

# OBN News Review, 22 January 2000

## Headlines

- At the meeting of seven Prime Ministers of neighbouring countries of Yugoslavia held in Bulgaria, Haris Silajdzic said that a complete and urgent revision of the Dayton Peace Agreement is necessary
- Coup d'état in Ecuador
- Did the President of the Group for the New Election Law, Froment Maurice, say that Bosnia and Herzegovina was not a real state?
- The adoption of the law on judges' and prosecutors' positions means that BiH will be a step closer to the European Council
- The case of the journalist Hadzic – whether the individuals who threatened him would be discovered?

## Meeting in Bulgaria

An unofficial meeting of seven Prime Ministers of the neighbouring countries of Yugoslavia, held in the Bulgarian town of Hisar, was ended. The participants discussed the current situation in the Balkans and the Stability Pact for South East Europe. The meeting was attended by high representatives of the European Union and [NATO](#). Bosnia and Herzegovina was presented by the Co-Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers, Haris Silajdzic, who emphasised that an urgent and complete revision of the Dayton Peace Agreement is necessary. An important topic of the meeting was the sanctions imposed against Yugoslavia. Most of the participants agreed that the sanctions did not bring expected results regarding democratic changes in Yugoslavia and the end of Slobodan Milosevic's regime. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Mladen Maric.

## **Sarajevo**

The draft election law, nominated by the representative of the House of Peoples of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly, Drago Ljubicic, on behalf of [OSCE](#), was rejected by the Assembly recently. The weekly magazine "Slobodna Bosna", reported that the President of the Expert Commission, which developed the draft, Froment Maurice, allegedly said that Bosnia and Herzegovina was not a real state and that the RS would break off one day. Ambassador Froment Maurice denied that, OBN reporter, Damir Kaletovic, confirmed.

## **Banja Luka**

An item on the meeting of the RS Independent Social-Democrat Party followed. A new logo, statute and program of the party was adopted at today's meeting, OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Milorad Milojevic, confirmed. The party will nominate its candidates in 53 municipalities in the RS in the forthcoming municipality elections. Twenty boards have been formed in the BiH Federation. The RS Prime Minister and the President of the party, Milorad Dodik, said that the results of the presidential and parliamentary elections in the RS will depend on the forthcoming BiH municipality elections.

## **Sarajevo**

Two days ago, the Representative House of the BiH Federation Parliament adopted a law on the judges' and prosecutors' positions. The law will be enacted after the House of Peoples adopts it. This is one of the pre-conditions necessary for membership of BiH in the European Council. A different way of choosing judges and prosecutors plus higher salaries, should ensure their independent work. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Amarildo Gutic.

## **Sarajevo**

Last autumn, [NATO](#) decided to open corridors for civil flights

over Bosnia and Herzegovina. Air traffic has been opened from the beginning of the [NATO](#) air campaign in Kosovo. The [SFOR](#) Deputy Commander, Charles Henry de Monchy, who was participating in handing over of air control to the local authorities, said for OBN that they will monitor the way that the Hub for Civil Aviation uses the BiH air space. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Vedran Persic.

## **World**

The Belgrade police announced that Dobrosav Gavric (23) from the Serbian village Trbusnica, together with two other individuals killed Zeljko Raznjatovic (Arkan). The Superintendent of the Criminal Police Hub, Milenko Ercic, said that this proved that criminals were behind the murder of Zeljko Raznjatovic (Arkan) and not the state or police, as previously suspected. This was followed by a report on current events in Chechenya. Violent street fights continued. The Advisor of the Chechen President said that ten Chechen and sixty Russian troops have been killed during the last 24 hours. At the same time, fights in the mountains in the South of Chechenia have been waged. Pieces on the coup d'etat in Ecuador, current events in Japan, Germany and Spain were presented. The report on these and other current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Mladen Maric.

## **Banja Luka**

In the school center of the RS Ministry of Internal Affairs in Banja Luka, the first class of the Police Academy students was promoted. Young police officers from all four ethnic groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina will start their police practice. The Police Academy was established according to the provisions of the Madrid Declaration and the funds were provided by the RS Ministry of Internal Affairs. The report was produced by OBN reporter from the town, Darko Savic.

## **Tuzla**

An item on the "Slobodna Bosna" journalist, Hasan Hadzic, who was threatened recently, together with his family, by unknown individuals. The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Tuzla Canton, announced at today's press conference measures they have implemented in order to find out the perpetrators of this criminal act and provide security for the Hadzics family. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Tuzla, Alma Hadziefendic.

## **Sarajevo**

Currently in Bosnia and Herzegovina, approximately 1% of entire population are mentally sick people. A reform of the mental health protection system will be implemented through 38 centers. The funds for the restructure were partially provided by the humanitarian organisation Health Net International. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sevko Bajic.

A piece on the 50th anniversary of the BiH librarians. At the beginning, the Association had 50 members, now the number is five times higher. OBN reporter, Mirna Sadikovic, produced the piece.

## **Istanbul**

The world premier of the BiH film "Tunel" ("The Tunnel") by Faruk Sokolovic director, was held in Istanbul today. Top Turkish media reported that the premier was the culture event of the month, OBN reporter from Istanbul, Jusko Bojadzic, confirmed.

## **Sport**

A report on indoor football was followed by reports on international handball, tennis and skiing.