

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 20/12/2005

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 20 December

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	RTRS (12,00 hrs)
FBiH HoR's session underway	Talks on const. changes to resume
Plenary session of BiH HoR and HoP	Persons linked with terrorism in BiH
Const. changes talks continue tomor.	Strike of NY' metro workers

TV news broadcast on 19 December

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
Smajkic on Mostar Islamic Centre	SBS arrests war crime suspect	Indictment in "Kravice" case
World news	Indictment for Kravica confirmed	Investigation on Ljubinac launched
Meeting of police cooperation council	EU supports return to BiH	Trial in "Scorpions" case starting
Schilling's interview for DR	UNESCO delegation in Mostar	Doris Pack visits Banja Luka
NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
War crimes issues	Terzic's letter to Sanader	Cavic meets Pack

Flats for killed soldiers' families	USC budget money illegally used?	McElhaney on constitutional changes
1 million KM for scientific researches	"Sarabon" workers still in strike	Feature on low population increase
EU supports return to BiH	Workers entered "Zitoprerada"	Feature on Banja Luka clinic centre

Oslobodjenje	US' McElhaney: If BiH wants to be a serious state it must unify institutions
Dnevni Avaz	US McElhaney: In talks with EU BiH needs a single voice
Dnevni List	Prisons will block BiH joining EU?!
Vecernji List	Deadly waste at 21 locations in BiH
Slobodna Dalmacija	Port at Neum – a salty utopia
Glas Srpske	Zveka was hiding a crime [feature story on war crimes]
Nezavisne Novine	Agreement on a single president is possible
Blic	The most powerful Serbs in the world
Vecernje Novosti	Serbia related headlines

	LATEST NEWS OF TODAY
FBiH HoR's session underway	RHB – The session of the FBiH HoR takes place in Sarajevo today and tomorrow. It has been announced that the issue of the Energopetrol's re-capitalization would be discussed at the session.

<p>Plenary session of BiH HoR and HoP</p>	<p>RHB – With regard to marking the 10th DPA anniversary a ceremonious plenary session of the BiH HoR and HoP takes place in Sarajevo today.</p>
<p>Constitutional changes talks continue on Wednesday</p>	<p>RHB – The constitutional changes talks should continue on Wednesday with mediation of representatives of the US Institute for Peace, US Ambassador Douglas McElhaney and British Ambassador Matthew Rycroft. RHB says that although this issue has been discussed for a longer period of time a certain progress was made last week when the US Ambassador involved in these talks.</p>
<p>HNZ on const. Changes</p>	<p>RHB – On the eve of tomorrow's talks on the constitutional changes HNZ issued a press release which says that the BiH Parliament must be the place of the most important political decision-making in BiH and interests of all BiH peoples and citizens should be represented there.</p>

<p>Rycroft meets with Dodik: Reforms need to be implemented</p>	<p>RS Radio – After today's meeting with Milorad Dodik, SNSD President, Matthew Rycroft, British Ambassador to BiH, stated that the future powers of BiH Presidency and Parliament and relations between entities are issues, on which it will be the most difficult to reach agreement during resumption of negotiations on constitutional changes Wednesday. Rycroft said that strengthening of the state does not necessarily mean weakening of entities, stressing that reforms must be implemented for three reasons: the existing system is expensive and criticized by Venice Commission; another is that BiH should be helped to accomplish certain changes necessary for the BiH course to EU.</p> <p>Dodik is of the view that the authorities of the BiH Presidency should be significantly reduced, and that some of authorities should be transferred onto BiH CoM. Dodik also said that Dragan Cavic, RS President, should take a clear stance regarding the approach towards the current RS authority, i.e. future destiny of the RS Government.</p>
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<p>Matijasevic on presence of terrorists in BiH</p>	<p>RS Radio – In an interview to <i>Vecernje Novosti</i>, Darko Matijasevic, RS MoI, said in regard to presence of persons suspected of being engaged in global terrorism, that RS and F BiH hold the information of 1800 persons somehow connected with terrorism, adding that joint institutions are currently reviewing citizenship for 800 persons from Islamic states who got BiH citizenship, while the remaining figure of 1000 concerns natives. Matiajsevic said that “<i>the issue of cooperation with the Hague Tribunal will soon be behind us</i>”, without revealing more details on it.</p>
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	<p>Political Developments/Reforms</p>
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**US' McElhaney
comments on
talks on
constitutional
changes**

BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz cover pg splash 'In talks with EU BiH needs a single voice', pg 2 'BiH should have one President' by S.Numanovic, **Oslobodjenje** cover page, pgs 4-5 'If BiH wants to be a serious state it must unify institutions', **Dnevni List**, pg 3, mentioned on front 'BiH must unify its institutions', by Danka Polovina-Mandic, **Nezavisne Novine** cover pg splash and pg 3 'Agreement on a single president is possible' by M. Cubro, **Glas Srpske** pg 5 'Single president' by Z. D. – US Ambassador in BiH **Douglas McElhaney** held a press conference in Sarajevo on Monday, where he presented his stances on negotiations on changes to BiH Constitution. McElhaney welcomed the fact that the negotiations have started before the 10th anniversary of Dayton Peace Agreement. He emphasized that the stances of participants in talks are more constructive than 6 months ago, adding that the progress made so far is only the beginning of constitutional changes process. According to McElhaney, the issues of human rights have been treated in accordance with EU standards. The talks will continue on Wednesday, and the main topic will be the future structure of the Presidency. McElhaney stressed that BiH should have one President, but he refused to comment the proposals of different politicians regarding this issue.

**RS President
Cavic meets
with EU's Pack**

RHB, Pink, BHT, Hayat, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz
pg 10 'BiH of this kind cannot go to Europe' by N.Diklic, **Oslobodjenje** pg 4
'BiH politicians must take over responsibility', **Dnevni List**, pg 2
'Dayton-like BiH cannot become member of EU', not signed, **Vecernji List**, pg 2
'return Croats to Posavina', by Branka Stevandic, **Nezavisne novine** pg 4
'BiH cannot enter Europe without constitutional changes' by V. Popovic, **Glas Srpske** pg 5
'Two main goals' by G. D., **EuroBlic** pg RS2
'Srpska opposes domination in BiH' by Rajna Radosavljevic
– RS President **Dragan Cavic** met with Chair of EU delegation for relations with South European countries **Doris Pack**.
Pack stated that BIH could not become a member of the EU with current constitution. She also stated that great progress was made in BIH especially when it comes to establishment of new joint institutions in the country. Cavic stated that the issue of constitutional changes in BiH could be solved only through finding solution that was acceptable for all, and which will secure the stability of the country. Pack added that she agreed with Cavic that the authority in BiH had to be decentralized. However, she emphasized that it was up to BiH politicians to decide how to reach this.

<p>PDP leader Ivanic: 'New round of constitutional changes talks would be more difficult'</p>	<p>Hayat, Oslobodjenje pg 4 'New round of talks would be more difficult' by <u>Onasa</u>, Dnevni List pg 4 'Harder part of negotiations follows' <u>not signed</u> – PDP President Mladen Ivanic stated that continuation of the constitutional changes talks (scheduled for December 21) would be much harder than the previous round of talks since parties from Sarajevo, that demand support from the Bosniak people, are trying to promote a concept of a civic state. He believes that if the Bosniaks parties continue to support such stands it would be very difficult to reach an agreement.</p>
<p>M. Lazovic (SDU): State Ministry of Education should be formed</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 6 'To from state Ministry of Education', Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'BiH must not remain at prisoners' deck' by <u>FENA</u>, Dnevni List pg 6 'Form state Education Ministry' <u>not signed</u> carried an SDU press release signed by SDU President Miro Lazovic who says that SDU demands from the US administration representatives to remove obstacles for introduction of the state Ministry of Education and to support those constitutional changes that would consistently implement given promises and orientation of the US administration with regard to recognition of BiH and its institutions.</p>

<p>Potocnik (independent MP) proposes changes to BiH Constitution: State and local level of authority</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 4 'Potocnik for abolishment of entities and cantons', by <u>Danka Polovina-Mandic</u> – An independent MP in the BiH House of Representatives, Mladen Potocnik, proposed amendments to the BiH Constitution that completely change the Constitution. His amendments foresee establishment of BiH as a republic with local and state levels of authority, with one president, one government and a two-chamber parliament. Potocnik is convinced that as much as 70% of people in BiH see/want the country as a normal country without entities and cantons. Other BiH media also covered the issue.</p>
<p>Dodik: BiH institutions are responsible to BiH peoples, not BiH people</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 9 'Assertion that BiH institutions are responsible to people rejected', <u>not signed</u> – The SNSD leader, Milorad Dodik, commented that during the constitutional talks, the assertion that <i>"the BiH institutions are responsible to people of BiH"</i> was not accepted because it reminded of some previous statements about creation of a one nation. Instead, Dodik says the qualification that reads <i>"the BiH institutions are responsible to peoples and citizens of BiH"</i> was accepted.</p>

<p>British ambassador Rycroft: positive changes were made in talks on constitutional changes</p>	<p>Hayat, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine pg 4 ‘Positive changes in negotiations on the Constitution’ by <u>D. K.</u> – Ambassador of Great Britain to BiH Matthew Rycroft stated on Monday in Prijedor that there are some positive changes in talks on constitutional changes, but he assessed this was still not enough. <i>‘There are five important pre-requisites for a success of the talks. A progress was made with regard to the first two pre-requisites – human rights and strengthening of the institution of CoM. The remaining issues are the structure of parliament, Presidency and competencies between entities and state’</i>, Rycroft stated and he added he hopes Hague fugitives Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic would soon be arrested. EuroBlic pg RS2 ‘Rycroft: progress’ <u>not signed</u> also reported on the issue. .</p>
<p>GS critical of initiative on introducing single president</p>	<p>Glas Srpske pg 5 ‘Cabbage and meat’ by <u>D. Momic</u> – The article claims Bosniak representatives are trying to use constitutional changes for the start of applying of principle “one person – one vote” and reminds that such a situation had already existed in the past, when the creation of Bosniak – Croat coalition was only one step away from the war breaking out. The author of the article notes Sulejman Tihic and those who share his views seem not to be bothered with political past because, if they were bothered with it, they would not have pleaded for abolishment of the Presidency and introduction of the institution of a single president.</p>

<p>DL op-ed on constitutional changes talks: Silence of HDZ officials is dangerous</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 2 'Dangerous silence', by <u>Ivica Glibusic</u>– comments on the talks of BiH political parties saying what worries is the position of the SDP and its leader, Zlatko Lagumdžija, who says the agreement on the BiH CoM is good enough an agreement, which, according to <u>Glibusic</u>, means that the SDP too is accepting the policy of division of BiH and prevention of its future progress. Even more dangerous, says Glibusic, is the silence of the HDZ when it comes to the Croats' position because the party did not say a thing after the last round of talks. <u>Glibusic</u> gets an impression that the eventual ending of the talks will result in abolishment of the cantons, the issue to which the Croats have no answer.</p>
<p>SD on constitutional changes talks: BiH should have a three-member Presidency</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 11 'One president undermines foundations of BiH', by <u>Veso Vegar</u> – Commenting on the constitutional reforms talks, especially the issue of BiH Presidency/single BiH President, <u>Vegar</u> argues that the proposal about having one BiH President shows that there are still people who are not at peace with the fact that BiH is a multi-national country. Instead, SD insists BiH should continue to have a three-member Presidency as a symbol of "<i>three-national BiH</i>".</p>

<p>Schilling feels that military engagement of EU in BiH must be long term</p>	<p>RHB <u>Zeljko Matic</u> – Newly appointed HR in BiH Christian Schwarz Schilling gave an interview for Deutschland Radio and stated that military engagement of EU in BiH must be long term. He feels that EUFOR should stay in BiH for at least another 10 years. He stressed that the era of protectorate over BiH will end once he takes up his duty and added that BiH should become a normal country. He stressed that the biggest problem in BiH is nationalism and reminded that US forces stayed in Germany for 50 years.</p>
<p>DL on alleged CIA prisons in Europe: Issue could block BiH's path to EU?</p>	<p>Dnevni List, front pg splash and pg 6 'Prisons will block BiH joining EU?!', by <u>Anja Vrebac</u>– writing about the issue of existence of alleged CIA prisons in Europe, DL retells a statement by an analyst from the Washington-based 'New American Foundation' think-tank, Anatole Lieven, who stated that the alleged controversy could halt the further expansion of the EU, which could, according to DL, have an effect on BiH. The daily also carries a comment by a BiH political analyst, Pejo Gasparevic, who reckons that, no matter how serious the situation in this regard is, it will not stop the expansion of the EU.</p>

<p>Serbian President Tadic: equal rights for everybody in the region</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'Serbs should be given the same rights as Albanians' by <u>SRNA</u>— Serbian President Boris Tadic, who Monday started his visit to France, in an interview for Parisian 'Le Figaro' stated that he is against territorial division and territorial chopping up in the region. Asked to explain what he usually says to those Serbs who are ready to accept Kosovo independency only if it would mean that the RS would be united with Serbia , Tadic stated that, if Kosovo Albanians receive the right of self-determination, there is no reason why other peoples in the region should not have the same right. Serbian President rejected the possibility that Kosovo could be territorially divided, also rejecting the idea of "conditional independence" because it "inevitably leads to unification with Albania ".</p>
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**BiH
Ministerial
Council for
Police
Cooperation
set up**

RHB, BHT, Oslobođenje pg 4, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 'Consolidation of police coordination', **Nezavisne Novine** pg 2 'Ministerial Council for Cooperation on Police Issues held a session' by Agencies, **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Cooperation of police forces' by Srna, **SRNA** – The Ministerial Council for Cooperation on Police Matters [MCCPM] was set up in BiH on Monday. The council is to ensure adequate coordination and cooperation between police agencies in BiH and the adoption of binding decisions and instructions for the police steering committee. A statement issued by the BiH Ministry of Security says that the MCCPM is chaired by BiH Minister of Security **Barisa Colak**. If the chairman is not able to attend sessions he will appoint a deputy with the right to vote and make decisions. The MCCPM is made up of the following members who have the right to vote: the RS minister of internal affairs, Federation of BiH minister of internal affairs, Brcko District mayor and canton ministers of internal affairs of the Federation of BiH, the statement says. A secretary and a deputy chairman of the police steering committee will be members of the MCCPM. They will not have the right to vote, but will play an advisory expert role. The statement says that decisions and instructions shall be adopted by consensus of all voting members. The MCCPM is to meet once every two months, more frequently if necessary, and is to submit a report on its work to the BiH Council of Ministers twice a year.

VL: FBiH Govt proposed corrupt official for member of Police Reform Directorate	Vecernji List , pg 3, mentioned on front ‘Concealer of assassins in police reform’, by <u>Zoran Kresic</u> – Commenting on the decision of the FBiH Government to propose Faik Lusija for a member of Police Reform Directorate (for expert works), <u>Kresic</u> argues Lusija is a man responsible for obstruction of justice in the ‘Leutar case’ because he was in charge of the criminal investigation department (CID) of the FBiH Interior Ministry, whose investigation led the whole process in wrong direction. VL argues Lusija’s aim was to hide the real assassins and order-makers in the ‘Leutar case’.
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	War Crimes/Legal Proceedings
Matijasevic’ first int. to F BiH media: Threats will not stop me in apprehending Hague indictes	Dnevni Avaz pg 5, announced on cover ‘Threats will not stop me in apprehending Hague indictes’ by <u>Edina Sarac</u> – In his first interview to a F BiH daily, Darko Matijasevic , RS Interior Minister, speaks of economic crime, arrests of war crime suspects, police reform. He notes that ever since he assumed the position, the RS MoI conducted tens of actions aimed at locating war crime suspects. He adds it is natural the first man of MoI is faced with threats over arrests of war crime suspects, stressing threats are secondary aspects of his work, stipulated by the nature of work. On voluntary surrenders, he says all negotiations with indictes have resulted in surrender, stressing: <i>“It is an institute we will keep applying in our work. Naturally, we will use other sorts of mechanisms in case no voluntary surrender takes places, i.e. arrests.”</i> He reiterates his stance that the maintenance of the RS MoI and police is justified, noting the new functional organisation of the security forces in BiH would include this as well, adding: <i>“The aspiration is that MoI and police of RS become a sub-system in the overall security system in domain of public security authority.”</i> This model, according to him, is very much alike the police systems in the USA and Germany .

<p>Matijasevic: We will get rid of that Hague</p>	<p>Vecernje Novosti pg 2, announced on cover 'We will get rid of that Hague' by <u>Dusan Stojakovic</u> – In an interview to daily, Darko Matijasevic, RS MoI, says that <i>"the issue of cooperation with the Hague Tribunal will soon be behind us"</i>, without revealing more details on it. He notes there is a general political consensus that joint efforts with SiCG should result in resolving this problem, which is the most important. He denies media speculation <i>"Serb agents are already having Radovan Karadzic in their hands, waiting for the right moment to transfer him to The Hague"</i>. On presence of persons suspected of being engaged in global terrorism, he notes RS and F BiH hold the information on 1800 persons somehow connected with terrorism, adding that joint institutions are currently reviewing citizenship of 800 persons from Islamic states, while the remaining figure of 1000 concerns natives.</p>
<p>Court of BiH confirmed the indictment against 11 persons, indicted for massacre in Kravica</p>	<p>Pink, BHT, FTV, Dnevni Avaz pg 12 'Indictment against 11 suspects upheld', announced on cover 'Indictment for crime at Kravice upheld' by <u>S.T.</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 2, Dnevni List pg 6 'Bill of indictment against 11 persons confirmed' <u>not signed</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija last pg 'Indictees killed over 1000 Bosniaks' by <u>B. Kristo</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Indictment against 11 persons was confirmed' by <u>A. Sisic</u>, EuroBlic pg RS3 'Ten in custody over war crimes' by <u>R. R. and Srna</u> – Court of BiH confirmed on Monday the indictment against 11 persons, indicted for participating in the massacre of Bosniaks in the warehouse of the farming cooperative in Kravica in July 1995. Those indicted persons are Milos Stuper, Milenko Trifunovic, Petar Mitrovic, Brano Djinic, Aleksandar Radovanovic, Slobodan Jakovljevic, Miladin Stevanovic, Velibor Maksimovic, Branislav Medan, Dragisa Zivanovic and Milovan Matic. Ten of those eleven persons are in detention, only Milovan Matic is still on the loose; now, they have 15 days to plea on the accounts of the indictment.</p>

<p>SCG Minister Ljajic on the ICTY demands</p>	<p>FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 3 'Mladic BiH's joker in lawsuit against SCG', Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'They are asking for data from Banja Luka' by B92, Vecernje Novosti pg 2 'Carla is asking for three documents' by Tanjug, FENA – Serbia-Montenegro Human and Minority Rights Minister Rasim Ljajic said that the Hague Tribunal forwarded a request to the National Council for Cooperation requesting Serbia-Montenegro to provide three things/documents allegedly missing from the Ratko Mladic file, and Serbia-Montenegro responded that it does not have them. They are requesting the decision from the Military Post in Banja Luka, allegedly from March 2002, dismissing Mladic from military service. They are also requesting the mail delivery (documents delivered by mail) from June 2002, which again was allegedly signed by Mladic, and should suggest that the Yugoslav Army knew in 2002 where Mladic was hiding since the delivery was allegedly signed by him. <i>"Finally, they are requesting all documentation concerning the control the Yugoslav Army had over Mladic, including various orders that were allegedly issued, instructions, tasks promotions"</i>, Ljajic told B92 Radio. Ljajic said that the Serbia-Montenegro Army responded to the Hague Tribunal through the National Council that what they have requested are not parts of the Mladic file and that they do not have documents on these three matters. The fact that the Hague Tribunal does not possess the requested documents from the Serbia-Montenegro archive could undermine the defence of Serbia-Montenegro from the BiH lawsuit. Serbia-Montenegro representative before the International Court of Justice in the Hague Radoslav Stojanovic said that the failure to provide archives to the ICTY Prosecution could undermine the defence of Serbia-Montenegro from the BiH lawsuit for genocide and that it is not impossible that because of hiding archives the state could lose this case. Stojanovic said that the authorities have to respond to why the documents have not been provided to the Hague Tribunal because there are no documents that incriminate the state, but only those incriminating individuals. Stojanovic said that ICTY Chief Prosecutor Carla del Ponte's report to the UN Security Council would have been positive had Serbia-Montenegro provided all the necessary documentation, even though it did not hand over Mladic. <i>"I can freely say that we need to hand over all documents. These documents cannot accuse us more than the BiH lawsuit, and they cannot give us much defence either. The only thing that can defend is showing the truth with those documents"</i>, Stojanovic said. <i>"The BiH lawsuit states that 20.000 JNA soldiers took part in the 1992-1995 war in BiH, and I have foreign and credible information that this number was never higher than 2.000. Why would we then not want to present our documents, why not rely on the old ones. The logic is simple and we therefore need to avoid the situation, the worst possible one, whereby I would stand before the court and claim something, and the Bosnian side would present a document and deny everything I have said and present me as a liar. That would be hard on me as a man, but the state would lose the case because of that"</i>, Stojanovic said.</p>
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<p>SCG Defense Minister Stankovic: It is a lie that we have located Mladic</p>	<p>RHB, Oslobođenje pg 3 'It is a lie that we have located Mladic', FENA – Serbia and Montenegro (SCG) Defense Minister Zoran Stankovic said that the SCG services do not have the information on the whereabouts of Ratko Mladic and added that there have been many speculations and statements <i>"by individuals in power"</i> on deadlines of delivering Mladic to The Hague, or that the general has already been located. <i>"I am ashamed that individuals from the authorities are making such statements and promises because our services do not have concrete information on whether he (Mladic) is even on our territory"</i>, Stankovic told <i>"Glas javnosti"</i> daily, not wishing to specify any names. <i>"I responsibly claim in line with all intelligence information that we have no information on his whereabouts. Thus, we cannot make promises on deadlines"</i>, specified SCG Defense Minister.</p>
<p>SBS arrests war crime suspect</p>	<p>BHT, Pink, FTV, Hayat, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Radisav Ljubinac was arrested' by A. D.– Members of the BiH State Border Service (SBS) have arrested Radisav Ljubinac, who is suspected of genocide and war crimes committed in Rogatica area. Ljubinac was arrested in Zvornik on Saturday, December 17, by the order of Sarajevo Cantonal Court ; Cantonal Prosecutor's Office announced on Monday that this case is very delicate, and that it would continue working on it. After the apprehension, Ljubinac was transferred to the prison in Sarajevo .</p>
<p>SD: BiH is classic example of corrupt state</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija, pgs 16-17, mentioned on front 'Prison threatens two former heads of state', by Zlatko Tulic – The author argues that BiH is a classic example of a corrupt state in which many former officials are mostly charged with abuse of office/authority, citing examples of Dragan Covic and Mirko Sarovic as the two most high-profile cases. SD also notes that a senior official of SDA and former FBiH Interior Minister, Mehmed Zilic, who is being tried by the Sarajevo Cantonal Court for abuse of office and financial malversations, 'swapped' his counselling role in Sulejman Tihic's office for a seat in the BiH Parliament, where he replaced Seada Palavric, who has become a BiH Constitutional Court judge.</p>

	<p>Economic/Social Issues</p>
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<p>Terzic demands return of BiH property in Croatia Read by the presenter</p>	<p>BHT, Hayat, FTV, Oslobođenje pg 2, mentioned on cover 'Terzic sends a letter of protest to Sanader', Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'Terzic threatens with suit before Strasbourg Court' by <u>A.Malagic</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija pg 3 'Terzic: We shall go even before court because of Cavtat' by <u>B. Kristo</u>— Trade Court in Zagreb decided to reject the request to exclude BiH's property from the list of real estates which are to be liquidated. On that occasion, Chair of BiH Council of Ministers Adnan Terzic sent a letter to Croatian PM Ivo Sanader reminding him that the Prime Ministers of Croatia and BiH had discussed the status of children's hospital in Cavtat, which is property of Sarajevo Clinical Centre, during their meeting on October 4th 2004 in Zagreb. Terzic asked Sanadertodo all possible in order to prevent a lawsuit at the Court for Human Rights in Strasburg regarding BiH's state property in Croatia .</p> <p>Nezavisne novine pg 9 'BiH authorized attorney to launch a demand for revision' by <u>R. Rakic</u> also covered the issue.</p>
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Contracts for supporting the process of return to BiH signed in Sarajevo

Pink, **BHT**, **Hayat**, **FTV**, **RTRS**, **Oslobodjenje** pg 3, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 'Circa EURO 1 million for school reconstruction', **Dnevni List** pg 4 '1 million Euros for reconstruction of schools and infrastructure' not signed, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 2, announced on cover 'A million € for return' by M. Rener, **Glas Srpske** pg 3 'A million € for reconstruction' by Srna – The Delegation of the European Commission to BiH and EUFOR have signed on Monday in Sarajevo the contracts for supporting the process of return to BiH. Those contracts, for which European Union will provide approximately one million Euros, include the renovation of the social and technical infrastructure in Visegrad, Sokolac, Vlasenica, Potocari-Srebrenica, Podlugovi, Malesici, Ilijas, Hadzici, Stolac and Trebinje municipalities. Deputy Head of the EC Delegation to BiH **Renzo Daviddi**, who signed those contracts along with the commanders of Austrian and Italian units for civilian-military cooperation, stressed that those projects represent the good example of the cooperation between different segments of European Union's mission to BiH. Recently appointed EUFOR Commander, Italian Major General **Gianmarco Chiarini** added that those projects represent another step towards the full normalisation of situation in BiH. "As you know, EUFOR is no longer involved in implementation of new projects regarding the civilian-military cooperation, but we are still capable of monitoring those projects, so we will use our capacities to monitor the implementation of those projects", concluded Chiarini. Those projects will be implemented by the Austrian and Italian units for civilian-military cooperation, in cooperation with local authorities and private companies.

<p>Malaysia interested in construction of Corridor Vc</p>	<p>RHB, Hayat, FTV, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Minister Velu wants to personally examine technical aspects of 5C corridor' by <u>I.S.</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Corridor Vc was the main topic of discussion' by <u>D. Mu.</u>— Malaysian Minister of Labour Samy Vellu arrived in Sarajevo on Monday, where he is going to meet with BiH officials to discuss possible cooperation on construction of highway Corridor Vc. Vellu explained that the Malaysian Government is very interested to participate in the construction of the highway. BiH Minister for Transport and Communication Brako Dokic stated that the Malaysian offer is the most serious offer of a state made so far. Dokic said that he expects, together with Vellu, to sign a statement which will ensure a transparent and open process of selection of potential partners for companies all over the world.</p>
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<p>Osl. on consequences of VAT introduction: 'Who is going to secure 18 millions KM for pensioners?'</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 2 'Who is going to secure 18 millions KM for pensioners?' by <u>M.K.S.</u> says that after many attempts the daily failed to learn from FBiH Minister of Labor Radovan Vignjevic in which way 25 millions KM would be secured for reducing negative consequences of a VAT to socially endangered categories. Out of this amount, 18 millions KM should be allocated for payment of 10 KM of monthly subvention to the pensioners whose incomes are less than 200 KM. Osl. says that according to the Ministry's proposal this amount should be secured from the Pension Insurance Bureau (PIO/MIO) and the FBiH Association of Pensioners is appalled by such proposal. President of this Association Sefkija Elezovic said that funds from the FBiH PIO/MIO could be used for pensions only and not for welfare funds. FBiH Deputy Prime Minister Gavrilo Grahovac stated that the FBiH PIO /MIO would not be additionally burdened after January 1 since the FBiH Government would secure money for socially endangered categories and it is still unknown from which source.</p>
<p>WB's Reinermann on VAT: 'VAT is true reform for BiH'</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 9 'VAT is true reform for BiH' by <u>Head of the World Bank Office for BiH Dirk Reinermann</u> carries an editorial on the VAT introduction. Among the other things, the author says: <i>'The fact is that the VAT introduction is probably one of the most significant reforms in BiH during the last few years. Benefits of this new taxation system are obvious and this is the reason as to why most of the countries in the world accepted it. The VAT system with a single rate might be especially useful for BiH today, since, first of all, it can reduce and discourage some of the biggest problems that citizens and taxpayers are concerned about and they are corruption, smuggling and grey economy...'</i></p>

<p>Parliamentary commission says NATO in 1995 used depleted uranium ammunition at 21 locations in BiH</p>	<p>Vecernji List, front pg splash ‘Deadly waste at 21 locations in BiH ‘ and pgs 4-5 ‘Depleted uranium’, by <u>Dejan Jazvic</u> – Notes that a (BiH) parliamentary investigative commission established in its report that NATO used depleted uranium during the sorties/attacks in BiH in 1995. The report should be discussed at the next session of the BiH House of Representatives. VL also notes that NATO confirmed existence of 15 such locations, about 5 of which they even submitted relevant documentation.</p>
<p>SD says Bosniak intellectuals should stop politicising with issue of building of Neum port</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija, front pg splash and pgs 16-17 ‘Port at Neum – a salty utopia’, by <u>Radoslav Dodig</u> – Writing about periodic requests of the “<i>Bosniak parade intellectuals</i>” about building a port at Neum, the author reminds that a group of experts from Hamburg and Marseille prepared a study back in 1993, concluding that there are no natural pre-requisites to build a port at Neum. In a nutshell, the author argues that the Bosniak intellectuals, especially the ones gathered in the ‘Council of Congress of Bosniak Intellectuals’ (VKBI), should stop manipulating the issue.</p>
<p>Ht Mostar’s Prlic says HT Mostar will not collect RTV tax at expense of company</p>	<p>Vecernji List, pg 5 ‘HT Mostar will not collect RTV tax’, by <u>Zoran Kresic</u> – The CEO of HT Mostar (Croat telecommunications Mostar), Stipe Prlic, hopes the HT Mostar will not be collecting the RTV tax along with the phone bills. “<i>We hope we will reach an agreement by February next year. If we are to save the public RTV system and destroy the HT Mostar, than it is unacceptable</i>”, says Prlic. He also notes that the law that regulated the collection of the RTV tax is enacted at the detriment of consumers and in contradiction to the Law on protection of consumers.</p>

<p>OHR: Ravne municipality violated ban on sale of state-owned land BiH Public Attorney's Office: if this was town construction land, there was no violation of the ban</p>	<p>Nezavisne novine pg 2, announced on cover 'Municipality violated the ban of OHR' by <u>R. Cengic</u> – OHR Spokesperson Sanela Tunovic on Monday stated that Ravno Municipality had violated OHR's ban on disposal of public property in BiH by selling 7 million square meters of state-owned land to "Agrotur Ivanjica" and "Razvitak AS" firms. The Department for Finances of Ravne Municipality confirmed that the land was sold in price of 1,1 KM per square meter. Municipal attorney Darko Simovic says the sale was carried out in accordance with a public tender, while the money would be used for construction of infrastructure in the area of this Municipality. A source close to CoM claims the purchase was made on behalf of "Croatia osiguranje" from Zagreb, Dubrovacka bank and "Jambo" firm from Metkovic. The source also claims the land would, most probably, be re-sold to American investors, who are already constructing tourist facilities on the site. BiH Public Attorney's Office said they have no information on this sale, but they noted if this was "town construction land" then it was not a subject to OHR's ban.</p>
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<p>RS Budget issue: Cavic says crisis of authorities in RS exists; Djokic, Tesanovic, Popovic: RS Govt will have to resign if it fails to get support for adoption of draft budget</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 4, announced on cover ‘RS needs a new Government’ by <u>V. Popovic</u> – Representatives of political parties think RS must have stabile institutions and Assembly majority, since BiH is facing serious talks with EU next year. SDS’s Dragan Cavic said it is obvious crisis of authorities exists in RS and expressed his readiness to appoint a new trustee for composition of the Government, should it be found necessary. He added that more than 50 delegates do not support the Cabinet of RS PM Pero Bukejlovic and added it is possible to find 42 delegates among those 50 who would form a new parliamentary majority and cast a vote of non-confidence in the Government. SPRS’s Petar Djokic says RS Government must resign if it fails to get a support for draft budget, while PDP’s Zoran Tesanovic and SPD’s Slobodan Popovic share a view similar to this one.</p> <p>Glas Srpske pg 3 ‘Constitution is clear’ by <u>G. D.</u> – Dragan Cavic noted that those who have created the crisis at the authorities should be the ones to launch an initiative for removal of the current Government, not SDS as some have demanded.</p> <p>Dnevni List, pg 4 ‘Solve crisis in Republika Srpska Government’, <u>not signed</u> also carried Cavic’s statement.</p>
<p>NN op-ed raises the issue of how to provide new and stable Government of RS</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine op-ed pg 7 ‘New Government’ by <u>Dragan Jerinic</u> – Criticising the fact it has almost become a practise in RS to get a new Government with the beginning of new year, the author highlights that far more important than dealing with already former parliament majority is how to get a new stable government with parliament majority, which would be capable of holding out all quakes expected after New Years’ celebration.</p>

<p>Head of RS Directorate for Privatisation Mackic: general audit of privatisation would be a bad message for investors</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 11 'General revision of privatization is a bad message to investors' by <u>P. Klinčov</u> – In an interview to <i>NW</i>, Head of RS Directorate for Privatization Vladimir Mackic stated the Law on Privatization Audit should deal only with those firms for which it would be established, beyond any doubt, there had been illegalities in the privatization process, while a general audit would be a bad message for investors. He added he does not understand what might be disputable with regard to privatization of strategic firms.</p>
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