

# OBN News Review, 20 October 1999

## Headlines

- Approximately 50,000 workers would participate in protests on October 25th despite threats, the BiH Syndicate announced
- Inhabitants of the Kopaci village in the Gorazde municipality prevented Bosniak refugees on the cross-entity border to enter their property
- How far or close BiH is from the membership in EC will be known upon the end of the visit of the EC delegation to our country
- Kosovo – Serbs' suggestion to establish their defence forces and cantons rejected
- New President of Indonesia elected

## Sarajevo

The BiH Syndicate confirmed that protests of workers in the BiH federation will be held on October 25th. Over 50,000 workers are expected to come onto the streets at noon and express their dissatisfaction, OBN reporter, Mirela Pehar, confirmed. President of the BiH Syndicate, Sulejman Hrle, said that the strike will be strictly of a social nature, without any political implications. The railroads' workers announced a strike for October 30th because they had not got their salaries for June.

This was followed by a report on the "BH Bank". According to unofficial information, the bank will not go bankrupt as previously announced. There was no official announcement. The media were asked to leave the meeting where the matter was discussed, OBN reporter, Anes Alic, confirmed.

## Banja Luka

The Governor of the Central Bank, Peter Nicholl, visited Banja Luka today and attended a meeting of the RS Council for the Payment Operations Board. The Governor met with the RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, and the Finance Minister, Novak Kondic. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Milorad Milojevic.

## **Sarajevo**

The EC delegation came for a two day visit to Sarajevo after their visit to Banja Luka. The aim of the visit is to check whether BiH has fulfilled conditions for membership of the EC. The priorities are functioning of joint institutions in BiH and ombudspersons, respecting of human rights, reform of judiciary and education systems. OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic, confirmed that the EC delegation was not too optimistic because the results achieved in BiH to date were still unsatisfactory.

This was followed by a report on the continuation of the Federal Parliament Representative House session. The result of the session – all representatives want a modern education system which guarantees freedom of choice and yet no one wants to sacrifice its party's interest for the benefit of pupils and students. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sefko Bajic.

## **Mostar**

A report on the reaction of the HDZ party in BiH to the recent statement of the Croatian President, Franjo Tudjman, that a third entity should be established in BiH. They said that HDZ in BiH supports the Dayton Peace Agreement which is the guideline for this party. The report on this was produced by OBN reporter from Mostar, Pejo Gasparevic.

## **Banja Luka**

At today's session of the RS Government, representatives

analysed materials that will be discussed at the next session of the RS National Assembly. The report on this was produced by OBN reporter from the town, Tatjana Lajsic.

## **World**

A report on the election of the new Indonesian President and ratification of the decision on the East Timor independence by the Indonesian Parliament was followed by a report on current events in Pakistan. The report was produced by OBN journalist, Duska Jurisic.

## **Kosovo**

This was followed by a report on the situation in Kosovo. Civil Mission of the [UN](#) in Kosovo and KFOR rejected a suggestion of Kosovo Serbs for establishing defence forces and cantons in Kosovo. The report on this was produced by OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel. A report on current events in Serbia followed.

## **Kopaci(Gorazde)**

Approximately 500 Bosniak refugees from the Kopaci village who tried to enter their property in the village in order to seed wheat on their land were prevented by current inhabitants of the village on the cross-entity border. The incident was solved during the afternoon through mediation of the OHR and police authorities. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic.

## **Sarajevo**

During his address to students and professors at the Sarajevo University today, the Special Envoy of the [OSCE](#) for South East Europe, Robert Barry, said that BiH could not just wait for the economic support from abroad while doing nothing, OBN reporter, Zeljka Lekic, reported. He stressed that the Stability Pact was another chance for BiH to implement

economic reforms in the country.

## **Banja Luka**

The RS authorities announce new, much more organised control of turnover of goods. They also announced a possibility to enact new law on trade inspection. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Valentina Knezevic.

## **Sarajevo**

A report on the 25th anniversary of the International League of Humanists Association held in Sarajevo today. The association includes 38 Nobel Prize winners and 1,300 academicians. The charters to humanists of the year were presented at today's ceremony. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic.

This was followed by a report on the International Theatre Festival "MESS 99" currently held in Sarajevo, produced by OBN reporter, Mirna Sadikovic.

## **Sport**

A report on local football was followed by a report on the European Football League of Champions.