

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 23/9/2004

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	BH TV 1 (19,00 hrs)	FED TV (19,30 hrs)	RT RS (19,30)
PRSP Conference	Decision of BiH C. Court	Technical Culture Society	Forgery suspects released
Public procurement law	Tihic visited Sacirbegovic	Decision of BiH C. Court	Decision of BiH C. Court
EU/Balkan meeting in NY	Tihic's visit to USA	PRSP Conference	BiH Court sentenced Pilic
Tihic's visit to USA	Future of OSA	Unemployment in USC	Maktouf's plea tomorrow

Oslobodjenje	1.2 billion euros for BiH
Dnevni Avaz	Tihic at UN assembly: Borders cannot and must not be changed
Dnevni List	BiH will be self-sustainable country by end of 2007
Vecernji List	President with fugitive: Diplomatic scandal by Sulejman Tihic in New York
Slobodna Dalmacija	Jelavic charged by Lovrenovic too
Glas Srpske	Reward for injustice
Nezavisne Novine	He was sentenced to 4,5 years in prison because of money laundering of 13,5 million KM; Family meeting with a wanted man; Names of 12 towns and municipalities in RS were annulled
Blic	Njegus is silent, journalists are angry; Names of Serb Municipalities are invalid
Vecernje Novosti	Features Serbian related titles
Belgrade's Nacional	Features Serbian related titles

Political developments/reforms

Tihic addressed UN General Assembly	<p>TV Hayat – BiH Presidency Chairman Sulejman Tihic on Wednesday addressed the UN General Assembly. In his address, Tihic also criticized the UN. <i>"I told them about the successful UN project (mission) but pointed out all objections about untimely actions and inefficiency which they demonstrated in BiH. That was, naturally, an occasion to mention Srebrenica, as one of the international community's mistakes and proof of the need to have efficient mechanisms in order not to have such events ever repeated again,"</i> Tihic said in a exclusive statement for TV Hayat give by phone. <i>"I also spoke about the progress, i.e. reforms, achieved in BiH over the past nine years, about war crimes, about war criminals – who are the biggest problem not only in BiH, but in the whole region – about the importance of the international court's (the Hague tribunal) trials of war criminals from the former Yugoslavia. I also spoke about BiH's intention to set up a department within the state court which would try war criminals – a kind of a miniature Hague – something for which we shall need both technical and financial help as well as the expertise and involvement of a number of international judges and prosecutors, etc.,"</i> Tihic added. In his address to the UN General Assembly, Tihic said that next year, when the 10th anniversary of the Dayton Peace Accord will be marked, will be an opportunity for local political representatives to start talks on the rearrangement of the constitutional system in BiH in order to make a swift transition from the Dayton to Brussels phase. <i>"I also spoke about terrorism as well as the participation of BiH in the international anti-terror coalition. I emphasized that terrorism is a wrong method of struggle, that it is amoral and that innocent people are victims. It is counter-productive because it does not solve problems but makes them more complex. I also mentioned the example of Bosnian Muslims who were the principal victims in the aggression on BiH, the principal victims of genocide and suffering but who have never resorted to terrorism either during or after the war,"</i> Tihic told TV Hayat while presenting the essence of his speech delivered to the UN General Assembly members yesterday.</p> <p>BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje pg 7, mentioned on cover 'The time has come for BiH to enter a Brussels phase', Dnevni Avaz cover page 'Borders cannot and must not be changed', pg 2 'Europe and the World are passing an historic exam', Nezavisne Novine, pg. 2 'BiH supports fight against terrorism' inset 'George Bush promised help to BiH' by <u>Agencies</u> also covered the issue.</p>
Tihic meets with US President Bush	<p>Herceg Bosna Radio, BHT, FTV, Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Bush's promise', Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Bush promised support to BiH on its way to Europe', FENA – BiH Presidency Chairman Sulejman Tihic met US President George W. Bush in New York on Wednesday, says a statement issued by Tihic's office. President Bush promised that the USA would maintain its presence in BiH and support its efforts to join Euro-Atlantic integration processes. The president reiterated how grateful the USA and its citizens were to all states, which helped and were intending to help the building of a democratic Iraq, the statement said.</p>

<p>Paravac, Covic meet with newly-appointed OSCE Head of the Mission to BiH Davidson, COMSFOR Packett</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'OSCE to continue supporting reforms', Nezavisne Novine, pg. 3 'Davidson visited BiH Presidency' by Fena, FENA – BiH Presidency members Borislav Paravac and Dragan Covic held separate meetings with the new OSCE Head of the Mission to BiH, Douglas Davidson, in Sarajevo on Wednesday. Davidson said that the OSCE Mission to BiH would remain committed to activities in the fields of education, defence reform, democratisation, administration reform and human rights. BiH Presidency members stressed the importance of the OSCE engagement in helping BiH authorities implement necessary reforms that will make possible the integration of our country into Euro-Atlantic structures.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'De-mining process should be accelerated', Oslobodjenje pg 4, FENA – In the course of the day, Paravac and Covic also held separate meetings with SFOR Commander Gen. Virgil Packett. They stressed the importance of the role of SFOR in reforming the defence and security system in BiH. They also discussed the progress of reform in all areas and expressed gratitude for the assistance of SFOR in the reorganisation of the BiH Armed Forces. Gen. Packett informed members of the BiH Presidency about the problem of de-mining in BiH, especially in the context of importance of the de-mining process for the development of economic capacities in BiH. BiH Presidency members agreed that the issue of de-mining is of great importance for BiH and that activities on resolving all the problems related to this process needed to be intensified.</p> <p>Vecernji List pg 4 'Mine clearing – crucial problem' <u>not signed</u>, Dnevni List pg 4 'BiH Presidency informed about problem of mine clearing' by De.L. and pg 6 'Talks with Head of OSCE Mission for BiH' <u>not signed</u> also reported on the meetings.</p>
<p>OHR: First reforms then PfP</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 6 'Reforms first then PfP', FENA – Spokesperson of OHR South, Sanela Tunovic, said at a press conference in Mostar on Wednesday that requirements of NATO, under which BiH authorities should change constitutional-legal organization in order for BiH to be admitted into the NATO Partnership for Peace program, were quite clear, and reforms have to be completed/implemented. Representatives of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly pointed out on Tuesday in Sarajevo that the constitutional-legal complicity of BiH is one of the problems for its accession to the PfP. Tunovic also announced that on Thursday in Sarajevo, High Representative Paddy Ashdown will meet with the president of Republika Srpska (RS) Dragan Cavic, and newly-appointed RS Minister of Interior Darko Matijasevic.</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine, pg. 2 'Ashdown will meet Cavic and Matijasevic today' by <u>Srna</u>, Glas Srpske, pg. 3 'Hague is a measure for everything' by <u>N. Z.</u> carried OHR press release announcing HR's meeting with Cavic and Matijasevic.</p>
<p>VL on NATO's recommendation on need for constitutional changes in BiH; reactions</p>	<p>Vecernji List, pg 3 'NATO wants change of organizational set-up of BiH', mentioned on front, by <u>Zoran Kresic</u> – The author reminds of the recent visit by a NATO delegation, noting that the most important message the delegation had for BiH authorities was the recommendation that BiH had to change its complicated constitutional set-up. According to the author, the message completely shatters the belief that the cantons and entities will survive. VL also carries a few comments to the issue. President of HDZ, Barisa Colak, welcomes the NATO's recommendation, saying that the HDZ only believes in a solution that will be reached by internal political forces and representatives of the constituent peoples. According to the SDP President, Zlatko Lagumdžija, there needs to be a consensus in BiH, which will secure economic self-sustainability. VL notes that the Serb political parties have considerable reservations towards constitutional changes, seeing them as attempts to abolish the RS. However, the author argues that the constitutional changes will be a reality because the IC is insisting on them. Finally, the author says if the RS is faced with either the survival of the RS or arrest of Radovan Karadzic, it would opt for the latter.</p>

Reactions to Sacirbegovic - Tihic meeting	<p>Nezavisne Novine, cover and pg. 2 'Family meeting with a wanted person' by <u>M. Cubro</u> - SDP delegate at BiH HoR Zlatko Lagumdžija thinks that the meeting of BiH Presidency Chairman Sulejman Tihic with Muhamed Sacirbegovic, a person whom Interpol had put on the wanted list, proves the best that a person close to men on power needs not to worry over Court sentences. He thinks the meeting illustrates the stance of SDA towards the state.</p> <p>Safet Halilovic, the President of the Party for BiH and Minister for Civil Affairs, thinks Tihic needs to explain why he met Sacirbegovic on Tuesday.</p> <p>Vinko Zoric, the Head of HDZ caucus at BiH Parliament, says Tihic he no reason to have an official meeting with Sacirbegovic.</p> <p>SNSD has condemned this meeting by saying it is unacceptable for a Chief of a state to meet Sacirbegovic, who is accused for embezzlements of funds of BiH. <i>'Sacirbej has earned great merits in defence of BiH during the war'</i>, Sulejman Tihic has stated and added that he and Sacirbegovic are relatives. He emphasised that he met Sacirbegovic as a member of BiH Presidency and refused to say whether he would discuss a possibility of Sacirbegovic's extradition to BiH with him.</p> <p>The Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lepa Babic, yesterday stated that the Ministry had not organised the meeting of Tihic and Sacirbegovic.</p> <p>Glas Srpske, pg. 2 'Secret meeting, public explanation' <u>not signed</u> - BiH Minister of Foreign Affairs Mladen Ivanic has stated he was not informed on the meeting of Sulejman Tihic and Muhamed Sacirbegovic. Ivanic thinks Tihic will, most probably, have an obligation to explain the reasons for this meeting.</p> <p>Vecernji List, front pg 'President with fugitive' and pg 3 'Scandal: Tihic meets with Sacirbegovic in USA', by <u>Eldina Medunjanin</u>, Dnevni List, pg 2 'Instead of extradition, Tihic organizes meeting', mentioned on front, by <u>Arijana Beus</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 6 'Tihic: I met with my grandmother's cousin', by <u>B. Magas</u> also addressed the issue.</p>
Public opinion survey in Banja Luka	<p>Nezavisne Novine, pg. 6 'Banja Luka for SNSD' by <u>D. Risojevic</u> - The "Prime Communication" Agency from Banja Luka and "Medium Gallup" from Belgrade conducted a research in Banja Luka on the sample of 600 interviewees in Banja Luka from 1st to 7th September, according to which majority of Banja Luka citizens (namely 52.2%) would vote for SNSD candidates for municipal assembly, while 12.2% of inhabitants would vote for SDS candidates. The poll also concluded that a large number of population of Banja Luka (16.7%) has not still decided for whom to vote.</p> <p>The poll also showed that if general elections took place tomorrow, SNSD would also win to RS parliament.</p>
Sehagic challenges Mikerevic	<p>Nezavisne Novine, pg. 4 'Mensur Sehagic challenged RS Prime Minister to a TV duel' by <u>D. Risojevic</u>, Glas Srpske, pg. 2 'On sin in front of cameras' by <u>S. Sa.</u> - Mensur Sehagic, the dismissed RS Minister of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology, yesterday challenged RS Prime Minister Dragan Mikerevic to a TV duel. Prime Minister Mikerevic rejected the challenge by saying that he, as a Prime Minister, <i>'does not have time for such a nonsense'</i>. Sehagic claims the true reasons for his dismissal are the facts that he is <i>'a Bosniak and a member of SDA'</i>.</p>
Oslobodjenje interview with RS PM Mikerevic	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 8, mentioned on cover 'We cannot go to SCG and arrest war criminals' - Interview with RS Prime Minister Dragan Mikerevic. <i>"Apprehension of war criminals is in the interest of BiH but it is also in the interests of RS as well as the entire Serb people,"</i> said Mikerevic at the very beginning of the interview. He expressed his conviction that the recent personnel changes in RS Interior Ministry would lead towards more efficient location of the war crime indictees.</p>

<p>SDP calls for law on confiscation of illegally acquired property</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 5 'High Representative called upon to impose law', mentioned on front, by <u>Danka Polovina-Mandic</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 5, mentioned on cover 'Law on confiscation of the illegally obtained properties again in the procedure' – The SDP Caucus in the BiH Parliament's House of Representatives forwarded again to the parliamentary procedure a Proposal of law on agency that would secure forcible confiscation of property that was acquired through illegalities. According to the SDP President, Zlatko Lagumdžija, even the EC last year noted that 85 million KMs of the budget money had been lost, which is a result of plunder. Lagumdžija also called on the High Representative for BiH, Paddy Ashdown, to impose the law on confiscation of (illegally acquired) property. <i>"If he is not ready to do it, in that case he, in perception of ordinary people, becomes a protector of criminal political structure of this country"</i>, comments Lagumdžija.</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine, pg. 6 'OHR is responsible for the adoption of the Law' by <u>M. Cubro</u> – Selim Beslagić from SDP claims that this initiative is not a pre-election trick of SDP. SDP delegates emphasise that the Law must be adopted and also said the Law was not aimed against rich people but is aimed against criminals.</p> <p><i>"A work group, composed out of BiH and international experts, is currently looking into suggestions that have an aim to create an efficient law that would resolve this issue and would also be in accordance with the legal framework of BiH"</i>, OHR Spokesperson Vedran Persić has stated when asked to comment SDP's demand for HR Ashdown to impose the Law.</p>
<p>Alternative HR Pejakovic: 'Paddy, go home'</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija last pg 'Josip Pejakovic: Paddy, go home' by <u>J. Terzić</u> and Dnevni List pg 13 'Josip Pejakovic: Paddy, go home', mentioned on front, by <u>NINA</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 6 – Within the project called 'NDC presents', the Alternative high representative, Josip Pejakovic, presented the work of his office in the NDC premises in Mostar. Among other things, Pejakovic stated: <i>"BiH citizens have no idea what the High Representative is doing in BiH and Paddy Ashdown himself does not know what he is doing in our country and my message to the High Representative says: 'Paddy, go home'"</i>.</p>
<p>IFIMES on local elections in BiH</p>	<p>Vecernji List, pg 5 'Every other voter not to cast vote', by <u>Valentina Rupčić</u> – carries excerpts of a pre-election analysis on BiH, which was prepared by the Ljubljana-based 'IFIMES' institute. According to the analysis, many people will not turn out in the elections because the current parties in power, the SDA, SDS, HDZ and their satellites PDP and SBiH, together with the OHR, failed to improve any segment of society, especially the economic picture. <i>"This has caused aversion towards ruling structures, as well against the OHR because the High Representative for BiH, Paddy Ashdown, enabled the return of national parties to power through his consent"</i>, reads IFIMES' analysis. IFIMES also conducted opinions polls in the RS and FBiH. Of 892 interviewees in the RS, 67,8% do not want the ruling powers to win majority in local elections. When it comes to the FBiH, of 924 interviewees, 43,2% say they will not vote, whilst the rest would vote for as follows: SDA (18,4%), 11,7% (SDP), 8,4% (HDZ) and 4,3% (SBiH).</p>

<h2>Economic/social issues</h2>

WB/EC Consultative Group on BiH meeting starts, BiH developments strategy on the agenda	<p>Herceg Bosna Radio, BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje cover page, pgs 4-5 '1.2 billion euros to BiH', Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Humphreys: Funds must be used in the best possible way', Nezavisne Novine, pg. 4 '1,5 billion dollars worth aid decreases number of poor people' by R. Cengic, Dnevni List, front and pg 3 'BiH will be self-sustainable country by end of 2007', by Erna Mackic, Vecernji List, pg 2 'Economy is not priority for Terzic', by Renata Radic, Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 18, '1,2 billion dollars already secured', by Blanka Magas, FENA – The World Bank and the European Commission are chairing a two-day session of the Consultative Group on BiH that started in Sarajevo on Wednesday. Senior representatives of BiH government, international organisations and partner countries have gathered to discuss achieved progress in BiH and possibilities for further progress. Some 40 delegations with 190 members from across the world are taking part in the meeting. World Bank representative Orsalia Kalantzopoulos said at the opening of the conference that its objective is to review programs and the pace of reforms. She added that senior WB representatives earlier supported progress achieved by BiH in the reconstruction of the country and underlined that BiH cannot afford any delay on the road towards sustainable development of the country. Head of the European Commission Delegation in BiH Michael Humphreys said that reform is not a condition for foreign assistance, but a component on which BiH builds guarantees that the funds will be used in the best possible way. <i>"The conference underlines the long term truth that BiH has to take its faith into its own hands, and the EU is there to hear the plans for future activities"</i>, Humphreys said. BiH is in transition nowadays and is the most successful example of post-conflict reconstruction in the world, BiH Council of Ministers Chair Adnan Terzic said. Unlike the donors' conference nine years ago this conference will discuss the development of BiH <i>"based on our own Development Strategy and the Program of Foreign Investments."</i> WB Director in BiH Dirk Reinermann earlier announced that funds would not be raised at this conference, but that important issues such as the macroeconomic situation, fiscal and issues concerning the development of the private and financial sector would be discussed. Reduction of poverty, development of institutions, activities aimed at joining the EU, reforms, investments and coordination between donors are also on the agenda. BiH needs approximately 1,5 billion USD for the implementation of the mid-term development strategy.</p> <p>FTV, FENA – Zlatko Hurtic, Advisor for the Poverty Reduction Strategy Program (PRSP) to the BiH Council of Ministers Chairman, said on Wednesday that the consultative meeting chaired by the European Commission and the World Bank is an opportunity to inform donors about the BiH development documents and ensure them that the funds will be spent in accordance with priorities stated in those documents. <i>"The purpose of this conference is to convince donors that we finally have our own documents, a development strategy and a program of foreign investments, and that this time they do not have to set priorities, but just to financially support implementation of already designed projects"</i>, Hurtic said. He said that the expected level of support exceeds 1,5 billion USD and that this much is needed for the implementation of the PRSP.</p>
DL on PRSP, reforms in BiH	<p>Dnevni List, pg 2 'Year of investments in BiH?', by Danijela Kozina – carries an op-ed about the PRSP conference, in which the author notes it is the representatives of BiH authorities that can contribute the most to the image of BiH as an attractive place for investments, and in order to achieve that, the authorities have to speed up adoption of laws that can be implemented in practice, and reduce the gigantic administration which averts possible investors.</p>

Text of draft procurement law harmonised	<p>BHT, Herceg Bosna Radio - BiH will soon get the Law on Public Procurement. This law should prevent corruption and mistakes during purchases for public institutions. Audit Reports have showed many mistakes in bidding/tender procedures, which caused loss of several millions of KMs. Frane Maroevic, Spokesman of European Commission in BiH: "Law on public procurement is one of the most important economic laws and laws against corruption in this country. About 900 mill KM are spent every year through public purchase process. All Audit Reports, by RS and FBIH Auditors, have shown that there have been big problems in institutions with the purchase procedure." According to Nade Radovic, representative at BiH House of Peoples, the joint commission of both BiH parliament houses has reached the agreement on text of the law on public procurement. Members of commission expect a fast adoption of the law in both Houses of BiH Parliament. Law will define procedures, which all institutions will have to respect. Srdjan Blagovcanin, Spokesman of Transparency International BiH says that regulations on public procurements have been confusing, which made many abuses possible. Audit Reports have confirmed warnings of Transparency International. Law will be implemented at all authority levels and in all public institutions, including schools or hospitals. Nezavisne Novine, pg. 2 'The Public Procurement Law was harmonised' by Fena, Srna, Dnevni Avaz pg 5, Vecernji List pg 3 'Same text of Law on Procurement' by F report that a joint Commission of both Homes of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly yesterday reached the Agreement on harmonised text of the Public Procurement Law. HoR and HoP have adopted this Law with differences in the text, therefore there was a need to harmonise the Law.</p>
Update to the construction of ITA building	<p>Nezavisne Novine, pg. 6 'A part of facilities are ready for moving in' by P. K. - RS Minister of Finances Branko Krstanovic notified the management of ITA that the construction of a part of facilities has been completed and they can start moving in the premises. Krstanovic has also stated that the construction of the entire ITA seat will be completed by October 15.</p>
EC's Daviddi on VAT rate	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'Several VAT rates more favourable for richer people' - Interview with Deputy Head of EC Delegation in BiH Renzo Daviddi. Daviddi said that out of 31 countries that had introduced VAT 25 had one VAT rate, adding that the proposed amendments to the draft BiH VAT law foreseeing introduction of several VAT rate would not help poor people in the country.</p>
FIPA presents investments for first half of 2004	<p>Dnevni List pg 6 '821 millions KM of investments in six months' by E. Mackic and Slobodna Dalmacija last pg 'Foreign investments in BiH amount to 821,54 millions KM' by D. Pasic - Foreign Investments Promotion Agency Director, Mirza Hajric, stated at the press conference held yesterday that the next year would be a big year for foreign investments in BiH and the reason for this situation is strengthening of BiH institutions, establishment of rule of law etc. Referring to the data of the BiH Ministry of Trade and Economic Relations, Hajric stated that the biggest influx of foreign investments since 1994, which amounts to 821 millions KM was marked in the first 6 months of this year. The figures do not include investments in Holiday Inn Hotel and investments by LNM. Sarajevo dailies also covered the issue on their economic pages.</p>
VL on new economic regionalization of BiH	<p>Vecernji List pg 4 'RS is being annexed to BiH' by B. Stevandić - Businessmen and representatives of the regional economic chambers from the RS do not accept a new project on economic organization of BiH, which would be regionally organized, which was presented by the EU RED in Doboj yesterday at a round table discussion called 'Economic regionalization of BiH'. According to this project, of 7 regional economic chambers in the RS, only the one in Banja Luka would remain, while the others would be annexed to the regions, which would have their seats on the territory of the Federation of BiH.</p>

Legal proceedings/crime/security

<p>BiH Constitutional Court abolishes names of 12 places containing Serb prefixes</p>	<p>BHT, FTV, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine, cover and pg. 3 'Names of 12 towns and municipalities in RS were annulled' <u>by Srna</u>, Glas Srpske, pg. 2 'Makeup test for Srpska' <u>by N. Z.</u>, EuroBlic, cover and pg. RS3 'Invalid names of Serb Municipalities' <u>by T. V.</u>, Dnevni List pg 5 'Name Srpsko Sarajevo abolished' <u>by NINA</u> and Slobodna Dalmacija last pg 'RS Law on Territorial Organization is not valid' <u>by B. Kristo</u>, SRNA – The Constitutional Court of BiH has abolished some articles of the Law on Territorial Organization and Local Self-Management of the RS and Articles 1 and 2 of the Law on the City of Srpsko Sarajevo, after it was established that the legal party (the RS National Assembly and the Council of Peoples) had not implemented within the set deadline of three months the ruling of the Constitutional Court that the names of 12 municipalities and towns were not in line with the BiH Constitution as they contain the prefix "Serb". A statement by the Constitutional Court says that parts of the law had seized to be in force on the day of the publication of the ruling in the BiH Official Gazette. <i>"With the aim of unimpeded functioning of these units of local self-management, the Constitutional Court has allocated temporary names for the units until the legal party – the RSNA and the RS Council of Peoples – removes the mentioned irregularities which are in breach with the Constitutional Court of BiH in line with the Constitutional Court's decision of February 27 2004,"</i> the statement says but it does not mention which temporary names had been allocated. SRNA has learnt from the Constitutional Court in Sarajevo that the details connected with this ruling of the Constitutional Court will be disclosed separately.</p> <p>Oslobodjenje pg 10 'Old names returned to Foca, Bosanski Brod and Bosanska Kostajnica', Dnevni Avaz pg 3 say that the Constitutional Court decided to return pre-war names to the RS municipalities of Foca Bosanski Brod and Bosanska Kostajnica, as other towns and municipalities got just temporary names.</p>
<p>BHT on OSA</p>	<p>BHT - Vetting procedure for all employees of BiH Intelligence and Security Agency (OSA) will be finished by the end of the year. OSA guarantees that any officer who may compromise the service will be dismissed. OSA will have some 700 employees. OSA denies that separate entity services are actually still active, and that they only changed their name to state service. Zoran Kuljanin, Spokesman of BiH OSA says that the common activity of the service has started in both entities. However, four months after the establishment of the service, many people doubt the unity of this service. Werner Wnendt, Senior Deputy High Representative: <i>"It is not acceptable that different factions exist within OSA. This must be a unified agency, which will protect interest of BiH and BiH citizens"</i>. Parliament, which is in charge of control of OSA, does not believe that officers of the agency really can work together. According to Nikola Spiric, Deputy Chair of BiH House of Peoples, it is impossible to expect people who used to fight each other during the war, to cooperate and work together after the war. OSA claims that they have a partnership relation with foreign intelligence services since this is the only way to fight organized crime, terrorism and arrest ICTY incitees. Denis Hadzovic, Centre for Security Studies, claims that such service is necessary for BiH. According to him, main priority is definition of internal threats, since external threats for BiH do not exist anymore. Law on OSA predicts several levels of control, most important of them being control by Parliament. Reform of intelligence service is important step towards Euro-Atlantic integrations.</p>
<p>A Dobojski businessman convicted in money laundering case before BiH Court</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine, cover and pg. 3 'He was sentenced to 4,5 years in prison because of money laundering of 13,5 million KM' <u>by A. Durmo</u>, Glas Srpske, pg. 10 'Launders are next in line' <u>not signed</u> – Ranko Pilic (48), a co-owner of "Uzdah" firm from Dobojski, was sentenced to 4,5 years in prison by BiH Court yesterday. He was sentenced over money laundering of 13,5 million KM, tax evasion and forging of documents. Apart from the prison sentence, the Court banned Pilic from running a firm or participating in a management of any firm, both directly and indirectly, in the next ten years. Vecernji List pg 23 'He laundered 13 million KM' <u>by th</u> and Slobodna Dalmacija pg 22 '4,5 years in prison for money laundering' <u>by B. Kristo</u> also covered the issue.</p>

SD on Croat self-rule charges	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija, front and pg 17 'Jelavic charged by Lovrenovic too', by <u>Zlatko Tulic</u> – reiterating like on many occasions that the process against Ante Jelavic and others in the Croat self-rule case is politically rigged, the author notes that the BiH Prosecution, being under pressure from outside, is trying everything to have Jelavic and others convicted. According to the author, the Prosecution is even trying to find all sorts of witnesses that would charge the defendants and speak about the Croat self-rule. In that context, Tulic says that one of witnesses that is likely to appear in the trials is Ivan Lovrenovic, a Sarajevo writer, who, according to Tulic, promoted himself to an expert on Croat issues and critic of the Catholic Church in BiH. Tulic also argues that Lovrenovic is one of Croat intellectuals with whom a former High Representative for BiH, Wolfgang Petritsch, had dialogues, and on basis of those dialogues, he (Petritsch) took decisions, discarding what the majority of Croats in BiH felt. SD also notes that former member of BiH Presidency Jozo Krizanovic, former FBiH Defence Minister, Mijo Anic, Anic's former deputy, Ferid Buljubasic, general Atif Dudakovic, Dragan Lukac, and former member of BiH Presidency, Beriz Belkic, are to be witnesses in the trials.</p>
On session of Srebrenica Commission	<p>Dnevni List pg 2 'Session of Srebrenica Commission' <u>not signed</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 7 'List of missing persons discussed' – The Srebrenica Commission held its regular session in Banja Luka yesterday during which the current issues that this Commission is in charge of were discussed, as well as issues with regard to information that the Commission received. The Commission focused on making of list of persons who are still being searched after.</p>
Journalists dissatisfied with Njegus's silence	<p>EuroBlic, cover and pg. RS 2 'Njegus is silent, journalists are angry' by <u>Rajna Radosavjevic</u> – The President of the Independent Association of Journalists, Dragan Jerinic, has said that journalists are dissatisfied with failure of RS Police Director Radomir Njegus to answer their questions within given deadline. He announced that journalists would address RS Ombudsmen for help in this matter. RS MUP claims that answers to journalists' questions are being prepared and would be presented in the next several days.</p>
RS Vice-president Osmanovic: Police Director should be of Bosniak or Croat Nationality	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'RS Vice-president Adil Osmanovic announces: We will request Ashdown and Carty that a Bosniak or a Croat is appointed RS Police Director', mentioned on cover 'Police Director should be of Bosniak or Croat nationality' – According to RS Vice-president Adil Osmanovic, the Bosniak and Croat representatives in the top RS institutions will next week send a request to HR Paddy Ashdown and EUPM Commissioner Kevin Carty to ensure that a candidate of the Bosniak or Croat nationality is appointed RS Police Director.</p>
Globus on alleged investigation on chain of smugglers by Croatian, FBiH and RS Mols	<p>Globus pgs 16 -19 'Removals in Mol because of coffee smuggling', mentioned on cover, by <u>M. Cigoj</u> – Globus magazine carries that according to a reliable source from the top of the Croatian Ministry of Interior, a huge international investigation of the Croatian, Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska Ministries of Interior led by 12 German crime inspectors is underway on the ground of which a big chain of coffee, petroleum and tobacco smugglers has been revealed. According to the article, it has been suspected that these smugglers were connected with some of recently removed officials of the Zagreb Police Administration. Globus also says that 12 German inspectors, who are in charge of this investigation, are based in Banja Luka and they submit their reports to High Representative Paddy Ashdown and the German Government. The author explains that the German Police is legally present in BiH through financing of about 70% projects in the FBiH and RS on the ground of which BiH customs are being harmonized with EU laws on customs. Globus also says that the first results of the aforementioned investigation, which started in mid last year, were seen two months ago when the HR removed in the RS about 30 leading people from the Police and Customs Administration including the RS Minister of Interior and Head of the Customs Administration.</p>

Miscellaneous

Halilovic on CIPS project deadlines	Dnevni List pg 6 'Extension of deadline for issuing of personal documents if there was need for it' by <u>A. Vrebac</u> – BiH Minister of Civil Affairs Safet Halilovic confirmed for DL that the deadline for issuing of personal documents will be extended if it there were objective reasons for it. Halilovic added that, nevertheless, he believes that that most of municipalities completed their job when this project is in question.
DL: Change from SFOR to EU forces will not be dramatic	Dnevni List , pg 4 'There will be no redundancies of local staff', by <u>Zvonimir Jukic</u> – apart from stating that the local staff, currently employed by SFOR, is likely to remain working for the future EU forces in BiH, the author says that the change from SFOR to EU forces will not be as dramatic as some analysts had predicted, and who stated that terrorist organizations could use the transitional period. DL notes that SFOR is already made up of 70-75% of EU forces.