

## OHR BiH Media Round-up, 13/7/2004

<b>RADIO HERCEG BOSNA</b> (18,00 hrs)	<b>BH TV 1</b> (19,00 hrs)	<b>FED TV</b> (19,30 hrs)	<b>RT RS</b> (19,30)
Third GSM licence issued	Third GSM operator	3 <sup>rd</sup> GSM operator in BiH	EU ministers supported HR
UNDP report	EU Ministers support HR	Mass-crypt in Beljeceva	Branislav Lucic buried
Bishops' conference	New mass-crypt	Mass-crypt in Sjekovac	Protests in Teslic
Regional news	Case of Sacirbegovic	Adnan Terzic in Brussels	3 <sup>rd</sup> GSM licence

<b>Oslobodjenje</b>	Third GSM license given to HT Mostar
<b>Dnevni Avaz</b>	HT Mostar to pay KM 140 million
<b>Dnevni List</b>	GSM licence is big obligation we have to fulfill
<b>Vecernji List</b>	Third network to HT Mostar
<b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>	Eronet lost, licence to HT
<b>Glas Srpske</b>	They arrest and make mistakes; Apartment for stay, house for return
<b>Nezavisne Novine</b>	BAM 35 million illegally approved to Agency for Roads; RS must extradite Hague indictees; Clifford Bond: Politicians from RS must continue with reforms; HT Mostar got the third GSM license
<b>Blic</b>	Dragan Cavic: Door of SDS is open for everyone
<b>Belgrade's Nacional</b>	Radovan Karadzic was arrested?

## **Political developments/statements**

<b>EU Foreign Ministers support Ashdown</b>	<b>BHTV, FTV, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine</b> , cover and pg. 3 'RS must extradite Hague indictees' by agencies, <b>Glas Srpske</b> , pg. 3 'They supported Ashdown' not signed- EU Ministers of Foreign Affairs at Monday's meeting of European Council in Brussels expressed strong support to High Representative <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> and his decisions, which were made on June 30 this year in order to ensure full cooperation with ICTY. Ministers invited BiH and RS officials to help apprehension of war criminals.
---	---

<p><b>Terzic meets with EU Commissioner Vitorino in Brussels</b></p>	<p><b>BHTV, FTV, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'Terzic requested abolishment of visas for BiH citizens', <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 8 'Serious talks on visa abolishment', <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 7 'Abolishment of visas for BiH citizens only after implementation of reforms' by M. Batarello, <b>FENA</b> - BiH Council of Ministers Chair <b>Adnan Terzic</b> and the European Commissioner for Judiciary and Internal Affairs <b>Antonio Vitorino</b> on Monday in Brussels held talks about the criteria for launching the negotiations on liberalizing the visa regime for BiH citizens, following the implementation of reforms in the judicial and security sectors, the BiH Council of Ministers said. Speaking about the up to now results of BiH authorities, Terzic said that the State Border Service had realized significant progress in preventing human trafficking and illegal entries. He added that the establishment of the State Information and Protection Agency (SIPA) had created conditions for combating organized crime and creating a secure environment for BiH citizens. He also indicated the significance of restructuring the police forces in BiH. Terzic informed Vitorino about the successful implementation of the CIPS project, which had created a single registry of personal identity cards, passports, driver's licenses in accord with the European standards in BiH. Vitorino was also informed about the reforms the BiH authorities were implementing in the sectors of tax and customs policy, noting the importance of establishing the State Indirect Taxation Administration. Commissioner Vitorino commended the progress realized in BiH in the field of judiciary and security, especially concerning establishing the BiH Court and the Prosecutor's Office, and passing the legal package on SIPA. Vitorino announced that he and the EC Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, <b>Chris Patten</b>, would define a list of criteria BiH needs to satisfy in order to qualify for launching negotiations on liberalizing the visa regime for BiH citizens. The BiH delegation, headed by Adnan Terzic, also comprised Minister of Security <b>Barisa Colak</b> and Director of BiH Directorate for European Integration <b>Osman Topcagic</b>. <b>FENA</b> - "We can clearly tell BiH citizens that the authorities will do everything in their power to ensure that BiH swiftly enters the category of countries that do not require visas. The probable question is when this will happen, and I think that everybody will be surprised by the pace of this process," said Terzic late on Monday at the Sarajevo Airport upon returning from a one-day visit to the European Commission in Brussels.</p>
<p><b>Dnevni Avaz: Tihic says HR may leave BiH after changes to the state Constitution</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'Tihic: HR may leave BiH after changes to the state Constitution' - In an interview with yesterday's Vecernji List, Croat member of the BiH Presidency Dragan Covic said the time had come for the elected officials in BiH to take over authority and full responsibility for running the country. Commenting on the statement, BiH Presidency Chairman <b>Sulejman Tihic</b> said BiH still needed the High Representative. He believes that only if the BiH Constitution is changed in terms of establishment of a fully functional state the conditions will be created for HR to leave BiH. Party for BiH leader <b>Safet Halilovic</b> and SDU President <b>Miro Lazovic</b> are also of the opinion that BiH needs and will need HR yet for some time.</p>
<p><b>Four NGOs send an open letter to Ashdown</b></p>	<p><b>BHTV, FTV, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'Constitutional amendments on equality of peoples are being applied restrictively', <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 5 'Dead letter on the paper', <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 4 'It is necessary to stop obstructions of current authority urgently' <u>not signed</u>, <b>FENA</b> - Four non-governmental organisations - the Serb Civic Council (SGV), the Council of the Bosniak Intellectuals Congress (VKBI), the Croat National Council (HNV) and the Circle 99 Association of Independent Intellectuals - sent an open letter to High Representative <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> on Monday warning him that the implementation of amendments concerning the equal constitutional status of the constituent peoples is not being done in accordance with the BiH Constitutional Court's decision on the issues made in 2000. They stated that RS and FBiH ruling political parties are approaching restrictively to the implementation of the constitutional amendments. The four NGOs stress that there is even greater obstruction by municipal and cantonal authorities.</p>

<p><b>ONASA interview with US Ambassador Bond</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 5 'If abolishment of SDS (ban of SDS work) will bring BiH into EU than one should think about it', mentioned on cover 'The time has come for Mikerevic and Cavic to make concrete moves', <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> cover and pg 4 'Politicians in RS must continue with reforms', <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pgs 4-5 'One should think about to ban SDS if that will bring BiH into EU', <b>ONASA</b> - The events at the NATO summit in Istanbul, considering BiH, and the measures taken by the High Representative in BiH should present no surprise for anyone in the country, US Ambassador <b>Clifford Bond</b> said in an interview with ONASA. <i>"NATO paid tribute to BiH at the summit due to significant progress made in the defense system reform. But, at the same time, it stressed the failure in making full cooperation with the Hague tribunal. NATO clearly pointed on the obstructionists in the Republika Srpska,"</i> Bond said. He underlined that NATO also passed a number of positive decisions related to BiH, such as the confirmation to open a NATO headquarters in the country. <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> has in public and privately warned on the measures which will be taken if BiH fails to join the Partnership for Peace due to lack of cooperation with the tribunal. <i>"Ashdown consulted and gained wide support of the international community for the measures he had taken and I think the measures were suitable and within his competence. The goal of these measures is to stop the blockade in which criminal elements inside the RS hold the government and public companies,"</i> said Bond. <i>"His (Ashdown) activities were not focused against the RS, but against individuals and criminals. I know there was political turbulence in the entity, but it is now time that RS president <b>Cavic</b> and Prime Minister <b>Mikerevic</b> make everything necessary to qualify BiH for admission in the PfP and the EU,"</i> Bond added. Speaking about the possibility to ban SDS work, Bond said it was about a serious measure, but that if it would bring BiH into PfP and EU one should seriously think about it.</p>
<p><b>Collection of signatures for referendum on RS separation begins</b></p>	<p><b>BHTV, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 9 'Signing of petition for RS secession from BiH started', <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 8 'Collecting of signatures for separation of RS has begun' by N. N., <b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 3 'Signatures for independence' by J. Novkovic, <b>EuroBlic</b>, pg. RS3 'They expect more than 300,000 signatures' by M. J., <b>Vecernje Novosti</b>, pg. 5 'Signatures for separation' by M. L., <b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 17 'Dayton organization of Bosnia and Herzegovina it total collapse!?', <u>not signed</u>, <b>ONASA</b> - The citizens' association "Zajedno do istine (Together to truth)" on Monday began in Banja Luka collecting signatures from citizens for holding a referendum on secession of the RS from BiH. Association's vice-president <b>Milan Crnkovic</b> said he expects the initiative to be backed by 300,000-500,000 RS citizens. He told reporters the action will resume in next days in all larger RS cities. Crnkovic reiterated it is also necessary to collect and hand over at least 3,000 citizens' signatures for launching the initiative before the parliament. The association's leadership last week informed domestic and international community officials in BiH on the reasons to launch the initiative. Crnkovic stressed the main reasons are <i>"constant attacks on the RS and the Serb nation from the Federation BiH, as well as the latest decisions of the High Representative to sack 59 RS officials due to lack of cooperation with the Hague tribunal."</i></p> <p><b>Vecernji List</b>, pg 2 'Croats give up on Herceg Bosna, Serbs want state', by B. Stevandic - apart from carrying a report similar to the article above, VL reports that according to results of a research carried out by 'Prism Research' Agency for the needs of the UN DP from March 2004, less and less Serbs and Croats in BiH question the existence of BiH. Among different opinion poll results, VL notes that 59% of Bosniaks deem that the most important political goal is to build BiH as a state of equal peoples and citizens. Moreover, less than 30% of Serbs believe that the political interests of Serbs from the RS is to join Serbia, and finally, 31% of Croats are in favour of formation on three entities in BiH, one for each constituent people.</p>

<b>Cavic: SDS accepts any kind of political fight</b>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 15 'SDS accepts any kind of political fight', by <u>N. Kolak</u> – President of SDS and Republika Srpska, <b>Dragan Cavic</b>, stated in Trebinje that the policy of SDS was a policy of protection of the Serb people in BiH through the RS, which is open to all who want to live in peace and respect the fact that the RS is an entity that was formed by wishes and will of the Serb people. Cavic adds that the SDS, even after recent events, has the strength to stand tall and accept any kind of political fight.</p> <p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 4 'SDS celebrated St. Peter's Day' by <u>N. N.</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 2 'In defense of Srpska' by <u>EGS</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b>, cover and pg. RS3 'Cavic: Door of SDS are open for everyone' by <u>M. Z.</u> also carried the statement.</p>
<b>PDP to discuss removals of SDA ministers</b>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 4 'PDP to discuss removals of SDA ministers today' – At today's session in Serb Sarajevo, PDP will discuss measures it would undertake, regarding the initiative for removals of three SDA Ministers from RS Government. According to <b>Dragan Mikerevic</b>, RS Prime Minister and PDP Vice President, he has not passed any decision on this issue, stressing that his decision will not have any impact upon the functioning of the institutions of RS and BiH. He also stressed he would <i>"be making cautious moves regarding personnel changes at RS Government"</i>.</p>
<b>DNS President on political situation in RS</b>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 4 'Ruling parties are obligated to re-instate institutions', <b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 2 'Running away from problems' <u>not signed</u> – <b>Marko Pavic</b>, DNS president (DNS stands for Democratic People's Alliance) yesterday called on the ruling parties to re-instate institutions "shaken" with the recent removals of officials. He also called on ruling parties to stop with cheap politics. He is of the view that SDS and PDP must fill in vacated positions as soon as possible, in order to ensure the normal functioning of the institutions.</p>
<b>Bishop Komarica on return of Croats to RS</b>	<p><b>Vecernji List</b> 'Prevent disappearance of Catholics' by <u>D. Jazvic</u> and <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 5 'Do not give up return of Croats', mentioned on cover, <u>not signed</u> – The President of the BiH Bishops' Conference, <b>Franjo Komarica</b>, and few priests from the area of Derventa sent an appeal to international and domestic political officials in which they are asking these officials to reconsider once again the reasons of disastrously poor results when the return of Croats-Catholics to the areas of Posavina that were given to the RS on the ground of the Dayton Peace Accord is in question.</p>
<b>HDZ on Friday to discuss elections, situation in BiH, education laws</b>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 6 'Presentation of party candidates for local elections', by <u>Miso Relota</u> – The Election Implementation HQ of the HDZ BiH, with all HDZ's candidates for heads of municipalities, will be meeting in Mostar on Friday at 1000 hrs. The HQ's Chairman, <b>Dragan Covic</b>, will chair the meeting. HDZ notes that the meeting will in fact be a presentation of HDZ's candidates for the local elections. The same day, the HDZ Presidency, under chairmanship of HDZ President, <b>Barisa Colak</b>, will have its meeting too, to discuss the forthcoming elections and current situation in BiH with a special focus on the removals of the RS officials by the <b>High Representative for BiH</b>. The party is also expected to declare itself regarding the HR's recent enactment of education laws in three cantons (6, 8, 10)</p>
<b>UNDP report on BiH</b>	<p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio</b>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 3 'BiH is politically stagnating' by <u>Fena</u> – The conclusion of "Early warning system" report of UNDP is that BiH, both as a country and society, has been politically stagnating for the past several years. The report covers the first quarter of this year, and reads that Bulgaria , Romania , Macedonia and lately Croatia had had a dynamic path towards European integrations and had made great steps forward to European standards, while BiH seems as a country where progress is made in small steps. The report also emphasizes that a slow implementation of institutional reforms is a result of a negligence of a part of local political elements. It also reads that the credibility of political structures in the country has been very low for the past nine years, the reason for which can be found in a lack of real economic results and political development.</p>
<b>Delegation of Croats from RS visited Zagreb</b>	<p><b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 3 'Return on the first place' by <u>M. Ms.</u> – Croat members of a delegation from RS, led by RS Deputy President <b>Ivan Tomljenovic</b>, paid an official visit to Croatian Government last Friday. They met with Deputy President of Croatian Government <b>Jadranka Kosor</b> and discussed the position of Croats in RS with a special accent on sustainable return.</p>

## Economic/social issues

<p><b>HT Mostar granted license for third GSM operator</b></p>	<p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, BHTV, FTV, RTRS, BH Radio 1, Dnevni Avaz</b> cover page 'HT to pay KM 140 million', pg 3 'Third GSM license given to HT Mostar', <b>Oslobodjenje</b> cover page, pgs 4-5 'Third GSM license given to HT Mostar', <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, cover and pg. 2 'HT Mostar got the third GSM license' by <u>M. Cubro</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 3 'ERONET's line got interrupted' <u>not signed</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b>, pg. RS2 'HT is the third operator in BiH' by <u>Beta</u> - The Communications Regulatory Agency (CRA) has granted a license for the third GSM operator to the Croat Telecommunications (HT) Mostar company. Eronet also put in a bid. The agency concluded that HT Mostar met conditions to become the third GSM operator based on seven criteria. Eronet has the right to appeal against this decision. CRA General Director <b>Kemal Huseinovic</b> said that the agency set up a commission on 7 June to examine the bids and devised a report containing a detailed analysis of economic, legal and other relevant elements. "The commission unanimously decided that the license for the third GSM operator should be granted to HT Mostar," said Huseinovic at a press conference in Sarajevo on Monday.</p> <p><b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, front and pg 13 'Eronet lost, licence to HT', by <u>Dinko Pasic</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b>, front and pg 17 'Third network to HT Mostar', by <u>Zoran Kresic</u>, <b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 2 'HT Mostar gets third GSM licence', by <u>Danka Polovina-Mandic</u> - a Commission of the Communications Regulatory Agency (RAK), on basis of a detailed analysis of all economic, financial, legal and other elements, decided that HT Mostar is to become the third GSM operator in BiH. At a press conference held in Sarajevo yesterday, the Director of RAK, <b>Kemal Huseinovic</b>, stated that out of seven pre-requisites, HT Mostar was better than Eronet in five categories. Furthermore, Huseinovic notes that Eronet will keep existing as a company, but will have to regulate its relations with HT Mostar in a different way. According to the RAK Director of Telecommunications Sector, <b>Firket Kasumagic</b>, the decision will have no impact on the customers. Interested parties can lodge appeals to the RAK Council within 15 days of getting the decision, and after the second instance decision is taken, there is a possibility of launching a procedure with the BiH Court within two months.</p>
<p><b>Reactions by Stipe Prlic, Bozo Knezevic</b></p>	<p><b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, pg 13 'Prlic satisfied, Knezevic without comment', by <u>M. Landeka</u>, <b>Dnevni List</b>, front and pg 3 'GSM licence is big obligation we have to fulfill', by <u>Jurislav Petrovic</u>, <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 4 'A chance for HT Mostar' - carry the General Manager of HT Mostar, <b>Stipe Prlic</b> who welcomes the RAK's decision, noting that the first step HT Mostar has to take now is to sit down and talk to representatives of Eronet about the new situation. In that context, Prlic says the two companies should find solutions to all pending issues to mutual satisfaction. Furthermore, Prlic believes that HT Mostar will be able to pay for the GSM licence (140 million KMs in next 9 years). On the other hand, the President of Eronet Management, <b>Bozo Knezevic</b>, says Eronet will declare itself once it gets the official decision from RAK. <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 3 'Gavranovic claims that CRA has taken away rights from the people of Herzegovina' also carried ERONET's reaction.</p>
<p><b>Hercegovina osiguranje says HT Mostar is not technically equipped</b></p>	<p><b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, pg 13 'Subscribers without mobile phones for months', by <u>M. Landeka</u>, <b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 3 'RAK took away right from people of Herzegovina', <u>not signed</u>, <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 5 'Hercegovina Osiguranje to lodge complaint' - one of shareholders in Eronet, Hercegovina osiguranje, notes that HT Mostar received the 3<sup>rd</sup> GSM licence although the company does not meet the technical requirements. On top of that, Hercegovina osiguranje argues that Eronet has the licence that is still valid. "HT Mostar has no GSM infrastructure and will not be able to provide any kind of services to the people in Herzegovina and rest of BiH in next months. According to that, the RAK has deprived people of Herzegovina of their rights (...) The decision is not in the interest of the public. It is not consistent with earlier statements by RAK, in other words, the OHR and IC. People from Herzegovina and BiH will lose if HT Mostar becomes the 3<sup>rd</sup> GSM operator, Deutsche Telekom, through its share in HT Zagreb, will control both the fixed and mobile network in Herzegovina", reads a press release of Hercegovina osiguranje.</p>

<b>DL: Pressures on RAK</b>	<b>Dnevni List</b> , pg 3 'Pressures on Regulator agency', by <u>De. L.</u> – according to DL's sources close to RAK, <b>James Milne</b> , an employee of the Provisional Administrator for Hercegovacka bank, is pressuring RAK. Apparently, Milne wants to see the points table, on basis of which it was decided to award the licence to HT Mostar.
<b>DL welcomes RAK's decision</b>	<b>Dnevni List</b> , pg 2 'Justice wins', by <u>M. Batarello</u> – welcomes the RAK's decision, saying it will save many workers of HT Mostar, as well as welfare of their families.
<b>US Ambassador Bond with Croat MPs on old savings</b>	<b>Dnevni List</b> , pg 5 'IMF's position does not suit old foreign currency savers', by <u>Miso Relota</u> – Croat MPs in the FBiH Parliament yesterday talked to the US Ambassador to BiH, <b>Clifford Bond</b> , about issues pertaining to the law that deals with internal debt in FBiH. The Croat MPs reiterated once more that the law in question was necessary, however, they note that the segment of the law that deals with the old foreign currency savings, as stipulated in the proposal of the law, is not good. DL is surprised that Ambassador Bond did not pressure the Croat MPs to adopt the law, and instead, he came to try and find the most acceptable solution to both the savers and the state. From the conversations between the Ambassador and the MPs, one can conclude that the position of the IMF is the key element in the issue.
<b>Audit report on the work of the Federation of BiH Government for 2003</b>	<b>Nezavisne Novine</b> cover and pg 5 'BAM 35 million illegally approved to Directorate for Roads' – The Audit report of the F BiH Audit Office at the F BiH Directorate for Roads for the last year observed that in 2003, F BiH Government, as a majority owner, has reached an illegal decision to allocate the amount of BAM 35 million from its asserts to the Public Company "BH Telecom". Auditors stressed that upon Government's order, the money was intended for the construction of highway and reconstruction of roads for refugee returns. Auditors had no information as to whether the decision was implemented. The Report stressed that this decision was illegal since it violates the Law on budget realisation and Law on F BiH budget, which clearly stipulates that the public incomes in F BiH are to be paid to appropriate account of F BiH budget.
<b>NN op-ed on economic crime, corruption</b>	<b>Nezavisne Novine</b> op-ed pg 7 'The untouchable' by <u>Aleksandar Sekulic</u> – The author is writing about the fight against crime and corruption in the state of BiH, stressing it has deep roots in BiH. However, he also commends the activities of the BiH Court and Prosecutor's Office aimed at persons engaged in such activities, noting " <i>there are no longer the untouchables in BiH</i> ". Furthermore, he also stresses that such activities (aimed against criminals and those corrupt) are not visible at the entity level, since not a single case against top official has been processed as yet. He concludes the article by saying: " <i>Still, the salaries of judges and prosecutors in RS, that are ten times bigger than average salaries, if nothing else should represent an obligation to these people to approach this job in a more serious manner.</i> "
<b>GS on property issues</b>	<b>Glas Srpske</b> , cover page 'Apartment for stay, house for return' by <u>J. N.</u> – The article reads that a house in Kljuc was returned to <b>Bosko Bajic</b> , the President of the Association of Refugees and DPs "Ostanak", nevertheless he has continued using an alternative accommodation in Banja Luka. Banja Luka Department for Refugees and DPs has brought an eviction decision in the case of Bajic, but the RS Administration Inspection got involved in the case and banned the eviction of Bajic from the alternative accommodation claiming the Department had had no grounds for reaching the decision of the eviction. At the time of reaching of the eviction decision, the decision on takeover of the property in Kljuc was still in mail, travelling to the Banja Luka Department for Refugees and DPs.

## Security/investigations/legal proceedings

<b>Bihac-based Cantonal Court passes verdict in Citrus company case</b>	<b>BHTV, FTV, TV Hayat, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 11, mentioned on cover '21 years in prison for Citrus', <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 10, mentioned on cover 'Prison terms to Kulauzovic, Jonuzi, Toromanovic', <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> , back pg 'Three defendants got 21 years', by <u>M. Mulic</u> , <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 51 '21 years in prison to owner of 'Citrus' and former managers' by R. Karat – The Bihac Cantonal Court on Monday passed a verdict in a criminal proceeding against the five accused in the Citrus case. The court council sentenced the founder and co-owner of the Bihac-based Citrus company, <b>Muharem Kulauzovic</b> , to eight years in prison. The general manager of the Citrus company, <b>Asim Jonuzi</b> , received a nine-year imprisonment and <b>Sead Toromanovic</b> , the director of the Zitoprerada factory in Bihac, was sentenced to four years in prison. The court dropped charges against <b>Isak Januzi</b> and <b>Mujo Isakovic</b> . This is a first-instance judgment and it is not final. For this reason, the accused have a right to appeal against it.
<b>Financial Times: EU agrees BiH military mission</b>	<b>Financial Times</b> Jul 13, 2004 By <u>Daniel Dombey</u> – The European Union on Monday took the formal decision to begin its biggest military mission yet, a 7,000-strong force intended to replace the Nato-led force in Bosnia and Herzegovina by the end of the year. The operation is much more extensive than previous EU missions to countries such as Congo and the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia. Unlike those operations, it is not limited in time, though yesterday's decision by foreign ministers says a decision on continuing the operation will have to be taken by December 31 2005.
<b>Amnesty International on future EUFOR</b>	<b>Vecernji List</b> , pg 3 'SFOR violated human rights', <u>not signed</u> , <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> , back pg 'EUFOR will have to observe human rights', by <u>E. Dnevni List</u> , pg 7 'EUFOR must not repeat SFOR's mistakes', by <u>NINA</u> – The Amnesty International (AI) warned EU Foreign Ministers that the future EU military mission in BiH must not repeat SFOR's mistakes. According to the AI, SFOR made most mistakes in application of international standards pertaining to human rights. In that context, the AI cites illegal arrests and inadequate protection of arrested people in BiH. According to the Director of the European branch of AI, <b>Dick Austing</b> , one of the biggest problems of NATO's mission to BiH was that there was no civilian control of SFOR's activities. The AI also believes that the main task of the EU forces in BiH will be to arrest war crimes suspects in cooperation with NATO. <b>Sarajevo media, Nezavisne Novine</b> , pg. 3 'EU mission must not repeat mistakes of SFOR' by Beta, <b>Glas Srpske</b> , cover page 'They arrest and make mistakes' <u>not signed</u> also covered the issue.
<b>SD critical of SFOR behaviour in central Bosnia</b>	<b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> , pg 12 'Searches and road blockades', by <u>Zvonimir Cilic</u> – the author is very critical of behaviour of SFOR and Italian Carabinieri troops during the recent Operation 'Harvest' in central Bosnia. The author, in general, supports Operation 'Harvest' in order to collect illegal arms and ammunition, but is very critical of the SFOR and Italian Carabinieri troops who, allegedly during the last weekend in central Bosnia, forcibly entered houses, smashed windows and caused unnecessary traffic jams in the area. SD also notes that SFOR even raided a house of Vice President of HDZ BiH, <b>Ante Spajic</b> , wondering whether the aim was to 'soften up this hard-core official'.
<b>Indictments against two RS Special police members confirmed</b>	<b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 2 'Detention against special policemen extended' – Serb Sarajevo District Court yesterday upheld indictment against two members of RS Special Police Unit, <b>Vedran Purisic and Drazen Bojic</b> (charged with murder of Novica Luikic in Visegrad) and also decided that defendants should be kept in detention as long as criminal proceedings last. <b>Dusko Tomic</b> , legal representatives of special policemen, stressed this decision is absurd, noting "defendants should have been released on 18 June, since they have been in custody for three months now". He stressed he would file a motion on this Court decision.

## War crimes

<b>RS Government on Srebrenica Commission</b>	<b>Vecernji List</b> pg 4 'RS Government increased budget for Srebrenica' <i>by f.</i> , <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> , pg. 6 'RS Government enlarged the budget of Srebrenica Commission' <i>by I. S.</i> , <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 4 'Bigger assistance to the Srebrenica Commission' – The Head of the RS Government's Press Office <b>Cvijeta Kovacevic</b> stated that the RS Government welcomed readiness of the <b>OHR</b> to give to the Srebrenica Commission additional time for final defining of the framework list of missing persons and completing of the annex to the final report. She added that in accordance with this stand the RS Government approved extending of the budget for the Srebrenica Commission in the additional period.
<b>Helsinki Board for Human Rights on Srebrenica Commission</b>	<b>Nezavisne Novine</b> , pg. 6 'To extend deadline for Srebrenica Commission' <i>by Srna</i> – RS Helsinki Board for Human Rights is of an opinion that the Srebrenica Commission should be given more time in order to be able to successfully complete its work. The Board expressed its surprise with the decision of HR <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> to extend the work of the Commission for only several more days, although it is obvious that the Commission is facing a serious lack of time in its work.
<b>Memorial for Serb victims in Srebrenica and Bratunac was held</b>	<b>Nezavisne Novine</b> , pg. 6 '12 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of suffering of Serbs was marked' <i>by Onasa</i> , <b>Glas Srpske</b> , pg. 2 'Srebrenica remembers Serb sufferings too' <i>by K. Cirkovic</i> , <b>Nacional</b> Belgrade daily, pg. 2 'Anniversary of killing of Serbs in Srebrenica' <i>not signed</i> – 12 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of suffering of 68 Srebrenica Serbs, 19 of which are still missing, was marked yesterday in Srebrenica and Bratunac. Flowers were laid and candles were lit on cemetery in Bratunac and execution sites in Biljaca, Sase, Zalazje and Zagoni. It was stated during the ceremony that there could be no reconciliation or prosperity without finding a real truth on crimes over all three peoples in BiH.
<b>Former HVO soldier convicted of war crimes</b>	<b>Vecernji List</b> pg 21 '9 years in prison because of murder of girl', mentioned on cover, <i>by R. Soldo</i> – a former HVO soldier <b>Dragan Bunoza</b> from Capljina was sentenced before the Cantonal Court in Mostar to 9 year imprisonment prison yesterday, because of a war crime committed over a civilian in July 1993. According to the bill of indictment, as an HVO soldier Bunoza, killed a Bosniak girl <b>Sanida Kaplan</b> from a village near Stolac in July 1993 during the HVO-BiH Army conflict.
<b>Reactions to Covic's statement re lawsuit of BiH against Croatia</b>	<b>Nezavisne Novine</b> , pg. 3 'To give up from lawsuits' <i>by N. N.</i> – SNSD Deputy President <b>Krstan Simic</b> thinks it is not necessary to bring a lawsuit against Croatia for aggression against BiH as well as that the lawsuit of BiH against SCG should be withdrawn with an aim of truth and reconciliation. Upon Covic's statement saying there are small chances for BiH to prove its claims brought in the lawsuit against SCG, SPRS President <b>Petar Djokic</b> has said this could make an influence on Bosniak politicians to withdraw the lawsuit against SCG. SRS President <b>Milanko Mihajlica</b> thinks a lawsuit against Croatia should not be brought because of reconciliation of peoples in BiH and region. SDP Deputy President <b>Slobodan Popovic</b> thinks a lawsuit against Croatia should be brought if it is assessed there were enough elements that would provide with a positive result for BiH. Member of the Main SDA Board <b>Tarik Sadovic</b> said it would be technically impossible to bring a lawsuit against Croatia in accordance with the Dayton Agreement because Croat people in BiH would not support it.
<b>Belgrade 's Nacional claims Radovan Karadzic was arrested</b>	<b>Nacional</b> Belgrade daily, cover 'Radovan Karadzic was arrested?' pg. 3 'Karadzic was arrested?' – quotes an anonymous source from the top of Montenegrin authority as saying that <b>Radovan Karadzic</b> was arrested on July 1, but this is kept in secret because he is being interrogated. A source from diplomatic circles in Sarajevo claims Radovan Karadzic himself is less important. <i>'Americans, prior to their elections, are trying to get numerous compromising evidence, believed to be in his possession. Karadzic's arrest would maybe be in favour of the Republicans but this is still smaller problem than if evidence on disputable role of the Democrats in the Bosnian war had appeared in public'</i> , the source claims.