

# OHR BiH Media Round-up, 10/11/2004

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 10 November 2004

<b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (12,00 hrs)	<b>BH Radio 1</b> (12,00 hrs)	<b>RTRS</b> (12,00 hrs)
BiH Presidency meeting today	Tuzla steel factory workers on strike	Nomination of new ambassadors
Conference on agriculture in SA	Talks on RS economic situation in BL	HR in Washington, New York
Human trafficking	CRA Council session	Srebrenica victims to sue RS, SCG
New ambassadors nomination	World news	Alleged terrorist network in BiH

TV news broadcast on 9 November 2004

<b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (18,00 hrs)	<b>FED TV</b> (19,30 hrs)	<b>RT RS</b> (19,30)
Meeting in BiH Presidency	Terzic resignation	Robbery in Bijeljina
Law on war crimes trials	ITA on value added tax	ITA's warning
4 workers killed in Croatia	BiH citizens in missions	Terzic's resignation
HDZ on Brcko authorities	CG foreign minister in BiH	Pres. on defence reform

<b>Oslobodjenje</b>	Party for BiH conditions support to Premier Adnan Terzic
<b>Dnevni Avaz</b>	Party for BiH conditions support to Terzic
<b>Dnevni List</b>	HR in USA : Rumsfeld informed about defense reform

<b>Vecernji List</b>	CIA: 300 000 Croats disappeared
<b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>	BiH Ambassador Leko arranges in Belgrade football match between Zrinjski and Zvijezda
<b>Glas Srpske</b>	Robbery: BAM 630 thousand stolen
<b>Nezavisne Novine</b>	Construction of hydro-power system at rivers of Ugar and Vrbanja: "Eling" illegally building plants; RS delegation led by Cavic handed list with nine addresses of Hague indictees to Kostunica; Robbery near Bijeljina: Thieves stole BAM 635 thousand, Mercedes and guns; Terzic remains BiH CoM Chair; Henrick Ofstadt: About 150 thousand people killed during the war
<b>Blic</b>	They stole BAM 635 thousand and a vault of 250 kg
<b>Vecernje Novosti</b>	Features Serbian related topics
<b>Belgrade's Nacional</b>	Features Serbian related topics

<b>LATEST NEWS OF TODAY</b>	
<b>BiH Presidency discusses Terzic's resignation</b>	<b>Herceg Bosna Radio</b> News at 1200, <b>FENA</b> – BiH Presidency is holding today (Wednesday) a regular session, which will be addressing, among other issues, the letter of Chairman of BiH Council of Ministers, <b>Adnan Terzic</b> , in which he asks to be relieved of duty. The Presidency will also discuss preparations for the session of BiH-Croatia Inter-state Council, scheduled for November 19, and Draft law on changes and amendments to Law on BiH Central Bank.

<p><b>CRA Council adopted the Guidelines on Watershed Principle</b></p>	<p><b>BH Radio 1</b> News at 1200 – CRA Council adopted the Guidelines on “Watershed Principle”. The aforementioned Guidelines were produced as a result of adoption of the Amendment “Watershed Principle” in the Broadcasting Code of Practice. To remind, the Watershed Principle precisely states that <i>“all items of programme services which are likely to impair the physical, mental or moral development of children and adolescents shall not be scheduled when, because of the time of transmission and reception, they are likely to watch them. Such programmes include, but are not limited, to programmes that include the strongest acceptable sexual material, violence or themes (such as child abuse or the use of drugs) treated in a way likely to be harmful to children. Such programmes can be broadcast only in the period from 22:00 to 06:00.”</i></p>
<p><b>Conference on agriculture taking place in Sarajevo</b></p>	<p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio</b> News at 1200 – Big agriculture conference on agriculture is taking place at Sarajevo today. RHB says one of topics will include establishing of the State Ministry of Agriculture.</p>

**Political developments**

<p><b>Terzic resignation – consultative meeting at BiH Presidency</b></p>	<p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje</b>, front pg splash ‘SBiH conditions support to Prime Minister Terzic’, by <u>V. Zivak</u> – The Party for BiH has conditioned support to the Chairman of BiH Council of Ministers (BiH CoM), <b>Adnan Terzic</b>, for as long as the SDA does not adopt changes and amendments to the Law on privatization of companies at the FBiH level. This was confirmed by the leader of SBiH, <b>Safet Halilovic</b>, who yesterday (Tuesday) attended a meeting between the BiH Presidency and leaders of parties that form the parliamentary majority in the BiH Parliament. Halilovic explains that <i>“SBiH supports all reform projects in the BiH Parliament, however all staffing and other issues will be linked to solutions to reform projects in the Federation (of BiH) that were stopped by the SDA and other parties, which were started by the SBiH”</i>. On the other hand, the President of PDP, <b>Mladen Ivanic</b>, told journalists that <i>“the PDP believes that there are no reasons to relieve Terzic”</i> and that PDP’s MP in the BiH Parliament would support one single VAT rate set at 17 %. When it comes to Presidents of HDZ and SDS, <b>Barisa Colak</b> and <b>Dragan Cavic</b> respectively, they escaped the press by using the back door of the BiH Presidency’s building. Chairman of BiH CoM, <b>Adnan Terzic</b>, noted that <i>“as far as I can see, there is a good will to overcome some issues”</i>. Questioned whether reforms in BiH could be implemented without the SBiH, Terzic replied: <i>“Reforms could be implemented without anyone who wishes not to implement them. No party can be the condition for implementation of reforms and I expect they (reforms) will eventually be getting the support, with or without me”</i>. (also covered by <b>Dnevni Avaz</b>, front pg splash and pg 2 ‘Party for BiH conditioning support to Terzic’, by <u>A. Malagic</u>)</p> <p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b>, pg 2 ‘We will take final position after solution to crisis in Federation Government’, by <u>E. S.</u> – Carries Safet Halilovic as saying that Terzic’s resignation is matter for the BiH Presidency and not for leaders of political parties. Halilovic notes: <i>“I stressed that the SBiH could take final position after finding solution to the functioning of the Federation Government”</i>.</p> <p><b>Vecernji List</b> pg 2 ‘Terzic remains at Head of BiH CoM’, mentioned on front, ‘Terzic remains Prime Minister’ by <u>D. Jazvic</u>, <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 5 ‘Terzic’s resignation will not be accepted’ by <u>D. Polovina-Mandic</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> cover pg splash and pg 3 ‘Terzic remains BiH CoM Chair’ by <u>M. Cubro</u> also covered the meeting.</p>
---	--

<p><b>Oslobodjenje: Discussion on crisis in order to paralyse the Parliament</b></p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b>, pgs 4-5 'Discussion on crisis in order to paralyze the Parliament', by <u>Almir Terzic</u> – The Speaker of the FBiH Parliament's House of Representatives (FBiH HoR), <b>Muhamed Ibrahimovic</b>, commenting to the announcement of the SBiH that the SBiH would ask the FBiH HoR to discuss the current crisis in the FBiH Government, notes that the FBiH HoR is not the right place for discussion on the alleged crisis, believing it is a problem for the parties' leaders, not the MPs. President of SDP Caucus in the FBiH Parliament, <b>Karlo Filipovic</b>, argues the best thing for SBiH, if it is not happy with the work of the FBiH Government, is to leave the Government, otherwise it is all about pure politicization. Filipovic believes that the SBiH wants to transfer the same atmosphere into the FBiH Parliament, which could then fall into crisis. The President of SDA Caucus in the FBiH Parliament, <b>Semsudin Mehmedovic</b>, also fears that the crisis could have a negative impact on the work of the FBiH Parliament. He explains: <i>"SDA has big objections to the work of the FBiH Government and ministers from our party, as well as from the SBiH. We are ready to discuss the disastrous work of the FBiH Government, but without politically fabricated implications. Most of the laws that the Government enacted were not theirs (SBiH's), nor were they fruit of work of ideas and work of their ministers, they were products of OHR's experts, and they claim them as theirs"</i>.</p>
--	--

<p><b>Ashdown in USA</b></p>	<p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, Oslobođenje</b> pg 2 'Non-cooperation with The Hague an obstacle to European integration', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'Paddy Ashdown seeks for support to accession to PfP', <b>Dnevni List</b> cover pg splash and pg 7 'Rumsfeld informed about defense reform' by E. Mackic, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> last pg 'Looking of support for Partnership for Peace' by D. Pasic, <b>Vecernji List</b> pg 2 'Paddy Ashdown pays visit to USA' by ds, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 3 'About defence reform with Rumsfeld' by FENA; <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 3 'Ashdown in America', <b>FENA</b> – The High Representative, <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> is in the United States. The thrust of the High Representatives discussions, in Washington and New York, will cover the current status of BiH's efforts to secure admittance to PfP and to begin negotiations on a Stabilisation and Association Agreement with the EU. The talks will cover measures to unblock the impasse created by inadequate cooperation offered by BiH to the ICTY, OHR Spokesman <b>Kevin Sullivan</b> told a press conference in Sarajevo on Tuesday. According to Sullivan, on Monday, the High Representative had a meeting with US Defence Secretary <b>Donald Rumsfeld</b>, during which they discussed reform in the BiH security sector. The High Representative briefed the Defence Secretary on defence, police and intelligence reforms that will allow BiH to address global security challenges, Sullivan said. On Tuesday, the High Representative was to speak at a seminar organized by the US Institute for Peace and he will also hold talks with senior US administration officials. The High Representative is also scheduled to meet US Ambassador for War Crimes Pierre Prosper on Wednesday, after which he will have a meeting with the President of the World Bank <b>James Wolfensohn</b>. On Thursday, the High Representative will address the UN Security Council and hold talks with UN Secretary General <b>Kofi Anan</b> and Under-Secretary General for Peacekeeping <b>Jean-Marie Guehenno</b>, Sullivan said.</p>
------------------------------	--

<p><b>BiH, Montenegrin foreign ministers urge stronger police cooperation</b></p>	<p><b>FTV, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 4 'Joint projects', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 3 'To cooperate better in fight against crime', <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 7 'Traffic connection with Montenegro agreed upon' by <b>NINA</b>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'The door for cooperation opened' by <b>FENA</b>, <b>SRNA</b> – BiH and Montenegrin Foreign Ministers <b>Mladen Ivanic</b> and <b>Miodrag Vlahovic</b> on Tuesday concluded that they must suggest to their interior ministers that they strengthen contacts regarding cooperation with the Hague Tribunal, the BiH Foreign Ministry said. At a meeting in Sarajevo, Ivanic and Vlahovic noted the importance of realizing regional infrastructure projects, such as the Foca-Niksic motorway, through Scepan Polje and Trebinje-Herceg Novi. The two ministers also exchanged information on the political situation in BiH and Montenegro, as well as the region, noting the problem of organized crime and control of the borders. Ivanic expressed satisfaction with Vlahovic's first visit to BiH and welcomed the forthcoming visit by Montenegrin President <b>Filip Vujanovic</b> at the invitation of the BiH Presidency. In the course of the day, Vlahovic also met with the members of the BiH Presidency.</p>
<p><b>SD: 'BiH Ambassador Leko arranges in Belgrade football match between Zrinjski and Zvezda'</b></p>	<p><b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> cover pg splash and pg 16 'BiH Ambassador Leko arranges in Belgrade football match between Zrinjski and Zvezda' by <b>Z. Zekic</b> reports that BiH Ambassador in Belgrade <b>Tomislav Leko</b> talked with official of the Serb(ian) Unity Movement <b>Sinisa Vucinovic</b> about the idea that football club 'Crvena zvezda' plays a friendly football match with football club 'Zrinjski' from Mostar. SD says that people from 'Zrinjski' do not know anything about this and it is strange to them that politics is involved in arranging of football matches.</p>
<p><b>Orthodox Bishop Grigorije on BiH's future</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b> pg 4 'There is no way for BiH without Serbs' <u>not signed</u> – Orthodox <b>Bishop Grigorije</b> stated that representatives of the Serb Orthodox Church sent a message at the meeting of European Council of Religious Leaders, which was held in Brussels on Tuesday, that there is no way for joint BiH without Serbs and Orthodox Christians. He added that the big problem in BiH is blaming of one people only and according to him this is unjust.</p>

<p><b>Reactions to Srebrenica report</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 ‘Murderers and cutthroats must be brought before justice’ by <u>A. Hadzic, M. Drinjakovic</u> – Following the publication of the Srebrenica Commission report, the Association “Women of Srebrenica” from Tuzla on Tuesday released a press statement, expressing their dissatisfaction over the fact that main parts of report have not been revealed to public. They also express fear from seeing the Hague Tribunal close before those responsible for crimes in Srebrenica are brought to justice.</p> <p><b>Saud Filipovic</b>, RS Justice Minister, said after he examines the report, he would demand from the institutions in charge to undertake activities within their AoRs, noting: <i>“It would be unjust to see the document be representing only a dead letter on the paper..”</i></p> <p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 ‘Subasic: The names of criminals are known and we expect their arrests’ by <u>M. Drinjakovic</u> – <b>Munira Subasic</b>, President of the Association “Mothers of enclaves of Srebrenica and Zepa” has announced the Association would file a lawsuit against RS and also SiCG for the crimes committed at Srebrenica, adding: <i>“RS Government has admitted developments at Srebrenica were planned and organised. Now the door for demanding compensation have opened.”</i></p> <p>She added: <i>“We expect RS to start with arrests today, because there are still many names and surnames of people who committed crimes and are still at large.”</i></p> <p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 6 ‘Names of criminals be presented to public!’ by <u>S. Rozajac</u> – <b>Smail Cekic</b>, former Vice President of the RS Government Srebrenica Commission, said that Srebrenica Commission report is of extreme importance for the Serb people, since it has proved the individual responsibility and denied collective guilt of the Serb people. He added: <i>“The report obligates the Government to launch criminal prosecution against those persons who took part in genocide against Srebrenica people.”</i></p> <p><b>Kada Hotic</b>, Vice President of the Association “Mothers of enclaves of Srebrenica and Zepa”, said that <i>“all criminals should be named in public, instead of seeing their names hidden at prosecutor’s offices.”</i></p> <p><b>Abdurahman Malkic</b>, Srebrenica Mayor, said: <i>“I cannot be satisfied with the RS Government move, because they did not do this self-willingly but under the pressure of international community.”</i></p> <p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 6 ‘List of criminals is the next step’ by <u>O. Vukovic</u> – <b>Borislav Bojic</b>, Head of SDS at RS NA, and <b>Velimir Sakan</b>, PDP senior official, were not prepared to comment on Srebrenica Commission Report.</p> <p><b>Tarik Sadovic</b>, Head of SDA Caucus at RS NA, stressed that Srebrenica Report is a step RS Government did in the process of facing the authority and public of RS with crimes in Srebrenica, noting the next step is to publicise the list with names of those who committed crimes.</p> <p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 5 ‘First step towards the truth about the war in BiH’ by <u>R. Cengic, A Sekulic</u> – Below are some political comments on Srebrenica Commission report.</p> <p><b>Elmir Jahic</b>, SDA Vice President, says that not so many people have so far seen the report, assessing it as <i>“as step forward in the approach of RS authorities towards the criminal act in Srebrenica”</i>.</p> <p><b>Pero Pavlovic</b>, HDZ of BiH Spokesperson, said HDZ of BiH believes that report would be a satisfaction to the families of the murdered and those who survived Srebrenica.</p> <p>SDP of BiH is of the view it is still too early to make any assessment.</p> <p><b>Bosko Siljegovic</b>, SDS Presidency member, said that SDS Presidency would hold session Wednesday and discuss Report, after which official stance would be taken.</p> <p><b>Krstan Simic</b>, SNSD Vice President, said that the report has upheld some previous information and indications.</p> <p><b>Nevenka Trifkovic</b>, PDP Secretary General, on Tuesday did not want to comment on decision.</p> <p><b>Milanko Mihajlica</b>, SRS President, said this party would take official position on this issue after it thoroughly examines it.</p>
--	---



<p><b>SCG's Ljajic: Mandic cannot be extradited</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 5, mentioned on cover 'Mandic cannot be extradited' – Momcilo Mandic is most likely not to be extradited to BiH, learns the daily. <i>"We have not received any official request for his extradition. If it is sent to us, we will consider it and react in accordance with the law. And the law is really clear. If Mandic has (enjoys) SCG citizenship status, we cannot extradite him,"</i> said <b>Rasim Ljajic</b>, the SCG Minister for Human and Minority Right, in a statement for Dnevni Avaz.</p>
<p><b>Update to alleged list with addresses of ICTY indictees</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> cover pg splash and pg 5 'RS delegation led by Cavic handed list with nine addresses of Hague indictees to Kostunica' by V.P. – NN learnt from its sources close to Serbian Government that the most senior officials of the RS have in mid October handed to <b>Vojislav Kostunica</b>, Serbian Premier, a list with nine addresses where indictees from RS are hiding. The same source claims that the RS delegation led by <b>Dragan Cabic</b>, RS President, asked from Kostunica to ensure that cooperation between police forces and intelligence agencies of RS and Serbia are intensified. However, <b>Kostunica</b> was somewhat reserved towards this idea.</p> <p>NN on Tuesday failed to get any comment from <b>Cavic's</b> Cabinet on this issue. <b>Zoran Stojkovic</b>, Serbian Justice Minister, said he is no aware of this, noting that all states are obligated to act in accordance with the Hague duties. (<b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 3 'No names, no addresses' carries this statement of <b>Stojkovic</b>) <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 5 'Serbian Government is preventing extraditions' – <b>Vuk Draskovic</b>, Serbian Foreign Minister, on Tuesday stated that the Serbian Government is preventing the extraditions of war crime suspects to the Hague Tribunal, noting that <i>"if these people leading the state in isolation do not come to their senses in a month time, this Government does not deserve to survive"</i>.</p> <p><b>Vecernje Novosti</b> pg 2 brings some comments on most recent statement of <b>Milorad Dodik</b>, accusing <b>Vojislav Kostunica</b> of preventing arrests of war crime suspects. <b>Dragan Cavic</b>, RS President, said: <i>"I prefer not to comment on Dodik's statement."</i></p> <p><b>Rasim Ljajic</b>, SiCG Minister for Human Rights, said: <i>"I am not aware of the Dodik claims. I just know that Minister Jovic once said some information on alleged addresses came from RS. But I also know those information were checked and nobody was fund there."</i></p> <p><b>Dusan Stojicic</b>, RS NA Speaker, said that <i>":Dodik;s accusations are absurd."</i></p> <p><b>Zoran Glusac</b>, Head of RS MOI Cabinet, said: <i>"I prefer not to get involved in comment Dodik's political claims in the absence of Minister Matijasevic."</i></p>
<p><b>On meeting of BiH Parliamentary Assembly representatives with T. Meron</b></p>	<p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, FTV, RTRS, Vecernji List</b> pg 2 'Meron took side of parliamentary representatives' by G. Junvirrth and <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 7 'Transferring of authorities from ICTY at beginning of December' by NINA carry that the delegation of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly held a meeting with ICTY President <b>Theodor Meron</b> in The Hague on Tuesday. DL says that after this meeting member of the BiH delegation <b>Martin Raguz</b> stated that by the end of this month the Law on transferring of authorities from the ICTY on domestic, BiH institutions will be adopted and, according to Raguz, Meron welcomed this fact. On the same issue VL says that during the aforementioned meeting Meron took a side of the BiH parliamentary representatives in a conflict with High Representative <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> regarding a set of laws, which are a prerequisite for transferring of the cases from the ICTY to BiH. Raguz reminded that in spite of the fact that a Book of Rules prescribes that there is no possibility to change the offered amendments, the Parliament made some changes and according to Raguz Meron stated that this is a correct change of the Law, which will make its implementation easier.</p>

<p><b>Norwegian Ambassador on cooperation with ICTY</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> cover pg splash ‘Henrik Olafstad, the Ambassador of Norway to BiH: approximately 150,000 people have suffered during the war’ and pg. 11 ‘Approximately 150,000 people were killed or went missing during the war in BiH’ by <u>A. Sisic</u> – The Ambassador of Norway to BiH, <b>Henrik Olafstad</b>, thinks the right question is not whether RS authorities would arrest war crimes indictees, but whether they are ready to do so. He believes that after registering all victims in BiH, the number of casualties will be approximately 150,000, instead of 200,000 or 300,000 killed and missing persons as often mentioned. He commented on “Dialogue and Constitution” – a project of the Norwegian Government that is being realized in BiH – and he said it was important for politicians in BiH to realize positive and negative elements of the existing BiH Constitution.</p>
---	--

Defence	
<p><b>BiH parliamentary body adopts bill on troop deployment abroad</b></p>	<p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, FTV, Oslobođenje</b> pg 5, mentioned on cover ‘Sending of troops abroad issue before the parliament’, <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 ‘Draft law on sending BiH citizens to peacekeeping missions adopted’, <b>Vecernji List</b> pg 2 ‘Parliament will be deciding on sending of peace keepers’ by <u>eme</u>, <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 6 ‘Proposal of Law adopted, SDP resolution rejected’ by <u>D. Polovina-Mandic</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 4 ‘Parliament to pass decision on deployment of soldiers in peace missions’ by <u>M.C.</u>, <b>SRNA</b> – The joint commission of both houses of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly for defence and security policy and monitoring of defence and security structures on Tuesday adopted the draft law on deployment of troops, police and other state employees in peacekeeping missions abroad, which had been proposed by deputy <b>Momcilo Novakovic</b> and submitted into further parliamentary procedure. The draft law envisages that the decision on the deployment of troops, police and other employees in peacekeeping missions is to be reached by the BiH Presidency, although the decision has to be approved within 60 days by the BiH Parliamentary Assembly, by which parliamentary supervision of this sector has been obtained. <i>“The decision of the BiH Presidency will be invalid should the BiH Parliamentary Assembly refuse to support it,”</i> the member of the commission and proposer of the law, Novakovic, said after the session.</p>

**BiH Presidency  
satisfied with  
implementation  
of defence  
reforms**

**RTRS, Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'Ministers briefed the Presidency on changes to the defence system', **Oslobodjenje** pg 7 'Tasks and priorities determined', **SRNA** – The BiH Presidency is in principle satisfied with the dynamics of defence reforms in BiH, but it believes that there has been a delay in certain sectors, **Dragan Kapetina**, military advisor to BiH Presidency chairman **Borislav Paravac**, has said. *"This primarily concerns personnel appointments in the defence institutions at the level of BiH – a process which should be speeded up, considering that the planned level of 70-per-cent capacity has not been reached yet,"* Kapetina told SRNA after the first meeting between the Presidency and the defence ministers of BiH, the RS, the FBiH and generals in the armed forces of BiH. He said that the chairman of the Council of Ministers and the BiH defence minister have been tasked with cooperation with the entity ministries with the aim of finding premises for the Defence Ministry, the joint General Staff and Operation Command, which will most probably be based on the territory of the RS. "That was all agreed upon today," Kapetina said on Tuesday. He added that the meeting analysed the defence reform and the progress in meeting the conditions for joining the Partnership for Peace. *"We also discussed the issue of BiH meeting its obligations for participation in UN peace missions and SFOR's handover to EUFOR, as well as other defence issues,"* Kapetina explained. He emphasized that the future priorities for the BiH defence institutions are completion of the defence reforms, that is consistent and efficient implementation of the Law on Defence, adoption of sub-acts, meeting technical conditions for membership in the Partnership for Peace and personnel appointments. **Glas Srpske** pg 5 'To keep the tempo'; **Nezavisne Novine** pg 10 'Honorary unit of BiH Defence Forces to meet EUFOR' by A. Susic – Following Tuesday's meeting between the members of BiH Presidency, Defence Ministers of BiH, RS and F BiH, **Nikola Radovanovic**, BiH Defence Minister, said that the meeting concluded the implementation of the BiH Law on Defence should be accelerated, noting (according to GS): *"What gives the credibility to defence reform in BiH are positive assessments of the PIC."*

<b>Oslobodjenje editorial on EUFOR</b>	<b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 9 'General without backing' Editorial by <u>Antonio Prlenda</u> – According to Prlenda, the first public address by EUFOR Commander General <b>David Leaky</b> in Sarajevo last week was too 'sift' and too cautious. <i>"The first EUFOR commander will be in trouble if he does not have a clearly defined mandate,"</i> wrote Prlenda.
--	--

<b>Economic/social affairs</b>	
<b>ITA on VAT rate</b>	FTV, RTRS, Glas Srpske pg 2 'One rate, low risk' by <u>N. Z.</u> – The Steering Board of the BiH Indirect Taxation Administration (ITA) warned the BiH Parliamentary Assembly that it could not take over the responsibility for successful implementation of the Law on Value Added Tax (VAT) in the form in which it had been adopted. According to ITA's letter sent to the representatives in the both houses of the BiH parliament, the introduction of differentiated VAT rate would create risk of manipulation and corruption and such a law would not be possible to implement successfully.

<p><b>RS farmers leader Usorac on VAT</b></p>	<p><b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 4 'Brokers of the zero rate' by <u>D. Zec</u> – The President of RS Association of Farmers, <b>Vladimir Usorac</b>, stated on Tuesday in Banja Luka that BiH farmers support a single VAT rate. He said someone, under a mask of protection of farmers and consumers, is again trying to create an ambient suitable for smuggling and affairs. The President of the Federation of BiH Association of Farmers, <b>Smail Hadzalic</b>, said the Federation of BiH farmers too support a single VAT rate because they think the zero VAT rate would give an advantage to brokers and lobbies of importers. He also added that the Association asks from CoM to enact laws on agriculture and incentives.</p> <p><b>EuroBlic</b> RSp2 'Usorac: Pay the debt or we will takeover the firm' by <u>N. B.</u> – the article reports on the statement of <b>Vladimir Usorac</b> on VAT rates (see above) and also reports on his statement on Banja Luka Dairy. He said:  <i>'Unless Banja Luka Dairy is privatized by December 1 and a debt amounting 2 million KM is paid to us, we will enter the firm together with workers, remove the Steering Board and Director and we will take over the control'.</i></p>
---	---

<p><b>FBiH Agriculture Minister Bozic on VAT / R. Bakic on VAT</b></p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 3 'Agriculture gets bigger encouragement by introduction of single VAT rate' by <u>I. Glibusic</u> carries a short interview with Federation of BiH Minister of Agriculture Marinko Bozic, who, among the other things, comments on the VAT issue. Bozic says: <i>'If there was a single VAT rate, then according to the BiH GDP (Gross Domestic Product) we in the Federation of BiH should get between 230 and 250 million KM as encouragement for agriculture and then there would be space for stronger subventions in the area of agriculture and agriculture would be competitive in this way.'</i></p> <p>The DL inset under headline 'Single VAT rate protects rich people' <u>not signed</u> carries President of the BiH Association of Farmers Ranko Bakic who says that they proposed a VAT rate of 17 % and zero VAT rate, which would protect agricultural production. He also said that a single VAT ate of 17 % protects rich people. Bakic added: <i>'Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers Adnan Terzic gives in under pressure of the International Community and he wants to please them and not BiH citizens.'</i></p>
--	--

OHR urges FBiH  
HoP to  
safeguard  
citizens' money

**FTV, Oslobođenje** pg 4 'To thwart misuse of public funds', **Dnevni Avaz** pg 8, **Dnevni List** pg 7 'OHR: Law on public money for prevention of public funds abuse' by E.M., **Nezavisne Novine** pg 11 'To adopt the Law on investment of public funds' by FENA, **FENA** – The Law on the Investment of Public Moneys is now before the Federation House of Peoples. It has already been adopted by the House of Representatives. This law is the remaining piece of legislation in a package of measures to which the three prime ministers committed themselves at the end of last year in the wake of revelations of widespread abuses, in the Special Auditor's reports into public companies, OHR Spokesman **Kevin Sullivan** told a press conference in Sarajevo on Tuesday. The Law on Public Moneys is designed to ensure that the kind of reckless or criminal misuse of public funds that we saw, for example in the Privredna Banka Srpsko Sarajevo case, is effectively prevented. For example, the law would have prevented the city of Bijeljina from depositing 2.2 million KM into the Bank, according to Sullivan. *"The RSNA has already passed a Law on Public Moneys. It now remains for the Federation House of Peoples to debate this legislation. OHR urges that the law be considered at the next session of the House, on 23/24 November, and that the House of Peoples consider a small number of amendments to the law made by the House of Representatives, so as to avoid a lengthy harmonization process,"* Sullivan emphasized. *"The sooner this law is enacted, the sooner citizens will be protected from dishonest manipulation of their money by unscrupulous or incompetent public officials,"* Sullivan said.

<p><b>CIA report on BiH – migration, economy</b></p>	<p>Vecernji List cover pg splash ‘CIA: 300 000 Croats disappeared’ and pg 3 ‘There are 300 000 Croats less in BiH than before the war’ by <u>Z. Kresic</u> carries that according to the CIA report there are 300 000 Croats less in BiH in 2004 than before the war. CIA also says in its report that the BiH economy is at a low level and it still depends on foreign assistance to a large extent, although certain progress in this area has been achieved.</p>
<p><b>FBiH Government officials with representatives of ‘Ina’ company on investment in Energopetrol</b></p>	<p><b>FTV, Dnevni List</b> pg 2 ‘ ‘Ina’ from Zagreb interested in ‘Energopetrol’ from Sarajevo’ by <u>J. Petrovic</u> carries that representatives of the Croatian petroleum company ‘Ina’ talked in Sarajevo with high-ranked Federation of BiH Government officials about possible investment in ‘Energopetrol’ company. The ‘Ina’ representatives’ informed the FBiH Government representatives about the Ina’s interest in Energopetrol in accordance with the tender for the companies interested in strategic partnership in the area of production and distribution of oil products.</p>
<p><b>Illegal construction of mini-plants at Knezevo</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> cover pg splash ‘“Eling” illegally building plants’ and pg 2 ‘“Illegal plants’ by <u>D. Risojevic</u> – NN learnt at the RS Government and RS Concession Commission that the company “Eling inzenjering” has commenced with works at two separate locations at rivers of Ugar and Vrbanja, namely preparations for the construction of two mini-hydro power plants, although no concession for management over this natural resources has been provided to it as yet. Hence, this work is illegal.</p>

**Security/legal proceedings**



<p><b>Robbery in Bijeljina</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> cover pg splash and pg 2 'Thieves stole BAM 635 thousand, Mercedes and guns' by <u>Z. Kusmuk</u>; <b>Glas Srpske</b> cover page story 'BAM 630 thousand stolen'; <b>EuroBlic</b> cover and RS pg 1 'They stole BAM 635 thousand and a vault of 250 kg' – On the night between Monday and Tuesday, unknown persons broke into the house of <b>Mitar Peric</b> in the settlement of Srednja Cadjavica near Bijeljina and took a vault with over than BAM 635 000 and gold jewelry. Robbers also took a Mercedes car owned by <b>Miroslav Peric</b>, son of Mitar. Police search after the perpetrators of this crime act is ongoing.</p>
--	---