

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 25/1/2006

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 25 January

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	BH Radio 1 (12,00 hrs)	RTRS (12,00 hrs)
SAA negotiations start today	First round of negotiations on SAA	BH' SAA talks with EU start
Croat parties to meet in Mostar	Rehn asked SCG for full cooperation	Train accident in Montenegro
CRO Parliament on help to Croats	Mesic's testimony before ICTY	Palestine elections

TV news broadcast on 24 January

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
Regional news	Regional News	Regional news
Jovic sends condolences	Regional News	BiH sends condolences
Bad weather in Herzegovina	BiH offers help to Montenegro	BiH on aid to Montenegro
Start of SAA negotiations	HR's farewell visit to Banja Luka	Regional news

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
Regional News	Investments in District Brcko	Regional news
BiH offers help to Montenegro	FBIH HoR on Energopetrol	Regional news
FBIH HoR on Energopetrol	Energopetrol Union on FBIH HoR	RS Poste & Zeljeznice audit reports
Hadzipasic on FBIH budget	Kasumovic acquitted	Narodni Front on eviction of B.Dzajic

Oslobodjenje	Government yet continues negotiations with MOL-INA
Dnevni Avaz	Representatives rejected Government's decision
Dnevni List	OHR obstructs audit of BiH citizenships
Vecernji List	Cries for help of children beneath crushed railway carriages (tragedy in Montenegro)
Slobodna Dalmacija	Mostar: Storm was breaking tress
Nezavisne Novine	44 persons got killed, 198 persons injured [train accident in Montenegro]
Glas Srpske	Montenegro in mourning [train accident in Montenegro]
EuroBlic	Montenegro in tears [train accident in Montenegro]
Vecernje novosti	Montenegro in mourning [train accident in Montenegro]

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY

BH' SAA talks with EU start	<p>RTRS - The first round of SAA talks between BiH and EU has officially commenced in Sarajevo this morning with discussion on introductory sections of this document, that define sorts of cooperation. Igor Davidovic, BH chief negotiator stated before start of talks that the first official meeting would be of working nature. In brief address to the press, Davidovic revealed no particular detail related to the talks, adding that: <i>"The beginning is encouraging. However, more serious issues are ahead of us."</i> Reinhardt Priebe, EU chief negotiator, did not want to disclose any single detail from today's talks, noting: <i>"..Climate of talks is contrary to the weather outside. But I apologise, but this is not a football match, where every 5 minutes I can tell you the latest score. Thank you."</i> A press conference has been scheduled for late this evening, at which chief negotiators will make assessments on the commencement of talks.</p> <p>BH Radio 1 - Text of the agreement has not been made public, but BH Radio comments it is almost identical to the text that Croatia signed with the EU. RHB - also reported.</p>
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Croat parties to meet in Mostar on Wednesday to talk about constitutional changes	RHB - Croat parties will meet in Mostar today (Wednesday) to talk about issues related to the constitutional changes talks. Organizer of the talks is the Croat Block (HB). The host of the talks and President of HB, Mario Vasilj , says one of items on the agenda include issue of levels of authorities in BiH. Vasilj is in favour of organizing BiH as a federal state and in that context he would even like to organize a referendum at which peoples would be asked "Are you in favour of regionalization or federalization in which each people has its own federal unit?". Vasilj is certain that in that case, the Croat people would opt for federalization, claiming it would secure survival for the Croats in BiH.
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Economic issues	
FBiH HoR rejected FBiH Government's proposal for co-capitalization of 'Energopetrol'	Hayat By <u>Elma Kazagic</u> - The FBiH House of Representatives has rejected the FBiH Government's proposal on co-capitalization of 'Energopetrol'. Only one representative voted in favour of the proposal, while 24 of them, mostly Party for BiH, BOSS and SDP, were against it. Most of SDA and HDZ representatives, 21 of them, abstained from vote. <i>"The Parliament has made the work of the Government and the Prime Minister easier by not passing the decision and if the talks with the Consortium are to fail, one should no address the Government or Hadzipasic for bankruptcy and impossibility to take care of Energopetrol employees"</i> , said the FBiH Prime Minister Ahmet Hadzipasic . Reporter comments that those against the Government's proposal believe it is easy to solve the issue by allocating the funds from the FBiH budget for reconstructing company. <i>"The Govt is obliged to find the way out for Energopetrol which is ours for the time being..."</i> , said the HoR representative Mirnes Ajanovic . On the other hand, the Government believes that the only way out is to co-capitalize the company, and Hadzipasic said that he would continue the talks to INA-MOL. FTV - FTV says the co-capitalisation of "Energopetrol" should be finished by January 27 otherwise the bankruptcy procedure should be started by February 28 when 1019 employees will lose their jobs. RHB, PINK, BHT1, Oslobodjenje cover splash, pg 3 'Government yet continues negotiations with MOL-INA' <u>S.Se.</u> Dnevni Avaz cover splash, pg 2 'Representatives rejected Government's decision on co-capitalisation of Energopetrol' by <u>M.Kukan</u> , Vecernji List , pg 4 'Energopetrol goes into bankruptcy in February?', by <u>eme</u> , Nezavisne Novine pg 5 'Delegates oppose sale of "Energopetrol" to INA/MOL' by <u>R. Cengic</u> - carried the reports.
FBiH PM Hadzipasic: If INA-MOL accept offer, I will sign contract on Energopetrol regardless of Parliament's decision	Dnevni List , pg 3 'Despite the ban, Hadzipasic is selling Energopetrol', mentioned on front 'Hadzipasic is selling Energopetrol', by <u>Mensud Zorlak</u> - Following the FBiH HoR's rejection of the FBiH Government's proposal on co-capitalization of 'Energopetrol', the FBiH PM Hadzipasic comments the HoR did not make a decision to sever cooperation with 'INA-MOL' instead it only disagreed with the way of recovery of 'Energopetrol' the way the Government proposed it. <i>"I will wait until January 27 for the INA-MOL to declare themselves about the acceptability of the offer. If they accept the offer, I will sign the contract with them regardless of the Parliament's decision"</i> , says PM Hadzipasic. Slobodna Dalmacija , pg 17 'Energopetrol is one step away from bankruptcy', by <u>B. Kristo</u> - carries PM Hadzipasic who is not optimistic in positive outcome of the process.

SDA blames Govt for failing to provide add. info; FBiH Vice Pres. Dzihanovic: Energopetrol should not be sold; Culture Min. Grahovac: agreement not possible	Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Mehmedovic: Representatives were angry at Government' by <u>M.K.</u> - President of SDA caucus in FBiH House of Representatives, Semsudin Mehmedovic stated for DA that representatives of this party were angry with the Government, as additional information on 'Energopetrol' was not submitted. SDA rep Bakir Izetbegovic , who supports the FBiH Govt, didn't want to comment sustained vote of entire SDA caucus. Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Prime Minister should take break and think what to do next' by <u>M.K.</u> - FBiH Vice President Sahbaz Dzihanovic stated that FBiH Govt should now take a break and think about privatization of 'Energopetrol', but only after recovery of this company. Dzihanovic added that state should not loose ownership of 'Energopetrol'. Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Grahovac: There will be no agreement with Consortium' by <u>M.K.</u> - FBiH Minister of Culture and Sport Gavrilo Grahovac stated that he thinks there will be no agreement with Consortium MOL-INA on 'Energopetrol', and that it is not possible. Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Parliament decided in favor of BiH' by <u>M.K.</u> - SBiH representative in FBiH House of Representatives Zaim Backovic stated that the decision of FBiH HoR on 'Energopetrol' means that Parliament decided in favor of state of BiH. Backovic added that without such decision, talks on Bosanski Brod and Modrica Oil Refineries would be impossible.
Energopetrol Syndicate critical of HoR decision	FTV - Coordination Board of Energopetrol Syndicate expressed surprise with the FBiH House of Representatives' rejection of the proposal on co-capitalisation of Energopetrol. Union demands the solution within next seven days otherwise it will use all legal sources to prevent bankruptcy of "Energopetrol".
Oslobodjenje op-ed on 'Energopetrol': Hadzipasic is saving what is left to be saved	Oslobodjenje pg 9 'Energopetrol' op-ed by <u>Senka Kurtovic</u> - Author says it was an expected decision from FBiH Prime Minister Ahmet Hadzipasic to continue negotiations with MOL-INA on selling 67% of state property of 'Energopetrol'. Author praises abilities of Hadzipasic, saying that he can work his job properly regardless of pressures by party, lobbies or media. Editorial concludes saying that FBiH Parliamentarians are willing to get attention from media, while Hadzipasic is saving what could be saved.
RS Chief Auditor Ceko reveals more crime in RS Railways and RS Poste	RTRS by <u>Sinisa Mihailovic</u> - RS Audit office has published audit reports on business and financial conduct of RS Posts and RS Railways which determined that aside money paid by Telekom Srpske, a loss of several million KM was registered. In line with law, Telekom Srpske has been contributing to the RS Posts with certain amount of money however the company has been registering these revenues as profit. Thus, according to the report RS Posts had 10 million KM of loss on annual basis unlike report presented by the company which claimed a profit of 10 million KM per year. Chief RS Auditor Bosko Ceko said former director of RS Posts Milutin Pejic hired people without adequate professional background. As far as RS Railways, audit report shows it failed to register 57 million KM of earlier losses. Ceko claims that company reduced losses for 2003 and 2004 in the amount of 2,7 million KM. Ceko stresses that audits were submitted to authorized institutions. Doboj police has confirmed that it is confiscating documentation from RS Railways as ordered by the County Prosecution. RS Interior Ministry spokesman Radovan Pejic claims that RS Mol submitted 65 criminal reports according to information stated in audit reports. Reporter comments that in 2005 476 acts of economy crime have been committed in RS. Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Procurements aside laws', announced on cover 'Everything illegal in "Poste"' by <u>P. Klinčov</u> - The auditors noted the irregularities in the "RS Poste" are related to illegal allocation/purchase of apartments. BHT1, Hayat, Dnevni Avaz pg 12 'Ceko established irregularities in Railways and RS Post', Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Procurements aside laws', announced on cover 'Everything illegal in "Poste"' by <u>P. Klinčov</u> [Ceko on RS Poste], Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'They showed 2.6 million KM less loss' by <u>P. K.</u> [Ceko on RS Zeljeznice], Glas Srpske pg 3 'They would have been doomed without "Telekom"' by <u>D. Vrhovac Mihajlovic</u> .

Oslobodjenje op-ed critical state-owned companies	Oslobodjenje pg 9 'Bad employer' op-ed by <u>Borivoje Simic</u> – Commenting on illegalities in managing and privatisation of state-owned companies, editorial questions if the state has to be such a bad employer. Author criticizes authorities for using state-owned companies as the source for their parties' budget incomes. Giving examples from other countries in transition, editorial concludes that adequate audit and judicial milieu is necessary for state to become a good employer.
Croatia to decide whether it would bring an indictment against Jelavic	Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Croatia to decide on raising an indictment against Jelavic' by <u>D. Muminovic</u> – BiH judicial bodies have forwarded to Croatian State Attorney's Office the "Hercegovacka Banka" case and, after it is reviewed, it will be decided whether Croatia would raise an indictment against Ante Jelavic , as according to the Croatian State Attorney's Office.

End of HR mandate	
HR Ashdown: IC along with Belgrade and BL responsible for failure to arrest Karadzic, Mladic	PINK by <u>Ljubisa Davidovic</u> – During his farewell visit, HR Paddy Ashdown visited Banja Luka and Central Bosnia Canton on Tuesday, where he met with the highest ranking RS officials and leadership of Gornji Vakuf-Uskoplje Municipality. After meeting the RS Prime Minister Pero Bukejlovic , Ashdown told journalists that he had fulfilled two promises he gave at the time of his arrival in BiH: namely that he would put foundations to a modern, European, decentralized state and that he would take the country towards Europe. <i>"I think it has been most difficult for the RS, than for any other area in the BiH to make these steps and it has required leadership of a high order and I have acknowledge that"</i> , said the HR. Ashdown added that his greatest failure is the fact that Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic are still at large, and pointed out that the International Community itself, together with Banja Luka and Belgrade authorities, was responsible. <i>"I am very glad that the dam of obstruction is now broken, and that 11 of those Hague indictees have gone to the ICTY in the last year, and that Karadzic and Mladic are now more isolated then ever"</i> , said the HR. RTRS – During the meeting with Bukejlovic, HR stated that structures for supervision of banks at state level need to be established as soon as possible. Reporter comments that it remains unknown what HR and RS President Dragan Cavic spoke about since their meeting was closed for public. HR also managed to meet SNS Chair Milorad Dodik as well as media representatives. (RTRS did not specify what HR and Dodik talked about). BHT1, FTV, RHB, Oslobodjenje pg 2 'Disappointed for Karadzic and Mladic are not in the Hague' by <u>O.V.</u> , Dnevni Avaz pg 10 'I regret the most that Karadzic and Mladic weren't arrested' by <u>N. Diklic</u> , Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'Ashdown visited "Nezavisne"' by <u>S.G.</u> – reported on the visit. Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'Ashdown disappointed that Karadzic and Mladic were not arrested', Glas Srpske pg 2 'On the European course' by <u>M. Mihajlovic</u> – reports on HR's meeting with Bukejlovic and RS Finance Minister Svetlana Cenic , during which they discussed the issue of supervision of banks at BiH level and adoption of a single BiH Law on Obligations.
HR criticized Croatian authorities for failures in return process	Glas Srpske pg 2 'Same standard for all' by <u>SRNA</u> – After a meeting with representatives of Associations of Refugees in BiH, which was held in Banja Luka, HR Paddy Ashdown accused the Croatian authorities at lower levels of authority of failing to do merely anything on returns of Serbs to Croatia, warning <i>"there is only one standard for refugee returns, which should be single and applied in BiH, Croatia and SiCG"</i> . Responding to press question, he said there is no link between negotiations on Kosovo status (that are soon to commence) and talks on constitutional changes in BiH.

VL interview with HR Ashdown on const. changes, future of HDZ BiH	Vecernji List pg 6, mentioned on cover 'New borders would be drawn within BiH' by <u>Z. Kresic</u> carries an interview with High Representative Paddy Ashdown . Asked whether it is realistic to expect drawing of new borders within BiH, HR said: <i>'This must happen. If you cannot make it there is no joining to Europe...However, external BiH borders cannot be changed. The issue of internal borders is much more economic than constitutional issue. Because of its huge resources this country should not be poor. It is poor because of the constitutional provisions according to which much money is being spent on politicians who take too much from people.'</i> VL inset 'It is up to Covic to decide, one should be concerned' carries Ashdown as saying that reforming is the only road for nationalistic parties in BiH and that HDZ BiH should follow the example of HDZ Croatia President Ivo Sanader who reformed HDZ Croatia. Asked whether this is a message to HDZ BiH President Dragan Covic to step down since he (Ashdown) believes that Sanader's moves are right, the HR stated: <i>'It is up to Covic and HDZ BiH to decide. I do not want to get involved in an internal discussion. HDZ BiH as the strongest party among Croats would do the most for its people if its reforms into a European party of the right centre. One should be concerned that European People's Party puts a question mark on the future membership of a sisterly party, HDZ BiH.'</i>
Blic overview of HR Ashdown's mandate; Politicians criticize his measures	EuroBlic pgs RS2-RS3 'Rider of wild horse is leaving' by <u>Nedeljka Breberina and Marija Jandric</u> - The article carries an overview of HR Paddy Ashdown's moves and decisions reached during his mandate. Inset 'Paddy Ashdown under magnifying glass of BiH politicians' - Nikola Spiric said a great progress, especially with regard to legislation, was made during Ashdown's mandate. He believes measures and removals were not too strict measure and he says the greatest problem of Ashdown's mandate was the fact he had to cooperate with insincere local politicians. Sulejman Tihic assessed the first part of HR's mandate as successful because it had contributed to reforms and strengthening of state institutions but, according to Tihic, HR had showed indecisiveness and in some cases double standards during the past year. Nemanja Vasic (the removed Director of RS Directorate for Roads) criticized the removal of officials. Dusan Stojicic said HR had contributed to development of BiH, but he thinks his mandate was characterized with a number of decisions that were disputable from the point of view of the European Convention on Human Rights. Dragan Covic says BiH was marked as a classical protectorate during HR's mandate and he believes Ashdown caused great damage to BiH through frequent use of Bonn powers.
DL op-ed on departure of HR Paddy Ashdown: 'Both, parties in power and opposition are eager to see Ashdown leaving'	Dnevni List pg 2 'Good bye Paddy' by <u>E. Mackic</u> carries that the BiH parties in power as well as the opposition are eager to see High Representative Paddy Ashdown leaving BiH. DL says that the reasons because of which the parties in power feel this way is the fact that they had to fulfil all his wishes, while the opposition is insulted since they believe that Ashdown did not accept their ideas for the progress of BiH. The author concludes the editorial by saying ironically: <i>'The parties in power suspended negotiations on constitutional changes since Ashdown did not twist their arms on time. However, why would Ashdown do it? New High Representative Christian Schwarz Schilling should have hard time as well.'</i>
DA: Christian Schwarz Schilling prepares for BiH mission	Dnevni Avaz pg 4 pg 'In Berlin fill up the team for BiH mission' by <u>S.T.</u> - Daily comments that successor of current HR Paddy Ashdown, Christian Schwarz Schilling is carrying out preparation for his 'BiH mission' selecting potential members of his future staff. Among these people, as daily learns, are his current advisor Dieter Wolkewitz and Director of European Initiative for Stability Gerald Kanus . According to daily engagement of Christopher Bennett is an option, where he would serve as advisor to the HR. Bennett is a former Director of International Crisis Group in Balkans.

SAA talks to be launched today

BiH/EU today open first round of SAA talks	<p>RTRS by <u>Branka Kusmuk</u> – First round of negotiations between BiH and EU on Stabilisation and Association Agreement starts in Sarajevo on Wednesday. Chief BiH negotiator Igor Davidovic stated that BiH team is ready to welcome Director of West Balkans Directorate Reinhard Priebe and EC delegation. Davidovic wouldn't divulge any details related to negotiating platform, however added that citizens would be informed on the course of negotiations. Spokesman of EC in BiH Frane Maroevic stated that agreement represents a standard document signed by certain countries from the region. He also added that issues related to reform processes in BiH would be discussed on Thursday. Austrian Ambassador Werner Almhofer expressed optimism before start of SAA negotiations. Dnevni Avaz pg 4 Whole negotiating team is going to represent BiH' by <u>T. L.</u>– Davidovic explained that after Wednesday's round, two official and four technical rounds of negotiations are to follow before signing of the SAA. RHB, Dnevni List pg 4 'International Community changes engagement' by <u>E.M.</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'Ashdown welcomed the start of negotiations' by <u>N. M.</u>, Glas Srpske pg 2 'Responsibility for local authorities' by <u>Srna</u> – OHR Spokesperson Oleg Milisic stated that start of SAA negotiations would enable change of engagement of international community in this country. He stressed that it is very important for local politicians to undertake greater responsibility since it is clear that BiH cannot move forward with OHR or any other international organisation. PINK, BHT1, FTV, Oslobođenje pg 2 'Reinhard Priebe leads EC team', EuroBlic pg RS2 'BiH launches negotiations with EU today' by <u>N. B.</u> – reported on begging of negotiations.</p>
NN int w/ chief negotiator Davidovic: BiH can fulfill all pre-requisites from SAA in eight years	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 6, announced on cover 'BiH in EU in eight years' by <u>M. Cubro</u> – In an interview to NN, Chief BiH Negotiator with EU Igor Davidovic says BiH can fulfill all pre-requisites from SAA in eight years, only after which it may count on the status of a candidate for the membership in EU. He says the most difficult work will follow after signing of the agreement at the end of this year because BiH will have to implement thorough reforms in all fields, especially in the field of public administration. He says that the first round of negotiations, which starts today, will include discussions on preamble of the agreement, i.e. first chapters of it regarding the regional and financial cooperation.</p>
Presidency Chair Paravac welcomes SAA talks	<p>PINK– Member of BiH Presidency Borislav Paravac believes that the Stabilization and Association Agreement talks present great opportunity for BiH to join the EU within next 8-10 years, by which BiH citizens would face brighter future. <i>"I think of it as BiH's historical chance, since BiH is not self-sustainable state, such as it is. At this moment, I see no other solution"</i>, said Paravac.</p>
VL on beginning of negotiations on SAA: 'Davidovic will demand guarantees for joining EU'	<p>Vecernji List pg 4 'Davidovic will demand guarantees for joining EU' by <u>D. Jazvic</u> comments on the beginning of the negotiations on SAA and VL says that the thing which might cause certain differences in the stands is probable insisting of the BiH side at the beginning of the negotiations to define a clear clause of the agreement that would guarantee BiH's joining the EU. VL learns that BiH will not insist on the precise deadline for achieving this goal, however there is a wish to get from Brussels a guarantee that the process of the negotiations can have one final result only and that is BiH as a full EU member.</p>
SD raises issue of S. Rizvo's appointment in BiH negotiating team for negotiations on SAA	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija pg 14 'Shady dealer in negotiating team' by <u>Z. Tulic</u> announces the beginning of the negotiations on SAA and it also raises the issue (VL has done it recently) of appointment of Samir Rizvo (he is an advisor to the BiH security Minister) in the BiH negotiating team since there were criminal charges issued against Rizvo because of his involvement in illegal issuing of BiH citizenships. SD also notes that meanwhile this case has expired by limitation.</p>
NN op-ed: the most difficult work to follow after signing SAA	<p>Nezavisne Novine op-ed pg 7 'Negotiations' by <u>Aleksandar Sekulic</u> – Referring to the start of the first round of SAA talks, the author notes it is completely clear that the most difficult work will follow after SAA is signed, because serious reforms in all fields will have to be implemented in BiH.</p>

Other political issues

RS PM Bukejlovic: I would not leave the post, but rather restructure my Cabinet	PINK – RS Prime Minister Pero Bukejlovic said that he has support of 42 representatives in the RSNA, but that there is possibility for representatives to be lobbied in the final moment. <i>“Both, Mr Dodik and I are collecting votes, and both of us claim to have 42 votes”</i> , said Bukejlovic. BHT 1- Bukejlovic stated that it is almost impossible to set aside the funds for coming elections from RS budget as intended by the parties that support establishment of new RS Government. He doubts that new Government would be that successful. RTRS – Bukejlovic claims that he would not leave his position but rather restructure his cabinet. He says that he is gathering votes in RSNA majority, which voted and supported his appointment. Veselin Poljasevic from PDP says that Bukejlovic cannot count on 9 PDP votes given to him in the past. SNSD Chair Milorad Dodik repeats that they have the necessary majority for vote of no confidence to current RS Government. <i>“Bukejlovic should pack his bags and realise that manipulation is not the best form of political acting”</i> , says Dodik.
NN on Thursday’s session of RS NA: Overthrowing of Government is evident	Nezavisne Novine pg 4 ‘Overthrowing of Government is evident’ by <u>V.Popovic</u> – Daily notes that judging by the current atmosphere at the parliamentary parties, the SNSD’ motion may get a necessary support at the RS NA. Namely, the overthrowing of Government would be supported by: 18 delegates from SNSD, 9 from PDP, 3 from Party for BH, 3 from SDP, 2 from SP, 2 from DNS, 1 from NHI, 1 from SRS-Vojislav Seselj, independent candidate Radovan Bobic and 6 from SDA. EuroBlic RSpg 8 ‘Bukejlovic announces changes at Government’ by <u>R.R.</u> – also reports on Bukejlovic’ press conference, quoting him as saying: <i>“...I would like to see how the Government composed of SNSD and SDA or SNSD and PDP will function.”</i> Glas Srpske pg 5 ‘Delegates to decide’ by <u>Z.Markovic</u> – reports on Bukejlovic’ presser.
Bukejlovic: No negotiations with FBiH parties on new RSNA majority	Dnevni Avaz pg 5 ‘Bukejlovic: No negotiations with parties from FBiH’ by <u>N.Diklic</u> – RS Prime Minister Pero Bukejlovic stated that there are political conditions for adopting the RS budget for 2006, adding that he is not worried with casting vote of confidence to his Government. Bukejlovic said he didn’t talk with parties from FBiH on possible forming of new majority in RSNA.
DA: IC signals Cavic that Bukejlovic, RS Govt must be dismissed; fights over Telekom	Dnevni Avaz pg 5 ‘Heavy fight of parties over RS Telecom privatization’ by <u>E.Sarac</u> – According to DA sources, the RS President Dragan Cavic received clear instructions from the international community that RS Government lead by the RS Prime Minister Pero Bukejlovic has to be removed. Author alleges that SNSD leader Milorad Dodik has already agreed with Cavic, adding that all parties from RS fight over privatization of RS Telecom, which is the actual cause of crisis in the RS. Author fails to provide more detailed explanation of connection between privatization of RS Telecom and crisis of RS Government.
NN op-ed: only next RS NA session will show who has the majority support	Nezavisne Novine op-ed pg 7 ‘Drafters of an adventure’ by <u>Anton Kasipovic</u> – the author notes only the next RS NA session will show who has the support of the majority. He also notes many are speaking about a “purchase” of delegates’ support and he says if a part of these allegations is true, then honest delegates should ask themselves what they are doing in company of those who are selling their stances.
Reactions on Tihic’s invitation for continuation of constitutional changes	Dnevni Avaz pg 10 ‘Tokic: Tihic tries to split responsibility for badly done job’, mentioned on cover, by <u>A.M.</u> – Referring to invitation of SDA leader Sulejman Tihic to SDU, BOSS, LDS, BiH Free Democrats, BPS and GDS for consultations on the constitutional changes, SDU leader Sejfudin Tokic stated that talks on this issue should be discussed in BiH Parliamentary Assembly. Tokic said that SDA and parties from RS are playing pre-elections game, and that they are not trying to solve issue of BiH Constitution and functionality of state. LDS leader Lamija Tanovic and BOSS leader Mirnes Ajanovic supported Tokic. Dnevni Avaz pg 10 ‘Halilovic: Entity concept still on table’ by <u>A.M.-F.V.</u> – On Tihic’s initiative to hold separate talks on const. changes with SBiH leader Safet Halilovic and HDZ leader Dragan Covic , Halilovic stated that nothing has been done to remove obstacles that stopped adopting agreement on constitutional changes. Halilovic stressed that ethnic-entity concept is still on the table. HDZ Spokesperson Miso Relota said that HDZ will take part in all the events that would lead to continuation of constitutional changes.

Siljegovic, Dzaferovic, Komsic: talks on const. changes were partially successful	Hayat current affairs program 'Korak' by <u>Adnan Rondic</u> - Commenting on the last round of talks on constitutional changes, SDS Vice President Bosko Siljegovic , SDA Vice President Sefik Dzaferovic and SDP Vice President Zeljko Komsic basically agreed that progress has been made. Siljegovic stressed that he did not participate in the talks, but that he knows that RS parties want the entity vote to be preserved, seeing it as some kind of a protective mechanism. Dzaferovic stated that constitutional negotiations were based on the report of Venice Commission, as an independent institution. Once again he reiterated that BiH should not be composed of entities. <i>"Instead, BiH should have three levels of authority... and multiethnic regions based on geographic, economic, communicational, historical and other relevant principles in between"</i> , explained Dzaferovic. Komsic stated that constitutional changes are possible if the political will would exist. He stressed that these talks were burdened by the fact that election are approaching, and he believes that some things have happened just because of that fact.
Jovic: This is year in which we either succeed or fail	Dnevni List , pg 3 'Jovic: This is year in which we either pass or fail exam', by <u>D. P. Mandic</u> , Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'Jovic: Petritsch has to take off restraining shirt by himself' by <u>Fena</u> - Carries a report from a reception that the BiH Presidency organized on Tuesday for journalists and editors of media during which the Chairman of BiH Presidency, Ivo Miro Jovic , asked from the media to be a more conscientious part of the citizenry and build climate in BiH that will lead the country to Europe. He also noted that the year ahead would show whether the BiH society is ready to pass the exam or not. He also commented on the former HR Wolfgang Petritsch's statement that there is a possibility that the EU closes its door to new possible members by saying that no one should be surprised with statements 'coming from that man'.
Granic: Croatia is entitled to be present in talks on changes to DPA	Slobodna Dalmacija , pg 7 'There will be no third entity', by <u>Senol Selimovic</u> - asked what Croatia could and should do for the 'post-Dayton BiH', former Croatian Foreign Minister and current advisor to the HSP of Croatia, Mate Granic , says: <i>"If the negotiations are led among legitimate representatives of BiH i.e. the parliament, political parties etc. then it is an internal matter for BiH. However, if they (talks) are being led together with international representatives, be it American ambassador or leader of Institute for Peace, or if they are carried out in Brussels, then Croatia has an absolute right within institutions of the Dayton agreement to be present in the talks. Therefore, Croatian right to be present stems from the Dayton agreement itself"</i> .
Ivanic: Political turbulences have no impact on stability of RS	Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'Concrete agreement on visas in March' by <u>Edina Sarac</u> - At the meeting of the foreign ministers of participating states of the South-East Europe Cooperation Process [SEECP] in Athens, BiH Foreign Minister Mladen Ivanic underlined problem of visas for BiH citizens. Ivanic said that issues regarding visa regimes would be wider discussed at the meeting of the foreign ministers of EU and Western Balkans countries, in March. Talking about constitutional changes, Ivanic said that referendum on this issue at the state level would be political domination, adding that the last referendum in BiH produced the war. Ivanic added that raising an issue of referendum on constitutional changes could lead to the referendum for separation of RS. Inset, 'Political turbulences in RS' - Ivanic stated that political turbulences in RS have no impact on its stability, while institutions in both RS and BiH are much stronger that they used to be. Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'The most important event for BiH is the start of negotiations' by <u>Agencies</u> - also reported.
BiH HoR Const. Comm. members argue with different interpretations over agreed changes on CoM, human rights	Oslobodjenje pg 7 'BiH Council of Ministers will be on ethnic and entity basis' by <u>A.Omeragic</u> - After the leaders of eight political parties negotiated constitutional changes, discussion has been opened in the Constitutional legal Commission of the BiH House of Representatives. As chair of Commission Mirsad Ceman explains, members of Commission disagree over the content of the constitutional changes due to different interpretations of the agreement reached and the law regulating this issue. Following political agreement, Commission produced amendments that change the Constitution on issues regarding BiH CoM and human rights. New BiH ministries: agriculture, science, technology and environment will be established by the law, and will not be included in the Constitution.

Radomir Lukic removed: RS Govt. order Faculty to appoint Dragan Pantic Faculty Dean	Nezavisne Novine pg 8 'Radomir Lukic removed' by <u>S.Gojkovic</u> – The RS Government has dismissed bodies and removed Dean of East Sarajevo Law Faculty, Radomir Lukic . The Law Faculty was given deadline of 60 days to constitute new University bodies, Council and Counsel, and to appoint Dragan Pantic , proposed by Government, new Faculty Dean. Faculty was also ordered to appoint Secretary of this institution. FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje pg 2 'Dragan Pantic instead of Radomir Lukic' <i>not signed</i> , EuroBlic pg RS8 'Dr. Dragan Pantic temporary dean' by <u>S. V.</u> , Glas Srpske pg 4 'Inspection left, the Dean stayed' by <u>G. D.</u> – also reported.
Grahovac: FBiH budget not to be discussed in January	Oslobodjenje pg 6 'Budget on hold' mentioned on cover, By <u>A.T.</u> – FBiH Government scheduled its last session in January for Thursday, but as daily learns issue of the Budget would not be discussed. Vice FBiH PM Gavrilo Grahovac stated that he does not know the reason for this, stressing that he raised the issue on last session, but got only a smile, instead of the answer. Daily comments on all damages that temporary financing could bring to most endangered categories of the population. Daily leads that 'new' proposal of the Budget should be discussed by the Government at first middle of February, while the FBiH Parliament could discuss it only at the end of February or at begging of the March.
FBiH Government Secretary Trumic: No constitutional base for session since it lacks two ministers	Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'FBiH Government fell into another crisis' by <u>M. Kukan</u> – Secretary of FBiH Government Ismet Trumic stated that FBiH Government would not hold its session till further notice. Trumic explained that Government doesn't have constitutional base for session, since that it lacks one of Ministers, namely FBiH Minister of Energy, Industry and Mining. Daily learns that meeting was held in the Cabinet of FBiH Preident Niko Lozancic and it was decided that leaders of SDA, HDZ and SBiH should be informed about the problem. Because of that, as daily learns, SDA leader Sulejman Tihic , HDZ leader Dragan Covic and SBiH Safet Halilovic are to meet Lozancic on Wednesday.

Security, defence issues

Cavic meets Gregorian: full cooperation with ICTY necessary	PINK – The BiH Parliamentary Defence and Security Commission paid a visit to the BiH Defence Ministry, in order to be informed about the situation in implementation of the BiH Defence Law. " <i>Budget may be the crucial problem regarding the issue of functioning of the Ministry and implementation of the law</i> ", said the Chair of the Commission Bosko Siljegovic . " <i>We hope that by passing the budget, laws will continue being implemented, since the law is extremely strict in terms of deadlines and during this year, we are planning to implement our activities in line with the law</i> ", said the Deputy BiH Defence Minister Enes Becirbasic and added that by doing so, by December 31 st , 2007, BiH Defence Law would be fully implemented. Problem with the budget occurred at the end of last year when BiH House of Representatives failed to pass the budget proposed by Council of Ministers, due to which decision on temporary financing was passed. Such financing doesn't include newly proposed MoD budget, which also includes means for staff members that joined as of 1 January following abolishment of entities MoDs. BHT1, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'Budget could be key issue' by <u>L.Sinanovic</u> , Nezavisne Novine pg 8 'Support to defense budget in the amount of 310 million' by <u>A. Sisic</u> , Glas Srpske pg 3 'Budget tailors obligations' by <u>N. Zelenovic</u> – also reported.
BiH MoD faces problems due to failure to pass budget	BHT1, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'Fulfill obligations towards the Hague', Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'Important task is implementation of defense reform' by <u>D. R.</u> , Glas Srpske pg 2 'Closer to the Partnership' by <u>G. D.</u> – At the same time RS President Dragan Cavic and political advisor to the NATO HQ Commander Raffi Gregorian met to discuss the defence reform and concluded that implementation of it, would present fulfilling of main conditions for BiH's full integration into NATO. Both of them stressed necessity of full cooperation with the ICTY in order for BiH to become NATO state member.

<p>DL: OHR obstructs audit of BiH citizenships</p>	<p>Dnevni List cover pg splash and pg 8 'OHR obstructs audit of BiH citizenships' and pg 8 'International Community obstructs audit of BiH citizenships' by <u>A. Vrebac</u> carries that audit of the BiH citizenships issued in the period from 1992 to 1998 has not started yet although changes to the Law on BiH citizenship envisaged that it takes place in mid December last year. DL reminds that BiH Deputy Security Minister Dragan Mektic has stated recently that the state Commission for audit of the citizenships has not been formed yet since some domestic institutions and the International Community have not proposed names of candidates. BiH CoM's spokesperson Bojan Zec Filipovic stated that all domestic institutions proposed the candidates, however OHR representatives in the Commission have not been appointed yet. He added: <i>'This fact makes impossible forming of the Commission since the Commission cannot start with its work if its all members were not appointed.'</i></p>
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