OHR BiH Media Round-up, 10/1/2006

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 10 January

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	BH Radio 1 (12,00 hrs)	RTRS (12,00 hrs)
SDA on marking of Day of RS	Eid celebrations	Muslims in BiH celebrating Eid
Arrests inSpain	Bird flue in Turkey	HVIDRA leader arrested in Zagreb
Eid marked throughout world	Weather	Iran continues research on at. fuel

TV news broadcast on 9 January

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
Prices monitored in FBiH	Negotiations with EU on Jan 25	Galijatovic's case update
Anniversary in Buhine Kuce, in Vitez	BiH Lawsuit against SCG on Feb 27	Delalic's case update
Radulj on BiH- SCG lawsuit	Employee's right to sue employer	RS marks its Day
Softic on BiH- SCG lawsuit	Hiring persons with special needs	Dodik on RS Government

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
BiH to launch SAA talks	Issue of Kalatex	RS Birthday and Saint's
on Jan 25 th	company	Day
Press conference on VAT	District Brcko on VAT	SDA on RS Birthday
in Mostar		

Issue of BiH's property	ITA on VAT	Analysts and citizens
in Cavtat		on RS Birthday
Issue of ex YU	Assoc. of unemployed	Disabled veterans in
diplomatic property	on adminstrat.	Kotor Varos

Oslobodjenje	Due to Eid, not published	
Dnevni Avaz	Due to Eid, not published	
Dnevni List	Bird flue threatens our country again [on appearance of	
	bird flue in Turkey]	
Vecernji List	4 religions with 4 ides on organization of BiH	
Slobodna	Prices went up by even 60 %!	
Dalmacija		
Nezavisne	Actions against profiteers launched	
Novine		
Glas Srpske	No point in complaining [problems of two young men from	
	Celinac without parents]	
EuroBlic	Child's noise silent, a village brimming with bachelors	
	<pre>[vacant house at villages under Vlasic]</pre>	
Vecernje	Features Serbian related topics	
novosti		

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY

SDA on Day of RS	RHB- The SDA issued a press release on the occasion of the marking of the Day of RS, January 9. The party believes that the presence of senior BiH officials at the ceremony marking the Day of the RS, which is according to the SDA "a product of genocide and expulsion of non-Serb population", is irresponsible and inappropriate. SDA believes it is shameful to deny the existence of members of other peoples in the RS and approve of violation of human rights in the entity.
SDS Presidency in session	<pre>SRNAnews agency - SDS Presidency meets today to discuss the current situation in the RS Government and the proposed entity budget for 2006. SDS Vice President Bosko Siljegovic told Srna that Presidency would also discuss the on-going negotiations on the constitutional changes.</pre>

Political developments

RS Day marked [w/out Bosniaks and Croats present]: entity's existence cannot be questioned

BHT1 by Boris Gagic – On the occasion of marking the RS Day [January 9], the entity president **Dragan Cavic** stated that there is no need for abolishment of the entities. "RS is not just entity, it is our life-style. And in this form it doesn't threatens the existence of BIH, but it enriches it and makes this state arrangement the only possible and most functional one" stressed Cavic. Both RS position and opposition think that defence and police reforms will not bring RS existence into question. SNSD leader Milorad Dodik stated that "RS with its institutions, rights and regulations, legislative, executive and judicial governments, will not be brought into question, whether someone like it or not". Bosniak and Croat officials from RS did not attend the ceremony marking the RS Day since, according to their beliefs, this Day has not been legally regulated. Head of Bosniak Caucus in RSNA Tarik Sadovic commented: "They [Serb politicians] are mocking the issue of constitutionality and equality if they thinking that Bosniaks and Croats should mark the RS Day as well." RTRS by Nada Arlov - "Serbs deem Dayton as internationally mediated entitlement. Political representatives of Bosniaks and Croats consider it as internationally mediated injustice. That basic difference in viewing the Dayton... makes situation difficult for RS every year," added Cavic. "As long as citizens of RS believe in RS, as long as they want the RS, it will continue to exist and I think we should not question that," said Dusan Stojicic, RSNA Speaker. Mladen Ivanic, BiH Foreign Minister, commented that the RS authorities decides on 2.2bn KM of public revenues, thus "after all these reforms, RS independently decides on ten times more of financial resources than what its gives for BiH." Marko **Pavic** of the DNS said that he was not happy to hear that those who sold much of RS power now talking about strong foundation of the entity. The reporter comments that 2006 is to be a year of challenge for political parties in the RS, adding that all politicians present at the marking of RS day were optimistic. Socialist Party is convinced that RS has future. Slobodan **Popovic** of SDP said that what RS needs is more social justice,

jobs and better life for pensioner. Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'Wreaths laid and liturgies served' by <u>SRNA, EuroBlic</u> pgs RS2-RS3 'Cavic: Srpska will remain and survive' <u>by Mirna Soja and</u> <u>EuroBlic team</u>, **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Our homeland will live' <u>by M.</u> <u>Dzepina</u> – also report on RS Day marked. **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'There will be more pressures' – carries Ivanic's statement. **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Survival in spite of everything' <u>not signed</u> – Dodik adds that now is the time to determine the situation through talks on constitutional changes.

RS politicians oppose to Tihic' initiative for abolishment of RSGlas Srpske pg 5 'Hard head and golden cap' by D. Momic article carries statements of Chairman of BiH HoR Nik Spiric, SRS's Milanko Mihajlica and PDP's Goran Milojevi of them opposing Sulejman Tihic's initiative for abolish RS. Mihajlica commented on talks on constitutional chang said Zlatko Lagumdzija now has the leading role in the talk	ola c, all ment of es and alks on
behalf of Bosniak people, while Haris Silajdzic is the of "pulls all strings from behind the stage". PDP's Milojev that constant conditions set by Bosniaks are leading to and adds that this might lead to a complete failure of the constitutional changes.	ic says nowhere
Cavic: SDS will neither form new Govt nor it would participate in it Cavic stated that it was absurd to request from the SD dismiss the RS Government following non-adoption of the in the RS National Assembly. "SDS will neither form. Government nor will it participate. Those of you dismiss Government, you should form a new one" said Cavic. Howew current RS Government doesn't enjoy support. Milorad D SNSD leader, believes that the Parliament is in crisis to of Government's illegalities towards the Parliament [wi specifying which]. "We just want to stop it" underlined Petar Djokic from SP RS stated that current Government bu the responsibility of the ruling political party SDS i last 5 years," Djokic argues. Leader of PDP, Mladen IV said that PDP is going to make decision once it sees concept. Ivanic announced that PDP would support the b adding that again everything lies upon the decision of Reporter commented that SDS promised not to vote for budget because, officially, their amendments were not ad but, unofficially, because they have no confidence in Council of Ministers consisted of PDP Ministers. "If ame are adopted in the scope that is reasonable to SDS therr possibility for us to vote for the budget" explained C Reporter, who says that all events around the RS Governm just alike the soap opera noted that the crisis in RS he transferred to the state level since BIH Parliament wil on budget of BIH Institutions on 16 January. Dnevni Lis 'Proposed budget of RS meets needs of society' – also	ragan S to budget hew ing the er, the odik, ecause thout Dodik. must bility t also n the anic, the udget SDS. that opted, BIH ndments e is a avic. ent is s been L vote t pg 9

	
Dodik: SNSD to hand signatures for casting of no confidence vote to RS Govt on Wednesday	Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Initiative for Government overthrowing at RS NA tomorrow' by <u>V.Popovic</u> – Milorad Dodik, SNSD President, Monday announced SNSD will Wednesday launch initiative for a confidence vote in RS Government, adding that collected signatures of MP's necessary for this action will be handed to Dusan Stojicic, RS NA Speaker, on Wednesday. Stojicic said if he received SNSD initiative for a confidence vote, he would inform delegates and Government of it, stressing: "After that, Government should give its view within a month time. Following that, extra-ordinary session of the Parliament should be convened to discuss support to Government." BHT1 – Dodik reiterated that not only RS Government was in crisis but the RS Parliament as well since they haven't adopted anything at the last two sessions. Dodik stated that, above all, he relies on the support of SDP and PDP and some other, smaller political parties. Hayat- also carried Dodik announcement.
Davidovic: SAA talks to commence on 25 January	FTV - BiH Chief Negotiator with the EU on Stabilisation and Association Agreement Igor Davidovic said that the first round of talks is scheduled for 25 th January in Sarajevo. He specified that this would include the official positioning of the EU and the presentation of the BiH negotiating position to the EU. Davidovic reiterated that this would be the first official, technical round of talks, which will be followed with new rounds of talks every six weeks. PINK, BHT1, Hayat, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Talks with EU start on 25 January' by <u>V.P.</u> – also carried this statement.
VL: BiH religious leaders on Reis Ceric' idea to discuss const. changes at Inter-Religious Council	<pre>Vecernji List cover pg splash '4 religions with 4 ides on organization of BiH' and pg 3 '4 religions with 4 different states' by Z. Jurilj - Commenting on the idea of Reis Mustafa Effendi Ceric to discuss the constitutional changes issue at the Inter-Religious Council, Secretary of the BiH Bishops' Conference Ivo Tomasevic said that he personally believes that this issue would not be discussed there. He believes that, perhaps, Reis Ceric should have discussed this issue at the Inter-Religious Council first and then give such statements to media. VL says that due to holidays they failed to contact representatives of the Serb Orthodox Church (SPC) and therefore VL conveys their stand given earlier according to which 'SPC does not want to participate in creating of fake multi-ethnic image of BiH'. Representative of the Jewish Community in BiH Jakob Finci said that he did not analyse the Reis Ceric's idea completely and therefore he could not comment on it.</pre>

RS politicians reject Ceric's initiative Silajdzic should be State Head	Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'BiH will fall apart if Silajdzic became president' by Srna – Commenting on Reiss Mustafa Ceric's statement that Haris Silajdzic should be the head of the state and create a state without entities, SDS's Dragan Cavic assessed on Monday that BiH would fall apart if Silajdzic were elected state president, adding Silajdzic had done too much evil to Serb people and said such ideas confirm tri-partite Presidency is the best solution. SNSD's Milorad Dodik said Ceric was interfering with politics and assessed Silajdzic does not have a support in a large part of BiH. PDP's Mladen Ivanic stated that initiatives of Ceric and Sulejman Tihic were even bringing talks on constitutional changes in question.
RTRS int with Cavic: all issues on const. changes must be agreed on 15-16 January	RTRS late news – In an interview to the RTRS, RS President Dragan Cavic repeated his earlier statements praising the Dayton peace agreement. Commenting the talks on constitutional changes, Cavic expressed hope to reach agreement on all issues on January 15 and 16, when negotiations are to continue. He also expressed his satisfaction with agreement reached on functions of President and Presidency. He underlined that the RS political parities are united in their stances on the constitutional changes. Regarding the current situation with the RS Government, Cavic believes that the institutional crisis should be overcome as soon as possible. This year would be difficult because of VAT introduction, says Cavic adding it would be at the same time good fiscal year. Cavic stressed importance of fulfilling commitments toward ICTY in following months.
Interview with B. Colak on illegal issuing of BiH citizenships, on OSA tasks, situation within HDZ	<pre>Vecernji List pg 6 'There is no amnesty for giving citizenships to terrorists', mentioned on cover 'We shall punish those who were giving citizenships to terrorists' by Z. Kresic carries an interview with BiH Minister of Security Barisa Colak who says that those who were illegally issuing BiH citizenships should not be amnestied and they should be held accountable for what they did in any case. Colak added that he gives such statement conditionally since the status of limitation should be bear in mind. Asked to comment on the demands that OSA should be able to arrest the persons suspected of being connected to terrorism, Colak said: 'It should be very careful with regard to this issue due to possible abuses. I believe that police agencies only should have such powers and not OSA.' VL inset 'HDZ has not divided on the contrary! carries Colak as saying that HDZ has not split after the HDZ Central Board session. He added: 'If we exclude that unnecessary incident then we can exclusively talks about political maturity and seriousness. All discussions and passed decisions illustrate this'</pre>

EPP Political Board did not discuss issue of HDZ on Monday's	<pre>Vecernji List pg 2 'EPP dealt with its own problems yesterday' by Z. Kresic carries that HDZ BiH was not at the agenda of the European People's Party (EPP) Political Board session held on Monday although it had been announced and expected.</pre>
session	·······
NHI on dismissals in FBiH MoD: 'Dismissals tailored by HDZ, SDA and OHR'	<pre>Slobodna Dalmacija pg 17 'Dismissals tailored by HDZ, SDA and OHR' by N. Dimitrijevic carries a press release issued by NHI with regard to dismissing of 182 persons, who used to be employed in the former FBiH Ministry of Defence. The press release says that NHI is convinced that this is about the victims of the plan precisely made by the HDZ-SDA coalition and the OHR, that is, that the procedure has been politically motivated so that HDZ can finally square accounts with those who were opponents of the idea on the Croat self-rule in 2001. NHI substantiates this claim by saying that most of Croats who were dismissed from the FBiH MoD are those who started to work in this Ministry at the time of the Croat self-rule.</pre>
Minister Radovanovic: Defence reform model is good for all peoples in BiH	Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'Defgence reform model is good for all peoples' by Agencies — BiH Defence Minister Nikola Radovanovic said that 2006 would be important in many aspects of defence reform, adding that the model adopted last year is good on the long term for all peoples and citizens in BiH. Radovanovic noted: "In order to accelerate defence reform activities planned under the BiH Defence Law including budget and political support, need to be respected." On the planned budget for the BiH Ministry of Defence of BAM 278 million, Radovanovic said that the sum is insufficient to implement all actions planned by BH Defence Law, noting there is a conclusion of the BiH CoM stipulating that budget rebalance should treat defence reform a priority.
NN op-ed supportive of defence reform	Nezavisne Novine op-ed pg 7 'Defence and first days' by Dragan <u>Risojevic</u> – Writing about defence reform in BiH, the author stresses that this year, defence reforms is being transferred from a reform in writing into practice and amongst officers and soldiers, where great challenges are to follow. The author notes the so far defense reform flow has observed no major problem, owing to which reason it would be logical to expect the practice would not see any major difficulties. <u>Risojevic</u> underlines we can hope defence reform may be a copy of the military aspect of the Dayton Agreement, which is practically one of rare parts of the peace act completely implemented in the practice so far.

Economic issues

Causevic: ITA satisfied with first results of VAT; FBiH inspectors start with price monitoring

Nezavisne Novine cover pg splash, pgs 2-3 'Actions against profiteers launched' by <u>R.Cengic</u> – Daily carries confirmation of Ibrahim Tirak, Head of the F BiH Price Monitoring Teams, that teams have gone out on the field as of Tuesday, bar five cantons, where Cantonal Governments failed to enact decisions on restrictions of mark of basic groceries. RHB- As Director of the BiH Indirect Taxation Administration, Kemal Causevic said, inspectors were going to investigate whether the taxpayers have carried out all necessary preparations for VAT. The Head of the CAFAO Department for Taxation System Development Wilhelm Schloemer, deems the statement of the BiH CoM Chair Adnan Terzic [who said that there was a possibility to introduce zero tax rate in case of greater economic difficulties], as political issue. Single VAT is much more practical for BiH citizens, said Schloemer at the press conference. BHT1 - At the press conference presenting the first results of the VAT, Causevic stated that ITA has been satisfied with the VAT application announcing that Administration anticipates to collect 3.5 billion KM through this tax in 2006. **Hayat** – ITA representatives confirmed that certain problems have occurred. "The problems refer to merchants being confused about a method of calculating the prices which include VAT. Some taxpayers, intentionally or unintentionally, adds 17 % of tax to the sum of existing prices", said Deputy ITA Director in charge of taxation affairs, Dinko Corluka. Second training course for market inspectors has been launched on Monday. "Perhaps, one of the most important things is transfer of necessary knowledge. I am glad that the Office [CAFA0] is given opportunity to help in the training process", Schloemer. In terms of profits of the VAT, ITA reminds that the BiH Parliament expected 700 millions KM more in the budget. "700 millions KM are enough for construction of Sarajevo-Mostar highway", said Causevic.FTV, RTRS also carried reports from the press conference. Dnevni List, pg 23 'Return of VAT begins in early February', by <u>Zeljko Marijanovic</u>, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'First VAT re-fund on 10 February' by M.Krilic, Glas Srpske pg 3 'No tripping over' - also reported.

BiH Assoc. of Consumers: Prices of some products went up by even 60 %	Slobodna Dalmacija cover pg splash and pg 17 'Prices went up by even 60 %' <u>by M. Karacic</u> carries that the BiH Association of Consumers learnt that instead of 17 % the prices of some products in BiH went up by even 50 and 60 % due to the VAT introduction.
ITA Brcko: unjustified increase of prices in bakeries, up to 70%	FTV - ITA office in District Brcko stated that their price monitoring team has noticed unjustified increase of prices in certain bakeries, ranging from 11% to 70%. They have announced that teams of inspectors will be sent to market regulate this. ITA warned that some merchants increased the price of goods prior to the VAT introduction, than adding the tax after 1 January.
Chief Inspector of FBiH Financial Police: By abolishment of FBiH Fin. Police Vrankic wants to protect his friends involved in criminal activities	Dnevni List pg 5, mentioned on cover 'Vrankic wants to destroy Financial Police' by M. Zorlak – Chief Inspector of the FBiH Financial Police Zufer Dervisevic claims that the statements given by FBiH Minister of Finances, Dragan Vrankic, according to which the FBiH Police has lost even 95 % of its competence due to the SIPA establishment are not correct. Dervisevic added that SIPA is the state body and it acts at the state level, while the FBiH Financial Police acts at the FBiH level. According to Dervisevic, Vrankic wants to destroy the FBiH Police and abolish one of a few bodies in the FBiH that is well organized and acts professionally. Dervisevic concludes that by such attitude Vrankic wants to protect his friends deeply involved in criminal activities.
Former customs officials still not getting reply from BiH Court regarding lawsuit against ITA's Causevic	<pre>Vecernji List, pg 5 'Lawsuits against Causevic are</pre>

Cavtat	Hayat, FTV, Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'State's Attorney
Children's'	demand revision of court decision' by <u>R.Rakic</u> – The
Hospital: BH	BiH State's Attorneys' Office has requested revision
State's	of decision (with Croatian Supreme Court via Dubrovnik
Attorney	Trades' Court) of the Zagreb Supreme Trades' Court,
demanded	which has definitely confiscated the property of
revision of	Sarajevo University Property in Cavtat.
court	
decision	

War crimes		
Rogatica	RTRS- Dragomir Abazovic , war crime suspect	
action	injured in EUFOR's attempt to arrest him	
update:	on Thursday in Rogatica, is awake but	
Abazovic	refuses to take food. His son, who was	
refuses to	also injured during EUFOR action, is	
take food	stable. Abazovic's wife died due to	
	injuries in Foca hospital on Thursday.	
	FTV, BHT 1, Dnevni List, pg 4 'Wounded	
	Abazovic rejects food', <u>not signed</u> , Dnevni	
	List, pg 8 'Health condition of Dragoljub	
	Abazovic stable', <u>not signed, Nezavisne</u>	
	Novine pg 4 'Abazovic refuses to take	
	food' by <u>D.Mu., EuroBlic</u> RSpg 3 'Abazovic	
	refuses to take food' by <u>D.ST.V.</u> – also	
	report on Abazovic's condition.	

OHR on	RTRS – Commenting the RS Minister of
Matijasevic's	Interior Darko Matjasevic's statement that
statement:	EUFOR action in Rogatica attempting to
action in	arrest war crimes suspect (in which a wife
Rogatica	sustained injuries and died, and suspect
would not	and the son were injured) could not be
happen if RS	called professional, Ljiljana Radetic, OHR
MoI did its	spokesperson said Matjasevic should think
job	of how it is possible that Dragomir
	Abazovic, war crime suspect, has not been
	arrested although it has been two years
	since the indictment was brought against
	him. Radetic added that the action would
	not happen if the RS police arrested
	Abazovic and did its work.

BiH's lawsuit	<pre>FTV - BiH agent in the lawsuit against</pre>
against SCG	SiCG for aggression and genocide, Sakib
for	Softic, told FENA he was optimistic
aggression	regarding the main hearing scheduled for
and genocide	27 th February before the International
scheduled for	Court of Justice in the Hague. Commenting
February 27	the request sent by BiH Foreign Affairs
	Minister Mladen Ivanic to the ICJ
	President for postponing the process until
	the BiH Constitutional Court rules on the
	request by BiH Presidency member Borislav
	Paravac , Softic stated that the BiH
	Ministry of Foreign Affairs is not
	authorised to communicate with the
	International Court of Justice. He added
	that this request couldn't damage the
	process. RHB – Slobodan Radulj , legal
	advisor to Serb BiH Presidency member says
	that the lawsuit BiH filed against SCG in
	1993 is not a state's case as it has been
	financed only by one people. PINK, BHT1 ,
	Hayat, Glas Srpske pg 5 'It is not his
	job' — also carried that hearing is
	scheduled for 27 February.

Croat	Vecernji List , pg 4 'Call to prove
opposition	genocide against Croats too', by <u>Miroslav</u>
wants BiH	<u>Vasilj</u> – Reports that the Croat opposition
lawsuit	parties led by the HSP Djapic – Dr.
against SCG	Jurisic will launch an initiative the aim
to represent	of which is to prove during the BiH
Croat victims	lawsuit against SCG that the 'Serbian-
too	Montenegrin aggressor in BiH' committed a
	genocide against the Croats too. It is
	stated that the lawsuit is primarily
	financed from the FBiH budget, therefore
	the Croat side too has to have an insight
	into the case. In statements to the VL,
	leaders of the Croat (opposition) parties
	stress that they support the lawsuit only
	in case genocide against the Croats is
	being proven.
Scheffer:	Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Karadzic and Mladic
'Karadzic and	must go to The Hague in order to see BiH
Mladic must	admitted into PfP' by <u>BETA</u> — Jaap de Hoop
go to The	Scheffer, NATO Secretary General, Monday
Hague in	stated that he "strongly and truly hopes"
order to see	SiCG and BiH will have been admitted into
BiH admitted	PfP by the end of year, noting it is of
into PfP	crucial importance Ratko Mladic and
	Radovan Karadzic are handed to the Hague
	Tribunal.