

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 17/6/2005

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 17 June

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00hrs)	BH Radio 1 (12,00 hrs)	RTRS (12,00 hrs)
Protest agst transfer of 4 prisoners	Protest agst transfer of 4 prisoners	Protest agst transfer of 4 prisoners
BiH Parl. Assembly organizes conf.	Kyrgyz forces break up protests	Protest in B. Luka
Natural disaster in Tuzla region	Presidential elections in Iran	US actions in Iraq

TV news broadcast on 16 June

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
Transfer of Zenica prison inmates	Meningitis epidemic in Banja Luka	Police search for fugitive
FBiH Gov. Delegation in Citluk	RS Government in session	Transfer of Zenica prison convicts
FBiH Government in session	FBiH Government in session	Srebrenica taskforce lacks data
Jovic meets Pravdic	Srebrenica Taskforce's work, update	Tadic and Cavic in Srebrenica in July

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
Proposal on new BiH Constitution	Transfer of Zenica prison inmates	Rice on ICTY
Round table on poverty in BiH	Mate Granic on Alija Izetbegovic	Meningitis epidemic in Banja Luka

Feature story on a poor family	Rajic testifies at Jelavic's trial	Srebrenica work group
BiH economists on economy	Hadzipasic on Covic's decision	Process hearing in The Hague Court

Oslobodjenje	State forgot Memorial Center (Potocari)
Dnevni Avaz	An important agreement on Aluminium reached
Dnevni List	Agreement between Government and Aluminium reached
Vecernji List	Croatia is not giving guarantees for Hercegovacka Bank
Slobodna Dalmacija	More than 12 000 girls from BiH are white slaves
Glas Srpske	All the ill are – children (also about meningitis epidemic in B.Luka)
Nezavisne Novine	Meningitis epidemic declared in Banja Luka
Blic	Features Serbia related headlines
Vecernje Novosti	Features Serbia related headlines
Srpski Nacional	Features Serbia related headlines

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY

<p>SEE parliamentary commissions meet in Sarajevo to discuss European integrations</p>	<p>BH Radio 1 By <u>Aida Suljevic</u>, RHB – Two-day conference of the South-East Europe’s parliamentary commissions in charge of the European integrations has commenced this morning in Sarajevo. Attendees will discuss the cooperation of the Western Balkans’ countries to speed up the process of EU association. The head of the EC delegation in BiH, Michael Humphreys, stressed that, even through the situation after the rejection of the EU Constitution is not best possible one, European Union has not forgot its promise for Western Balkans countries to become its member states. Humphreys added that last year BiH has achieved progress in this direction, but pointed to issues that need to be solved – PBS system, police reform and cooperation with the ICTY – before launching negotiations on Stabilisation and Association Agreement.</p>
<p>‘Mothers of Srebrenica’, ‘Women-Victims of war’ protests against Kovac’s decision</p>	<p>BH Radio 1, RHB – Associations ‘Mothers of Srebrenica and Zepa enclaves’ and ‘Women – Victims of War’ today protested the decision of the BiH Justice Minister, Slobodan Kovac, to transfer four non-Bosniak inmates from Zenica to Butmir prison. Gathered in front of the building of joint institutions in Sarajevo against, representatives of the associations states this leads to creation of mono-ethnic prisons.</p>

<p>Survey in Serbia shows 43% of citizens support Mladic's extradition</p>	<p>BH Radio 1 – According to the latest surveys, about 43% of Serbian citizens support Ratko Mladic's extradition to the ICTY while 37% still believe this is out of question. In addition, 24% Serbian citizens do not believe in the authenticity of Srebrenica snapshots showing killings of Bosniaks.</p>
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<p>Economic/Social Issues</p>

**FBiH Government
and Aluminij
agreed on
ownership
structure**

Dnevni List, front pg splash and pg 5 'Agreement between Government and Aluminij reached', by Arijana Beus – Representatives of the 'Aluminij' Company of Mostar and the Working Group of the FBiH Government (WG), which included among others the FBiH PM, **Ahmet Hadzipasic** and his deputies **Dragan Vrankic** and **Gavrilo Grahovac**, concluded talks about the future of the company yesterday (Thursday). The two sides signed an agreement, which determines basis for solving of all pending issues related to the company and the privatization of it, the agreement that will be sent to the FBiH Parliament by the PM Hadzipasic. Grahovac explains that two sides reached satisfactory solutions when it comes to the issue of workers of 'Aluminij' that worked in the company until 1992, including unpaid salaries, compensations, years of service and other rights. On top of this, Grahovac says the ownership structure (in the company), which was proposed by the FBiH Government, has been determined, meaning 44% of the capital/stocks should belong to the state, 44% to small stock-holders, and remaining 12% to the 'TLM' Company of Sibenik.

Vecernji List, pg 2 'Kristo: Aluminij case should be solved by Government', by zk – According to VL, the FBiH Justice Minister, **Borjana Kristo**, sharply opposed a possibility that the deal with the 'Aluminij' be discussed in the FBiH Parliament.

BHT, FTV, Dnevni Avaz cover splash 'Important deal on Aluminij reached', pg 2 'Important deal between Prime Minister Hadzipasic and Brajkovic' by M. Kukan, **Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'Workers to be compensated after privatization', mentioned on cover, by A. Omeragic also covered the issue.

**Head of USAID:
BiH peoples
should bring
changes in
structure of
authorities**

Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'BiH goes in the right direction, but too slow' by Faruk Vele – The head of USAID, **Andrew S. Natsios**, who is currently visiting BiH, has stated in an interview to DA that this organization will continue to invest and assist BiH, explaining that USAID's budget for this year is about 40 million US dollars. Certain sum will be directed to the reform of the police structures, says Natsios. Asked whether all the assistance in BiH gave expected results, Natsios answered positively, however adding that BiH goes in the right direction but too slow. One of the problems he pointed out to is structure of authorities: *"I have never seen a state with... that many levels of authorities like it is a case with BiH. it appears they also do not agree with each other, and if that happens that efficiency of authorities is brought into question. It is our opinion that BiH peoples should make changes... in structure of authorities. We, foreigners, cannot make these change."*

**Croatian
Finance
Minister Suker
does not want
to issue
guarantees for
purchase of
Hercegovacka
bank**

Vecernji List, front pg splash ‘Croatia is not giving guarantees for Hercegovacka bank’ and pg 19 ‘Suker does not want to approve guarantee’, by Zoran Kresic – Reports that the Croatian Finance Minister, **Ivan Suker**, did not approve guarantees to two Varazdin-based (Croatia) companies, namely to ‘Fima’ and ‘Validus’, that would help the purchase of the ‘Hercegovacka bank’ (HB). This was apparently asked from Suker by the HB Provisional Administrator, **Toby Robinson**. VL learns from an anonymous source in the HB that Robinson failed to convince Suker that there could be no deal without the guarantees. VL notes that another meeting between the two is scheduled for late June, reiterating previous reports that the acquisition is supported by both the High Representative, **Paddy Ashdown**, and Croatian PM, **Ivo Sanader**.

Dnevni Avaz pg 10 ‘I filed charges against Saraovic, Bjelica, Kalinic...’ by Sead Numanovic – As for the Hercegovacka Bank, Provisional Administrator Robison explains in an interview with the daily that the negotiation on sale and opening of the Bank are in final stage and potential buyer is consortium of Croatian companies.

<p>Elektroprivreda of Herceg Bosna only Elektroprivreda in BiH that made profit in 2004</p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 13 'Profit bigger than 6 million KM' by De.L., Slobodna Dalmacija pg 21 'Only Elektroprivreda in BiH which ran business profitably' by Z. Zekic – Public company 'Elektroprivreda of Croat Community of Herceg Bosna d.d. Mostar' (EP HZ HB) held a second assembly of stockholders during which they discussed the company's work and defined guidelines for the future work. Also, it was concluded that EP HZ HB is the only Elektroprivreda in BiH, which made profit during the last year. The EP HZ HB's profit amounts to 6 million KM.</p>
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<p align="center">War Crimes</p>	
<p>RS Government says it will continue playing leading role in cooperation with ICTY</p>	<p>RHB, Pink, Hayat, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 3 'Leading role being played by RS Interior Ministry', FENA – The RS Government stated on Thursday that it was committed to continue playing a leading role in cooperation with the ICTY. The RS Government requested RS structures and institutions to continue with full cooperation with investigative bodies of the RS Ministry of Interior. The Government expressed readiness to improve cooperation with all security agencies in BiH, international agencies in BiH, authorities in Serbia-Montenegro with the objective of achieving full cooperation with the ICTY. The Government concluded that the RS Ministry of Interior has good cooperation with Serbia-Montenegro authorities and improved cooperation with EUFOR and the NATO Headquarters in Sarajevo.</p>

<p>President of Potocari Foundation says state should take care of Srebrenica memorial</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje cover splash, pgs 4-5 'State forgot about memorial center' by <u>S. Sehercehajic</u> – On the eve of marking 10th anniversary of Srebrenica events in July 1995, daily writes about preparations currently on going in Potocari memorial center. The President of the Potocari Foundation, Beriz Belkic, says that despite expectations, the memorial room [which includes screening area for documentaries] would not be ready until the end of year. Belkic also underlined this year Foundation has managed to obtain 100.000 KM from the state. He feels BiH should take care of the Memorial at the state level, adding that the State is not one of the financiers for this year's ceremony but the FBiH Government. <i>"It is not insignificant aspect of the problem the fact that money for marking sufferings in Potocari has been collected ad hoc.. Additional problem is maintenance of complex,"</i> concludes Belkic.</p>
<p>Serbian, RS Presidents to attend Srebrenica commemoration</p>	<p>BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje pg 5 'Tadic, Cavic to attend commemoration', Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Cavic and Tadic announced their coming to Potocari', Dnevni List pg 5 'Cavic in Belgrade with Boris Tadic' by <u>NINA</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija pg 10 'Presidents Cavic and Tadic in Srebrenica on July 10' by <u>H</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Cavic and Tadic going to Srebrenica' by <u>BETA</u>, Vecernje Novosti pg 5 'For BiH in line with Dayton' by <u>D.R.</u>, EuroBlic pg 3 'They will go to Srebrenica', SRNA – RS President Dragan Cavic and Serbian President Boris Tadic expressed their mutual commitment to a functional BiH as established by the Dayton Agreement. The Serbian president's press service reports that Cavic briefed Tadic on the political situation in BiH, with particular emphasis on the current police reforms. They discussed Srebrenica and it was confirmed that Cavic and Tadic would take part in the 11 July commemoration in Potocari on the 10th anniversary of the crime committed in the Srebrenica area. Special praise was given to the latest visit by the two countries' trade delegations and the necessity for improving economic cooperation between Serbia and the RS was emphasized, as well as between Serbia and Montenegro and BiH. The two officials discussed the situation in the region.</p>

<p>Serbian PM Kostunica says Serbian authorities not negotiating with Mladic</p>	<p>Hayat, Oslobodjenje pg 3 ‘Serbian Government not negotiating with Mladic’, Vecernji List pg 21 ‘Kostunica: Government does not negotiate with Mladic’ by <u>zb, FENA</u> – Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica on Thursday in Brussels said that the Serbian authorities are not in contact with ICTY indictee Ratko Mladic and that they are not negotiating with him (on his surrender). At a press conference held after the meeting with the European Enlargement Commissioner, Olli Rehn, Kostunica said that <i>“many things that have recently been written about Mladic are not correct”</i>, SCG Tanjug news agency reported. <i>“Our government is aware of its commitments regarding Ratko Mladic and is working on locating him, but at this moment I can reassure you that the Serbian authorities are not in contact and are not negotiating with him”</i>, said Kostunica.</p>
<p>NN: Further speculations on ongoing negotiations with/search for Ratko Mladic</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 6 ‘Serbian Government engaged in secret negotiations with Mladic’ by <u>S.Karic</u> – Carries <i>“The Times”</i> report on Mladic, and statements of Vojislav Kostunica and Jovan Simic regarding allegations on Mladic’s surrender (Srpski Nacional pg 4 ‘Kostunica: No negotiations with Mladic’, EuroBlic pg 3 ‘We are not negotiating with Mladic’).</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine pg 4 inset ‘Ratko Mladic’s file going to The Hague’ – The SiCG Council of Ministers decided to forward personal files of some indictees to the Hague, including the file of Ratko Mladic. The press statement reads that Council demands from Prosecutor’s Office and Council of the Tribunal to implement appropriate protection measures related to these documents, i.e. those would not be handed to any other state.</p> <p>Srpski Nacional pg 2 ‘General hid his tracks!’ by <u>U.Mrdic</u> – Daily learns from a source at security structures of SiCG that they do not know where Ratko Mladic is – however, on the basis of relevant information, he think he is not hiding in Serbia. Some sources speculate about Mladic’s departure to Russia , but no official confirmation of this was received from Russian security service.</p>

<p>US State Secretary Rice says USA strongly supports ICTY activities</p>	<p>RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 4 'US decisively supports the Hague Tribunal', FENA – The United States once again expresses strong support to the UN tribunals for former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. The U.S. Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, met with the Chief Prosecutor of The Hague Tribunal, Carla Del Ponte, and Chief Prosecutor of the Tribunal for Rwanda, Hasan Bubacar Jallow, and the presidents of those tribunals in Washington on Thursday. The spokesperson of the Department of State said that Secretary Rice reiterated full support to the tribunals and underlined the importance of their work. <i>"The Secretary of State reiterated our strong support to their activities, stressing that we would continue supporting their work and encourage them to complete their activities within the set deadlines"</i>, said Sean McCormack. The spokesperson of the Department of State also underlined that the three main war crime suspects – Radovan Karadzic, Ratko Mladic and Ante Gotovina are still at large and that they must be transferred to the Hague Tribunal.</p>
<p>ICTY investigators in Bugojno</p>	<p>RTRS, Vecernji List pg 4 'They were asking newsvendor about war crimes', mentioned on cover 'They were looking for war criminals at kiosk' by <u>A. Drmac</u> – After Zenica, Travnik and Vitez, ICTY investigators visited Bugojno on Thursday. VL says that in spite of the fact that members of the Croat associations resulting from the homeland war asked to meet with the ICTY investigators, they did not get a chance to meet them. According to VL, it was in fact exclusively Bosniaks, including the people the investigators met on the street accidentally (VL says one of them was a kiosk owner) who told their versions of the war events in Bugojno.</p>

BiH Justice Minister Kovac approves transfer of four prisoners from Zenica to Kula

RHB, BHT, Hayat, FTV, Oslobodjenje pg 7, mentioned on cover 'Kovac signed approval for resettlement of prisoners', **Dnevni Avaz** pg 13 'Four prisoners not transferred from Zenica to Kula' – BiH Minister of Justice, **Slobodan Kovac** stated that four prisoners, **Vlastimir Pusara, Milorad Rodic, Zoran Knezevic** and **Ivan Bakovic**, who serve their sentences in Zenica prison are going to be transferred in the prison in Butmir He also stated that the further steps regarding their case will be discussed later. They were all indicted for committing war crimes.

Dnevni List pg 4, mentioned on cover 'Transfer of prisoners to Kula stopped' by A. Beus, **Vecernji List** pg 3 'Transfer to Kula approved to prisoners' by V.R. – Federation of BiH Justice Minister **Borjana Kristo** did not sign the decision on transfer. **Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 18 '4 strikers transferred to Butmir' by I. Milesic, Fena – BiH Justice Minister **Slobodan Kovac** signed the decision on transfer.

Srpski Nacional reports on trade in footage recording crimes

Srpski Nacional cover pg splash 'Trade in crimes: Footage of crime costs 10,000 €, mortal remains cost 25,000 €' and pg 13 'They are trading in corpses and footages of crimes' by D. J. – The article claims many individuals and even some NGO's are selling tapes of war crimes and are also exhuming mass graves and selling mortal remains to individuals, families, international organizations and even official state bodies. A collocutor claims the greatest demand is for tapes showing crimes committed by Serb people, while the least demand is showed for tapes showing crimes of mujahedeens, especially is people that were massacred were Serbs. The collocutor also claims state bodies of RS now offer lots of money to everyone willing to sell authentic tapes of massacres over Serb people.

Srpski Nacional pg 12 'Alija gave his blessing to monstrous crimes' by S. V., **EuroBlic** pgs 4-5 'Joy over Serb corpses' by D. Vukelic – Serbian SRS party showed four video records of murdering of Serbs and, according to Deputy President of SRS **Tomislav Nikolic**, this is a part of hours long footage compressed to an eight-minute long record. Among other, the record shows a honour guard review of "El-Mujahedeens" unit on Ozren, performed by then BiH President **Alija Izetbegovic**. The tape shows massacred bodies while, at the same time, one could hear Izetbegovic addressing the unit members by saying: *'Look at how they look like after they have encountered Allah's army. Look at hands that have been destroying everything that belongs to Muslims. Look at how their lord had punished and humiliated them'*. The footage also shows several executions of apprehended Serbs.

Srpski Nacional pg 12 'Mujahedeen ritual slaughter of Serb soldiers' not signed – "El-Mujahedeen" unit recorded brutal scenes of slaughtering of Serb war prisoners in the area of Ozren and Vozuca in 1995, in order to send these to donors from Islamic countries. RS commission searched for a long time for victims executed during Vozuca operation and at the end found out they were executed in Gostovci camp by decapitation and 28 heads were given as gifts to **Alija Izetbegovic** while the other 28 were sent to Iran . Bodies were never found. Eight Serb soldiers survived the slaughter and complete documentation on these crimes was sent to the Hague a long time ago.

[Note: The above three articles are accompanied by photos of killed people]

<p>Srebrenica Task Force held session: Names of police units from Jahorina still lacking</p>	<p>BHT, FTV, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine pg 6 ‘Names of police members from RS, RSK and Serbia were not submitted’ by <u>R.Segrt</u> – Member of the Srebrenica Task Force, Smail Cekic, Thursday stated that the Srebrenica TF did not get names of members of the “mixed” unit of police, which HR Paddy Ashdown demanded from RS MoI. He stated after the session of Srebrenica TF that RS MoI informed TF what activities have been undertaken to collect the names of the members of the mentioned unit, under command of Ljubomir Borvcanin. Cekic also said TF was informed RS MoI forwarded a written request to the relevant bodies in SiCG for information, in order to collect names needed. Cekic stated that RS MoI delivered the names of 17 people from Special Police Brigade in the command centre of the mixed unit, whose centre was at Jahorina, adding: <i>“The issue of identity of two MoI units from Jahorina remains unanswered, since documentation on these units is in the Hague.”</i> Jovan Spaic, Srebrenica TF Chair, stated that Thursday’s session concluded both ministries (RS MOI and MoD) placed major efforts and did a lot on submission of demanded documentation.</p> <p>According to NN inset ‘Pejic: MoI handed all information’, Radovan Pejic, Spokesperson of the RS Police Director, stated RS MoI handed all the relevant information to Srebrenica TF within stipulated deadline.</p> <p>Glas Srpske pg 2 ‘Too early for names’ – Spaic stated that the most important documentation is in The Hague , adding a request in writing for this documentation was filed with ICTY.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 3 ‘RS Interior, Defence Ministries not completely did the job’ also covered the issue.</p>
<p>NN op-ed on crimes committed in BiH</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine op-ed pg 7 ‘Politicians delaying catharsis’ by <u>Slavo Kukic</u> – Writing about Srebrenica videotape showing murder of Bosniaks from Srebrenica, the author notes he has been lately witnessed Serb(ian) condemnation of what their own politicians loaded them with at the end of last century. Furthermore, he notes that <i>“we are still too far away from catharsis as far as political crowds are concerned – too far from catharsis are those who committed similar “accomplishments” in the name of Croats and Bosniaks. On the contrary, they do not show courage, or maybe will, to point their fingers at their shames, their murderers and their borderers. And their hands also caused deaths. To be frank, sometimes those were mass crimes.”</i></p>

Political Developments/Reforms

<p>RS Government says foreign minister's sacking unlawful</p>	<p>RHB, Pink, BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 2 'Ivanic's removal will slow down moving towards EU', Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'Ivanic removed in an illegal manner', Dnevni List pg 5 'Illegal removal of Mladen Ivanic' by NINA, Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'RS Government: Illegal removal of Ivanic', EuroBlic RS pg 2 'Terzic causing crisis' by Zeljka Knezevic, SRNA – The RS Government considered that the dismissal of BiH Foreign Minister Mladen Ivanic was conducted in an illegal manner and that it is necessary to reconsider this decision, along with others in connection with the appointment of an acting foreign minister. The statement from Thursday's government session – which looked at the current situation following the decision of BiH Council of Ministers Chairman Adnan Terzic to accept Ivanic's resignation from December 2004 – points out that Terzic's actions have caused a crisis in the functioning of institutions at the BiH state level. <i>“Terzic's decisions have prevented the Council of Ministers and Foreign Ministry from working at full capacity, at a time when BiH is trying to begin the negotiation process for the Stabilization and Association Agreement with the EU,”</i> the statement says. In the statement it says that the authorized BiH bodies are expected to take the appropriate measures in order to resolve the problems that have emerged due to Terzic's unlawful decisions.</p>
<p>No time frame stipulated for technical mandate of ministers</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'Unlimited mandate of ministers in resignation' – Beriz Belkic, member of the Constitutional and Legal Commission at BiH HoR stated that there is no time frame stipulated within which Mladen Ivanic and Branko Dokic may remain on their positions in technical mandate, adding: <i>“Law on BiH CoM did not stipulate deadlines for the appointment of new ministers. It is logical that nobody has intention to delay it. Hence, Law stipulates normal, not extreme situation as created with the acceptance of resignation of BiH Foreign minister.”</i></p>
<p>SDS to support non-partisan ministers at BiH CoM</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'SDS will support non-partisan ministers' by M.Cubro – NN collocutor from SDS says that the SDS will support the appointment of non-partisans to positions of BiH Ministers of foreign affairs and Communication and transport, adding: <i>“SDS will support appointment of non-partisans, with an obligation that all system and reform laws are harmonized at the level of three premiers.”</i> Drago Vukovic, Advisor to Borislav Paravac, Thursday stated: <i>“Chairperson of BiH Presidency Paravac is on trip in Catar. After he returns, he will immediately schedule a session, most likely on Wednesday, which is to discuss the situation resulting from acceptance of resignation tendered by BiH Foreign minister.”</i></p>

<p>Brcko Mayor Djapo: Status of Brcko was not questioned in London</p>	<p>BHT, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 2 'Status of the District was not being brought into question in London', FENA – The members of a delegation of the Brcko District, who on 13 and 14 June attended the Procedural Conference of the Arbitration Tribunal for Brcko in London, held a press conference in Brcko on Thursday. On this occasion the Mayor of Brcko, Mirsad Djapo, said that only procedural issues had been discussed in London , issues related to the transfer of authority from the Entities to the District, and to the transfer of authority onto the state of BiH as provided by the Arbitration Award. At no moment of the Conference in London was the status of the Brcko District brought into question, said Djapo. He added that the Arbitration Tribunal had urged all the parties (FBiH, RS and BiH) to declare themselves about the procedural issues by 31 August.</p>
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Journalists, politicians comment on Terzic, Ashdown's talks in Brussels

BHT Damir Simic – The High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** left for Brussels to discuss sanctions against RS and BiH Council of Ministers (CoM) Chair **Adnan Terzic** left for Brussels to get award for FBiH as a more cooperative part of the State. They both returned from Brussels only with new deadlines for beginning of the negotiations on police reform and promises, reports BHT. *“Most of discussions were on ways of progress, we did not talk on consequences of failures,”* said Ashdown. Deadline for police reform is moved to the end of summer and it will be catastrophic if negotiations fail, said Terzic. SDP President **Zlatko Lagumdzija** claims that BiH is more far from EU now than it was 4 years ago. *“The High Representative have lost credibility, he can't impose sanctions even if he wants to do that. I have to admit that my biggest fear was on the biggest possible sanction and that would be extension of mandate to Ashdown,”* said Lagumdzija. *“All that smells like agreement reached by Ashdown, Cavic and Terzic, the whole crisis in the CoM, created by Terzic's dismissal of Ivanic,”* said Nezavisne Novine Editor-in-Chief, **Dragan Jerinic**. SNSD representative **Nebojsa Radmanovic** doesn't understand why agreement on police reform cannot be reached before September. *“SNSD can immediately continue the negotiations, if everyone else is ready. But obviously not everyone is ready and it is most likely that many other things besides police reform must be agreed on first,”* said Radmanovic. There are no guarantees that BiH will fulfil conditions for beginning of negotiations on Stabilisation and Association Agreement with EU, commented reporter. First test will be parliamentary discussion on public RTV system at the end of this month.

Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'They did not expect sanctions' by **V.Popovic** – A large part of local political parties Thursday welcomed decision of the EU not to introduce sanctions against RS. Daily notes that the majority parties, members of ruling coalition but also opposition, pledges for resumption of talks with EU in order to meet all the conditions from Feasibility Study (including police reform and Law on PBS). **Nikola Spiric** from SNSD said: *“It now remains to be seen how RS would catch up the time lost.”* **Stanko Pivasevic** from SDS said it was expected no sanctions would follow, since *“authority only protected Constitution and took active part in all reform processes. They did not deserve sanctions, but instead reward for it.”* **Vinko Radovanovic** from PDP expressed commitment of his party to reforms. **Petar Djokic** from SPRS stressed the message from Brussels is encouraging. **Marko Pavic** from DNS assessed that **Adnan Terzic** failed to get support for sanctions against RS. According to **Adil Osmanovic** from SDA said *“if RS is not ready to connect with democratic world, nothing good can be expected for BiH.”*

<p>DL: BiH Election Law's provisions ban HDZ from taking part in elections?</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 3, mentioned on front 'HDZ cannot take part in elections because of Covic?', by <u>Zvonimir Jukic</u> – The author argues that provision of the BiH Elections Law could prevent the HDZ BiH from taking part in the next elections because of the fact that the recently elected HDZ president (Dragan Covic) has been removed from public office. DL explains that the provisions were enacted by former High Representative, Wolfgang Petritsch, on March 26, 2002, namely the article 18.9A that says that no person who has been removed by the HR can take part in elections. Article 18.9B says that the BiH Election Commission must make sure that requests for verification of political parties, which want to take part in elections, cannot include persons that were removed by the HR. DL argues that the most interesting bit in the law is a provision that reads: if it turns out that a person removed from public office is holding a central position in a party, that political party will not meet requirements for the verification. Inset entitled 'Decision rests with High Representative' carries the President of BiH Election Commission, Vehid Sehic, who says the provisions of the said law would remain in force until the High Representative's mandate in BiH has ended or until a HR decides otherwise. DL concludes that it would be probably the OHR, the current HR, Paddy Ashdown, or some other HR that would have to decide whether the HDZ could run in the elections with Covic at the helm.</p>
<p>VL: Croat political parties to ask for Croat federal unit in BiH?</p>	<p>Vecernji List pg 2 'RS destiny unifies Croats' by <u>M. Relota</u> – At the meeting of Croat political parties, which was held in Sarajevo recently, participants concluded that BiH, in the current organization, did not secure basic conditions necessary for protection of basic national interests of the Croat people in BiH and sustainability of BiH within international relations. VL also learns that during the unofficial part of the aforementioned meeting, it was concluded that if the RS remained, representatives of the Croat parties would insist on Croats getting their own federal level i.e. federal unit.</p>
<p>Audit report on BiH Presidency for 2004</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 5, announced on cover 'They have spent BAM 216,018 of budget reserves' by <u>N. Krsman</u> – The main remarks of state auditors with regard to the work of BiH Presidency in 2004 were related to inefficiency of internal control of financial activities, lacks in planning of the budget and non-economic behavior in spending fuel, representation funds and phone services. The Presidency had not exceeded the approved budget in the amount of 5,7 million KM, however it had been noticed that planning of the budget was not adequate and it did not contribute to control of the budget. BiH Presidency had asked for the budget in the amount of 8,2 million KM to be approved, but this request was rejected. Nevertheless, BiH CoM had on three occasions approved payments from budgetary reserves, in the total amount of 216,018 KM, in order to cover expenses from previous years.</p>

SB says BiH Presidency to appoint auditors they'll control

Slobodna Bosna pgs 10-11 'BiH presidency members in war against state auditors' by Adnan Buturovic – On the eve of today's BiH Presidency's session which will discuss the appointment of deputies of the BiH State Auditor, SB writes that since the Auditor's office submitted the report on budget overspending by the BiH Presidency in 2003, the Office has been under attack. After the report, state auditor **Ivan Miletic** submitted resignation [apparently due to illness], and was replaced by **Dragan Covic**'s candidate **Milenko Sego**. As the mandate of two deputies, **Samir Musovic** and **Dragan Kulina**, was expiring, SB says that Sego disregarded BiH Parliament [who decided to extend the mandates until new appointments] and approached BiH Presidency proposing them, according to SB, with distribution of positions. If the Sego's plan is adopted, claims SB, **Ivo Miro Jovic** would get Croat auditor at the state level, **Sulejman Tihic** would propose auditor for FBiH institutions and **Borislav Paravac** would replace **Bosko Ceko**, "*uncompromised RS Chief Auditor.*" SB further claims that the last week Sego showed to Paravac and Tihic the positive report on Presidency for 2004. At the same time, Paravac instructed BiH Presidency's Secretariat to carry out appointment of deputies, which is contrary to the law under which only BiH Parliament has authority to do so. "*Soon, BiH Presidency will get auditors who will never again write report in which one of them would be point to for overspending or misuse of office,*" concludes the article.

Legal Proceedings/Organise Crime

**DA claims
Ankara
investigates
Matijasevic's
alleged
statements**

Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Ankara has launched investigation on Matijasevic's statement' by E. Sarac – DA reports that official Ankara has launched an investigation following the text published on last month's visit of the RS Interior Minister, **Darko Matijasevic**, to Washington on the web site of Serb Unity Congress. During the visit, Matijasevic has apparently accused EUFOR Turkish battalion of hiding potential terrorists in Zenica, and according to DA's unofficial information Ankara has reacted in Washington. However, RS Interior Minister, **Darko Matijasevic**, addressed a letter to the EUFOR Commander **David Leakey** in which he stresses that *"the Serb Unity Congress was not in any what linked with his recent visit to the United States"*.

Matijasevic further states that the content, substance, sound and the message that the Congress announced on its web page *"are absolutely incorrect and irrelevant"*, and that he distances himself from this act and regards it as *"tendentious and harmful for the position of RS MoI"*.

Glas Srpske pg 3 'Untruth at Internet' by V.J. reports on Matijasevic's letter to Leakey.

**Toby
Robinson:
documents on
frauds in
PBSS to be
submitted to
McNair's
Office by end
of week**

Dnevni Avaz pg 10 'I filed charges against Saraovic, Bjelica, Kalinic...' by Sead Numanovic – The Provisional Administrator of the Privredna Bank East Sarajevo, **Toby Robinson**, states in an interview to DA that she is determined to ensure depositors of the bank are compensated for their stolen money. She explains about SDS has took approx. 1,6 million KM through fictitious company to finance elections in 1998, which lead to loss of 4 million KM. Asked how this could have happened, Robinson answers: *"I would love to know. I have talked to some SDS officials and they told me this was usual way of financing the part at the time... [SDS] is trying to prove they have nothing to do with this using every possible way to hide everything they can. After all, this is a lot of money!... I don't say that [Dragan] Cavic had knew anything about this, but SDS officials in 1998 took the money."* She announced she would submit the Office of the Prosecutor **John McNair** with the documents on embezzlements by the end of this week for. Robinson did not want to comment whether the money was used to finance hiding of the war crimes suspects at large.

Glas Srpske pg 5 'Law in the background' by G. Dakic – The article refers to the latest moves of **Tobi Robinson** with regard to PB East Sarajevo and disputes her right to block accounts and property of SDS. Banja Luka lawyer **Krstan Simic** says, as in accordance with laws, only a court has the authority to block someone's accounts or property.

<p>SD on problem of white slavery in BiH</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija cover pg splash and pg 17 'More than 12 000 girls from BiH are white slaves' by <u>M. Herceg</u> notes that an increased number of young girls from BiH become victims of white slavery/human trafficking</p>
<p>Trials to Jelavic in Hercegovacka bank case continues: Croatia funded HDZ BiH</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 2, mentioned on front 'Rajic distanced himself from Hercegovacka bank', by <u>Erna Mackic</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 7, mentioned on front 'Croatia was lavishly financing HDZ BiH', by <u>Zlatko Tulic</u>, Vecernji List, pg 3 'Rajic: Money was not re-routed for Bank', by <u>h</u> – Former president of HDZ BiH, Bozo Rajic, (led the party between Jan 1996 and May 1998), testified in the trials against Ante Jelavic in the 'Hercegovacka bank' case yesterday (Thursday). He testified about circumstances pertaining to money transfers for HDZ BiH that used to come from the Republic of Croatia. Rajic confirmed that every time money was needed, it indeed came from Croatia owing to the late Croatia Defence Minister, Gojko Susak, who was in charge of taking care of help for BiH. Rajic confirmed a money transfer dated on December 22, 1997, amounting to 500.000 Croatian Kunas (around 125.000 KMs), the money that was used for the HDZ's pre-election campaign. On top of this, Rajic stated that there were more transfers, some of them exceeding 500.000 Kunas. BHT, FTV, RTRS, Sarajevo dailies also covered the issue.</p>