OHR BiH Media Round-up, 18/12/2004

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	**BH TV 1** (19,00 hrs)	**FED TV** (19,30 hrs)	**RT RS** (19,30)
ICTY on Kordic case	Mikerevic resigns	Mikerevic resigns	Mikerevic resigns
Law on weapon import	Terzic on US Govt decision	Reactions on resignation	Cavic on HR measures
Army unit anniversary	Vladimir Ilic arrested	Statement by Cavic	HR, McElhaney
7 million Euros to BIH	BiH Court on crime code	Statement by McElhaney	Vladimir Ilic arrested

Oslobodjenje	Prime Minister Mikerevic resigns; Dario Kordic sentenced to 25, Mario Cerkez to 6 years of prison; Croatia starts with SAA on 17 March; Government of Serb unity to stop reforms
Dnevni Avaz	Mikerevic resigns; Terzic: Ivanic will know to draw conclusion; Scheffer: Warning letter to Paravac
Dnevni List	Politics was judge in my case
Vecernji List	25 years imprisonment to Kordic
Slobodna Dalmacija	Sentence of 25 years in prison confirmed to Kordic
Nezavisne Novine	Dragan Mikerevic resigned; Paddy Ashdown, the High Representative to BiH: abolishing of RS is possible; Cavic scheduled a meeting with leaders of Serb political parties; Adnan Terzic: Ivanic can no longer do his job

Glas Srpske	Cavic: As in accordance with wishes of Bosniaks Mikerevic: I will accept no blackmails; Tadic: Wrong target
EuroBlic	The Government is falling apart, Cavic is appealing to unity; RS police action: Nine were apprehended over drugs, arrests to follow
Vecernje novosti	Mikerevic filed a resignation
Nacional	A lice that would betray Mladic would not need millions; Dirty war of democrats in the Balkans

Reactions to HR, US Govt measures

Dragan Mikerevic resigns	BHT 1 – RS Prime Minister Dragan Mikerevic resigned from his post on Friday, stating he is not ready to accept and implement "*threats and demands*" by the High Representative Paddy Ashdown on changing the RS and BiH constitutional organization by seriously violating the constitution as the country's most important legal act. Current RS Government will continue to work until new one is elected, and Mikerevic recommended to new Government to consistently follow the Dayton Peace Agreement. ""*Based on my personal political beliefs, stances and programmes, the party which I belong to, and especially the moral norms and feelings of obligation which I have as the RS prime minister for the destiny of the RS, the Serb people and all RS citizens, I have decided to resign*," Mikerevic told the press in Banja Luka. **RTRS, FTV –** "*In contrast with HR or some other International institutions representatives, I believe in BiH, consisted of RS and FBiH, I believe in the RS institutions and in the new RS government which will honourably and decisively implement the obligations set by the constitution and laws, which will keep implementing the Dayton peace agreement and will meet all obligations towards the international community, and especially towards the Hague tribunal*," Mikerevic said.He believes that the RS citizens will be able to recognize, understand and appreciate his good intentions. **Dnevni Avaz** cover splash 'Mikerevic resigns', pg 2 'Dragan Mikerevic resigns' by J.S., **Oslobodjenje** cover splash, pgs 4-5 'Prime Minister Mikerevic resigns' by O. Vukovic, **Dnevni List** pg 2, mentioned on front 'Dragan Mikerevic resigned' not signed, **Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 16 'Dictate without precedent' by A.M., **Vecernji List** pg 2, mentioned on front, ' [Cavic] Tihic's wishes have been fulfilled' by B. Stevandic, **Nezavisne Novine,** cover 'Dragan Mikerevic filed a resignation' and pg. 3 'Mikerevic filed a resignation' by P. Klincov and V. Popovic, **Vecernje Novosti,** cover and pg. 5 'Mikerevic filed his resignation' by M. Labus, **EuroBlic,** cover 'The Government is falling apart, Cavic is appealing to unity' and pg. RS1 'The Government is falling apart' by Mirna Soja and Rajna Radosavljevic, **Glas Srpske,** cover page 'I will accept no blackmails' by M. Dz. – also cover Mikerevic's press conference.

Dragan Cavic: 'HR sided with SDA to make RS disappear'	**RTRS, FTV, Glas Srpske,** cover page story 'As in accordance with wishes of Bosniaks' by G. D. **–** RS President **Dragan Cavic** believes that High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** has completely sided with the SDA and make their wishes to see the SerbRepublic disappear come true, warning this could escalate into a serious political crisis. Cavic said he would be an obstacle to all those who wanted to bring BiH into Europe by imposing violent measures. *"We have done a lot, not due to pressure but due to consciousness that it is inevitable due to the generally accepted international attitude, Security Council resolution, and clear relation with regional states with the regard to obligations … related to the issues of war crimes and the fact that they are still not solved,"* said Cavic. **BHT 1** – Cavic stated that he would "*be an encumbrance to reforms that represent forceful violating of the institutional and constitutional structure in BiH*". Cavic stressed: "*Through the position I hold, I will remain an obstacle to such kinds of reforms… outside of the frame needed for peoples of BiH, [outside of] consensus and compromise. This is my message to them and they have to know this right now. If they want to remove obstacle, they should do it right now*," said Cavic. Cavic added that he expects more sanctions because RS is 'usual suspect' to be blamed for everything in BiH. RS President said that a response to the HR's threats and messages to the RS should be reached through a consensus of all Serb parties and a consensus on the minimum of vital national interests of the Serbs, and he announced the meeting of all parties in the SerbRepublic for Monday, 20 December. "*I will call them to come up with joint stance to all threats*," announced Cavic. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Cavic seeks consensus to respond to pressures' by Fena, **Oslobodjenje** pg 4 'RS institutions do not protect war criminals' by O.V., **Vecernji List** pg 2, mentioned on front, 'Tihic's wished have been fulfilled' by B. Stevandic, **Dnevni List** pg 2, mentioned on front 'Dragan Mikerevic resigned' not signed, **Dnevni List** pg 2 'Cavic called urgent meeting' not signed, **Vecernji List** pg 2, mentioned on front, 'Tihic's wished have been fulfilled' by B. Stevandic, **Nezavisne Novine,** cover and pg. 3 'Cavic scheduled a meeting with leaders of Serb political parties' not signed, **Vecernje Novosti,** pg. 5 'Everyone in accordance with Ashdown's will' by Sl. Pesevic and M. Labus, **EuroBlic,** cover 'The Government is falling apart, Cavic is appealing to unity' and pg. RS1 'The Government is falling apart' by Mirna Soja and Rajna Radosavljevic – also covered.

Ashdown, McElhaney on sanctions	**RTRS** by Dragana Knezevic– Reporter says that the High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** and US Ambassador **Douglas McElhaney** justified their measures for RTRS once again. Ashdown stated that the measures are in the interest of both RS and BIH authorities and citizens. He said that they are not a collective punishment for RS, but a step towards fulfilment of obligations presented in the Feasibility Study. McElhaney repeated the position that the measures concern the individuals and institutions that have to make some changes to ensure full cooperation with the ICTY. McElhaney wouldn't state the names of SDS and PDP officials that are not allowed in USA . He explained that when it comes to high officials of these parties, the entrance would be determined on the case-by-case basis through approvals from the US Government. He added that US help to RS citizens will not be ceased, that that it will be reviewed in order to determine whether it reaches those obstructing arrests of war crime suspects. **FTV –** As for the US Government's decision to freeze all SDS assets in US and to ban financial dealings between US citizens and SDS, McElhaney comments: *"The bank accounts, real estate and financial transactions with SDS are going to be banned. Why are we doing this? Our feeling is that any organization which openly fails to cooperate with the International Community will not be able to do business in the USA, since we do not want to have organizations or persons who are in any way supporting war criminals."* On being asked what he expected from RS officials, McElhaney said: *"They are the ones who should decide what is the most efficient thing to do; it is not up to me to judge. If I have to judge, then I think that the most important thing is to see those persons [indicted for war crimes] on airplane [for the Hague]."* **Nezavisne Novine,** pg. 3 'PDP and SDS are responsible for non-cooperation with the Hague' by P. K. – also covers McElhaney statement given to RTRS.

NN int with Ashdown	**Nezavisne novine,** cover 'Paddy Ashdown, the High Representative to BiH: abolishing of RS is possible' and pg. 4 'Abolishing of RS is possible' by M. Cubro – In an interview to *NN*, High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** has stated: *'I never talk about measures I might undertake and decision I might reach tomorrow, for which I hope I will not have to reach, because RS has been violating the Dayton Agreement for nine years'*. *'I must ask you what would your readers in RS expect from me to do if Bosniaks had been violating the Dayton Agreement for only nine months? I had no other option but to react'*, HR has said. He announced even stricter measures would be undertaken if there are no changes in the following several months. Asked to say whether these stricter measures include abolishing of RS, the High Representative said everything is possible. *'I must say, however, if RS would respect the Dayton Agreement, then I would protect its competences'*, HR added. He stressed that the RS is in jeopardy due to omissions of the official Banja Luka in respecting the Dayton Agreement.
SDS on HR measures	**Glas Srpske,** pg. 5 'From the position of a power' by N. D., **Nezavisne Novine,** pg. 4 'New measures pose threats to RS' not signed – SDS issued a press release, which reads that the measures of OHR and US administration represent a continuation of punishments and threats to individuals and institutions of RS from a position of a political power.
Dokic and Ivanic to resign?	**RTRS** – RTRS says that, according to official information, BIH Foreign Affairs Minister **Mladen Ivanic** and BIH Minister of Transport and Communications **Branko Dokic** also resigned from their positions. BHT 1 – BHT 1 says that according to their unofficial information, following today's session of the PDP Main Board, representatives of this party will withdraw from all authority levels in BiH and RS. **Nezavisne Novine,** cover and pg. 2 'Adnan Terzic: Ivanic can no longer do his job' by M. Cubro, inset 'PDP to withdraw from the authority' – NN also reports some unofficial information claim PDP would withdraw from the BiH CoM. **Nezavisne Novine,** op-ed pg. 7 'Ivanic without visa' by Mirza Cubro – The author, among other, says that if **Mladen Ivanic** feels any political and moral responsibility, then he will consider his trip to Indonesia as his last trip as BiH Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Oslobodjenje: 'Government of Serb unit to save RS of sanctions?'; Terzic on Ivanic	**Oslobodjenje** pgs 4-5 'Ceasing CoM's reforms?', mentioned on cover 'To stop reforms through Government of Serb Unity', Az. Kalamujic – BIH Minister of Transport and Communications **Branko Dokic** stated for Oslobodjenje that there will be certainly changes in the Council of Ministers and that there will have to be different BiH Parliamentary majority established. Dokic did not want to speculate whether he would resign. Oslobodjenje says that Dokic's statement confirms speculations according to which SDS and PDP consider the plan of withdrawing from the BiH authorities in order to establish in RS the so-called the Government of national unity. *"The return to the authorities at the state level would be conditioned with the change in the CoM, which directly results with the halt of reforms in police and defence systems and at the end creates the blockade for BiH to enter Euro-Atlantic integrations,"* reads the article. Daily also learns that **Mladen Ivanic** currently thinks whether to resign or to wait for CoM Chair **Adnan Terzic** to remove him. Terzic did not want to comment this decision, adding "*I am sure that Ivanic is serious politicians and that he… will bring right decision*." **Nezavisne Novine,** cover and pg. 2 'Adnan Terzic: Ivanic can no longer do his job' by M. Cubro – **Terzic** stated on Friday that the BiH Minister of Foreign Affairs can no longer do his job if he is banned from entering USA. Terzic refused to say whether he would demand from **Mladen Ivanic** to resign. **Goran Milojevic**, the Chairman of the House of Peoples of BiH Parliament, refused to comment on possible removal of Ivanic, announcing that he would present a stance with regard to this matter on Monday. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'Mladen Ivanic is experienced politicians and he will surely draw the best conclusion', mentioned on cover, by M. Drinjakovic – DA also carries Terzic statement regarding Ivanic.

Reactions to Mikerevic's resignation	**RTRS –** RTRS brings reactions on the resignation offered by the RS Prime Minister **Dragan Mikerevic.** RS National Assembly Speaker **Dusan Stojicic** feels that Mikerevic's resignation can be a factor of political unity in RS. He adds that the resignation happened at the moment where no other option was possible. SRS Chairman **Milanko Mihajlica** says that the resignation was expected and it should have happened sooner. Chairman of SR RS **Petar Djokic** also says that the resignation was to be expected since Mikerevic should take responsibility for the current position of RS. **Slavko Jovicic,** Vice President of RS PoWs Association welcomed Mikerevic's resignation. FTV – OHR hopes that RS Government will continue its work and undertake steps necessary to ensure BiH's admission to the Partnership for Peace programme. SNSD Chairman Milorad Dodik said that Dragan Mikerevic's resignation did not have to be accepted, stressing that this situation looks like the one with Chair of the BiH Council of Ministers Adnan Terzic, who also offered resignation which was than rejected. The Chair of the BiH Presidency Borislav Paravac issued announcement which stated that HR's and USA measures were expected and that they could have great consequences on BiH and RS.
SNSD on Mikerevic's resignation, measures	**FTV, Nezavisne Novine,** pg. 4 'Early elections are the only solution' not signed, **Vecernje Novosti,** pg. 5 'Everyone in accordance with Ashdown's will' by Sl. Pesevic and M. Labus inset 'Elections are solution', **EuroBlic,** pg. RS2-RS3 'Referendum for Srpska' by EuroBlic team, **Glas Srpske,** pg. 5 'They want elections' by M. Mi.– The Deputy Speaker of the BiH House of Representatives, **Nikola Spiric,** said that the best solution for the current situation would be elections on state level, since the question now is whether sanctioned RS authorities are credible. At the press conference held in Banja Luka on Friday, he also said that US Government's decisions to ban SDS and PDP leadership from entering US were especially difficult. SNSD Chairman **Milorad Dodik** says that SNSD believes that the measures which interfere with the RS and BiH constitutional-legal systems are unacceptable, even though imposed by HR. Oslobodjenje pg 5 'Solution is extraordinary elections in BiH' by O.V., Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'US sanctions are especially difficult' by Fena, Vecernji List pg 2 'Elections in whole state are only way out of crisis' by B.S. – carry Spiric's statement.

Paravac, Tihic on measures	**EuroBlic,** pg. RS2-RS3 'Referendum for Srpska' by EuroBlic team,**Dnevni List** pg 2, mentioned on front 'Dragan Mikerevic resigned' not signed, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'Long-term consequences for RS and BiH possible' – The latest measures issued by the HR, **Paddy Ashdown**, and his requests towards the RS are not unexpected and represent a new form of pressure and conditions for resolving certain problems, primarily the problem of cooperating with the Hague Tribunal, reads the statement issued by the Cabinet of the BiH Presidency Chair **Borislav Paravac** on Friday. "*The measures and requests are very serious and can produce long-term repercussions for the RS and the Dayton BiH*", said Paravac referring to both HR and US Govt's decisions. Statement added that the situation, particularly in the RS, after these measures, has been additionally complicated and it will be necessary to analyze the current it seriously. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 4, inset 'These are not stances of the Presidency', **Nezavisne Novine,** pg. 2 'Sulejman Tihic denied the Secretariat of the Presidency' by M. C. – BiH Presidency member, **Sulejman Tihic**, said that the announcement issued by the Secretariat of BiH Presidency on December 17 does not represent or reflect the stands of BiH Presidency. "*I support the measures of the High Representative and the U.S. Government aimed at enhancing the State institutions and ensuring the full cooperation with the Hague Tribunal*," said Tihic. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'Tihic: US measures could be followed by other countries' by M.Dr. – In a statement for DA, Tihic also said that the US Govt's measures banning SDS and PDP leadership from entering US will make the work of BiH Parliament and CoM difficult. He said that reactions of the persons involved in the decisions must be waited, and that the issue is to be solved in the authorized institutions, CoM and Parliament.

Sadovic on Mikerevic's resignation, measures	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Sadovic: this is manoeuvre to lessen the pressure against RS' by E.S. – Commenting to the resignation offered by **Dragan Mikerevic**, the Head of SDA Caucus in RS National Assembly, **Tarik Sadovic**, said he was not surprised with that. The goal of this decision, says Sadovic, is to give time to RS before the next NATO summit in order to lessen the pressure against this entity. Sadovic arguments that until Mikerevic and his Government, which will stay under the technical mandate, are replaced by the new Government it will already be April thus they would have no time to make any moves before the NATO summit. Slobodna Dalmacija pg 16 'We were not planning to travel to the USA' by A. Macanovic – President of the SDA Caucus in the RSNA Tarik Sadovic believes that the HR's sanctions against the RS are not enough to make the RS to fully cooperate with the ICTY.
Colak on measures	Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'It would be better is we recognize individuals obstructing agreements on their own' by Fena – The BiH Security Minister, Dragan Colak, stated for FENA news agency that *"he would be the happiest if institutions of BiH, whether of FBiH or RS, were to alone recognize those individuals not implementing the law, individuals obstructing certain agreements and for such persons not to have a place in any of the systems."*
SDA on measures	Oslobodjenje pg 5 'RS cannot ensure cooperation with the Hague in RS' by S.R., Dnevni List pg 2, mentioned on front 'Dragan Mikerevic resigned' not signed – The SDA leadership is not convinced that the measures taken by the HR will secure full cooperation of the RS authority with the ICTY by April next year, when a new NATO's Summit should take place.
Boris Tadic condemns measures	Glas Srpske, cover page 'Wrong target' not signed, Nezavisne Novine, pg. 2 'Boris Tadic condemned measures' by Srna, Vecernje Novosti, pg. 5 'Wrongly directed' not signed – Serbian President Boris Tadic thinks RS, which has publicly faced the crime in Srebrenica, cannot suffer consequences over the assessment on lack of cooperation with the Hague Tribunal. Tadic condemned measures undertaken against RS President Dragan Cavic, BiH Minister of Foreign Affairs Mladen Ivanic, SDS and PDP, by saying the measures have been undertaken against wrong people.
NHI supports HR measures	RHB, Dnevni List pg 2, mentioned on front 'Dragan Mikerevic resigned' not signed – NHI supports measures taken by the HR, however, at the same time they believe that these measures are not enough and not adequate.

SPRS on HR	Glas srpske, pg. 5 'To reject decisions' by M. Dj., EuroBlic, pg. RS2-RS3 'Referendum for Srpska' by EuroBlic team – SPRS President Petar Djokic, who has said he did not support the idea of High Representative Paddy Ashdown being in the function of legislative and executive authority because he has no mandate for such a thing.
Mijalica supports plan to form govt of national unity	**Nezavisne novine,** pg. 4 'To form a government of national unity in RS' not signed – The President of SRS, **Milanko Mihajlica**, called on forming of a government of national unity until the next elections. '*All Serb parties in RS must jointly define a clear political response to more and more frequent demands on changes to RS and BiH Constitutions and reorganizing of constitutional-legal and territorial structure of BiH*', Mihajlica said. He added it is necessary to consider organizing of referendum at which RS citizens would present their opinions with regard to tendencies to abolish RS and its institutions.
RS PoWs on sanctions against RS	**Nezavisne Novine,** pg. 4 'We are ready for all forms of fight for preservation of RS' by V. P. and D. B. – RS Veterans' Association has stated it was ready for all forms of fight for preservation of RS and its institutions and it added its further actions would depend on development of the situation. The Association encourages the removed persons not to accept measures and it asks from RS institutions not to undertake measures with regard to reform of the Army and police.
RS Human Rights Helsinki Committee on measures	**FTV** – The Chair of the RS Helsinki Committee for human rights, **Branko Todorovic,** believes that RS authorities have to establish rule of law or else they are going to bring into question the existence of RS due to lack of cooperation with ICTY. Todorovic commented: *"The question which RS should be asked is clear: either fulfil international obligations and establish rule of law in RS and BiH, or RS should simply exist no longer."*
Nacional on HR, US Govt measures	**Nacional,** cover and pgs. 4-5 'Dirty war of democrats in the Balkans' by D. V. M. – A source of *Nacional* from Washington refers to the latest measures brought by HR **Paddy Ashdown** and US Ambassador **Douglas McElhaney**, saying that the supporters of **Bill Clinton's** administration are using the opportunity while the official Washington, i.e. the Congress and the Senate, are on Christmas vacations to undermine the politics of US President **George Bush** with regard to the Balkans.

EU support measures announced by Ashdown	FTV, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'To prove they seriously take obligations from Dayton' by Fena, Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Clear message to RS authorities' by Fena, Dnevni List pg 2, mentioned on front 'Dragan Mikerevic resigned' not signed – The Chief of EU mission sin BiH fully support sanctions proclaimed by the HR and they hope that these sanctions will be understood as encouragement for individuals and RS authorities to considerably intensify their cooperation with the ICTY.
Solana supports HR measures	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 3 'Ashdown's measures are important step to strengthening cooperation with the ICTY', **Glas Srpske,** pg. 2 'Removal of obstacles' not signed, **Nezavisne Novine,** pg. 2 'EU supports Ashdown's measures' by M. C. – EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Affairs, **Javier Solana**, stated that HR measures *"represent the significant step towards removal of the elements preventing the cooperation with the ICTY."* He added that the EUFOR inspections in Han Pijesak were additional proof that the EU is determined to ensure respect of the Dayton Peace Agreement.
State Department fully support HR measures Solana	**Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'Support to measures against RS leadership' by Fena, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 3 'Washington will additionally isolate those preventing the progress in BiH' by M.Dr. – *"State Department fully supports the measures announced the HR **Paddy Ashdown** directed to reforms of the RS institutions which obstructed the full cooperation with the ICTY and the removal of the persons who failed to meet their obligations regarding the arrest of war crimes suspects,"* stated spokesperson **Richard Baucher**. He confirmed that US also frozen assets of SDS and companies "Zdravo" and "Komotko", whose owner is allegedly **Luka Karadzic**. State Department spokesperson also said that US administration considers what it can do to assist more to those in RS working for the better future of BiH, and at the same time to isolate those obstructing progress in the country.
Op-eds on measures	**Dnevni List** pg 30 'Cat with nine lives' by P. Gasparevic carries an editorial on the HR's decision which, among the other things, says: *'If the removal of 59 officials did not make the RS to better cooperate with the ICTY then it is hard to believe that the current removal of 9 officials will force the RS to start to cooperate with the ICTY.'* **Oslobodjenje** pg 9 'Easy measures' op-ed by Mirko Sagolj – Sagolj says that HR **Paddy Ashdown** "can remove people until the end of the days, however BiH will never come closer to Europe with three-national concept of the authorities."

War crimes	
Kordic, Cerkez case	**BHT 1, FTV, RHB, Dnevni List** front pg splash and pg 3 'Politics was judge in my case' by A. Beus, **Vecernji List** front pg splash '25 years imprisonment to Kordic' and pg 3 '25 years imprisonment to Kordic, Cerkez remains at large' by Hina and **Slobodna Dalmacija** frontpg splash and pg 2 'Sentence of 25 years in prison confirmed to Kordic' by H, **Nezavisne Novine,** pg. 6 'Kordic's sentence of 25 years in prison was confirmed, Cerkez's sentence was reduced down to six years' by Sense, **Vecernje Novosti,** pg. 17 '25 years to Darijo Kordic' by FoNet – The ICTY Appellate Council confirmed on Friday a sentence of 25 years imprisonment to former Vice President of the Croat Community of Herceg Bosna **Darijo Kordic** and proclaimed a new verdict against former HVO Commander in the Central Bosnia **Mario Cerkez** (6 years in prison, Cerkez has been released recently). Covered by **Sarajevo** print media also.

EUFOR continues inspection of facilities in Crna rijeka	**BHT 1, Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 'Inspection of military premises in Crna Rijeka continued', **Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'Memorial out of the trench near Han Pijesak?', **Nezavisne Novine,** pg. 2 'Inspection of military facilities in the entities was announced' by N. K. – EUFOR soldiers withdrew on Thursday evening from checkpoints in Han-Pijesak, but they have continued to inspect the interior of the RS Army structures. EUFOR also set up checkpoints along the road leading towards the military complex in Crna Rijeka near Han-Pijesak, due to suspicion that these facilities served as hiding places for war crimes indictees.
Nacional int with Mladic's guard	**Nacional** Belgrade daily, cover and pgs. 6-7 'A lice that would betray Mladic would not need millions' by Dusan Maric – this is an interview with one of the guards of **Ratko Mladic** (*name was not mentioned*). The interview was made in November 2003, but the journalist was forbidden to publish it until one year expires. The guard claims Mladic is not in Belgrade . Asked to say whether there is a risk that any of Mladic's guards would reveal his whereabouts, considering the money reward that was offered, the guard replied such a risk is not excluded, however, he added, a person who would betray Mladic would not need millions of KM, several hundreds of KM would be enough – just to cover his funeral expenses.

Former Karadzic's guard handed over to RS leadership	**BHT 1, Nezavisne Novine,** pg. 6 'Ilic was extradited to EUFOR' by Z. Kusmuk, **Vecernje Novosti,** pg. Former Karadzic's bodyguard was extradited' not signed– Serbian Ministry of Interior arrested **Vladimir Vlado Ilic**, Bosnian Serb suspected of being member of the network that supports war crimes indictees. As BHT finds out, Ilic was one of **Radovan Karadzic**'s personal guards during the war. Ilic has been extradited to the RS police at the border crossing Raca, and he had been wanted for the murder of police officer in Bratunac in 1992.

Amendments to Crime Code	**BHT 1 –** The BiH Court considers amendments to the BiH Criminal Code imposed by the High Representative, **Paddy Ashdown**, to be correct. They are related to the sanctions against persons supporting war crimes indictees. Penalties for those assisting of ICTY indictees existed before, but not a single case like this was processed so far, despite that fact that SFOR detained several times persons suspected of assisting most wanted war crimes suspects. Also, there is no information that BiH Prosecution investigates any such case, commented BHT 1. Even though it if difficult to prove these criminal acts, there is a reason for the HR's intervention. *"Everything that could lead to more efficient implementation of that obligation should be used in BiH, there is no dilemma on that,"* said **Nikola Spiric**, BiH House of Representatives Deputy Chair. **FTV** – FTV carries that HR brought 8 new decisions with the regard to changes of several state and entities' laws related to criminal procedure, judges and prosecutors.
Mikes re Crime Code changes	**Vecernje Novosti,** pg. 2 'He is forcing relatives to become informers' by Sl. P. – Lawyer and Vice Chairman of RS House of Peoples **Miroslav Mikes** criticized HR Ashdown's measures with regard to Criminal Code, by saying this demand is in a direct collision with basic human rights and freedoms because it demands from close relatives to help in bringing indictments.

Police and defence reforms	
Scheffer sends warning letter to Paravac	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 5 'Transfer authorities of the entities' ministries fto the BiH state', mentioned on cover 'Warning letter to Paravac' by A. Malagic – NATO Secretary General, **Jaap de Hoop Scheffer**, warned the Chairman of the BiH presidency, **Borislav Paravac**, that he is concerned that the progress BiH was making to join PfP slowed down, and stressed that the new momentum must be built. He also stressed that the full cooperation with the ICTY must be carried out and that it is of crucial important. "*I recommend you implement systematic reforms necessary for BiH to prove full cooperation*," reads the letter. He added that there are a number of good ideas regarding the further progress, but that the support of BiH Presidency is crucial. "*This means full support to further measures in strengthening the command and control at the state level by transferring the authorities of the entities' ministries of defence and commands to the appropriate defence structures at the BiH level*," said Scheffer.

SDA supports police and defence reforms	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'Felic: We expect removal of the entities' ministries until the end of 2005' by A.M., **Oslobodjenje** pg 5 'Support to solutions on police' by S.R. – FBiH Interior Minister, **Mevludin Halilovic**, said he was satisfied with the consensus reached regarding the police structure at the state level, concluding this was in the interest of the BiH citizens. Member of the SDA Presidency, **Hazim Felic**, stressed that SDS support reform police with an aim to have unified management, single budget, equal salaries, uniforms and coat of arms. FBiH Prime Minister **Ahmet Hadzipasic**, also supported the conclusions of the Police Reform Commission.
VL on police reform	**Vecernji List** pg 2 'Policemen to go from one entity to another' by E. Medunjanin – Commenting on the police reform in BiH VL says that this reform will not result in mass dismissals of policemen. VL also says that certain number of policemen from the Cantonal Ministries of Interior in the FBiH will have to pass to the RS, that is, to those police stations from their regions which are on the RS territory (for instance, some Bosniak policemen from Gorazde will have to go to work in the police stations in Foca etc.).

SD int with Miroslav Nikolic	**Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 16 'My wish has been fulfilled: I am last Defence Minister' by Z. Tulic carries a short interview with Federation of BiH Defence Minister **Miroslav Nikolic** who comments on the HR's decision on the future reorganization of the defense system in BiH. Nikolic says that, perhaps, this process took place faster than he expected, however, according to his opinion, in a long run the current organization of the Army and its administration is not possible for the future time.

Other issues	
Vrankic on privatisation	**Dnevni List** pg 5, mentioned on front, 'Campaign against coming of companies from Croatia' by J. Petrovic carries Federation of BiH Minister of Finances **Dragan Vrankic** as saying that the draft law on changes and amendments to the Law on Privatization was sent to the parliamentary procedure during the last session of the FBiH Government after Croat Ministers had been outvoted. According to Vrankic, this draft law is not correct and it is very selective. Vrankic also says that this draft law is an attempt to prevent the coming of capital from Germany , Austria or Belgium to BiH, as well as, entering of Croatian companies to BiH.

DL: Investment amounting to 150 million Euros refused	**Dnevni List** pg 9, mentioned on front, 'Investment amounting to 150 million Euros refused' by F. Hebibovic – DL says that recently the Sarajevo Canton Privatization Agency passed a scandalous decision according to which a bid of Croatian-Canadian company 'Importane' for purchase of company 'Magros' was refused and this company has lodged an appeal to this decision. DL also says that this company was willing to invest 150 million Euros and employ at least 3000 people.
SD on Jelavic case	**Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 12, mentioned on front, 'Jelavic to be released from detention in January?' by Z. Tulic – SD reports that an extraordinary court discussion on the case against former HDZ President **Ante Jelavic** was held on Friday during which Jelavic's lawyer **Dragan Barbaric** announced that at the next court discussion, which is to take place on January 13, he will submit a demand for Jelavic's release from detention since there is no a single concrete element for further holding of Jelavic in prison.

DL op-ed on Mostar mayor	**Dnevni List** pg 30 'We have a Mayor' by Z. Jukic carries an editorial on the election of the Mostar Mayor. According to the author the election of **Ljubo Beslic** to this position is just another result of the long present trade between HDZ and SDA in this city. The author also comments on the political situation in Mostar in general and he concludes that HDZ and SDA have won at the last local elections thanks to the votes coming from Croat and Bosniak refugees and not thanks to the votes of pre-war Mostar citizens.