

# OHR BiH Media Round-up, 16/10/2003

| BH TV 1 (19,00 hrs)     | FED TV (19,30 hrs)       | RT RS (19,30)           |
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| SFOR raids RS           | RS report on Srebrenica  | SFOR raids in RS        |
| RS report on Srebrenica | SFOR search RS           | HR on Srebrenica report |
|                         | Fed House of People      | Replacement in RS Post  |
| SFOR raids RS           | HR Chamber on Srebrenica | SFOR searches OBS in RS |

*Note: Due to technical problems, Boram did not provide with CRHB summary.*

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| <b>Oslobodjenje</b>       | Scandalous: RS hides the truth on crime in Srebrenica; The Hague investigators searched RS; MoI and FOSS control: where are bugging devices?; Jadranko Prlic doesn't expect an invitation to The Hague; Kistic removes Draza Mihajlovic |
| <b>Dnevni Avaz</b>        | Hadzipasic seeks Ashdown's and Frederiksen's help; Large SFOR's action requested by the Hague   |
| <b>Vecernji List</b>      | Every fifth citizen has cancer; The Hague takes documents from RS, Students from University threaten with blockade  |
| <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> | Features Croatia related articles   |
| <b>Glas Srpske</b>        | Investigators of the Hague Tribunal searched the OBS premises: From basement to roof; Nebojsa Covic: Everybody should get their rights  |
| <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>   | Inspection at OBS: Hague investigators searched OBS premises; Dragan Mikerevic: I have no choice, I continue my fight against crime and mafia; Sarajevo: SFOR investigating whether FOSS was wiretapping OHR officials                  |

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| <b>Blic</b> | The Hague searches intelligence officers; Paddy Ashdown: six months for investigation on Srebrenica; Milorad Dodik: SDS and PDP responsible for Telekom; Injured director of 'Gacko' in coma |
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| <b>War crimes</b> |
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| <p><b>Ashdown, HRC<br/>on RS<br/>governments'<br/>Srebrenica<br/>report</b></p> | <p>BHTV, FTV, CRHB, Vecernji List pg 2 'Evidence on crimes hidden', Slobodna Dalmacija pg 7 'Ashdown: RS still obstructs decisions of Chamber', Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'The truth about Srebrenica must be disclosed in 6 months', Nezavisne Novine pg. 2 'Republika Srpska President must form a Commission on Srebrenica', Glas Srpske pg. 3 'Six months for report', Dnevni List pg 3 'Support to forming of independent Commission on Srebrenica', Blic pg. 13 'Ashdown: six months for investigation' – RS authorities were given six months to establish independent commission to investigate events in Srebrenica from July 10-19 1995. Following submission of the report on Srebrenica by RS government recently, BiH Human Rights Chamber on Wednesday noted the certain improvements in the approach of RS authorities towards the Srebrenica issues, however stressed that the report did not give new information on the faith of victims, which need to be provided to families and relevant institutions. Noting that the report 'has no bigger changes in the contents' from the previous one which was 'disgracefully poor', High Representative Paddy Ashdown said that the report does recognise the size of the crime, however added it was unacceptable that there is still obstruction to providing necessary information from the RS Army, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Interior and the Intelligence Service. Paddy Ashdown stressed that these RS institutions have full moral, political and legal responsibility to co-operate with the future independent commission and warned that if they fail to do so adequate measures would be taken against them. RS President Dragan Cavic will take the responsibility for the establishment and activities of the commission consisting consisted of the representatives of the international community, the Hague Tribunal and families of victims. RS government initially required additional 9 months for the work of commission, however Ashdown said: 'I think 9 months is too long for the report, so 6 months is deadline...I will watch very carefully progress on preparation of the report and would hold accountable all those, including MUP, RS Army, who may provide needed information...any destroying of evidences will be punished very severely.'</p> <p>Ashdown that the HRC would after six months reach a decision on further steps and if RS authorities fail to fulfill their obligation it could request the OHR to take certain measures. 'The truth on Srebrenica is of vital importance for the future of BiH and its ability to full meet its commitments towards the Hague Tribunal and also for the future credibility of the RS', Ashdown said.</p> <p>RTRS, FENA – The BiH Human Rights Chamber also said that in spite of all steps taken by the RS in implementing the instructions of the Chamber in regard to the case 'Selimovic and others vs. the RS', it seems that the RS Government did not even contact the suing parties, nor has informed them in any way on the locations of the bodies. BiH HRC President Michele Picard addressed an open letter to the High Representative stating that the Chamber received the RS Report on steps taken with aim to fulfill the Chamber's decision on September 8 in the case 'Selimovic and others against the RS'.</p> <p>Oslobodjenje cover, pgs 4&amp;5 'RS hides the truth on crime in Srebrenica' by <u>Almir Terzic</u> – President of the Association 'Mothers of Srebrenica and Zepa' Munira Subasic said she was not surprised with the decision of RS government to further postpone publishing of Srebrenica report. 'We are used to being offended by RS government, but not by the international community as well. Even though we did not expect anything much, we did not expect such shameful data either.' Srebrenica Municipal Head Abdurahman Malkic stated: 'RS government in this way deceits internationals, who as it seems don't get that.' On the new six-months deadline, Oslobodjenje writes: 'However, it is believed that the new deadline will be just a justification for RS authorities to conceal the real situation and avoid submitting of honest information.'</p> |
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| <b>SFOR and ICTY raid Intelligence Service's premises in RS</b>              | <p>CRHB, BHTV 1, Glas Srpske cover page 'From basement to roof'; Nezavisne Novine cover, pg. 3 'The Hague investigators inspected OBS premises' Slobodna Dalmacija pg 17 'SFOR searched RS Secret Services', Vecernje Novosti pg. 18 'RS searched', Vecernji List front 'The Hague takes documents from RS', pg 3 'At 11 places in RS seizure of material that The Hague demands', Dnevni List front, pg 4 'SFOR blocked towns in RS', Jutarnji List pg 10 'SFOR seized documents of RS Security Service', Dnevni Avaz cover, pg 3 'Big SFOR action requested by the Hague', Oslobodjenje cover, pg 5 'Inspection by ICTY investigators' – SFOR troops on Wednesday conducted unannounced search into premises of the RS Intelligence-Security Service [OBS] and police in 11 different locations throughout the entity. The ten-hours long operation was carried out in Banja Luka, Bijeljina, Prijedor, Trebinje, Zvornik, Rogatica, Mrkonjic Grad, and other places, upon request by the Hague Tribunal. SFOR spokesperson David Sullivan confirmed that ICTY investigators also provided with support during the action. Deputy Director of OBS Trifko Buha also confirmed that SFOR confiscated some documentation, but refused to give more details.</p> <p>Blic pg. 13 'the Hague search intelligence officers' – Dejan Miletic, director of RS Secretariat for war crimes investigation, has refused to comment the action without the RS Government, saying it is all about heavy accusations against the RS.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'RS authorities ignored Tribunal's demands' – Spokesperson for ICTY in BiH Refik Hodzic confirmed that the aim of the operation was carried out to obtain documentation previously requested by ICTY. He added that the operation was necessary, as RS authorities ignored Tribunal's requests, which presents the breach of their obligation to cooperate. Hodzic noted that yesterday's inspection of OBS premises in Republika Srpska is not linked with the SFOR inspection of FOSS premises two days ago in Sarajevo.</p> <p>RTRS [radio] – 'I would also like to stress once more that the local authorities are obliged to submit documents required by ICTY, in order to avoid situation like this.' – said Hodzic.</p> <p>Oslobodjenje pg 5 'SFOR was looking for important documents' – 'That was not the action of arrest, but search of several locations where, according to our information, required documents were. We express our gratitude to SFOR, but once again stress that submitting of documents, as well as arresting of war crime indictees is the obligation of the state and the entities.' – said ICTY Spokeswoman Florence Hartman.</p> <p>RTRS, FTV –Joint search for documents had been conducted professionally and without a single incident. Hartman also said that the inspection has nothing to do with SFOR's raid into FBiH Interior Ministry and FOSS on Tuesday. RS authorities complained they did not get a chance to provide documents without this action.</p> |
| <b>Jadranko Prlic on media reports on his possible war crimes indictment</b> | <p>Oslobodjenje cover, pg 3 'Jadranko Prlic doesn't expect an invitation to the Hague', Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'Prlic: I think I am the last man that should go to the Hague' – Former Herceg-Bosna leader Jadranko Prlic said he does not expect to be asked to appear before the ICTY due to war crimes committed in Herzegovina's concentration camps, as media speculated in last several days. He repeated he 'did have nothing to do with the camps, or with the crime;sxs'. Prlic also denied that he had any knowledge of the camps, and stressed that as soon as he found out about them, he ordered closing them down.</p>   |
| <b>Paravac on BiH Lawsuit against SCG</b>                                    | <p>FTV – Member of the BiH Presidency Borislav Paravac questions legality of BiH lawsuit against Serbia and Montenegro submitted to the International Court of Justice in the Hague. He said the charge was neither legitimate nor lawful since it was voted for despite Serbs opposing it. He announced renewed discussions into the matter, and added he expected ICJ to reject the lawsuit.</p>   |
| <b>Bosniaks in RS NA oppose declaration on lawsuit</b>                       | <p>FTV, Oslobodjenje pg 2 'The violation of Bosniak national interests', SRNA, FENA – Representatives of Bosniaks in RS Assembly oppose RS NA declaration in regard to BiH lawsuit against SCG. Claiming their rights were not respected, they sent an objection to RS Council of People. According to Zekerijah Osmic, a member of Bosniak RSNA caucus, if the Council of People doesn't not support the declaration, it may be revoked.</p>  |

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| <p><b>Trial of<br/>Milosevic on<br/>BiH</b></p>                                    | <p>Oslobodjenje pg 4 'Miroslav Deronjic will witness against Milosevic', Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Miroslav Deronjic will testify against Milosevic', Onasa –Bosnian Serb Miroslav Deronjic, who pleaded guilty before the ICTY to the war crimes in BiH related charges of the indictment, will take witness stand against Slobodan Milosevic. Deronjic pleaded guilty on 30 September war killings of Bosniaks in Bratunac region.</p> <p>BHTV 1, FTV – In a continuation of the trial of Milosevic, protected witness testified on events in Doboj region in 1992, when 34 civilians were killed, and the concentration camp for Bosniaks and Croats, where more than 5 thousand people were detained.</p>   |
| <p><b>Oslobodjenje<br/>editorial on<br/>RS report<br/>about<br/>Srebrenica</b></p> | <p>Oslobodjenje pg 2 'The report under the bush' editorial by <u>Edin Krehic</u> – In regard to the report submitted by the RS government to the BiH Human Rights Chamber, the author writes that current trials before the ICTY started to disclose the details about well planned and precisely conducted execution of over 10000 people. 'Nothing happened accidentally there, and there is no lack of responsibility of an individual or of a group of them. There are no innocent ones in this. This is exactly the reason for concealing the locations of the mass graves. Every new one shows how big the crime was.' Editorial goes on saying that RS politicians and officers have knowledge of mass graves, as such information could not be held only by Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic. 'The report on crimes doesn't have to consist of hundreds of pages. The most of it should be dedicated to the locations of mass graves and names of those murdered, and their murderers.' – concludes the editorial.</p> |

## Security affairs

**Speculations  
on goal of  
SFOR's raid  
into FMOI and  
FOSS**

Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'SFOR brought out computers with talks between Milosevic and Serb leadership', Nezavisne Novine cover and pg. 3 'SFOR investigating whether FOSS was wiretapping OHR officials' – Avaz claims that the aim of SFOR's raid into FBiH Interior Ministry and FOSS premises was a search for parallel surveillance systems, and possible illegal bugging of some representatives of the international community. Source 'close to the Minsitry' said rumours on illegal bugging were often, adding that SFOR raid was 'expected and logical'. Daily also claims that SFOR, in addition to confiscation of FMOI documents, also seized three computers from FOSS premises, which also contain files with the most important information for the Hague Tribunal. This includes transcript between Slobodan Milosevic and Serb leadership just before the war. FOSS leadership asked on Wednesday all domestic and international institutions about the events in past two days, asking to be explained why they were searched. Spokespersons for FMOI Robert Cvrtak refused to give any information on the SFOR raid.

Oslobodjenje pg 9 'SFOR interested in bugging/Where are bugging devices?' – According to Oslobodjenje's 'reliable source', during its raid into FBiH Interior Ministry, SFOR confiscated three 'objects' related to the investigations into the assassination, terrorism and money laundering cases, in which court orders for bugging existed. This confirms, says daily, that SFOR raided premises in order to inspect whether illegal bugging operations were conducted.

Daily also speculates that SFOR had information which confirmed that FOSS had equipment to bug on its troops' mobile phones. FOSS was able to do that after borrowing equipment from British intelligence, which was arranged by Chief of UK Intelligence in BiH Alistar Sommerland.

Oslobodjenje's source also claims that the main thing of this search has not been done, as SFOR did not search vehicles, or FOSS premises in Vraca, and goes up saying that it is possible that FOSS tried to spy on SFOR's activities to arrest Radovan Karadzic and than to exchange it with OBS [RS intelligence service].

Vecernje Novosti pg. 18 'They controlled bugging devices' – Tuesday's action of SFOR in the FMOI and FOSS was aimed at checking what kind of equipment they possess and who has been wiretapping. The action was conducted on the basis of intelligence information and SFOR exactly knew what was looking for.

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| <p><b>DA:<br/>Hadzipasic<br/>seeks<br/>OHR/EUPM's<br/>help on FBiH<br/>MoI</b></p> | <p>Dnevni Avaz cover, pg 4 'Hadzipasic seeks Ashdown's and Frederiksen's help' – According to the daily, FBiH Prime Minister Ahmet Hadzipasic sent a letter to the High Representative Paddy Ashdown and EUPM Commissioner Sven Frederiksen, which contains detailed analysis of the measures necessary to take to solve current situation in the world of FBiH Interior Ministry. Hadzipasic asked for help to achieve full coordination of the work of all organisations units and to completely solve all problems between Ministers and Police Director. Hadzipasic also said that no moves would be undertaken without previous consent by the international community. In regard to FBiH Police Director Zlatko Miletic, whose two reports on the security information in the entity were rejected by the government with an explanation it contained politically motivated information, Hadzipasic said that procedure would be respected in possible Miletic's removal. Avaz claims that documents for Miletic's dismissal were already prepared.</p> |
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## Mostar Statute Commission

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| <p><b>Mostar Statute Commission discusses first draft</b></p> | <p>Dnevni List pg 5 'It is necessary to secure unified budget', FENA – After the third session of the Commission that is to draft a new Statute of Mostar, which was held on October 14 in Mostar, Chairman of the Commission Norbert Winterstein stated that the session was held in a constructive atmosphere. According to him, the working draft of the new Statute was considered, some Articles were discussed and the issues that need further elaboration were defined. During the session, the members of the Commission expressed the support to the need to ensure a unified budget and to establish a functioning Administration for the entire City of Mostar. Winterstein stressed that the issue of the organizational system that will be applied within Mostar has remained open. He said that one should first establish all the competencies of the City as a unit of local self-government before deciding on how to organize it. Winterstein said: "In that way the central issue will be objectively discussed, not from political but from practical points of view and hopefully it will soon lead us to a solution."</p> |
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| <p><b>DA: Some objections to draft Statute already expressed</b></p> | <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 9 ‘First objections to Winterstein’s draft expressed’ – In regard to the first draft of the Statute, Avaz’s sources in the Commission claims that ‘some things in the draft were supported by all members of the commission without any reservations towards it, while some of them expressed their disagreement with certain proposals which were a problem earlier during the implementation of the city integration project. Winterstein made the decision not to further consider in the next sessions any of the items that were agreed upon, i.e. to dedicate the time to discussing the Draft items which the Commission members obviously disagree with and this is something that will be done at the next session already.’ – said Avaz’s source in the Commission. The source adds that, during the session, all the members spoke in a constructive way and expressed willingness for final resolution of the “Mostar case”.</p> |
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| <p><b>VL: SDA opposes draft Statute</b></p> | <p>Vecernji List pg 4 'Proposal of new statute of Mostar' – VL claims that Winterstein's draft Statute envisages Mostar as one unit of local self-government, without the current municipalities. According to VL, SDA opposed the Draft, which envisages existence of a "central zone", whilst the current municipalities would become "administrative districts" without an explanation what the districts might be. VL goes on to say that the leader of the local SDA, Fatima Leho, commented on the Winterstein's Proposal by saying the document does not take into consideration expectations of her party, and according to VL, she indirectly confirmed earlier position of the SDA on the need of establishment of several units of local self-government in Mostar, which was, as VL says, "ruled out by the High Representative". VL concludes that Leho explained that she did not want to participate in the work (of the Commission) so she spent the whole meeting in silence, whilst her party colleague from the SDA HQ, Mirsad Ceman, was actively participating in discussions.</p> |
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## Political issues

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| <p><b>EU<br/>delegation<br/>met with<br/>Prime<br/>Ministers</b></p> | <p>CRHB, FTV, BHTV 1, Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'Brussels must support reforms in BiH through additional means', Blic pg. 13 'BiH expects bigger support from Europe', Dnevni List pg 7 'Re-questioning of customs tariff by end of November', Vecernji List pg 2 'Money is necessary for reforms', Slobodna Dalmacija pg 21 'More understanding for social problems', FENA – FBiH Prime Minister Ahmet Hadzipasic and RS Prime Minister Dragan Mikerevic met in Sarajevo on Wednesday</p> <p>European Commission delegation led by Europe Aid General Director Giorgio Bonacci and European Commission Delegation to BiH Head Michael Humphreys. They discussed reforms of public broadcasting service in BiH, public administration, and other issues important for the accession to EU. Bonacci also said that it was important for BiH to draft Feasibility Study by the end of this year, which 'should determine BiH future'. Only when that has been done, Bonacci stressed that Europe will have 'full estimate of the situation and will determine its positions on the measures to be taken. EU supports the efforts of BiH authorities to join European Union as soon as possible, but for that to happen reforms must be intensified. One of the main tasks is the process of financial consolidation.'</p> <p>Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Feasibility study determines BiH future' – Mikerevic asked from EU to extend the customs benefits for BiH, which would enable improvement of BiH goods visibility in EU market. He also stressed that together with the World Trade Organization, it is needed to find a solution to the protection of domestic production as dumping prices destroy it.</p> <p>Federation Prime Minister also asked for understanding of the social issues in BiH for the benefit of reforms.</p> |
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| <p><b>Ashdown visits Mostar</b></p>                         | <p>CRHB, Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Promotion of the agriculture and profit' campaign', Slobodna Dalmacija pg 17 'Ashdown in Mostar today', Dnevni List pg 16 'HR pays visit to Mostar today', SRNA, Onasa, FENA – Spokesperson of OHR South, Avis Benes, announced that the High Representative for BiH, Paddy Ashdown, visits Mostar on Thursday, when he is to pay an agricultural visit to a farm in Mostar's Municipality Southeast, within the "Agriculture and profit" campaign, and visit to the "Abrasevic" youth centre. HR Ashdown is also to be hosted by the Nansen Dialogue Centre.</p>   |
| <p><b>Law on Symbols and Monuments adopted in Brcko</b></p> | <p>RTRS, Glas Srpske, p 3, Oslobodjenje cover, p 3 'Kisic removes Draza Mihajlovic', ONASA, SRNA – Brcko District Assembly adopted the Law on Symbols and Monuments which envisages removal of all the symbols and monuments for which placing approval of one of the three constituency nations was not obtained. Those are the monuments that are not politically and ethnically correct, and were placed in the period 1992-1995. The decision on dislocation is to be made by Brcko Mayor Sinisa Kisic. Beside monument for RS fallen soldiers, there will be one for BH Army soldiers and one for HVO soldiers. Also monument to Draza Mihajlovic will be removed and placed somewhere that is not public place, according to the new Law.</p> |

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| <b>Lagumdzija's criticism against IC</b> | <p>Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Foreign occupiers and domestic traitors', Nezavisne Novine pg. 5 'Some officials of IC behave as occupiers', SRNA – At the public discussion called 'BiH – a year after' in Bijeljina, Zlatko Lagumdzija, SDP President, stated that the parliament majority is on reign nowadays in BiH, inside which political patrons of mafia are sitting. Speaking of IC, he said that some IC officials in BiH behave as occupiers. He explained by saying that: "Unfortunately, those occupiers have supporters within the domestic structures of BiH, that behave as traitors. Latest example is related to the alleged affair 'coup d'état', in which some IC officials had a shameful role, along with domestic police authority." He further announced the creation of the political coalition, which will be an alternative to 'masters' Sulejman Tihic, Dragan Kalinic, Dragan Cavic, and Dragan Covic.</p> |
| <b>Covic on Kosovo/Serbs in BiH</b>      | <p>Glas Srpske cover page 'Everybody should get their rights' – The President of Democratic Alternative and Vice President of Serbian Government Nebojsa Covic stated on Wednesday in Belgrade that if Albanians have a right to convene referendum and vote on some sort of independent Kosovo, then Serbs in BiH have the same right. He warned that if Kosovo gained independence, the situation in the region would be radicalised.</p>  |

## Media

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| <p><b>FBiH HoP: FTV must broadcast sessions of the Parliament</b></p> | <p>CRHB, FTV, BHTV 1, Oslobođenje pg 9 'FTV imposed with broadcast of session', Vecernji List pg 2 'FTV must broadcast all sessions of FBiH Parliament', Dnevni List pg 3 'Support to forming of independent Commission on Srebrenica' – At the session of the House of Peoples of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliament held on Wednesday, the MPs adopted changes to the Law on RTV FBiH, that the House of Representatives adopted before. Due to this decision, viewers of the FBiH RTV will be again able to watch sessions of the FBiH Parliament.</p> <p>FENA – The House of Peoples also adopted the conclusion requesting the FBiH Government to present a report on the situation in the Public Broadcasting Service and FTV. HoP also requested a report on the new structure of public broadcasters. Together with the House of Representatives, the House of Peoples will establish a special body to review the overall situation in this field focusing on FTV.</p> |
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| <p><b>Topic-Crnoja:</b><br/><b>‘FTV has no money [to broadcast sessions]’</b></p> | <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 8 ‘FTV must broadcast Parliament’s sessions’ – Statement by Marija Topic-Crnoja, editor of news and political program at FTV: ‘Decisions by FBiH House of Peoples are obligatory for all, including me. Of course I respect the decision of the HoP. The question is how they would impact the situation in FTV. Parliament must be aware of the fact that FTV has no its own property, as for every second of using reporting vehicle we have to pay that to PBS. We will have to ask HoP to pay us for those broadcastings, because we don’t have the money. There is also another issue in regard to this change to the Law. The broadcast of FBiH Parliament’s sessions which last for hours will disturb programme scheme.’</p> |
| <p><b>VL on ethnic composition of FTV employees</b></p>                           | <p>Vecernji List pg 5 ‘Bosnians’ are fourth people”, <u>by M. Sutalo</u>) carries that the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina TV (FTV) submitted the list on the ethnic structure of its employees to representative in the FBiH Parliament Mate Bandur. According to this list, on April 30, 2003, out of 249 FTV employees 26 of them are Croats, 13 of them are Serbs, 156 Bosniaks and 41 ‘Bosnians’. VL goes on to say that ‘Bosnian’ is not a national but geographic term and that in this way FTV covered up the real national structure of the employees. Also, according to the unofficial information even 49 % of the employees do not have proper education for the job that they are doing at FTV.</p>                                 |

## Economic issues

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| <p><b>RS NA<br/>session on<br/>Telekom<br/>Srpske</b></p> | <p>RTRS, Glas Srpske pg. 2 'Urgently to discuss Telekom'; Nezavisne Novine pg. 5 'Telekom affair inside Parliament or outside parliament premise', Blic pg. 12 'Organised robbery in Telekom' – Milorad Dodik, SNSD President, yesterday stated that SNSD MP's will leave today's special session of Republika Srpska National Assembly, unless the first item on agenda is discussion on audit report on Telekom Srpske. He said that SNSD would hold a public discussion outside Parliament premise. He accused the Republika Srpska Government of trying to cover criminal activities in Telekom through its Action Plan on Consolidation. Regarding accusations made by Zeljko Jungic (Telekom General Manager) that Dodik's government signed a contract to sell Telekom's 49% property to foreign private company, Dodik said that Jungic was lying and that if there were such a contract he should show it.</p> |
| <p><b>NN<br/>interview<br/>with<br/>Mikerevic</b></p>     | <p>Nezavisne Novine, cover and pg. 4, 'I have no choice, I continue my fight against crime and mafia' – In a page-long interview to NN, Dragan Mikerevic, Republika Srpska Prime Minister, said that he has no other choice but to continue the fight against crime and mafia. Speaking of resolvment of problems at Telekom Srpske, he said that the Republika Srpska Government will grounds its views on special audit report and findings of the ongoing control. On Wednesday in Sarajevo, Mikerevic met Donald Hays, PDHR, and discussed problems standing on the way of activating measures to accelerate the privatisation process in certain sectors. He also expressed his belief that PDP fully supports activities of the Republika Srpska Government and him as Premier.</p>   |



**NN editorial  
on Ivanic**

Nezavisne Novine editorial by Mirjana Kusmuk, pg. 7, 'Auditor' – The author comments on auditor report on budget, namely on reaction of former Republika Srpska Prime Minister and currently BiH Foreign Minister, Mladen Ivcanic, onto it. Ivanic initially denied allegations in audit report, and then started accusing Bosko Ceko for wrong-doing. The author claims that the reason why the audit report hurt Ivanic so much is the fact that he did not expect that audits would detect his mismanagement, neither would Auditor be courageous enough to put it all in writing. Ivanic actually hoped, according to the author, that his motto 'Take away from the poor, and give it to the rich' would remain an eternal secret. Author brings two controversial facts: one is that Ivanic denies Ceko report into Republika Srpska budget for 2002 and two that Ivanic demanded domestic audit be conducted into Telekom affair, because he trusts it more than international audit. As for the later one, the destiny of domestic audit report on Telekom would have the following destiny: it would be rejected at Republika Srpska Parliament (because Ivanic holds majority).

**Update to  
Srpske Poste**

RTRS, Blic pg. 12 'Police withholds assistance', Glas Srpske pg. 3 'No Commission, nor police'; Nezavisne Novine pg. 6 'Milutin Pejic still Director of Srpske Poste' – No transfer of duties was yesterday performed at Srpske Poste, because the members of the Commission in charge of transfer of duties failed to show up at the time scheduled. Neither did Milijana Dakic, the newly appointed director of Srpske Poste, show up. Around 200 workers of Srpske Poste expressed support to the so far Director, Milutin Pajic, by a peaceful protest within firm facility. Members of Republika Srpska Interior Ministry failed to show up as well, although their presence was announced. Zoran Glusac, Spokesperson of Republika Srpska Interior Ministry, explained the reasons why police did not show up at Srpske Poste yesterday. He said that: "It is true that Republika Srpska MoI received a request by Steering Board of Srpske Poste to provide assistance during the transfer. However, the Law clearly regulates as to what institutions are allowed to demand police assistance, such as Republika Srpska Ministry of Traffic and Communication or the Republika Srpska Government. Since this institution is not amongst those listed by the law, we went them a response, where we explained why police will not attend transfer of duties."

Dnevni List pg 10 'Kalinic wants to thank radicals on loyalty' – According to DL, the removal of director of Srpske Poste is a reflection of the SDS's policy. According to DL, the President of SDS is trying, through the Chair of Steering Board of Srpske Poste Milorad Zrnic, to replace Pejic with Milijana Dakic, a member of SRS (Serb Radical Party) from Novi Grad, whose vote was instrumental in securing Kalinic the majority in the RS NA. By doing that, says DL, Kalinic wants to reward the Serb radicals on their loyalty.

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| <p><b>Director of ITA</b></p>                    | <p>Nezavisne Novine, pg. 2, 'Foreigners reserved towards Kasumovic' – the Chairperson of BiH Council of Ministers, Adnan Terzic, yesterday confirmed that the international community holds reserves towards the eventual appointment of Fuad Kasumovic, former Deputy Director of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Customs Administration, as the Director of the Indirect Taxation Administration. The OHR Spokesperson, Oleg Milisic, yesterday briefly told NN that the appointment of the Director of ITA falls under an exclusive responsibility of the BiH Council of Ministers.</p>          |
| <p><b>Terzic on Bucharest conference</b></p>     | <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Terzic: We told to potential investors about investments possibilities in BiH', SRNA, FENA – Two days conference 'Expanding the European Investment Frontier' in Bucharest ended on Wednesday. Chairman of BiH Council of Minister Adnan Terzic, who headed BiH delegation to the conference, stated for DA: 'I can only say that it was very successful, and its was an opportunity for politicians to discuss improvement of the relations in the region and opening of the region for investments.'</p>  |
| <p><b>Tihic invited OIC investors to BiH</b></p> | <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'To the investors from the East BiH can serve as door to Europe', Vecernji List pg 2 'Tihic invited Islamic investors' – During the Business Forum which is being organized by the Organization of Islamic Conference in Kuala Lumpur, the Bosniak member of the BiH Presidency, Sulejman Tihic, stated that all peoples suffered during the last war, and invited investors from the Islamic countries to invest in BiH in order to establish a self-sustainable economy and give support to started reforms and preservation of multi-ethnic and multi-religious structure in BiH.</p> |

## Defence

**SD editorial  
on defence  
reforms**

Slobodna Dalmacija pg 16 'So the children do not hurt themselves' by Petar Milos – The author of the editorial is not happy with the defence reforms in BiH saying that the High Representative for BiH, instead of giving the “local aggressive peoples a toy which is not dangerous, he offers his proposal of set-up of military in BiH”. The author goes on to question the need to have the military and armament in the “childish state which only seems to have the government, parliament, judiciary, police, customs, army, flag and national anthem”. “Everyone is clear that the power is in the hands of the international representatives. They run the staffing policy, privatization, barge into banks, decide about media policy...” – concludes the author.