH Ambass. at Israel	BiH MFA on BiH citizens in Lebanon	A month detention for 6 persons
83 pct of BiH citizens want BiH in EU	EU Ambassadors re BiH politicians	RS Govt on RS Elektroprivreda

Oslobodjenje	[Former RS PM Bukejlovic] Ashdown protected participants of attack on Srebrenica
Dnevni Avaz	[IMF resident representative Slack] Extravagance could avenge BiH authorities
Dnevni List	Rabies infection - 14 people hospitalized (Bijeljina)
Vecernji List	'I do not know who liberated Mostar' (J. Manolic in the Hague)
Slobodna Dalmacija	Porn replaces HTV2 (on cable tv)
Nezavisne Novine	SNSD is the strongest in both BiH and RS'
Glas Srpske	Resource for the future
EuroBlic	School tuition outside the law [Report on high tuition at the Banja Luka School of Economics]
Vecernje novosti	Features Serbian related titles

Judicial issues, security and war crimes

<p>BiH Presidnecy Chair's Cabinet: Delic's payment legal; Presidency member Paravac asks Justice Ministry, OHR to asses legality</p>	<p>RTRS By <u>Zorica Rulj</u> – The Cabinet of the BiH Presidency Chair, Sulejman Tihic, confirmed on Monday that an ICTY suspect and former Tihic's adviser, General Rasim Delic, was receiving a salary from the budget of the BiH institutions. Press release issued by the Cabinet reads that Delic was receiving benefits on the basis of the Law on BiH institutions, which stipulates that any person suspended from office, during the term of custody or investigation, is entitled to 60% of the amount of their salary received prior to suspension. BiH Presidency member, Borislav Paravac demanded this decision to be legally evaluated, and he also asks from the BiH Justice Ministry and OHR to take their stance on the issue. Paravac says he received an explanation from BiH Presidency Secretariat, but finds it incomplete. <i>"It is still unknown whether the decision on payout was made on the basis of the Law on labour or Law on civil service; it is unknown whether Rasim Delic served as state official..."</i> says Paravac and adds these are the reasons why he decided to submit the BiH Justice Ministry with the documentation. <i>"Due to the fact that this is a political event, we are submitting OHR Political and Legal Affairs Departments with the same documentation"</i>, says Paravac. Tihic's Cabinet claims that everything has been done in line with the law and that Delic, who surrendered voluntarily, cannot be compared to war crime suspects who do not want to surrender. PINK, BHT1, Hayat, FTV – also reported. Dnevni List, pg 2 'Delic' case before OHR', <u>not signed</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 4 'Paravac asks OHR's opinion' <u>not signed</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Rasim Delic's suspension conducted by the law' <u>by Onasa</u>– Inset 'Paravac asks for OHR's stance' all carried. Paravac. Dnevni List, pg 3 'The Hague suspect gets compensation in line with law', <u>not signed</u>, Vecernji List, pg 2 'Delic entitled to compensation', by <u>ri</u>, EuroBlic RSpG 2 'Case at Ministry' by <u>R.R.</u>, Glas Srpske pg 3 'Sensitive political event' by <u>G.G.</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 4 '60% of salary to Rasim Delic' <u>not signed</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Rasim Delic's suspension conducted by the law' <u>by Onasa</u> – carried Tihic's cabinet release.</p>
<p>RS PM Dodik: Oric, Delic only move peoples in BiH away from reconciliation</p>	<p>RHB – RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik deemsthat everything that has been going on regarding ICTY indictees Naser Oric and Rasim Delic only move BiH peoples further away from reconciliation and mutual understanding, because persons indicted and convicted for war crimes should be absolutely without any kind of public attention. Nezavisne Novine pg 2, announced on cover 'The BiH Justice Ministry and OHR to make move' by <u>N.Krsman</u> – Slobodan Kovac, BiH Justice Minister, stated Monday he could not give any comment on the issue before he sees documentation on basis of which 60% pay was paid out to Delic.</p>
<p>BiH Prosecution indicts Mandic for war crimes at time he was Deputy Mol, and Justice Minister</p>	<p>BHT1- On Monday, the BiH Court confirmed the bill of indictment against Momcilo Mandic, accused of war crimes against the civilian population and crimes against humanity, the Court said. The indictment issued by the BiH Prosecutor's Office, reads that Mandic, in the capacity of Deputy RS Interior Minister commanded an attack carried out on 6 April 1992 by the RS police, in collaboration with military and paramilitary formations, against the Personnel Training Centre of BiH in the Vrace district of Sarajevo. Indictment also reads that between May and December 1992, in the capacity of RS Justice Minister, the accused was the highest instance responsible for the functioning of all correctional institutions in the RS. <i>"Among others, this applies to the Butmir correctional facility in Ilidza [in Sarajevo], its section located in Planjina kuca in Svrake (Vogosca), and the Foca correctional facility which is said to have had all the attributes of an internment camp in which a large number of non-Serb civilians had been held,"</i> the indictment reads. Mandic is currently standing trial, also before BiH Court, being suspected for misuse of office in the case of 'Privredna Bank East Sarajevo'. RHB, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni List pg 6 'Mandic Indictment confirmed' by <u>NINA</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Charged in four counts', announced on cover 'Indictment for war crimes against Momcilo Mandic upheld' by <u>A.Djozo</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 2 'War crimes indictment against Mandic confirmed' <u>by A.S.</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'War crimes indictment against Momcilo Mandic confirmed' <u>not signed</u> – also carried.</p>

<p>BiH Appellate Council revokes first degree sentence to Jelavic; new trial to be scheduled</p>	<p>Hayat - Appellate Council of the Court of BiH has revoked first-degree sentence to former BiH Presidency member Ante Jelavic, news agency SRNA learns from the Court of BiH. Jelavic was originally sentenced to ten years of prison for abuse of office in case of 'Hercegovacka Bank'. His attorney Dragan Barbaric said that the Appellate Council has decided to schedule a new court trial. However Jelavic, who is on the run since the day sentence was pronounced last October, would have to attend this new trial, and Barbaric claims that Jelavic has no intention of coming back to BiH. Jelavic's attorney deems that this problem will be solved if his client is processed before the court in Croatia.</p> <p>BHT1, FTV, Dnevni List pg 56 mentioned on cover 'Jelavic's sentence annulled' by <u>E. Mackic</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija pg 2 'Ante Jelavic's sentence annulled, trial to start over' by <u>V. Vegar</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 3, announced on cover 'BiH Court annulled 10-year prison term against Ante Jelavic' by <u>A.Dj.</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 3 'First degree sentence to Ante Jelavic revoked' by <u>D.P-A.S.</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'First degree sentence to Ante Jelavic revoked' by <u>N.J.</u> - also reported.</p>
<p>Ex RS PM Bukejlovic: Ex HR Ashdown ordered identity protection for participants of attack on Srebrenica</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje cover splash, pg 3 'Ashdown ordered identity protection for participants of attack on Srebrenica' by <u>A.Avdic</u> - Former RS Prime Minister Pero Bukejlovic told daily on Monday that it is not true he hid any documents related to Srebrenica. He denied statement of RS PM Milorad Dodik who stated recently he knows nothing about the list of those persons who participated in Srebrenica genocide, which was put together by RS Srebrenica Task Force, claiming his predecessor Bukejlovic hid the list. List contains approximately 28,000 names of persons that took part in attack on UN protected zone of Srebrenica, 892 of which are still working in state and entity institutions. Bukejlovic stressed: <i>"Dodik can obtain the list through the RS Government's bodies,"</i> adding the list could not be published because former High Representative Paddy Ashdown demanded identity protection for all those who appeared on the list. He added that all documents were submitted to the OHR, BiH Prosecution and the ICTY; last week, the chief ICTY Prosecutor Carla Del Ponte stated while attending marking of Srebrenica massacre that she was surprised the list was not published. She added that the Tribunal has not imposed embargo on publishing the list. 'Women of Srebrenica' President Hajra Catic confirmed for daily that Ashdown banned publishing the list, adding it is <i>"not logical to protect identities of those who had taken part in mass liquidations of our children."</i> She invited HR Christian Schwarz-Schilling to remove this ban.</p>
<p>Serb Diaspora in US threatens to Srebrenica wartime commander Oric and SBiH leader Silajdzic</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4, mentioned on cover 'Death threats to Naser Oric and Haris Silajdzic' by <u>E.S.</u> - Daily carries the letter of <i>"group of Bosnian Serbs living in Chicago, USA"</i> with death threats to Srebrenica wartime commander Naser Oric and SBiH leader Haris Silajdzic. The letter, addressed on Dnevni Avaz editorial board, was received on Monday, claim daily. The group was dissatisfied with ICTY sentence against Oric and <i>"Silajdzic who is defaming RS for years."</i></p>

European integrations

<p>BiH Foreign Minister meets EU Troika: without progress in police reform, there will be no signing of SAA</p>	<p>BHT1 by <u>Elvir Bucalo, Brussels</u> – On Monday in Brussels, the BiH Foreign Minister Mladen Ivanic met the EU Troika [EU High Representative Javier Solana, EU Enlargement Commissioner Olli Rehn and Finnish Foreign Minister Erkki Tuomioja] to discuss reforms in BiH, progress and lack of it including constitutional reform, and technical aspects of negotiations on Stabilisation and Association Agreement. <i>“It is evident... there are few [problems] but only one is the main and according to EU that is the police reform. It is well-known that in BiH there is still no political consensus regarding the police reform while it is also well-known fact [what] EU attitude would be in case of no progress in police reform: the SAA will not be signed by the end of the year.”</i> said Ivanic. Reporter reiterated that Europeans are not satisfied with police reform progress since it is one of the key conditions for signing SAA, in addition to reforms of public broadcasting and public administration. The Finnish Foreign Minister, Tuomioja, expressed hope that progress of reforms in BiH will be improved in order to normalize the situation in country. The status of BiH in the September SAA negotiations can be improved only by urgent political agreement on the police reform as the start, added reporter. Dnevni Avaz pg 2 ‘Police reform remains condition for signing of the Agreement’ by <u>E.Sarac</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 3 ‘Do not expect SAA without police reform’ by <u>M.K.S.</u> – In a statement to DA after the meeting, Ivanic says that <i>“it is more than clear that the EC doesn’t want to go into the details of the reform, but would continue to insist on three principles.”</i> Ivanic deems there is a need for local politicians to agree on this issue, adding it is not realistic to expect from the experts in the [Police Reform] Directorate to reach solution without political agreement. He also adds the EU officials noted constitutional reform is important, but “neither is nor will be” [as Ivanic puts it] a condition. FTV, RHB, PINK, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 ‘Ivanic with European three’ by <u>A.S.</u> – also reported on the meeting.</p>
<p>Oslob: OHR and BiH CoM Chair Terzic trying to solve problem of PRD SB Chair position – no Serb members want to take over the duty</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 2 ‘Serb experts do not want to chair Police Reform Directorate’ by <u>Az.K.</u> – Article carries that police reform is heading another blockade, for none of the Serb members of Police Reform Directorate [PRD] Steering Board so far accepted to take over Chair position on July 26, following the regular rotation process. Daily learns that the OHR and BiH Council of Ministers Chair Adnan Terzic would try to solve the problem at the meeting scheduled for Tuesday. PRD SB Chair Sead Lisak confirmed on Monday that RS Police Director Uros Pena couldn’t take over the position for he has a status of spectator, SIPA Director Sredoje Novic had personal and health problems. Head of Brcko District Police Milenko Milicevic confirmed for daily that he would also refuse to chair PDR, because his mandate expires by end of year.</p>
<p>EU Head of Missions in BiH express concern regarding statements that question territorial integrity of BiH; DPA cannot be changed unilaterally</p>	<p>BHT1– The EU Heads of Missions in BiH noted with concern some recent statements by politicians in BiH that seem to question its territorial integrity and the constitutional order, said the German Embassy to BiH on Monday. <i>“The territorial integrity of BiH as well as the existence of both Entities as integral parts of the country are recognized in the Constitution of BiH. Changes to the DPA cannot be done unilaterally, but only through the proper procedures prescribed therein. The EU Heads of Mission call upon all politicians in BiH to conduct the electoral campaign in a responsible manner and to respect the legal framework of the DPA,”</i> reads the statement. RHB, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni List, pg 6 ‘Respect Dayton agreement’, by <u>NINA</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 ‘Dayton Peace Agreement must be respected’ by <u>N.N.</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 3 ‘Do not touch BiH territorial integrity’ <u>not signed</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 ‘No unilateral changes of Dayton’ by <u>Onasa</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 3 ‘Do not touch BiH territorial integrity’ <u>not signed</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 ‘No unilateral changes of Dayton’ by <u>Onasa</u> – also carried.</p>

Finish Foreign Minister expresses concerns with referendum talk; Minister Ivanic: some are not ready for OHR to leave	Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Police reform remains condition for signing of the Agreement' by <u>E.Sarac</u> , inset 'EU concerned with statements on referendum in RS' by <u>Tanjug</u> – Finnish Foreign Minister Erkki Tuomioja [Finland currently presides over the EU] stated [following the meeting with BiH Foreign Minister, Mladen Ivanic] that the EU is concerned with the fact that certain politicians from the RS are mentioning the possibility of referendum. He stated that Brussels advocates for "full respect of BiH territorial integrity". Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Do not expect SAA without police reform' by <u>M.K.S.</u> – Ivanic informed EU that there are those in BiH who believe that OHR shouldn't be closed, but that he is supporting this decision. Ivanic stated that he believes that BiH institutions have enough time to prove their responsibility by mid of next year, when OHR's closure is announced. Inset 'BiH tired from waiting of liberalization of visas' – carries same statement as in DA.
Oslo. op-ed: For OHR to shut down, BiH must have European Const., sign SAA, Karadzic and Mladic must be arrested	Oslobodjenje , pg 9 'Transfer to Brussels', by <u>Zija Dizdarevic</u> – Commenting on the announcement that the OHR could be shutting down in end June next year, <u>Dizdarevic</u> argues the announcement came to hastily without Brussels (EU) giving any clear guidelines to BiH related to its transition into a normal country. The author argues that the demise of the OHR would be reasonable only if BiH (by June 30, 2007) got a normal, pro-European constitution, if SAA were signed and if BiH joined the Partnership for Peace programme with promises that the country would join NATO in shortest possible period. <u>Dizdarevic</u> also stresses that shutting down of OHR is reasonable only when the two most wanted war crimes suspects, Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic , are arrested. As for the HR, Christian Schwarz-Schilling , <u>Dizdarevic</u> notes the HR should be paying extra attention to the return process, by providing (new) data and giving opinion about the overall picture.
Assistant BiH Foreign Minister Perkovic said that EC would deliver to BiH its proposal on visa mitigation for BiH citizens	Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'BiH Negotiation team is waiting for the answers from Brussels' by <u>M. Cubro</u> – Assistant BiH Foreign Affairs Minister and member of BiH Negotiation Team with the EU Zoran Perkovic told daily that EC would in few days deliver to BiH authorities its proposals for the mitigation of the visa regime for BiH citizens. Perkovic explained BiH proposed gradually visa abolishment for certain BiH categories, in other words issue of visa for longer period and with smaller expenses. Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Police reform remains condition for signing of the Agreement' by <u>E.Sarac</u> , Inset 'EC gets mandate for visa liberalization', Oslobodjenje pg 3 inset 'BiH tired from waiting of liberalization of visas' – BiH Foreign Minister Mladen Ivanic , who met EU troika on Monday, said visa issues were discussed and that upon his insisting, by end of this week EC should get the mandate to talk about liberalization of visa regime with all regional countries.
GS op-ed: Author states that the integration of BiH is imposed by the IC	Glas Srpske op-edpg 2 'World trend' by <u>Nenad Kecmanovic</u> – Author states that democratic separations but not imposed integrations present world trend adding that EU did not manage to preserve any post communist country. Author questions whether three peoples in BiH want and under which conditions to live together in one country. According to author, examples of Switzerland and Belgium are very often mentioned to BiH peoples as proof of stable multinational countries. However, author believes that peoples in Belgium and Switzerland wanted to live together and build mechanism of equality while BiH peoples fought in the war and the international community (IC) imposed mechanism of equality to them. Author states the IC should instead of centralizing BiH transfer more responsibility to cantons and entities; introduce third entity and make relations between peoples more relaxed. Author notes IC is increasing dose of wrong medication to BiH, which will not recover but kill BiH when foreign therapists leave.

Elections and other political issues

<p>Because of launching of VNI by Bosniak Caucus in RS CoP, SNSD demands "mini constitutional changes to asses the role of RS CoP"</p>	<p>BHT1By <u>Boris Gagic</u> – After Bosniak Caucus in the RS Council of Peoples launched procedure for protection of the vital national interest regarding the privatisation of RS Telecom, the RS Government stated the privatisation could not be stopped regardless of activities taken by the RS CoP. <i>"There is absolutely no reason for doing that. We demand form the RS CoP to hold the session in this week, otherwise the entire issue will be presented before the RS Constitutional Court as this is yet another example of political manipulation"</i> stated RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik. Reporter stated that in order to carry out the privatisation, Dodik's SNSD demands mini-constitutional changes. Rajko Vasic, SNSD Secretary-General, stated party would ask for <i>"an urgent reform of RS Constitution to re-assess the position and role of RS CoP"</i>. This request was considered by the RS Vice President Adil Osmanovic as <i>"an abuse of RS CoP"</i> completely denying any of aforementioned allegations regarding the launch of VNI. <i>"There are no valid arguments to change the RS Constitution and the role of CoP"</i> added Osmanovic. RTRS-SDS Vice Chair, Dusan Stojicic, said that the Bosniak Caucus is abusing protection of vital national interest, which would cause enormous economic damage. <i>"I find this action completely unacceptable and unexpected, and the RS Constitutional Court is the only place where this issue could be solved and I hope that the RS CC would soon discuss the issue"</i>, says Stojicic. DNS states that Telecom privatization process has been launched several years ago and that everything has been done in line with the law. <i>"Bosniak Caucus has used this opportunity and abuse the RS CoP, preventing Telecom Srpske from announcing a tender, even though the process has reached its final phase"</i>, said Nedeljko Cubrilovic, DNS representative. The Chair of the RS Serb Party, Predrag Lazarevic claims that the privatization cannot damage Bosniaks' vital interest, but that the Caucus fears that through this privatization process, RS would become economically more developed. FTV- carried Dodik's statement. Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'No one could stop the privatisation' by <u>CA.Sekulic</u>, Glas Srpske pg 2 'Obstruction will not pass' by <u>G. Dakic</u> carried Dodik and Vasic. Nezavisne Novine pg 8 'New call for removal of Sefket Hafizovic' by <u>V.P.</u>, EuroBlic RSpG 2 'New demand for removal of Sefket Hafizovic' by <u>SRNA</u> – also reported.</p>
<p>Serb parties ask RSNA Speaker to remove SDA's Hafizovic at Tue session; SDA replies it would withdraw support to RS Govt</p>	<p>BHT1- Delegate from Serb Caucus at RS Council of Peoples, Milojko Grujicic, asked from RS National Assembly Speaker Igor Radojicic to remove RS NA Deputy Speaker Sefket Hafizovic at the session scheduled on Tuesday. The request is filed following the recent meeting between Hafizovic and wartime Commander of Srebrenica Naser Oric. SDS announced to support this initiative as reported by SDS Vice President Dusan Stojicic. FTV- Head and Deputy Head of SDA Sulejman Tihic and Adil Osmanovic respectively, received on Monday the SDA members of RSNA and RS CoP respectively. They discussed the current situation in RS with a special focus on Hafizovic. In that case, the SDA announced it would withdraw its support to the RS Government. RTRS - SDS representatives are going to support initiative on dismissal of Hafizovic. Dnevni List pg 5 'SDA denies support to RS Government' <u>unsigned</u> - carried SDA.</p>
<p>SDA's Hafizovic: If they vote, I will leave</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 3 'If Hafizovic is replaced SDA s withdrawing from the RS Government' <u>not signed</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'SDA would leave RS Government' by <u>N.D.</u> - Sefket Hafizovic told DA that SDA would not wait for confidence vote, but would leave the RSNA in case of launching of the initiative for his replacement, which was announced by Radicals and SDS. Inset 'Dodik: We will not support Radicals' - RS PM Milorad Dodik said that he never supported Radicals, and will not do it now, underlining that he has his own opinion about Hafizovic.</p>
<p>RS PM Dodik: Bosniak Caucus abused vital national interest</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'No one could stop the privatisation' by <u>CA.Sekulic</u> - Regarding the privatisation of RS Telekom and the initiative of Bosniak Caucus at the RS Council of Peoples to launch the procedure for the protection of vital national interest (VNI), RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik said that Bosniak Caucus abused VNI adding that this mechanism (VNI) showed as motive for RS obstruction while such Council that would deal with such issue has never been established in FBiH. SNSD Main Board member Rajko Vasic said <i>"Launching the procedure of vital national interest regarding the privatisation of the RS Telekom is reliable sign of BiH collapse. Collapse of states is always based on economic issues, and it started that way if former Yugoslavia as well"</i>.</p>

<p>CEC's Petric: candidates removed from elections lists have by July 19 to correct all irregularities</p>	<p>FTV by <u>Gordana Antonic</u> – The Head of BiH Central Election Commission, Branko Petric, told SRNA news agency that certain number of candidates removed from the election lists, due to irregularities with their nominations and their non-compliance with the BiH Election Law, are given July 19 deadline to correct irregularities. Petric explained that candidates who were not registered in central voter registration list [i.e. without CIPS documents] at all would be completely removed from the lists. Out of 663 candidates removed from the election list, Petric said that 272 were registered, but not in a same election unit they nominated for; 87 candidates were not registered in a central voter registration list at all; 10 candidates were on two or more lists of candidates; 4 candidates are under investigation, which is why they cannot run at the elections; 254 candidates have not either verified their candidacy by public notary or submitted the confirmation of accepting candidacy; 34 candidates have not delivered candidature forms or statements accepting candidacy, one was already member of Municipal Election Commission and one nominated for the Serb Presidency member was a Bosniak. [Note: in both cases of 254 and 34 removed candidates, media report reason was failure to submit statement accepting candidacy, but they do not explain explaining difference between them]. Reporter added that candidate Tihomir Gligoric personally asked to be removed from the list of candidates, for private reasons. Oslobodjenje pgs 4-5, mentioned on cover 'More than 100 candidates suspended' by <u>A.Terzic</u> – Daily carries that the only thing that is for sure is that 87 candidates that were not registered in a central voter registration list at all could not go for elections. RHB, PINK, Hayat, Dnevni List, pg 8 'Eliminate shortcomings of candidates removed from election lists', <u>not signed</u>. Glas Srpske pg 5 'Deficiencies to be removed' by <u>not signed</u> – also carried.</p>
<p>CEC: verification of candidates until 23 July</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'Bajramovic: Deadline for correcting of irregularities expires tomorrow' by <u>L.S.</u> – In a statement to DA, Spokesperson of BiH CEC Maksida Bajramovic said that after expiration of deadline for correcting of irregularities, CEC would start with final verification of candidates. This verification would last by July 23, when submitting of lists for compensation mandates would start.</p>
<p>SBiH's Silajdzic on CEC decision to remove their Bosniak candidate from election list for Serb member of Presidency: Dayton is discriminatory</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'Such decisions were being brought only in South Africa by 1994' by <u>E.Sarac</u> – Commenting decision of Central Election Commission [CEC] to remove candidacy for Bosniak member of BiH Presidency from RS Ilijaz Pilav [SBiH] as unconstitutional, SBiH leader Haris Silajdzic stated his party intentionally did so, in order to point out "<i>the discriminatory nature of Dayton Peace Agreement</i>". Silajdzic underlined that Pilav cannot be on elections list only because of his name, which is an apartheid-like decision.</p>
<p>NN op-ed: candidates removed from election lists failed to respect law of the country in which they want to be a part of the legislation</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine op-ed pg 7 'Legislators outside the law' by <u>Rubina Cengic</u> – Author states BiH Central Election Commission removed 663 candidates from the election lists due to different irregularities (author mentions some candidates did not have ID) adding that every hundredth candidate was removed. Author also states that every hundredth candidate does not respect the law of its country in which want to be a part of the legislation noting that those candidates broke the law by walking around BiH without having the ID. According to author, the fact that Svetlana Cenik was among those who did not have ID was surprising and disappointing.</p>
<p>According to the UNDP Poll, SNSD is the party with the highest support in BiH and RS</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine cover splash, pg 3 'SNSD is the strongest in both BiH and RS' Public opinion poll conducted in June by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) shows that one third of BiH citizens would vote for SNSD if the elections are to be held this week (In BiH: SNSD – 30,9%, SDP – 13,9% , SDA – 11,6%, SzBiH – 8,4 %, HDZ – 7,3%, SDS – 5,3%, other parties would get less than 2%; In RS: SNSD – 67%, SDS – 11,1%, SRS 'DR. Vojislav Seselj' – 4,4%, PDP 3,8%, SDP – 3,1%, DNS – 2,8%; In FBiH : SDP – 24%; SDA – 20,6%; SzBiH – 15,8%, HDZ – 13,7%, BOSS – 8,6%; In Brcko District: SDA – 26,9%, SzBiH and SDP -11% each, BOSS, HSP and HDZ – 9,4% each, SDS – 5%, SNSD – 4%). Poll included 654 citizens from all three constitutive peoples. According to UNDP Poll from December 2005, SNSD also had the highest support but this support increased significantly in last six months. RTRS, Glas Srpske pg 3 'Support to SNSD of 67%' by <u>SRNA</u> – also reported.</p>

<p>SD int with Ivo Miro Jovic: 'We are not sovereign because we do not manage our wallet'</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija pg 9 mentioned on cover 'We are not sovereign because we do not manage our wallet' by <u>Marko Karacic</u> – SD runs an interview with Croat BiH Presidency member and HDZ BiH candidate for the same position in the October elections Ivo-Miro Jovic. Asked about the possibility of two Croat media outlets in Mostar shutting down and the “terrorist threat to Croats in Mostar”, Jovic replies that Croats in BiH are in such a position because <i>'the decisions the world's policy makers have been making in the last fifteen years have been intended to deprive Croats in BiH of their constituency and sovereignty.'</i> He believes the way to guarantee a future for the Croats in BiH and prosperity for entire BiH is to apply EU standards in BiH as soon as possible. Jovic says that <i>'constituency without sovereignty is nothing and the Croat people is not sovereign because it does not manage its wallet but instead depends on others for that'</i>. It is absurd, he continues, that even ethnic minorities in BiH have the right to their own media and Croats, as a constituent people, do not. That was the reason, Jovic adds, he referred the BiH law on PBS to the BiH Constitutional Court but there are already pressures coming from the IC trying to influence future solutions regulating this field. Inset: Jovic says he deeply believes in his win in the upcoming elections and sees no serious competitors among other candidates.</p>
<p>BiH HoR Speaker Raguz visits Croatia</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 5, mentioned on front 'Croats in offside – Croatian help continues', by <u>Dario Pusic</u> – Speaker of the BiH House of Representatives Martin Raguz will pay an official visit to Croatia on Tuesday, where he would hold meetings with Croatian Parliament Speaker Vladimir Seks, Croatian Deputy Prime Minister Jadranka Kosor and Foreign Minister Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic. The main topic of discussions will be the continuation of reform processes in BiH, Croatian help to BiH and the possibilities of cooperation between the two countries in getting closer to the EU. According to DL's unofficial information, Raguz (a senior member of HDZ 1990) could also be talking to his Croatian hosts (senior figures in Croatian HDZ) about an alleged document the HDZ BiH has sent to the Croatian PM and leader of HDZ Croatia Ivo Sanader, which compromises many members of HDZ 1990 (document allegedly says they are close to Mafia circles etc). (NB: the headline of article is unclear, does not refer to any part of article itself, possibly refers to BiH Croats' geographic position in relation to Croatia) RHB, Vecernji List, pg 8 'Raguz in official visit to Croatia', by <u>H. Dnevni Avaz</u> pg 8 'To meet with Mesic as well' <u>not signed</u> – announced visit.</p>
<p>DA op-ed slams RS politicians for forgetting reforms due to elections</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'Is way to Europe forgotten?' by <u>Edina Sarac</u> – Commenting that BiH politicians forgotten reforms processes necessary for EU approaching at the same moment when the October elections were scheduled, editorial condemns mostly RS politicians for taking pre-election stances that are not helping reforms at all. Author warns that all BiH citizens, not depending of the place in BiH they live, could pay the price of such policy.</p>

Economic, social and media issues

RS PM Dodiks says RS Govvt would not private Elektrioprivreda	Glas Srpske cover splash 'Resource for the future' by G. Dakic , Nezavisne Novine pg 5 'Elektroprivreda should not be privatised' by A. Sekulic , EuroBlic pg RS2 'Elektroprivreda is not for sale' by Tijana Veselinovic – At the RS Government's Monday session, RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik said that the RS Government is not supportive of 'Elektroprivreda' privatisation adding the RS Government asked from 'Elektroprivreda' management to propose construction of one hydroelectric power station of 50 mega Watt. Dodik also said the RS Government would consider assigned concessions and would deny them in case of irregularities. Namely, the RS Government claims the international financial organizations' loans should not be accepted but those loans should be provided through neutral financial market, without political requests. The Government asked the independent Regulatory Commission to make electricity price equal for citizens and industry. RS Government believes it is necessary to strengthen capacities of 'Elektroprivreda' since production of electrical energy is resource of high importance for the RS' and BiH' future. RS Government supported structure of 'Elektroprivreda' as 'holding', which expects the RS owns home company (100%), elects Supervisory Board and gives compliance for the election of the management. PINK, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'RS Government asks for electricity prices for industry to decrease for 30%' by Fena
RS Int. Minister, RS Mol Trade Union sign new collective contract; increase of salaries agreed but budget rebalance requirement	PINK by Dragica Tojagic – On Monday, the RS Interior Minister, Stanislav Cadjo , and the Chair of Trade Union of RS Mol employees, Dusko Jandric , signed new, special collective contract under which the Interior Ministry's employees would be entitled to "greater rights". Namely, the new agreement foresees means to pay for overtime and night shifts, increase salary coefficients, etc. <i>"We have increased coefficients to all employees, including police officers, from 3 to 4.3-4.5"</i> , says Jandric. The signed agreement does not mean that salaries are going to be increased immediately; the agreement creates presumptions, in order to have negotiations on new labour price started by the fall. RTRS- <i>"We have agreed upon this, but since we have not started this year with such project, we will have to wait for budget rebalance"</i> , says Jandric. BHT1, Hayat, FTV, Glas Srpske pg 3 'Better rights and pays for the police' by M. Milunovic , EuroBlic RSpg3 'Raise as of next year' by D. Filipovic – also carried.
RS PM Dodik denies BiH CoM Chair Terzic on realization of RS Budget	Dnevni List , pg 6 'Terzic tells untruth', not signed, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Dodik: The RS Budget is being realized in in almost the hundred-percent rate' by FENA – On Monday, RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik said the RS Budget is being realized in full and the statements of BiH Council of Ministers Chair Adnan Terzic that the RS Government is obstructing the agreement on coefficients of revenue distribution because they are not providing for the planned amount of funds in the budget are absolutely incorrect. Dodik claims that the RS Budget is realized <i>"in almost the hundred-percent rate"</i> and that the RS Government at this moment is not concerned about the blockade of funds on the account of the BiH Indirect Tax Administration.
IMF resident representative Slack: Extravagance could avenge BiH authorities in 2007	Dnevni Avaz cover splash, pg 5 'Extravagance could boomerang on BiH authorities' by Tarik Lazovic – In an interview for daily, International Monetary Fund [IMF] resident representative to BiH, Graham Slack , said IMF is worried with a decrease of budgetary discipline and an increase of public spending in BiH. He underlined that BiH authorities should not rely on temporary increase of budgetary income, for it could boomerang on them by beginning of next year, for which period IMF foresees that a deficit in a state budget could reappear. Slack noted that capital investments in infrastructure would take the first blow of budget deficit, adding that temporary surplus of income should be spent on income tax reform, in order to improve new employments.
RS PM Dodik: SRNA news agency facing many problems	Glas Srpske pg 2 'Obstruction will not pass' by G. Dakic – RS Premier, Milorad Dodik , Monday stated that SRNA (Serb Press Agency) has a lot of problems, it is irrational and it needs certain changes, adding: <i>"The fact is that previous management has driven SRNA in debt of BAM 1.2 million, so it now cannot service loans and pay expenses."</i> He added this issue needs to be resolved by the newly-elected Supervisory Board, and until then everybody will remain <i>"at the so far level"</i> . He noted media attention is diverted in wrong direction.

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on **18 July**

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	BH Radio 1 (12,00 hrs)	RTRS (12,00 hrs)
No peace in middle East	FBiH HoR on Ombudsmen work	RS NA in session
Tsunami in Java - update	RSNA on agriculture development	Talks btw BG-Pristina resume
Speaker of BiH HoR Raguz in Zagreb	Appellate Council on Jelavic case	Conflict btw Israel-Lebanon continue

TV news broadcast on **17 July**

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
World news: Middle East crisis	BiH Delegation in Brussels	Ivanic meets troika in Brussels
BiH citizens in Israel and Lebanon	US Congressmen in BiH Presidency	Kostunica to present action plan
BiH, Serbia at EU meeting in Brussels	Delic entitled 60 % of his salary?	BiH Presid. met US Congress deleg.
Catholic cemeteries desecrated in TZ	October elections, update	Dodik on RS CoP re RS Telecom

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
Revoked sentence to Jelavic	Jelavic's sentence annulled?	Paravac on Delic's salary
World news: Middle East crisis	World News	US Congressmen in BiH Presidency
Interview with BiH Ambass. at Israel	BiH MFA on BiH citizens in Lebanon	A month detention for 6 persons
83 pct of BiH citizens want BiH in EU	EU Ambassadors re BiH politicians	RS Govt on RS Elektroprivreda

Oslobodjenje	[Former RS PM Bukejlovic] Ashdown protected participants of attack on Srebrenica
Dnevni Avaz	[IMF resident representative Slack] Extravagance could avenge BiH authorities
Dnevni List	Rabies infection - 14 people hospitalized (Bijeljina)
Vecernji List	'I do not know who liberated Mostar' (J. Manolic in the Hague)
Slobodna Dalmacija	Porn replaces HTV2 (on cable tv)
Nezavisne Novine	SNSD is the strongest in both BiH and RS'
Glas Srpske	Resource for the future
EuroBlic	School tuition outside the law [Report on high tuition at the Banja Luka School of Economics]
Vecernje novosti	Features Serbian related titles

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY

FBiH HoR discusses work of FBiH Ombudsmen in 2005	BH Radio 1, RHB - In continuance of the session of FBiH House of Representatives, MPs have not accepted the report on FBiH Ombudsmen's work in last year with evaluation of status of human rights in FBiH. During the discussion MPs have expressed many critics and the "loudest" were MPs of SDA, who questioned the purpose of existence of this institution " <i>considering achieved results compared to given authorities</i> ". One of the objections refers to "unreasonably high salaries", which as was pointed, are in line with FBiH Judges. MPs also object to their failure to react when necessary, such as in case "Pogorelica". MPs agreed that it is a good thing that this institution will no longer be on FBiH Budget, since as of New Year entities' institutions would be abolished and only BiH Ombudsmen Office would exist. During the continuance of the session it is expected for MPs to vote on two proposal laws, on which the voting was postponed. Namely, MPs should vote on proposal law on lowest net hourly wage and proposal law on income tax.
---	---

Cooperation with ICTY and war crimes

Serbia presents Action Plan to EU Troika	<p>FTV By Zinaida Hamidovic – Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica is going to present the Action Plan for Cooperation with ICTY to EU Troika in Brussels on Monday evening. Action Plan contains confidential measures that could be controlled by EU in order to arrest ICTY indictees. According to diplomatic sources in Brussels, if the Action Plan is approved by EU, the negotiations on Stabilisation and Association Agreement will resume even if Ratko Mladic is not arrested and extradited to ICTY. EU is going to discuss and the issue of visa regime liberalisation. Luxemburg's Minister of Foreign Affairs Jean Asselborn stated that they only expect 100% of ICTY cooperation in order to reach the agreement. Ursula Plasnik, Austrian MFA, stated, "<i>EU is ready to help Serbia but Belgrade Authorities have to take the first step and arrest the indictees</i>". Finnish Foreign Minister, Erkki Tuomioja, hopes to the positive outcome of the meeting with Kostunica. RHB, BHT1- carried. Vecernji List pg 16 'Plan to capture Mladic presented' by Stojan de Prato – VL reports that Kostunica on Monday evening presented a plan to capture Mladic. Vecernje Novosti pg 2 'Mladic is in Serbia' by not signed – ICTY spokesperson Anton Nikiforov said that wart crimes suspect Ratko Mladic hides in Serbia adding that he has no information about location of war crimes suspect Radovan Karadzic. Blic pg 3 'Plan for the arrest of Mladic is state secret' by Nenad Calukovic, Vecernje Novosti pg 3 'Brussels is asking for an action' by Z. Pantelic, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Action Plan lacks the details' by Agencies – also reported.</p>
Oslob op-ed: Main goal of Serbian PM Kostunica's 'Action Plan' is to restructure security structures in Serbia	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 9 'Plan for Mladic' op-ed by Senka Kurtovic – Commenting on Serbian Action Plan for Cooperation with the ICTY presented to EU officials in Brussels on Monday evening by Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica, editorial notes that Kostunica is not bothered by capturing Ratko Mladic as much as he is eager to restructure the security and intelligence services in his homeland. Author notes: "<i>Ones that rule security services – rule Serbia. And those are neither Kostunica nor [Serbian President Boris] Tadic. Action Plan is really last chance for disoriented Serbia and its politicians, who beside Mladic, have burden of Kosovo on their shoulders.</i>" Editorial ends wondering to whom it is more important to see this story finished, "<i>for Europe and world, so they could finally, with clear consciousness start closing the Tribunal, or for Serbia to step away from its bad past?</i>"</p>
US Ambassador to Serbia Polt: EU and US expect Action Plan to fruit with results	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 5 'Apprehension of Ratko Mladic is inevitable' by B92 – Commenting on 'Action Plan', presented by Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica, US Ambassador to Serbia Michael Polt said EU and US expect the Plan to fruit with results: "<i>If this is a plan that serves for buying time, in order for this issue to be further discussed, it won't have an effect. If this is call for action, not only by few, but by all in the country, than it would have positive effects, and I hope it would be like that.</i>"</p>
SDS Vice Chair asks for update on case against 49 Bosniaks	<p>RTRS- The vice-president of the SDS Bosko Siljegovic, asked BiH Justice Ministry, BiH Court and Prosecution to say how far the investigation against 49 Bosniaks suspected of committing war crimes in Srebrenica has progressed. "<i>The ICTY forwarded the case to the BiH Court over a year and a half ago and 3,262 mothers and wives in black are entitled to the truth and a just trial for the murderers of their sons and husbands,</i>" says Siljegovic in a press release. He explained that this request is a result of the provocative reception for holders of 'Golden Lily' medal and 'Golden Police Badge' held by the Srebrenica mayor, Abdurahman Malkic, and which was attended by wartime commanders and "war criminals" Naser Oric and Zulfo Tursunovic. Hayat, Glas Srpske pg 2 'What is with the investigation' by not signed, EuroBlic pg RS2 'Who is obstructing the investigation' by not signed – also reported.</p>

DA: No one of the responsible knows how was 1 million KM allocated for cooperation with ICTY spent	Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Cavic demanded one million KM more for 'special' needs' by <u>N. Diklic</u> - Following the story published in Banja Luka-based daily <i>Nezavisne Novine</i> on audit report of RS Interior Ministry [Mol] business activities in 2005, DA carries that the RS Government assigned 1 million KM, from the budgetary reserve for 2004, to RS Mol 'for special needs', i.e. for operative expenses related to the cooperation with the ICTY. Daily carries that audit report does not state how this amount was spent and for what purpose. Former RS Prime Minister Pero Bukejlovic told Avaz that these issues were top-secret, adding that no one except the Mol and RS Police Director knows how this money was allocated and according to which principles: <i>"These funds were spent during my mandate, but after allocating money to RS Mol, Government lost any possibility for supervision. The same problem occurred last year, when RS President Dragan Cavic demanded RS Mol to allocate the same amount again to the RS Police."</i> Ex-RS Finance Minister Svetlana Cenic confirmed that the amount was never allocated again. Ex-RS PM Dragan Mikerevic stated that he could not remember what purpose was the money allocated for. Article carries that the two responsible for money spending, ex-RS Mol Darko Matijasevic and ex-RS Police Director Dragomir Andan did not want to give any comments, as well as current RS Mol Stanislav Cadjo . Inset 'Money is not given to families' - Article carries that the only thing that is known with certainty is that the money was not given to the families of ICTY detainees, which was confirmed by Head of RS Government Secretariat for Cooperation with the ICTY Jovan Spaic .
RS Ass. of families of fallen and missing soldiers criticizes Masovic, saying he obstructs search for the missing	Glas Srpske pg 4 'Politics is holding the brake?' by <u>G. Klepic</u> - The RS Association of families of fallen and missing soldiers organized a two-day round table in Banja Luka, discussing search for imprisoned and missing persons. The Association believes the appointment of Amor Masovic , Chair of FBIH Commission on missing persons at the BiH Institute for Missing Persons would make an obstacle in the process of search. RS Office for search of missing persons Milan Bogdanic said number of exhumations decreases every year. Chair of Association for missing and forcibly expelled persons from Croatia Ruzica Spasic said exhumations of Serbs are always stopped in order to buy time. Chair of Bosniak Association for missing persons Ahmet Grahic said politics should not interfere in search. According to inset 'Slow process', Chair of the International Commission for missing persons Katherine Bomberger expects BiH Institute to start working on October 1 st adding politics is not an obstacle but slow and long bureaucratic process. Bomberger stated that the appointment of Masovic is not legally disputable. Nezavisne Novine pg 8 'Mitrovic: Masovic obstructs the search' by <u>G. Maunaga</u> - Chair of the Association, Nedeljko Mitrovic , accused Masovic of obstructing the process of search and only works in the interest of his people. BHT1, FTV, RTRS - also report
GS reports verdict to Oric at least proved that there were killings of Serb prisoners and destruction of Serb villages	Glas Srpske pg 2 'Victims can not be hidden' by <u>G. Klepic, D. Majstorevic</u> - Daily refers to the crimes that were committed against Serbs in the area of Srebrenica and Bratunac in 1992 and 1993 taking into consideration release of Naser Oric . Daily states RS Ministry of Interior submitted reports on crimes in this area to BiH Prosecution noting that BiH Prosecution did nothing regarding this issue. Daily also states that the ICTY verdict to Oric justified all that happened to Serbs in this area during the war. Daily reported ICTY at least concluded tortures and killings of Serb prisoners and destruction of Serb villages (although Oric was not proclaimed directly guilty) adding that this might clear up the situation in Srebrenica before July 1995.

Economic issues

BiH marks 37.12% increase in export; VAT has positive effects, but experts deem that Law should be more flexible	Hayat by <u>Zumra Arnautovic</u> – During the first six months of 2006, BiH has exported goods totalling approx. 2,45 million KM, which is 37.12% more than compared to same period of 2005. The biggest foreign-trade partner is Croatia; 33.23% of import has been covered with export. <i>“As you can see, the participation of countries that signed the Free Trade Agreement in our foreign-trade exchange is getting bigger and bigger. It proves that those agreements have some effect after all”</i> , stated Savo Marjanac , representative of BiH Foreign Trade Chamber [FTC]. BiH mainly exports ore and metal products, wood, paper and furniture; even though Value Added Tax introduction had positive effect on export, members of BiH FTC claim that some things should be changed. <i>“I think that both the Rulebook and the Law should be changed, and become more flexible and effective”</i> , stated Dusko Bogdanovic from the FTC’s Macroeconomic Sector. PINK, BHT1- also reported.
IMF warning: BiH could face budget collapse due to unreasonable spending	Hayat by <u>Elma Kazagic</u> – Despite positive macroeconomic trends, the International Monetary Fund [IMF] has warned once again that BiH could face budget collapse next year, due to unreasonable spending of budget money. IMF report emphasized that the economic growth in BiH was on a satisfactory level, export has increased and Value Added Tax has been successfully introduced; however, budget discipline is getting even weaker, while the necessary reforms have been suspended. <i>“The budgets for 2006 have dramatically increased expenses. Governments on lower levels of authority are planning to increase their salaries, while the amendments to the law on old foreign currency savings – if they are adopted – would be another shock to a budget”</i> , stated IMF representative in BiH Graham Slack . Members of BiH Economic Council agree with this assessment; they claim that some improvements have been made, but in the same time a slowdown in institutional strengthening of the state is evident. <i>“The World Bank has cancelled a \$50 million loan for adapting social sector, because regulations in the field of veterans and disabled persons’ protection have not been harmonized with European standards”</i> , stated member of Economic Council Zarko Papic . Dnevni List pg ‘Excessive pre-election spending will cost citizens’ by <u>Danijela Kozina</u> – also reported.
Int. w/ Finance Minister Vrankic on proposed Income Tax Law: New law respects everyone’s personal situation	Vecernji List pg 6 mentioned on cover ‘100,000 employees will not be paying income tax’ by <u>Zoran Kresic</u> – VL interviews FBiH Finance Minister Dragan Vrankic on the topic of the expected adoption of the new Law on Income Tax. Vrankic calculates that, under the new law, a single person would pay 20 KM tax on a 500 KM income whereas a family with 2 children would pay 14 KM on the same amount. He explains that progressive tax rates will be 5 % (income up to KM 400), 10 % (800 KM), 15 % (1500 KM) and 20% (income over 1500 KM) and that pensions and scholarships will not be taxable. Regarding workers who are on minimum wages, Vrankic says 100,000 workers in FBiH with two or more children will not pay income tax because annual income under KM 1200 will not be subject to taxation. Based on the above, Vrankic says new law will respect everybody’s personal circumstances and family situation.
FBiH HoR to vote on Income Tax: SDA to support provision, SBiH only after settling certain ‘unclear’ issues	Dnevni Avaz pg 4 ‘Will deputies vote for introduction of Income Tax?’ by <u>Ad.H.</u> – Announcing that FBiH House of Representatives would vote on introduction of Income Tax at its Tuesday’s session, author comments that this provision would abolish some about 20 present cantonal taxes on income and radically change the present tax system in whole. Article reminds that the FBiH Government proposed four different rates of Income Tax: 5% for monthly income up to 400 KM, 10 % for 400-800 KM, 15% for 800-1500 KM and 20% for 1500 KM and more. Head of SDA Caucus Semsudin Mehmedovic stressed: <i>“It is important for us that approximately 118,000 citizens would be completely released from paying taxes, which would not, at the same time, endanger cantonal budgets.”</i> Head of SBiH Caucus Ismet Briga noted that FBiH Government should answer certain questions before voting takes place. Dnevni List pg 7 “Parliament to discuss methods to tax income’ <u>unsigned</u> , – announced discussion in the parliament.

Elections and other political issues

<p>BiH Presidency meet US Congressmen; emphasis on BiH main goals- EU and NATO</p>	<p>BHT1- BiH Presidency members met on Monday with a delegation of the U.S. Congress. <i>"We understand that your country is going through transition and when we look back at what has been accomplished to date, we are proud to have been partners in the past... It is indeed difficult to work on basis of consensus, and you are carrying the responsibility for peace, reconstruction and prosperity, and we congratulate you on this"</i>, said the member of the House Intelligence Committee, Congressman Peter Hoekstra. BiH Presidency members reiterated the basic objectives of BiH; admission into NATO, which offers security, and the EU, which offers prosperity, noting that all political parties of the three peoples have consensus on these goals. They reiterated that BiH is committed to the battle against terrorism, adding that BiH is part of the international coalition. The delegation headed by the member of the House Intelligence Committee, Congressman Peter Hoekstra, also comprises Congressmen Gil Gutknecht, Mike J. Rogers, Earl Pomeroy and Christopher Shays. The U.S. Ambassador to BiH, Douglas McElhaney also attended the meeting at the BiH Presidency. RHB, PINK, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni List pg 2 'Without consensus no admission into NATO and EU' by NINA Vecernji List pg 2 'BiH authorities are a good partner' by eme, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'USA would be BiH's partner in future as well' by Agencies, Oslobodjenje pg 2 'Constitutional changes are necessary' <u>not signed</u> -also reported.</p>
<p>DA: SDA, SBiH and Patriotic Block plan 'humble' pre-election campaigns</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'SDA has right to spend 2.5 million KM and PDP will not exceed 300, 000KM' by A.Malagic - DA brings an overview for expenses of election campaigns some political parties are planning, noting that billboards and singers are definitely not issues money would be save on. SDA Secretary General Amir Zukic said that they already have some offers, but stresses that this won't cost so much, since mentioned singers are <i>"friends of the party"</i>. He underlines that there will be no huge rallies, since party has no means for this. Zukic said that SDA, according to BiH Law on Elections, has right to spend about 2.5 million KM, but <i>"I believe that we will not reach that sum"</i>. Member of SBiH's Presidency Beriz Belkic said his party would base its campaign on direct contact with citizens. However he couldn't say how much campaign would cost. Inset 'Patriotic Block without glamorous rallies' - SDU leader Sejfudin Tokic said that Patriotic Block [SDU and BOSS] would focus on direct contact with voters. He underlines that their expense plans are much below 300,000 KM.</p>
<p>DA: HDZ to determine schedule for pre-elections rallies on Friday; PDP to focus on large rallies; SNSD on direct contact</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'SDA has right to spend 2.5 million KM and PDP ill not exceed 300, 000KM' by A.Malagic - HDZ Spokesperson Miso Relota stressed that party would determine schedule for pre-elections rallies on Friday, adding that they will try to maintain the same level of campaigns as in last years, but he couldn't say how much this would cost. PDP's Igor Crnadak said their campaign wouldn't be more expensive then previous i.e. will not exceed 300,000 KM. Crnadak said that PDP will focus on several large rallies. Inset 'SNSD will not bring Severina for certain' - SNSD Vice President Krstan Simic said his party will spend about 450,000 KM. Simic explained that SNSD will focus on <i>"door to door"</i> campaign with large, ending rally in Banja Luka.</p>
<p>FBiH parties will not support amendment to BiH Law on Elections foreseeing voters' right with old IDs</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pgs 4-5 'To voting posts only with CIPS documents' by A.Terzic - After Constitutional Legal Affairs Commission [CLAC] established the constitutional ground for amendments to the BiH Law on Elections, BiH House of Representatives is scheduled to discuss these during the next week. These amendments foresee that persons who have no CIPS IDs can vote with old IDs, i.e. it grants right to vote to anyone who voted at 2004 local elections. CLAC Chair Mirsad Ceman stated for daily that he would not support amendments, since he believes that citizens have had enough time to change IDs. At the same time, amendment proponent Momcilo Novakovic [SDS] stated that if these are not passed, then the voting right in RS would be derived to 30 to 40 thousand citizens. BiH Central Election Commission [CEC] warned that old IDs have been put out of force, by the decision of BiH Civil Affairs Ministry and that only valid are those issued by CIPS. BiH CEC Chair Branko Petric stressed that proposed changes <i>"are contradictory to project of passive voters' registration"</i>. According to daily, most of the FBiH parties are not prepared to support this changes, deeming that they would create too much confusion.</p>

SDS: RTRS damages SDS rating	Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'RTRS damages SDS' rating' by <u>V.P.</u> – The SDS has forwarded a complaint to Communications Regulatory Agency (CRA) objecting against RTRS editorial policy. SDS is dissatisfied with recent political magazine "Pecat" themes. SDS Vice President Dusan Stojicic stated at Monday's press conference that RTRS is conducting " <i>criminalisation and satanisation of SDS in order to damage political rating of this party</i> ".
RS Association of Young journalists: media are responsible before public, not political parties	Vecernje Novosti pg 19 'Journalists responsible before public' Dj.T., Glas Srpske pg 'Keep your fingers away from media' by <u>D.Mo.</u> – RS Association of young journalists condemns all attempts of political interference in the work of public RS and BiH media. The Association reminds political parties that they could send their objections to Communications Regulatory Agency. Association strongly condemned political interference in editorial policy of RTRS, SRNA news agency and "Glas Srpske", since these media are held responsible before public, not political parties.
DL comment: Mostar has not benefited from making it to UNESCO list	Dnevni List , pg 2 'Daily commentary', by <u>Sanja Bjelica</u> – reminding that it has been one year since Mostar's Old Bridge and Old Town core made it to the UNESCO's world cultural heritage list, <u>Bjelica</u> argues that the city has not benefited as much as when it comes to tourism-generated profits as some (politicians and officials) argued a year ago. As a remedy to the situation, <u>Bjelica</u> argues all levels of authorities, including the City of Mostar and especially the FBiH, have to invest extra money and efforts to turn Mostar into a genuine tourist destination.

Judicial issues and trial

Covic-Lijanovici trial continues at State Court, expert says Lijanovici did not damage FBiH budget	Dnevni List pg 4 'Who damaged FBiH budget?' by <u>E. M.</u> – Hearing in the Covic-Lijanovici trial was held on Monday, reports DL. Customs expert Teufik Kec ascertained that company Lijanovici did not damage FBiH budget; company complied with the laws on customs tariff and foreign trade and instructions by Customs Administration Director which means the debt attributed to the company is made up. Trials continues Tuesday. Vecernji List pg 2 'Lijanovici did not damage budget' by <u>Zoran Kresic</u> – also reported.
Trial to commence before BiH Court on suit ex First Secretary at BiH Mission with UN Trifunovic filed against BiH over violation of laws and human rights	Glas Srpske pg 3 'Suit guards reputation' by <u>D.Majstorovic</u> – The former First Secretary of the BiH Mission with United Nations in New York Darko Trifunovic is today expected to appear before BiH Court at the main hearing in suit he has filed against BiH. He confirms to daily he has filed a suit against BiH some four years ago over severe violation of Laws and basic human rights. (According to daily, Trifunovic assumed the position of First Secretary until March 2002 in New. After he informed the-then BiH Foreign Minister, Zlatko Lagumdžija , of irregularities he observed at the work of the BiH Mission with UN, Lagumdžija sent him a letter of employment termination instead o investigating into claims, according to Trifunovic. One of Trifunovic' claim is that there was a mysterious advisor at Mission's payroll named Safet Catovic , who was also Spokesperson of the alleged humanitarian organisation led by the-then first humanitarian convicted over ties with Al Qa'ida.)
BiH Court ruled BiH Intelligence and Security Agency has to return some sacked agents to work	Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'They sacked secret agents out of avenge' by <u>M.Cubro</u> – Daily learns at BiH Court that it has passed several first-instance rulings regarding suits sacked intelligence agents have filed against BiH Intelligence and Security Agency (OSA). The verdicts pronounced the OSA leadership had violated the Law by having dismissed its staff, noting OSA is obligated to return some individuals to work, connect their length of service and pay out material damage. One of sacked intelligence agents confirms Court determined OSA sacked some of them out of avenge. (NOTE: at the beginning of 2005, two entities' agencies OSA and FOSS have merged into one, by which several hundred of staff were sacked.) Tomislav Limov , Chairperson of the BiH Parliamentary Board for Supervision over OSA work claims OSA must respect Court rulings. Daily notes they Monday failed to get any comment on the issue from Adnan Terzic , BiH Council of Ministers' Chair, and Almir Dzuvo , OSA Head.

