

# OBN News Review, 28 June 1999

## Headlines

- Start of the first organised return of Kosovo refugees from Macedonia
- Ministers of the [EU](#) did not decide who was going to be the coordinator for the Balkans
- Difficult situation for pensioners – pensions for March have not been distributed yet
- Violation of human rights – why two people can not perform their right of marriage?
- Topics of TV Info – BiH and advanced technologies & Entrance exam to secondary schools

## Serbia

The Association of Belgrade intellectuals “Appeal Fifty”, called today the Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic, to withdraw from its position in favour of the “Provisional Government of People’s Salvation”.

## Kosovo

Two weeks after [NATO](#) troops’ arrival in Kosovo, [UNHCR](#) started organising Kosovo refugees return. During the eleven week air campaign against Yugoslavia, one million people have fled Kosovo. Three hundred and fifty thousand of them have returned to their homes on their own. OBN reporter from Skoplje, Safet Bisevac, produced the report.

Russia continued deployment of its troops in Kosovo. Three transport planes arrived at the Pristina airport, Slatina, carrying soldiers, technical facilities, food and medicines.

The [UN](#) Secretary General, Kofi Annan, announced that that the civil supervisor in Kosovo would be appointed by the end of this week. However, the European Union ministers still have

not decided who will be their candidate for the Balkans coordinator.

## **Zagreb**

A report on the two day international conference on de-mining started today in Zagreb. OBN journalist and presenter, Aleksandar Mlac, reported from the conference in Zagreb.

## **Sarajevo**

Croatian writer and academic, Ivan Supek, promoted his new book "Over the Abyss" in Sarajevo. The book deals with the contemporary analysis of the events on the former Yugoslavia territory. For OBN, Ivan Supek said:" I hope that science and art will have a much more important role in the education of people and elimination of the great evils in some future world".

This was followed by a report on breach of human rights – in this case, right of marriage. The registry office refused an application for marriage because the bride was from Belgrade. The Office explained that BiH did not have diplomatic relations with the Federal Republic Yugoslavia. OBN journalist, Amarildo Gutic, produced the report.

## **Pensioners**

A report on the difficult situation of 270 thousand BiH Federation pensioners. Statistics show that more pensioners die now than they had during the war. OBN journalist, Sanjin Beciragic, researched.

This was followed by a piece on the meeting of the Pensioners' Association from the Croatian part of the Srednja Boasna Canton in Kresevo. The Association was formed a year ago in order to help pensioners improve their difficult position.

## **Millennium Bug**

A report on the recently held conference in New York about solving the Millennium Bug problem. The participants of the meeting pledged to provide funds in order to help BiH overcome the problem. OBN crew attended this great event.

## **Sarajevo**

In the International Forum "Bosna" premises in Sarajevo, a seminar on "Policy of Science and Technology Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina". Scientists attended the seminar from the BiH Federation and RS.

This was followed by a report on the start of the summer school of business law in Sarajevo. Lecturers came from Harvard University, Emory, Central European University and the International Centre for Management. The lectures are in English and 18 post-graduates attend them.

## **Mostar**

From July 1999, BiH citizens will be able to change BiH currency to Croatian currency in all branches of the Split Bank in Croatia. This would probably help the tourist season in Dalmacia.

## **World**

A report on the current blockade of Croatian roads by the Croatian farmers was followed by a report on the crisis in Kashmir, talks in Northern Ireland and the trial of the Kurd leader in Turkey.

## **Tuzla**

A report on entrance exams at the Tuzla Canton secondary schools. There are more pupils who would like to enroll than the number of available places in the schools.

## **Banja Luka**

A piece on the celebration of the Serb religious and people's holiday "Vidovdan" in Banja Luka. This is the anniversary of the day the Kosovo battle began in 1389.

## **Sport**

A report on the results from the European Championship in basketball was followed by a report on the tennis tournament in Wimbledon and international Football Championship for Women in the USA.