

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 16/1/2005

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	BH TV 1 (19,00 hrs)	FED TV (19,30 hrs)	RT RS (19,30)
Action for Srebrenica	Savo Todovic surrendered	Savo Todovic surrendered	Savo Todovic surrendered
Interview with Silajdzic	ICTY on Gotovina	Explosion in Mostar	Mladic not inSerbia
Finci vs. Alispahic	Slovenian troops in BiH	Shooting in Tuzla	POW Association in 2005
Meholjic vs. Malkic	RS Govt on PRC report	Tuzla donation for SE Asia	RS Govt on PRC report

Oslobodjenje	Will tax on luxury be introduced in BiH?
Dnevni Avaz	Terzic on police reform: The best organization is five regions; Mostar: Explosive device activated under 'golf' vehicle owned by Zdenka Stojkic; Mladen Bosic candidate for Minister?
Dnevni List	Mostar: Bombs are disturbing citiznes of Mostar this year as well
Vecernji List	Features Croatia related headlines
Slobodna Dalmacija	Features Croatia related headlines
Nezavisne Novine	The Hague indictee surrendered to RS police: Savo Todovic extradited to The Hague ; Dusan Janjic, Director of Forum for ethnic relations and Kosovo expert: Kosovo would soon get its Ashdown
EuroBlic	Features Serbian related topics

**Vecernje
novosti**

Biljana Plavsic wrote a book "I testify": Karadzic
forged minutes

**Cooperation with ICTY / Police reform /
Security**

<p>ICTY indictee, Savo Todovic, voluntarily surrenders to RS MoI</p>	<p>BHT1, Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'Savo Todovic had been deciding who will out of Foca prison inmates be killed, beaten or exchanged' by <u>A.M.,, Dnevni List</u> pg 2 'Savo Todovic turned himself in' by <u>De.L., Nezavisne Novine</u> cover and pg 3 'Savo Todovic extradited to The Hague' by <u>D. Bojanic</u> – ICTY indictee for war crimes, Savo Todovic on Saturday voluntarily surrendered to the RS Interior Ministry, confirmed RS MoI. Todovic has been charged with breach violations of the Geneva Convention, violations of laws and customs of war and crimes against humanity committed at the Correction Centre in Foca, where he was Deputy Chief during the war.</p> <p>FTV – According to Matias Hellman, ICTY Registry Liaison Officer for BIH, Todovic has been transferred to Hague in the evening. RS MoI confirmed that Todovic received guarantees of RS Government. RS Prime Minister Spokesperson, Goran Radivojac, stated that RS Government is pleased by Todovic's brave and patriotic act.</p> <p>NTV Hayat, RTRS – RS Interior Minister in resignation, Darko Matijasevic, personally took Todovic to the ICTY in the Hague . NTV Hayat also comments that this will be used by RS MoI to show that they are doing something about the cooperation with the ICTY and that they should not be abolished. Oslobodjenje pg 4 'Todovic voluntary in the Hague' by <u>Onasa</u> – A source from RS MoI says that this surrender is a result of months long activities of the MoI with an aim to find and persuade ICTY suspects to surrender.</p>
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<p>RS Govt on PRC report: 'Keeping entities MoI is a wise decision'</p>	<p>RTRS, BHT 1, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'It is not necessary to abolish entities MoIs' by <u>Fena</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 5 'Negotiations and compromises', Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Keeping of entities' MoI is a wise decision' by <u>D.B.</u>, Dnevni List pg 5 'Without abolishment of entity MoIs' <u>not signed</u> – The RS Government press release says that they have not received yet an official text of the report that Chairman of the Police Reform Commission Wilfred Martens submitted to High Representative Paddy Ashdown and Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers Adnan Terzic, however, the RS Government is encouraged by the fact that abolishment of entity Ministries of Interior is not necessary. The press release also says that statements given by Martens show political wisdom and orientation for respecting of the BiH Constitution, laws and equality of BiH constituent peoples.</p>
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**Terzic on
PRC report:
Organization
in five
regions is
the best**

Dnevni Avaz cover splash 'The best organization is of five regions', pg 2 'Police in BiH should be organized in five regions' by A. Malagic – The Chair of BiH Council of Ministers, **Adnan Terzic**, states for DA that there is a lot of work left to be done before the final model of the police organization is adopted. *"Reform of police structures cannot be expected in 10 days... I am glad that [Chair of Police Reform Commission, **Wilfred**] **Martens** completed its part of the work and now we have clear guidelines as to how BiH can achieve police structure in accordance to the European standards... I believe that police structure should be organized in five regions,"* says Terzic adding that this concept has won support of the EU. He underlines that now a number of talks will be held in order to reach the consensus on the proposed solution. Commenting to the statement by HR **Paddy Ashdown** that entities MoIs do not have to be abolished, Terzic says: *"[Police] organization should be such to have state manage and adopts the laws in that field. Thus, the proposal for police structure doesn't include cantonal or entities MoIs. But when it comes to some internal affairs, than entities decide whether they will have MoIs without authorities or not. That is a matter for each entity to decide."*

<p>Explosion in Mostar</p>	<p>BHT1, FTV, Dnevni List front pg splash and pg 33 'Bombs are disturbing citizens of Mostar this year as well' by <u>N. Dedic</u>, Vecernji List 'They blew car to pieces by remote control' by <u>rs</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija pg 12 'Explosive device planted under car' by <u>A.V.</u>— An unknown explosive device destroyed a car owned by Zdenko Stojkic in Mostar on Saturday morning. None was injured in this explosion. The police investigation on this case has been underway. Also reported by Sarajevo press.</p>
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<p>Political issues</p>	
<p>SNSD: Bukejlovic's Govt would push RS back in complete isolation</p>	<p>RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 4 'Returning RS back to isolation' by <u>Fena</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Bukejlovic's Government would push RS in complete isolation' by <u>Srna</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'SNSD: Cavic and SDS are leading RS in isolation' by <u>D. Bojanic-M.Kremenovic</u>, Dnevni List pg 4 'RS goes back to complete isolation' <u>not signed</u> – The SNSD press release says that by coming of Pero Bukejlovic to the position of the RS Prime Minister designate and by possible Bukejlovic's Government, the RS goes back to the time when SDS was holding all authority mechanisms and when the RS was pushed in complete isolation. The press release also says that they believe that SDS and RS President Dragan Cavic are directly responsible for deepening of the RS crisis and raising tensions among political subjects.</p>

Comments on Kadric's statement: RS CoP to raise issue of vital national interests?

Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'RS Government in resignation will still function for a long time' by J. Stojanovic – Following the statement by the Speaker of RS Council of Peoples, **Ramzija Kadric**, that the Council may block the appointment of the new RS Government, DA brings several reactions. The Deputy Speaker of the Council, **Momir Malic**, says that if issue of protection of vital national interests is raised the current RS Government in resignation will have to continue working for a long time. He explains that this issue would have to be solved before the RS Constitutional Court who still has not appointed a justice to replace one of the judges who passed away. Second Deputy Speaker, **Tomislav Tomljenovic**, says that the issue of vital national interests will certainly be raised if the new RS Government is not established in accordance with the RS Constitution. Head of Serb Caucus in the Council, **Desanka Radjevic**, says this issue can be raised only if new Govt fails to nominate five Bosniaks and three Croats.

<p>Tomljenovic: Cavic has not consulted RS Vice Presidents on new Govt</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Cavic has not consulted me or Osmanovic on election of new RS Government' by <u>J.S.</u> – RS Vice President, Ivan Tomljenovic, stated for DA that both him and RS Vice President Adil Osmanovic, are just mere observers of the election of new RS Government. He explains that RS President, Dragan Cavic, has never consulted on this issue or when nominating Pero Bukejlovic to the position of RS Prime Minister-designate. <i>"Constituent peoples should have influence over the election of the Government's members and therefore I am not surprised with the stance of RS Council of Peoples' Speaker, Ramzija Kadric, who said that issue of protection of vital national interests must be launched after the election of new Government at the RSNA. Bosniaks and Croats must be consulted, and not just observers in such important process,"</i> said Tomljenovic.</p>
<p>Mladen Bosic new BiH Foreign Minister?</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Mladen Bosic candidate for BiH Foreign Minister?', mentioned on cover, by <u>E.R.</u> – DA learns from the source close to the international community that SDS may nominate Mladen Bosic, leader of this party in Brcko, for the position of BiH Foreign Affairs Minister. <i>"Nobody contact me so far in relation to my candidacy for the position of Foreign Minister... I believe that talks on that have not yet been started, thus I think these are speculations,"</i> comments Bosic for DA.</p>

<p>NN: Ivanic demands from SDS to return him to Sarajevo?</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 7 'Ivanic demands from SDS to return him to Sarajevo' – This article is located on pg 7, which is now reserved for column with unofficial information. This article refers to its sources close to PDP top leadership, according to which Mladen Ivanic, has placed an ultimatum before SDS, and demanded from it to request the return of PDP officials at BiH COM, if SDS wants to count on PDP support of Bukejlovic's nomination.</p>
<p>NN op-ed on Bukejlovic/Cavic</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine op-ed pg 5 'Cosa nostra' from Kostajnica Gornja' by A.S. – The author is critical of nepotism aspect regarding the process of nomination of RS-PM-designate, stressing that this nomination reveals the level of Dragan Cavic's concern for RS and Pero Bukejlovic's abilities. The author emphasises Cavic and Bukejlovic are not above RS citizens, since one of them is elected by the electorate.</p>

<p>NN on HR Ashdown</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 8 ‘Paddy Ashdown – Lord of Bosnia’ by <u>Dragan Risojevic</u> – In a newly introduced NN column “Who is Who”, the author writes about HR Paddy Ashdown calling him “<i>commando, politician and adulterer</i>”. The article further brings details on Ashdown, starting with his childhood, through military and political engagements. Ironically toned, the article also refers to HR as Lord of Bosnia, who bought himself a cottage at Jablanica lake. With a sarcastic note, the author notes HR as Governor likes to visit orphanages, sleep over at farmers’ and even to roam about the goats, but only in the presence of ten TV cameras.</p>
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Economic issues

**Hayat says
Dokic blocks
Vc corridor
construction**

NTV Hayat –NTV Hayat says that Bosmal company gave a promise that construction of Vc corridor would start until January 2005 if the company is elected, however nothing has been done on that issue. Hayat says that reason is that BiH Minister of Transport and Communications in resignation, **Branko Dokic**, pursues with construction of the highway Banja Luka – Gradiska and at the same time directly blocks building of Vc. Following the meeting of Canadian company “BosCan” with BiH authorities [*please see Round-ups for January 14 and 15*], Hayat features company’s representative, **Eric Sana**, who said that BosCan is prepared to directly invest between 2.5 and 3 billion Euros together with Bosmal. Bosmal gave the offer to CoM in June 2003, after what they were given a deadline to find €300 millions, and Hayat comments that notwithstanding that these means were collected, negotiations on concession have never started. **Edin Sabanovic**, Executive Director of “Bosmal”, said that they fulfilled their part of the deal, but since the Commission for Concessions still doesn’t exist, as CoM have not yet appointed the chairman, the project is on hold. Member of the Concession Commission, **Milomir Amovic**, said that appointment of the Chair was slow process. **Izet Bajrambasic**, Deputy Minister of Transport and Communications, comments that Bosmal’s offer was premature, adding that they should address to the Commission for Concessions.

<p>Law on luxurious goods to be introduced in BiH?</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje cover splash, pgs 4-5 ‘Will law on luxury be introduced in BiH?’ by <u>A. Omeragic</u> – At the end of the last year, the BiH Parliament tasked the Council of Ministers to prepare changes to the new regulations on excise, which should protect domestic production of the high-tariff goods and increase the tax on luxurious goods, by the end of January. Daily reads that CoM will not be able to meet this deadline. Members of the BiH Parliament’s Commission for Finances and Budget, Seada Palavric [SDA] and Beriz Belkic [Party for BiH], said that if CoM doesn’t change the law increasing taxes on planes, yachts, expensive watches, mobiles or diamantes, the Commission itself will prepare changes.</p>
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<p>Belkic says fears of domestic producers re Excise Law grounded</p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 3, mentioned on front 'Fears of domestic producers are grounded' by <u>D. Polovina-Mandic</u>– SBiH representative in the BiH House of Representatives Beriz Belkic stated that fear of BiH producers that domestic production will be shut down due to application of a new Law on Excise is completely grounded. He added that almost all legal projects in BiH are being passed under pressure of deadlines and that he has been referring for a long time to the fact that BiH does not have a commanding room from which reforms are being run. Belkic also said he was hoping that the OHR is capable of doing it, however, he has got convinced that the OHR does not run the reforms and that everything is being done partly and in an unsynchronized manner. Belkic concludes that for this reason it is quite normal that bad results are being achieved.</p>
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<p>Hayat feature on Croatia media allegations that BiH lobbies work against Croatian companies</p>	<p>NTV Hayat – Following the text published in Croatian magazine Nacional, which said that there the lobbies in BiH, lead by Haris Silajdzic, Bakir Izetbegovic, Ahmet Hadzipasic and mufti Mustafa Effendi Ceric, working against Croatian companies, Hayat spoke to Hido Biscevic, official of the Croatian Foreign Affairs Ministry. Biscevic commented that this is not a stance of the Croatian Government, and stressed that it is a mutual interest of both countries is to work together on economic development. Haris Silajdzic commented that media from neighbouring countries regularly make accusations against BiH authorities, who protect BiH interests, treating them as the ‘junior partner’ who cannot do thing on its own. Silajdzic added that he would continue to draw attention to Aluminij company, saying that it is still a state company, owned by FBiH Government, where people are being discriminated on ethnic grounds. Aluminij, says Silajdzic, was privatized improperly and not even a single financial inspection has managed to get inside. He added that the State must not allow this to continue, stressing that he is surprised by the stand of International Community which hasn’t adequately reacted to this.</p>
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