

# OHR BiH Media Round-up, 16/11/2004

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 16 November 2004

<b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (12,00 hrs)	<b>BH Radio 1</b> (12,00 hrs)
No street lightening in MO	Greek President visits BiH
Greek President visits BiH	BiH/EU legal systems harmonisation
BiH CoM session today	EU Parliament to discuss Althea

TV news broadcast on 15 November 2004

<b>BH TV 1</b> (19,00 hrs)	<b>FED TV</b> (19,30 hrs)	<b>RT RS</b> (19,30)
Action of RS MoI	Action of RS MoI	Meron address to UN
Statement of T. Meron	Statement of T. Meron	MoI arrests 8 indictees
Pensioners' protests in RS	Trials of three Albanians	Pensioners protests in RS
Protests in Trebinje	Sanader met with Marovic	Snow related problems

<b>Oslobodjenje</b>	RS Interior Ministry arrested eight men indicted for war crimes
<b>Dnevni Avaz</b>	Donald Hays on process of privatisation – Revision should be carried out where there are enough evidences (on irregularities)
<b>Dnevni List</b>	Mostar in dark because of electricity debts
<b>Vecernji List</b>	Eight Serbs arrested
<b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>	Blizzard 'shuts' life down
<b>Glas Srpske</b>	Hague sent cuffs

<b>Nezavisne Novine</b>	Eight war crimes suspects were arrested; Tens of pensioners were injured in a clash with the police; Beriz Belkic, a member of the Presidency of the Party for BiH: Reforms are more important than staying at the authority; Ivo Sanader in Belgrade : turning point in relations between Croatia and SiCG
<b>Blic</b>	Beatings instead of pensions; The police have discovered robbers of post offices; Arrests in Pale, Foca and Lukavica; Cheaper: a liter of fuel costs between 1,55 KM and 1,60 KM
<b>Vecernje Novosti</b>	What will Meron say?; Cheque broke cordon
<b>Belgrade's Nacional</b>	Features Serbian related titles

<b>LATEST NEWS OF TODAY</b>	
<b>Greek President visiting BiH</b>	<b>BH Radio 1, Herceg Bosna Radio</b> News at 1200 – Greek President <b>Konstantin Ostefanopopulos</b> is paying a one-day visit to BiH. He has already met with the BiH Presidency members and the BiH CoM Chair <b>Adnan Terzic</b> . In the course of the day, the Greek President is also expected to meet with a delegation of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly.
<b>European Parliament to discuss resolution on Althea</b>	<b>BH Radio 1</b> News at 1200 – European Parliament is to start discussion on a proposed resolution on Althea EU military mission to BiH in Strasbourg today. According to the draft resolution, the Althea should advance BiH chances to eventually become EU member.

<p><b>Koffi Anan hails Srebrenica report</b></p>	<p><b>BH Radio 1</b> News at 1200 – UN Secretary General <b>Koffi Anan</b> expressed expectations that the recently publicized Srebrenica report and the RS authorities commitment to arrest war crime suspects would lead to concrete actions</p>
<p><b>SFOR, NATO says RS authorities made important step to reconciliation in BiH</b></p>	<p><b>BH Radio 1</b> News at 1200 – SFOR and NATO assess that by adoption of the Srebrenica report the RS Government has made an important step towards reconciliation in BiH. The report also indicates the importance of the full cooperation with the ICTY including the apprehension of the war crime suspects.</p>

<p><b>War Crimes/Cooperation with ICTY</b></p>
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<p><b>Eight Bosnian Serb war crimes suspects arrested</b></p>	<p><b>BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje</b> cover page, pgs 4-5 'RS Interior Ministry arrested eight men indicted for war crime', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 3 'Special policemen arrested eight men indicted for war crimes,' mentioned on cover 'Eight small fishes arrested', <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, cover 'Eight war crimes suspects were arrested' and pg. 3 'The police arrested eight war crimes suspects' by <u>A. Sisic and D. Risojevic</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b>, cover page story 'Hague sent cuffs' by <u>E. G. S.</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b>, cover 'Arrests in Pale, Foca and Lukavica' and pg. RS3 'Eight were arrested' by <u>Tijana Veselinovic</u>, <b>Nacional</b> Belgrade daily, pg. 5 'Arrests in Pale' <u>not signed</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b>, front pg splash 'Eight Serbs arrested' and pg 3 'Eight Serbs arrested because of war crimes', by <u>Branka Stevandic</u>, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, pg 8 'Eight Bosnian Serbs charged with war crimes arrested', by <u>H</u>, and back pg 'Eight persons arrested', by <u>F</u>, <b>SRNA</b> – A judge of the Sarajevo Cantonal Court, <b>Sreto Crnjak</b>, has confirmed for SRNA that eight people arrested last night by the RS special police on suspicion of committing war crimes, have been handed over to the Cantonal Court in Sarajevo. The eight are: <b>Goran Vasic, Veselin Cancar, Momir Glisic, Svetko Novakovic, Jovan Skobo, Zeljko Mitrovic, Dragoje Radanovic</b> and <b>Momir Skakavac</b>. The arrested have been placed in custody for one month. The arrest operation was carried out in Lukavica, Pale and Foca in line with a warrant issued by the Cantonal Court in Sarajevo . According to Crnjak, one of the arrested, Veselin Cancar, had been previously sentenced for war crimes, but the Cantonal Court in Sarajevo allowed a retrial as an exceptional legal remedy. The Federation of BiH Supreme Court had annulled Goran Vasic's previous sentence and his case was returned to the Cantonal Court .</p>
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<p><b>OHR says eight arrested men small fry in comparison to those indicted by ICTY</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 3 'Guzelova: They are small fry', <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, cover 'Eight war crimes suspects were arrested' and pg. 3 'The police arrested eight war crimes suspects' by <u>A. Sisic</u> and <u>D. Risojevic</u>, inset 'OHR welcomed arrests' – Apprehension of eight persons indicted for war crimes by the Sarajevo Cantonal Court is a welcome first step, according to Chief OHR Spokesperson <b>Irena Guzelova</b>. <i>"However, there is a clear distinction between domestic indictments and those indicted by the ICTY. Although the alleged crimes of those arrested are serious, they are small fry in comparison to those indicted by the Hague Tribunal. The RS authorities will ultimately be judged on their record with regard to the arrest of Hague indicted war criminals,"</i> Guzelova said in a statement for Dnevni Avaz.</p>
<p><b>RSNA Speaker says actions to arrest war crime indictees prove RS commitment to cooperation with ICTY</b></p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 4 'We will cooperate with The Hague Tribunal' – All RS Interior Ministry actions (to arrest war crime indictees) are indicators of the RS institutions' commitment to the cooperation with the Hague Tribunal, according to RS National Assembly Speaker <b>Dusan Stojicic</b>. Stojicic told the daily that such the actions were also showing that the RS institutions were functioning normally although one could get impression that the RS police were acting under pressure of the international community.</p>

<p><b>RS Interior Minister announces new actions</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, cover 'Eight war crimes suspects were arrested' and pg. 3 'The police arrested eight war crimes suspects' by <u>A. Sisic and D. Risojevic</u>, inset 'Matijasevic announced new actions' – the inset reads RS Minister of Interior <b>Darko Matijasevic</b> has announced new actions of arresting war crimes indictees would be undertaken. He emphasized RS MoI would continue fulfilling all activities with an aim to fully cooperate with the Hague Tribunal. <i>'This activity as well was a concrete result of RS that was achieved in this field'</i>, Matijasevic has stated.</p>
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<p><b>EU freezes funds of the persons wanted by Hague tribunal</b></p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 'Funds of 18 Hague indictees frozen', <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 3 'Assets of another 18 Hague indictees were frozen' by M. C., <b>Nacional</b> Belgrade daily, pg. 3 'EU freezes money' <u>not signed</u>, <b>HINA</b> – The Council of the European Union decided at a session on Monday to expand a freeze on all funds and economic resources of persons indicted by the Hague war crimes tribunal to cover an additional 18 indictees, the Council said in a statement. The list originally included three war crimes suspects – Bosnian Serb wartime leader <b>Radovan Karadzic</b>, his military commander <b>Ratko Mladic</b> and Croatian Army general <b>Ante Gotovina</b>.</p> <p>The following 18 names were added to the list: Ljubomir Borovcanin, Goran Borovnica, Miroslav Bralo, Vlastimir Djordjevic, Goran Hadzic, Gojko Jankovic, Vladimir Lazarevic, Milan Lukic, Sredoje Lukic, Sreten Lukic, Dragomir Milosevic, Drago Nikolic, Vinko Pandurevic, Nebojsa Pavkovic, Vujadin Popovic, Savo Todorovic, Dragan Zelenovic and Stojan Zupljanin. All but Miroslav Bralo are ethnic Serbs. Bralo is a Bosnian Croat who was transferred to the Hague tribunal last Friday after he voluntarily surrendered to SFOR in BiH. All but Bralo are also barred from entering the European Union.</p> <p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'Assets of war criminals frozen' also reported on the EU Council decision. It also carries OHR reaction. <i>"We welcome the EU decision. It represents another step that will limit space for manoeuvre to those avoiding and obstructing justice. We expect BiH authorities to do the similar thing and freeze assets belonging to the 18 Hague indictees,"</i> Chief OHR Spokesperson <b>Irena Guzelova</b> told the daily.</p>
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<p><b>Momcilo Mandic case</b></p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 2 'I will go to The Hague voluntarily', <b>Vecernji List</b>, pg 3 'Mandic ready for The Hague', by <u>ds</u>— In an interview with the Banja Luka-based Patriot magazine, <b>Momcilo Mandic</b> said he would voluntarily go to The Hague if the ICTY files an indictment against him. Mandic, who was the Justice Minister in the first RS Government, added that such the outcome was almost impossible but that there was a solution for every situation.</p> <p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 '(Draft) Agreement (on extradition) between BiH and SCG does not treat persons with dual citizenship' by <u>I. Sinanovic</u> — BiH Assistant Justice Minister <b>Nikola Sladoje</b> told the daily that the draft agreement on mutual extradition of indicted persons might be on the agenda of the next session of BiH and SCG expert groups to be held at the end of this year. However, according to Sladoje, even if it has been signed such the agreement could not result in extradition of <b>Momcilo Mandic</b> since it does not treat persons with dual citizenship.</p>
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<p><b>ICTY's Meron addresses UN Security Council</b></p>	<p><b>BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje</b> pg 4 'RS insufficiently cooperates with the Tribunal', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'Meron called on UN member-countries to help apprehension of Karadzic, Mladic', <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, pg 4 'Republic of Croatia has considerably improved cooperation with The Hague', by H— In his address to the UN Security Council late on Monday, ICTY President Theodor Meron said that while the Federation of BiH had established a good cooperation with the Hague Tribunal the RS cooperation with the Tribunal was insufficient. Meron called on all UN member-countries to help/support ICTY operations adding that 21 war crime suspects were still at large and that they had to be arrested. <i>"This includes apprehension of <b>Ratko Mladic, Radovan Karadzic</b> and <b>Ante Gotovina</b>,"</i> emphasized Meron. The major part of Meron's report was, however, dedicated to the ICTY exit strategy. Meron underlined that the historic mission of ICTY would not be achieved as long as the high-ranking officials indicted for war crimes are not brought to justice.</p>
<p><b>ICTY: Bralo does not enter plea</b></p>	<p><b>Oslobođenje</b> pg 3, mentioned on cover 'Miroslav Bralo postponed entering a plea', <b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 2, mentioned on front 'Court determines incorrect data in indictment', <u>not signed</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 3 'Bralo postponed pleading on guilt' <u>by Sense</u></p> <p>— <b>Miroslav Bralo</b>, a BiH Croat charged with crimes against Bosniaks committed in the Lasva valley in 1993, did not enter plea before the ICTY yesterday after Judge <b>Amin el Mahdi</b> accepted a proposal of Bralo's defence that he enters plea in 30 days time. Apparently, some information related to Bralo's identity were incorrect in the indictment against him. Prosecutor <b>Kenneth Scott</b>, who is filling in for Prosecutor <b>Mark Hammon</b> who is in charge of the Bralo case, could not explain the unmatching data.</p>

Economic/Social Affairs	
PDHR Hays on privatization process	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> cover pg splash and pg 5 'To carry out audit where enough evidence exists' by E. Dizdarevic – In an interview given to DA, among the other things, Principal Deputy High Representative <b>Donald Hays</b> stated: <i>'In some cases people who had good connections with political parties were buying off certificates in order to preserve control over profitable companies. I believe that the audit of privatization should be carried out only in the cases for which we have enough evidence that something illegal was done.'</i> Hays judged that this would not be a bad sign to foreign investors.</p>
SDA's Jahic on privatisation audit	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'Unlike SBiH we approach problem more thoroughly' by E.S. – commenting on the statement given by FBiH Deputy Prime Minister <b>Gavrilo Grahovac</b> who stated that SDA supports audit of privatization in the companies in the areas where DNZ or HDZ are in power, while it does not support the audit of privatization in the companies where SDA is in power, SDA Vice President <b>Elmir Jahic</b> stated that such statement is not true and he added: <i>'It is obvious that unlike SBiH we approach this problem more thoroughly and in a more serious way. Our stand regarding the audit of privatization is more than clear and it says that the audit of the privatization contracts should be carried out in order to see where disputable elements in terms of disrespecting of the contracts exist and in which way these problems can be resolved.'</i></p>
BiH Trade Unions leader Biber on privatisation audit	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 5 'Hundreds millions KM could not be bought off legally in period shorter than one year and half' by E.P. – President of the BiH Trade Union <b>Edhem Biber</b> stated for DA that he supports the SBiH demand to carry out audit in other companies such as 'Aluminij', 'Sarajevo Tobacco Factory' etc. in the same way it was done in the case of 'Markovic's' privatization of 'Agrokomerc' company. Biber stressed that politics should be excluded from the whole process.</p>

<p><b>Pensioners protested throughout RS</b></p>	<p><b>BHT, FTV, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine</b>, cover and pgs. 4-5 'Tens of pensioners were injured in a clash with the police' by <u>N. N.</u> – RS Pensioners held protests on Monday throughout RS because of their difficult social and economic situation. Several persons were injured in Banja Luka during a clash with the police, which have attempted to prevent a blockade of roads. <b>Nenad Ratkovic</b>, the President of Banja Luka Association of Pensioners, has announced pensioners would start collecting signatures for removal of RS Government and he invited pensioners to apply citizens' disobedience, i.e. he invited them not to pay fees and he invited them to take bread and milk from stores without paying.</p> <p>The Spokesperson of RS Prime Minister, <b>Goran Radivojac</b>, assessed that blocking roads cannot be a way to improving the position of pensioners '<i>because it produces indirect effects on economy, contributions of which mainly serve for payments of pensions</i>'.</p> <p><b>NN insets</b> 'Police prevented blockade of the border to Croatia' by <u>B. G.</u> and 'Two pensioners were injured in Prijedor' by <u>D. K.</u> report on protests of pensioners in Gradiska and Prijedor respectively. Three pensioners in Gradiska and two pensioners in Prijedor were sustained injuries in a clash with the police.</p> <p><b>NN inset</b> 'Unnecessary politicizing of issues' carries a press statement of RS Government in which it assessed that the pensioners' protests were unnecessary politicizing issues of pensioners. The statement also reads that the Protocol on cooperation and obligations of the Government in the forthcoming period, which the Association of Pensioners has refused to sign, would have enabled an increase of pensions for 6%, payment of a part of debt in January and suitable changes to legislative regulations. The statement reads that the Government will implement the Protocol regardless of the protests. (<b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 2 'Protocol writes a solution' <u>not signed</u> also carries the press statement of RS Government)</p> <p><b>EuroBlic</b>, cover 'Beatings instead of pensions' and pgs. RS4-RS5 'With cordons against angry pensioners' by <u>Rajna Radosavljevic</u> and <b>EuroBlic</b> team, <b>Vecernje Novosti</b>, cover and pg. 19 'Cheque broke cordon' by <u>N. Gagic</u> (VN carries a number of reports on protests in towns of RS), <b>Glas srpske</b>, pg. 2 'Five days for a reply' by <u>R. Skondric</u>, <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 8 'Increase of pensions in January', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 9 'There were injured persons in clashes between pensioners and police', <b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 5 , mentioned on front, 'Pensioners call on Government to resign', by <u>NINA</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b>, pg 2 'Police stops protests of pensioners', by <u>bs</u> also reported on the protests.</p>
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<p><b>NN op-ed on pensioners' protests</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 7 'Hot winter' by <b>Aleksandar Sekulic</b> – Sekulic refers to the protests of pensioners in RS and is critical of RS Government and its lack of will to help pensioners.</p>
<p><b>RS radicals on RS Government</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 6 'Social situation is alarming' by <b>Srna</b>, <b>Glas srpske</b>, pg. 5 'To remove the Government' by <b>N. D.</b> – The President of RS SRS, <b>Milanko Mihajlica</b>, stated on Monday that RS Government with Prime Minister <b>Dragan Mikerevic</b> at the head does not have the support of the radicals and he also said it is necessary to approach to a selection of a new Government through talks with parliamentary parties. Mihajlica explained such a stance with a difficult economic and social situation and he said nothing that would remedy the situation can be expected from the Government.</p>
<p><b>Streets in Mostar without public lighting because of unpaid electricity</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, front pg splash and pg 15 'Mostar in dark because of electricity debts', by <b>S. B., V. S.</b> – Many streets in Mostar were in complete dark last night (Monday) and DL contacted the General Manager of Elektroprivreda of Herceg Bosna, <b>Vlado Maric</b>, who confirmed that the electricity was cut off in some parts of Mostar because of unpaid electricity bills and because of the recent bad weather. Maric also explains that he will be meeting with officials of the City administration of Mostar today (Tuesday) in order to reach an agreement about honouring of the financial obligations of the City of Mostar.</p>
<p><b>Law on Public Procurement in power as of November 10, 2004-11-16</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 8 'Law on Public Procurement in force', by <b>NINA</b> – The BiH Ministry of Finance and Treasury has announced that the Law on Public Procurement has come into force on November 10 this year (BiH Official Gazette, number 49/04), was announced by the BiH Council of Ministers on Monday. Due to the great interest of citizens and institutions, and misinterpretations about the implementation of this reformatory law, the Ministry of Finance and Treasury wishes to explain that its implementation for the BiH institutions has started on November 10. Implementation of the Law on Public Procurement in Federation BiH, RS and Brcko District will commence once the relevant Entity and Brcko District bodies, in the period of sixty days, put out of force the regulations that refer to the public procurement sector. The purpose of passing this law is in establishing a system for public procurement of goods, services and works in BiH for the purpose of insuring the most effective utilization of public funds on basis of the fair and active competition amongst the contractors. <b>Sarajevo media</b> also covered the issue.</p>

<b>FBiH Economic Chamber's Lasic on VAT, BiH foreign trade balance</b>	<p><b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, back pg 'Each exported mark covered by 11,88 imported marks', by <u>Zoran Zekic</u> – The President of the FBiH Economic Chamber, <b>Jago Lasic</b>, held a press conference yesterday during which he talked about issues related to the VAT and BiH's foreign trade balance. Lasic notes that the FBiH Economic Chamber is not happy with the VAT rate set at 17%, because it is not in function of development, saying that a VAT rate fixed at 20% would guarantee the country's progress in construction of roads and other infrastructure. Talking about the foreign trade balance of BiH, Lasic says that in the first 9 months of 2004, BiH exported good worth 2,136 billion KMs, whilst in the same time it imported goods worth 6,739 billion KMs. Lasic is however worried that BiH is importing too much wider consumer goods and food and drinks since, apparently each KM of such goods that BiH exports is covered by 11,88 KMs from import.</p>
<b>RS President Cavic met with a delegation of Veterans of War</b>	<p><b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 3 'Faster to rights' by G. K., <b>EuroBlic</b>, pg. RS3 'To accelerate the Law on Rights of Veterans' by <u>S. V.</u> – RS President <b>Dragan Cavic</b> met with a delegation of the RS Association of Veterans of War on Monday. They discuss the start of the implementation of the Law on Rights of Veterans. The Delegation and Cavic agreed that RS Government should accelerate the realisation of conclusions of RS NA in order to enable a timely implementation of the Law.</p>

<b>Political developments/reforms</b>	
<b>Dnevni Avaz: State Government to get two more Ministries</b>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'State Government to get two more Ministries' by <u>S. Numanovic</u> – By the beginning of next year BiH should get two more ministries at the state level. It is about the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare. This initiative announced Premier <b>Adnan Terzic</b> in his interview with <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> yet in August this year is being realized with strong support by the international community, particularly OHR and EC.</p>

**On FBiH  
Government  
crisis**

**Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'SBiH gave up discussion on FBiH Government crises?!', mentioned on front, by A. Terzic – Chairman of the House of Representatives of the Federation of BiH Parliament **Muhamed Ibrahimovic** confirmed on Monday that he received two letters from SBiH Ministers during the last few days. According to Ibrahimovic, the one can clearly conclude from the second letter that SBiH Ministers would discuss the crises in the FBiH Government within this body first. Ibrahimovic goes on to say that for this reason it is quite certain that the FBiH Parliament has no reason to place the discussion on the FBiH Government crises at the agenda of its session that is to take place on Wednesday and Thursday. An inset in DA under headline 'Meeting on behavior of SBiH representatives today' carries President of the SBiH Caucus **Ismet Briga** who says that the meeting between the SBiH Caucus in the FBiH Parliament and SBiH leadership led by **Safet Halilovic** will take place today (Tuesday) and SBiH Ministers in the FBiH Government will also attend this meeting.

According to Briga, during this meeting they will decide on their final stands and as to how SBiH representatives will behave on the FBiH Parliament session.

On the same issue **Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'SBiH Ministers demand implementation of 13 measures' by E. Sarac carries that FBiH Prime Minister **Ahmet Hadzipasic** will have on Tuesday (today) the first round of talks with SBiH and SDA Ministers in order to overcome the current FBiH Government crisis and then the talks with HDZ Ministers and inter-party talks will take place. According to DA sources, the proposal of measures that SBiH Ministers submitted to the FBiH leaders should be discussed within the aforementioned talks.

**NN interview  
with Party  
for BiH's  
Belkic**

**Nezavisne Novine**, cover and pg. 6 'Reforms are more important than staying at the authority' by M. Cubro – In an interview to *NN*, **Beriz Belkic**, a member of the Presidency of the Party for BiH, says the Party will try to gather a sufficient number of political subjects and include them to the project of a faster and more efficient implementation of reforms of police, education, constitutional changes and privatisation at the state level. He says the Party would consider other options should it fail to realise its intention. '*Withdrawing from the authority is one of options*', Belkic has stated.

He says that Ministers from the Party for BiH would not resume their posts at the Federation of BiH Government until inter-party negotiations end, and he also said that **Safet Halilovic**, the President of the Party for BiH, would withdraw from CoM if they fail to reach an agreement.

<p><b>VL's feature on Police reform</b></p>	<p><b>Vecernji List</b>, pg 4 'Croats do not give up the Swiss model', by <u>Miso Relota</u> – Announcing that the Police Reform Commission (PRC) will be again meeting sometime this week at Brcko, VL claims to have learned from its sources close to the PRC that it is certain that BiH will get a single Police force, the only issue is whether the Police will be a part of the BiH Security Ministry or a new, BiH Interior Ministry will be formed or not. VL also noted that the public speculates that the Serb and Bosniak officials are not against the idea that the entity MoIs keep existing and that the Police becomes a part of the BiH Security Ministry, which in turn means that the cantonal MoIs would be abolished, which would, according to VL, directly affect the Croats the most since the MoIs in the Croat majority cantons are very successful in their work. VL argues that the most acceptable model for future organization of Police forces in BiH is the Swiss model, which could be easily implemented in BiH.</p>
<p><b>US Ambassador McElhaney says US will know how to appreciate BiH's decision to send troops to Iraq</b></p>	<p><b>Vecernji List</b>, pg 2 'USA will know how to appreciate decision of BiH', by <u>Miroslav Vasilj</u> – The US Ambassador to BiH, <b>Douglas McElhaney</b>, told BHTV1 that the US were welcoming the decision of BiH authorities to send BiH troops to Iraq, by which BiH is helping building of peace in the world, instead of only using the international assistance. Ambassador McElhaney says that sending of 36 soldiers to Iraq is a big feat, because BiH is a small country, which is something the US will know how to appreciate.</p>

<p><b>RS CoP on Serb vital national interests</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 6 ‘The budget is not jeopardising vital national interests’ by Srna, <b>Glas srpske</b>, pg. 3 ‘Everything is in accordance with the Constitution’ by G. D. – Serb caucus at the RS Council of Peoples have reached a conclusion on Monday saying that the report on execution of the budget for the first six months of 2004 and the report on the work of the RS Housing Fund for 2003 have not put Serb national interests in jeopardy. The caucus also believes neither the Draft Contract on granting the concession for the construction of hydro-energy system on Vrbas river nor the Report of the Survey Board in relation to determining facts regarding the annulment of contracts on exchange of property have put the national interests in jeopardy.</p>
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## Judiciary/Legal Proceedings

**Hercegovacka  
Bank/Jelavic  
case**

**Dnevni List**, pg 3 'Orders were signed by Rupcic, Azinovic and Medic', by Nevres Dedic – Reports from the continuation of trials to **Ante Jelavic** in the 'Hercegovacka bank' case before the BiH Court from yesterday (Monday). First witness from yesterday was one **Ivanka Prlic**, a former employee of the FBiH Defence Ministry where she worked between 1995-2001. Prlic, who was working in the financial department of the FBiH MoD, was made redundant on April 30, 2002. Questioned by Prosecutor **John McNair** as to who were her superiors at the time, Prlic says they were **Ivan Azinovic** and **Ivan Medic**. Prlic also noted that Jelavic never signed any payment order and that she did not know Jelavic personally. Questioned by McNair as to who had the authority to sign the orders, Prlic answered that **Miroslav Rupcic**, Azinovic and Medic had had the authority. Inset entitled 'Self-rule case still on hold' notes that the BiH Court rejected all objections Jelavic's lawyer had filed with the Court. Jelavic's lawyer was contesting the contents of the indictment and the way the trials are being conducted, especially in the part regarding the competence of the BiH Court and BiH Prosecution.

Similar report is featured in **Slobodna Dalmacija**, pg 12 'Jelavic did not sign anything', by Zlatko Tulic. On top of it, SD announces that the trials will resume on November 22,. 2004, when Provisional Administrator for Hercegovacka bank, **Toby Robinson**, is to testify again.

**Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'Orders for payment were being signed by Rupcic, Azinovic and Medic', **Nezavisne Novine**, pg. 9 'A witness does not know whether money for salaries had been sent from Croatia' by A. Durmo also reported on the trial.

<p><b>The police discovered robbers of post office</b></p>	<p><b>EuroBlic</b>, cover 'The police have discovered robbers of post offices' and pg. RS1 'Money to pocket, vault to river' <u>by Milan Pilipovic</u> – Gradiska Police have arrested four persons suspected of stealing a post office vault in Gornji Podgradci in the night between Thursday and Friday. The police have found the vault in river near Laminici village. According to unofficial information, the four suspects, under the pressure of evidence, have told the police where they have disposed of the vault.</p>
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<p><b>Miscellaneous</b></p>	
<p><b>Bad weather causes havoc in Tomislavgrad</b></p>	<p><b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, front pg splash and pg 16 'Blizzard 'shuts' life down', by <u>M. Vukadin</u> – The daily notes that the first snow has caused havoc in Tomislavgrad, causing numerous difficulties related to supply of electricity, severing phone lines and limiting traffic movements in the area.</p>

**Update to  
situation in  
Gornji  
Vakuf/Uskoplje  
High School**

**Dnevni List**, pg 8, mentioned on front, 'Croat and Bosniak children in same school today', by Ivica Glibusic – Classes in the Gornji Vakuf-Uskoplje High School started again yesterday (Monday) following the recent incident that took place last week when two pupils were injured in conflicts among Bosniak and Croat pupils that caused the interruption of classes. According to the Central Bosnia Canton Education Minister of Education, **Nikola Lovrinovic**, it was only the Croat pupils that attended classes since the Bosniak children were celebrating Bajram, and they are expected to join the classes as of today (Tuesday). Although the parents wanted that a security company be hired to monitor the situation, it will be in fact the Police that will be present around-the-clock in front of the High School.

**Vecernji List**, pg 2 'Reform to education results in injuries', by Darko Juka – The author writes that according to «*people from Uskoplje*», the recent incidents were not products of personal affairs between the participants (high school pupils), they are in fact products of national intolerance that has been suffocating the town for years already. This leads the author to say that the incidents are just another confirmation that the education reform in BiH has been conducted under coercion, claiming that the education reform is step one in assimilation of the Croats in BiH into a so-called Bosnian nation. **Oslobodjenje** pg 7, mentioned on cover 'Classes started in Gornji Vakuf/Uskoplje' also covered the issue.

