OHR BiH Media Round-up, 8/7/2006

TV news broadcast on7th July, 2006

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
Employees strike	PACE President addresses BiH HoR	PACE president addresses BiH Parl.
	Meeting in Dubrovnik	Reactions on PACE Resolution on BiH
	HR pardons BiH officials	Mandic indicted for war crimes
	4 BiH PBS SB members appointed	Del Ponte to visit Potocari on July 11

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
Van Der Linden at BIH HoP session	Nine injured in a traffic accident	BiH CC in session
BIH CC session	'March of Death' commenced	PACE President addresses BiH HoR
Mandic war crime suspect	Del Ponte to visit Potocari on July 11	Paravac meets PACE President
Sarovic still in custody	New jobs for 25 Srebrenica women	BiH del. visits British Parliament

Oslobodjenje	Enough with ethnic divisions
Dnevni Avaz	McElchany: Each step is remembrance on victims
Vecernji List	Four killed because of overtaking (Accidents in B. Luka and Doboj)
Nezavisne Novine	Mandic charged with war crime
Glas Srpske	Skill of provocation

NOTE: Dnevni List was not delivered to Banja Luka news stands this morning.

Political Developments

PACE President René van der Linden addresses BiH HoR **PINK** - Addressing the BiH Parliament members, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe [PACE], René van der Linden, called them on implementing reforms which would strengthen state institutions, saying that they were now too week to take BiH to the EU. "After the October general elections, we hope you will find political courage to continue discussing the issue and ways through which mechanisms of ethnical representation could be replaced by civil principle based representation, especially be eliminating entity voting at the BiH House of Representatives, defining the issue of vital national interests more clearly", said van der Linden. He added that the BiH Constitution had to be changed, what made Serb representatives angry. **BH TV 1 -** The Resolution on BiH, adopted last week by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), is not legally binding, but it represents a clear political stance, PACE President stated. A failure to obey the conclusions of this Resolution can block BiH's path towards European Union, Van der Linden said during his address to members of both Houses of BiH Parliament. PACE President emphasized that the Resolution is not a destabilizing factor. "It looks a little bit further, and if you want to become a member of European family, than you have to do a lot more – and certainly Dayton cannot be the basis for that, it is not enough", stated Van der Linden. NTV Hayat - "This resolution is impartial", stressed Van Der Linden, saying it would be bad for young people in BIH to grow up ethnically divided. On referendum in BiH, he stated it is not possible. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'It is not Europe but BiH and its citizens need reforms', announced on cover 'Overcome distrust and nationalism' by H.Orahovac - Linden also placed education and police reforms in the very top priorities that need to be urgently resolved. FTV, Vecernji List pg 2 'BiH institutions cannot lead to EU' by Eldina Mehunjanin, Oslobodjenje cover pg splash, pgs 4-5 'Enough with ethnic divisions' by A.Terzic, Glas Srpske pg 3 'Resolution divided BiH' by Z.Domazet, Nezavisne Novine pg 2, announced on cover 'BiH must strengthen state institutions' by M.Cubro, - also report

Serb delegates at BiH HoR express dissatisfaction with PACE Resolution on BiH

PINK - President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe [PACE], René van der Linden added that the BiH Constitution had to be changed, what made Serb representatives angry. Namely, they said that received a lot of bad news from the recently adopted PACE Resolution, BiH Constitutional Court and the ICTY. "We received a message from the BiH Presidency Chair who met with the indicted war criminal...whose sentence is mild. Does this mean that we need a single President?", said BiH HoR member, Momcilo Novakovic. another Serb member of BiH HoR. Ljiljana Milicevic, also BiH HoR member, reada letter Serb members at HoR signed, which finds content of the PACE Resolution unacceptable. "The Resolution is anti-Dayton and it does not contribute to reconciliation in this area but leads towards radicalisation causing political instability in BiH and region. RS representatives are ready to take active part in building-up the Dayton Constitution but oppose all activities which question BiH's Constitution, founded on entities", said Milicevic. FBiH political parties' representatives supported the text of the Resolution. BH TV 1 - All Serb delegates, bar SRS' Mirko Blagojevic, signed a letter condemning both the contents and the way this 'anti-Dayton' Resolution was adopted. "I must say that this CoE Resolution is the biggest institutional blow to the Dayton Constitution. But I'm glad we all know that an international agreement has much more power than resolution", stated PDP's representative **Goran Milojevic**. However, representatives from FBiH reacted in completely opposite manner. "CoE is an institution which has the role to promote the rule of human rights and democracy, it is the oldest and the most credible European institution. I personally did not like many of [CoE] resolutions, but we have to respect them", stated House of Representatives Chair Martin Raguz, member of HDZ 1990 Croatian Unity party. **NTV Hayat -** Milojevic informed Van Der Linden that recent resolution adopted by PACE has disturbed the relations in the country. **RTRS** - "Ethnical principle pretty much exists in the EU state members but it is said that it should be annulled here", said independent candidate **Petar Kunic**. Serb MPs also said that BiH Serbs had lately received a lot of bad news. "No binding resolution, which could be directed towards abolishment of entities is going to be supported by any RS representative", said SNSD representative, **Dusanka Majkic**. On the other hand, FBiH representatives support the Resolution. "It sure does present a way in which PACE helps both; BiH authorities and its citizens", said SDA Caucus Head, Elmir Jahic. Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'It is not Europe but BiH and its citizens need reforms', announced on cover 'Overcome distrust and nationalism' by <u>H.Orahovac</u> - says SDA' Jahic, **Sead Avdic** from Mixed Club, SzBiH **Azra Hadziahmetovic** expressed support to PACE efforts to help BiH. Daily also reports on the letter Serb delegates handed to PACE Chair. Glas Srpske pg 3 'Resolution divided BiH' by Z.Domazet - carries reactions of SNSD' Majkic, SDS' Novakovic, PDP' Milojevic. According to inset delegate Blagojevic, who is the sole Serb delegate who did not sign a letter of reaction, explained he does not want to ask for charity from the one "who did his best to see this Resolution passed over night". Nezavisne Novine pg 2, announced on cover 'BiH msut strengthen state institutions' inset 'Serb delegates handed a letter', Oslobodjenje cover pg splash, pgs 4-5 'Enough with ethnic divisions' inset 'Protest over enactment of CoE' Resolution' - report on letter Serb delegates handed to PACE Chair

Further reactions on Austrian Ambassador supports preservation of entity voting at **P**arliament

BH TV 1 - Unlike Resolution, most of the ambassadors in BiH have supported PACE Resolution on BiH: the preservation of entity voting in state Parliament. "I think that this Resolution is an important signal that the constitutional reform is necessary in BiH... But in order to achieve that, parliamentary parties have to reach an agreement", stated Austrian Ambassador to BiH **Werner Almhofer**. However, according to BHT reporter, politicians from RS do not seem to take this Resolution seriously. "This Resolution means nothing, because it totally opposes the official political stances of countries that signed the Dayton Peace Agreement", stated RS President **Dragan Cavic**. "One thing is for sure: those CoE stances will not be changed, just like the stances of European Parliament or American Senate. Those are the democratic principles upon which we have to build something", stated SBiH's Haris Silajdzic. The International Institute for Middle East and Balkans Studies IFIMES warned that the resolution of the oldest and most respectable European institution could not be ignored; instead, it should be considered as some kind of warning for BiH politicians to work faster on creating more effective state structure.

BiH Presidency member, Paravac meets PACE President René van der Linden

RTRS - BiH Presidency member, Borislav Paravac, met with President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe [PACE], René van der **Linden** and told him that he supported Serb MPs stance regarding the PACE Resolution. Paravac said that the Resolution came in a very bad time for BiH, causing polarization and suiting only those who were not interested in reconciliation.

political engagement

PHR lifts ban prohibiting RTRS - The High Representative to BiH, Christian Schwarz-Schilling, lifted bans on holding party office against all individuals removed by earlier High Representatives. The only exceptions are those individuals who were removed for reasons connected to non-cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). According to OHR press release, Decision allows these individuals to hold positions within political parties, but it does not, however, entitle them to return to the positions from which they were removed. Decision is part of a process of regularising the legal status of removed individuals announced by Mr Schwarz-Schilling on 21 March, as OHR said. "Decision on whether these persons are going to return to political parties should be brought by leaders of the parties; it is up to them to evaluate whether persons, who once obstructed peace implementation, would be able to contribute to better BiH's future", said the OHR Spokesperson, Ljiljana **Radetic**. SDS is dissatisfied with the fact that the decision does not refer to those officials, removed on June 30^{th} and July 1^{st} 2004, mostly SDS members. "I hope that this HR would annul such decisions, since it is obvious that they have no effect, questioning its suitability in time they were being brought", said member of SDS election board, Ognjen Tadic. Glas Srpske pg 5 'Return of democracy' by <u>D.Momic</u> - apart from carrying OHR' Radetic and Tadic' statements, daily also carries comments of PDP Vice President, Goran Milojevic, and SNSD' Krstan Simic, both who welcoming this decision. **Vecernji List** pg 3 'Schilling rehabilitated Jelavic as well' by Z.K./l.B./B.C. - daily reports also that lift ban is also applied to Ante Jelavic, Marko Tokic, Ivo Andric Luzanski and Mirko Batinic who were removed from HDZ of BiH on the basis of project Croat self-rule.BH TV 1, PINK, NTV Hayat, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'HR lifted bans on 60 officials' by <u>S.N., **Nezavisne Novine** pg</u> 2 'Ban lifted against 60 removed officials' by V.Popovic, Oslobodjenje pg 2 'OHR lifted ban on party functions' - also report on OHR decision. Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Ban lifted against 60 removed officials' inset 'SDS welcomes amnesty' - carries SDS' Tadic

BiH HoP appoints 4 BiH PBS SB members

FTV - FBiH House of Peoples held a session on Friday. Among other things, delegates have decided to discuss in an urgent procedure the proposal of the law amending the Value Added Tax Law. Newly appointed Chair of the Indirect Taxation Administration's Steering Board **Peter Nicholl** has send a letter to the delegates, expressing wish that the amendments to the VAT Law are discussed after the meeting of ITA Steering board, which is scheduled for the end on July. In the same time, BiH House of Representatives has appointed four members of the Steering Board of the BiH Public Broadcasting Service. Bosniak Representative Plamenko Custovic, Serb representative Nikola Deretic, Croat representative Marija Putica, and the representative of others Nada Milosevic have been appointed. PINK - The HoR has passed proposed changes and addenda to Law on referral of ICTY cases to BiH Prosecution. BH TV 1, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 10 'Law on referral of Hague cases to BiH Prosecution altered' by H.Orahovac, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Four members of Steering Board of PBS service appointed' by SRNA - also report on BiH HoR session. **Nezavisne Novine** pg 2 'Changes to Law on VAT in urgent procedure' by SRNA, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 10 'Changes to VAT Law in urgent procedure' by agencies, Oslobodjenje pg 2 'No discussion on VAT Law' by M.K.S. - reports on BiH HoP's session

BIH CC convened to decide on BiH Presidency's Tihic and Paravac motions: no decisions announced **NTV Hayat** - BIH Constitutional Court was deciding on Friday on request made by BIH Presidency President **Sulejman Tihic** regarding constitutionality of the name RS. BIH CC was also discussing the request of BIH Presidency member **Borislav Paravac** on BIH lawsuit against SCG. No decisions have been announced. **RTRS** - also report

War Crimes

March of Death – The Road of Freedom' started on Friday morning BH TV 1 - About one thousand participants early on Friday morning started the March of Death - The Road of Freedom', reconstruction of a path Srebrenica citizens crossed while trying to find a way to freedom. They will walk three days, until they reach their final destination – Memorial Centre in Potocari. BHT report includes short interview with several survivors of Srebrenica massacre, who explained how they managed to escape from this UN-protected zone in a deadly summer of 1995. Participants took a short rest on Crni Vrh near Zvornik, where the biggest mass grave in BiH was discovered, containing the remains of 500 bodies. U.S. Ambassador to BiH **Douglas McElhaney** briefly addressed them, saying that this terrible crime must never be forgotten. NTV Hayat -Participant of the march **Ramo Dautbasic** stated that there are around 600 participants and added that more will join as the march progresses. FTV, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 3 'Around 1000 people left Nezuke heading to Potocari' by A.Hadzic, Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'Over 600 people on "March of death" by I.Sarac, **Oslobodjenje** pg 7, announced on cover '2700 participants on "Road of freedom"' by <u>Sakib Smajlovic</u> - also report on March, Oslobodjenje saying by the time march gets to Potocari it should number 2600 participants. **Dnevni Avaz** cover pg splash, pg 3 'McElchany: Each step is remembrance on victims' by <u>A.H.</u> – McElchany said he admires "*courage and commitment"* of march participants, noting: "Each step you make marks a memory on victims who suffered so much 11 years ago."

Del Ponte to attend the commemoration in Potocari

BH TV 1, NTV Hayat, FTV, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Del Ponte coming to Srebrenica', Vecernji List pg 2 'Del Ponte coming to Srebrenica' by <u>ra</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'Carla del Ponte at Srebrenica anniversary' by <u>BETA</u> - Chief ICTY Prosecutor Carla Del Ponte will attend the commemoration in Potocari, on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of Srebrenica genocide. Del Ponte boycotted last years' commemoration, as a form of protest because Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic have not been arrested yet.

The Assistant to the UN	BH TV 1 - The Assistant to the UN Secretary-General, and former member of
Secretary-General	the UN Security Council Diego Aria is paying an official visit to BiH. This
DiegoAria visits BiH	Venezuelan testified twice before The Hague Tribunal, in trials against
	Slobodan Milosevic and Naser Oric. At the time of Srebrenica massacre, Aria
	was a Chair of the UN Security Council; on July 11, he will participate in marking
	the 11 th anniversary of Srebrenica genocide. NTV Hayat - Current assistant to
	UN Secretary General Diego Arria arrived in BIH in order to participate in
	commemoration of Srebrenica tragedy. Reporter comments that Arria made
	statements that genocide was committed in Srebrenica and that he accused UN
	for not reacting accordingly. Arria also feels that the international community
	has tried unsuccessfully to equalise aggressor and the victim in BIH, trial to
	Naser Oric being one of those attempts. He also stated that the international
	community would like to forget Srebrenica and added that "we will not allow
	that". Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'Srebrenica cannot be justified' by <u>FENA</u> – Arria
	stressed justice would have been satisfied if Oric had been acquitted.
	Oslobodjenje pg 3, announced on cover 'Great Britain is hiding truth about
	events in BiH' by <u>S.Rozajec</u> – Arria reminded of a book of one author from Great
	Britain, who interviewed over 150 officials of this state, noting: "This book has
	revealed a number of things that happened at political circles of Great Britain.
	Owing to large number of documents hidden in this state I am of the view entire truth could be revealed if a Bosnian would become UK Premier. In this manner,
	information on developments in BiH would be revealed." He also said: "I do not
	· '
	know if I may say this but many wanted to see president Alija Izetbegovic in
	The Hague. It would have meant a lot to some important European states."
	Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'UN is accomplice in crimes' by Ma.D. – also reports
GS critical of reception	Glas Srpske cover pg splash 'Skill of provocation' by <u>E.G.S.</u> Daily carries
BiH Pres Chair	statements of politicians and officials from RS, sharing the view that reception
organised for Naser	Sulejman Tihic, BiH CoM Chair organised for Naser Oric, has disdained
Oric	crimes against Serb people. Those officials listed are: Slobodan Radulj,
	advisor to Serb member to BiH Presidency, SNSD' Dusanka Majkic, SDS'
	Ognjen Tadic, PDP Zoran Tesanovic and Slobodan Nagradic, DEPOS'
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BiH Prosecution raises indictment against Momcilo Mandic

BH TV 1 - BiH Prosecutor's Office has submitted to the Court of BiH the indictment against Momcilo Mandic, which holds him responsible for war crimes, BHT unofficially learns from the sources close to the Court of BiH. Mandic is indicted for war crimes committed while he was working as RS Minister of Justice. Nezavisne Novine cover pg splash, pg 3 'Mandic charged with war crime' by A.Djozo - daily elarns from unofficial sources Mandic has been charged with command responsibility for the crimes committed at Planjina house in Visegrad, events at prisons "Kula" and "Foca", police school at Vrace. PINK, FTV, Dnevni Avaz pg 5, announced on cover 'Mandic also charged with war crimes' by N.J., Oslobodjenje pg 3, announced on cover 'Momiclo Mandic charged with war crime' by A.S. - also report

Economy

Terzic calls upon HR Schwarz-Schilling to make a decision on the allocation of VAT funds

BH TV 1 - BiH Council of Ministers Chair Adnan Terzic called upon High Representative Christian Schwarz-Schilling to use his authorities, and make a decision on the allocation of Value Added Tax (VAT) funds, in order to unblock the funds on VAT Single Account. "RS Prime Minister and RS Minister of Finance are trying to illegally obtain approximately KM 30 million per year. That is the fact, and therefore, it is not the question of agreement any more. How can we agree to do something illegal?" stated Terzic in a short telephone interview for BHT. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 5 'OHR must give legal interpretation', announced on cover 'Terzic ask interpretation from OHR' by <u>S.Numanovic</u> - In an interview to daily. Terzic also says that it is necessary that OHR gives legal interpretation on how to implement legal solutions on distribution of recourses from a single VAT account, noting: "I think it is both a mandate and obligation of OHR." He warns OHR' silence may seriously jeopardise fiscal stability of the state, even destroy reform of indirect taxation. He underlines RS representatives stubbornly and without any grounds keep insisting on their demands, adding RS representatives reject to implement Agreement signed amongst premiers and finance ministers (according to which implementation of legal formula on resources allocations starts as of 1 July) and Law as well. He also expresses concern with conduct of some representatives of the international community, who encourage RS in their demands.

RS Fin Min says it is possible to reach agreement on allocation of VAT resources without involving HR

BH TV 1 - RS Minister of Finance Aleksandar Dzombic claims that it is possible to reach an agreement (on allocation of resources from VAT account) without involving the High Representative. Member of state parliament Zlatko Lagumdzija claims that the whole problem is nothing more than a pre-election game. "This is a battle between incapable Adnan Terzic, and (RS Prime Minister) Milorad Dodik, who wants to take the money that does not belong to him", explained Lagumdzija. The first move of recently appointed Chair of the Indirect Taxation Administration's Steering Board Peter Nicholl is to find a solution for the allocation of public funds. "I think that we will be able to solve this problem, in a way that is in line with the law", stated Nicholl. According to BHT reporter, OHR officials Friday did not want to comment on this issue.

FBiH Govt. to urgently start process of privatisation of BH Telecom and HT Mostar

BH TV 1 - FBiH Government will urgently start a process of privatisation of BH Telecom and HT Mostar. This decision was made after members of FBiH Government realized that the privatisation of Telekom Srpske could have negative consequences on two FBiH telecom operators. However, representatives of BH Telecom claim that this company is not ready for the privatisation yet, while HT Mostar representatives claim that the privatisation of Telekom Srpske will not harm their company. "I don't think that the privatisation is such an easy job. In fact, I think that this privatisation of Telekom Srpske will be prolonged, and possibly carried out along with the privatisation of two FBiH telecom operators", HT Mostar Director Stipe Prlic stated almost 20 days ago. According to RS Government's estimation, 65 percent of state capital funds in Telekom Srpske is worth approximately €340 million; on the other hand, FBiH Government has not yet established a price for 90 percent of state capital funds in BH Telecom. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'Decision' on sale to be reached by FBiH Parliament' by M.Kukan – In a statement to daily. Hamdo Katica. Director of BH Telecom says it is very hard at this moment to assess what would be the best thing to do, noting key decision on this will be reached by F BiH PArlaiment and BH Telecom will obey its Decision.

Miscellaneous

Cantonal Prosecutor's
Office in Sarajevo
issues an arrest
warrant against Darko
Elez, suspected of
participating in a
robbery committed ten
days ago

BH TV 1 - Cantonal Prosecutor's Office in Sarajevo has issued an arrest warrant against **Darko Elez**. He is suspected of participating in a robbery committed on June 29th, when € 2.2 million have been stolen from the 'Privredna' Bank Sarajevo vehicle. According to BHT reporter, this robbery was not a surprise, especially when one knows that police was not even informed about the transport of money, and that the bank invested only 73 KM in securing this transport. This was the sixth robbery in FBiH since the beginning of 2006. Spokesperson of the FBiH Ministry of Interior Robert Cvrtak emphasized that police is not to be blamed for the increase of armed robberies in FBiH, because it does not have the authority to interfere with the security systems in banking facilities, and during the transport of the money. BHT concluded the report by saying that criminals still use the advantage of entity borders in BiH, which still create problems for police officers in both BiH entities. NTV Hayat, FTV, Dnevni Avaz pg 54, announced on cover 'Darko Elez suspected of robbery of EURO 2.2. million' by Dz.Ma., Vecernji List pg 3, announced on cover 'Police detected robber of century' by Robert Soldo, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 4, announced on cover 'Arrest warrant after Darko Elez issued' by A.Dacic, Oslobodjenje pg 25, announced on cover 'Darko Elez suspected of robbery of EURO 2.2 million' by <u>D.P.</u> - also report

Sarovic's lawyers ask for release on bail NTV Hayat, PINK, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 12 'Mirko Sarovic' attorneys demand detention abolition' by SRNA, Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Property mortgage for Sarovic; freedom' by A.Djozo, Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Sarovic offered BAM 280 thousand for his freedom' by A.S. - Former RS and BiH official, Mirko Sarovic's defence has submitted the BiH Court with a request for release under bail, placing his house (estimated to BAM 280 thousand worth) under mortgage.

DA carries interview with HR about his family, personal life **Dnevni Avaz** weekend supplement "Panorama" pg 31 "If I earned from music I would be hungry by Valida Saronjic - carries an interview with **Christian Schwarz Schilling,** HR to BiH, and his wife, about his personal life, family. The author expresses surprise over the fact HR is living in an apartment in Sarajevo centre, not some luxurious villa at Stari Grad.