

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 20/6/2006

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on **June 20**

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	BH Radio 1 (12,00 hrs)	RTRS (12,00 hrs)
HoR to discuss VAT amendments	BiH HoP adopts custom laws	ITA SB in session in SA
Hop to discuss customs law	BiH HoR still on Law on VAT	Privatisation of Brod Refinery
World day of refugees	Seminar on financial investigations	UN SC on KosMet

TV news broadcast on **June 19, 2006**

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
Support to possible RHB strike	Terzic addresses BiH HoR on VAT	BiH in control of air traffic
Syndical meeting in 'Hepok' company	BiH takes control over air traffic	CRO -BiH border issues disputes
Terzic informs HoR on VAT effects	Igman Initiative in session	Peaceful march in Mostar
Control over the airspace	March against violence in Mostar	BiH HoR in session

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
HoR rejects report on VAT effects	BiH HoR in session	HR invites politicians to dinner

Alleviation of VAT consequences	District Brcko on RS Govt's initiative	Cannabis farm discovered in Prijedor
Terzic on SDA- SDP connection	BiH in control of air traffic	BiH HoR rejects info on VAT effects
Feature on pre-election campaign	Peaceful march in Mostar	Public revenue distribution

Oslobodjenje	State parliamentarians refused Terzic's information on VAT
Dnevni Avaz	[BiH CoM Chair Terzic] RS tears down police reform
Dnevni List	Mostar: First victims of heat
Vecernji List	Cousins on two sides (feature on football World Cup)
Slobodna Dalmacija	I am leaving Pecara with my head high (sports story)
Nezavisne Novine	RS Government did not approve contract with "Vitol" (<i>Bos. Brod Oil Refinery</i>)
Glas Srpske	Double-dealing goddess of justice
EuroBlic	F BiH stinting pensioners in RS (RS PIO Fund against F BiH MIO before Mostar Court)
Vecernje novosti	Features Serbian related topics

	LATEST NEWS OF TODAY
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<p>BiH HoP adopts set of Laws on Custom Policy</p>	<p>BH Radio – BiH House of Peoples gave approval for ratifying of set of agreements and contracts between BiH and international institutions. BiH HoP has adopted, in both readings, amendments to the BiH Law on Customs and Custom Policy, in the same text that was passed in the BiH House of Representatives. BiH HoP Chair Goran Milojevic said that goal of these laws is to release from custom obligations the projects that are approved by Council of Ministers, including projects of rebuilding and reconstruction. RHB – carries a similar report.</p>
<p>BiH HoR still discusses the amendments on Law on VAT</p>	<p>BH Radio by <u>Mirsad Bajtarevic</u> – At today's session, BiH House of Representatives should discuss the High Education Law, which is important for BiH European road, but until now the MPs haven't managed to move from the second point of the agenda, which refers to amendments to BiH Law on VAT. The VAT discussion continued upon demand of SDP MP Zlatko Lagumdzija, who asked for the amendments on Law on VAT to be discussed in urgent procedure. The reporter stressed that recess was asked in the <i>"characteristic manner"</i> just in time when Lagumdzija wanted to discuss the matter.</p> <p>BiH HoR should also discuss the amendments to the Law on Police Officers, Old Foreign Exchange Savings and State Border Service. RTRS, RHB – also reported on VAT discussion.</p>

<p>BiH Fiscal Council to convene today</p>	<p>RTRS – The BiH Fiscal Council will hold session in Sarajevo today. The meeting will be chaired by BiH CoM Chair Adnan Terzic while RS and F BiH Premiers respectively, Milorad Dodik and Ahmet Hadzipasic, entities Finance ministers Aleksandar Dzombic and Dragan Vrankic, Brcko Mayor Mirsad Djapo and Central Bank Governor Kemal Kozaric will also attend the meeting.</p>
<p>RS Pres. Cavic: current police reform solutions unacceptable for RS</p>	<p>Fena – RS President Dragan Cavic stated today (Tuesday) that it would be good to carry out some changes when it comes to finding future model of police reform, because if the current positions remain, such solutions would not be acceptable to the RSNA and RS.</p>

	<p>Economic issues</p>
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<p>BiH HoR in session: MPs reject information on first VAT effects despite ITA, CoM claiming progress achieved</p>	<p>Hayat by Alem Karamesic – On Monday, the BiH House of Representatives resumed its work after blockade caused by the refusal of the RS MPs to attend sessions before the establishment of the Commission for on suffering in Sarajevo. The first session in several weeks was focused at the information on the first effects of Value Added Tax [VAT] implementation, presented by the BiH Council of Ministers [CoM] Chair Adnan Terzic. After hours long discussion, MPs rejected information upon proposal of the SDP despite the fact Terzic argued VAT implementation has been successful to date. Terzic underlined public revenues have increased by 52% comparing to the same period in 2005, while BiH achieved increase in foreign trade exchange. <i>“For the first time after the war, more than 50% of import has been covered with export. During first five months of 2006, import to BiH was slightly less than KM 4 billion, while the export from BiH was slightly more than KM 2 billion”,</i> explained Indirect Taxation Administration [ITA] Director Kemal Causevic. RTRS – SDA deputy Elmir Jahic stated that VAT obviously caused improved tax discipline, increased export and more job openings. Causevic refused to comment the decision of BiH HoR. The session of HoR will continue on Tuesday, when the deputies should discuss several proposals for changes of Law on VAT. BHT1, FTV, RHB, PINK, Dnevni List, pg 3 ‘Tax on poor or top reform?’ by D. P. Mandic, EuroBlic pgs RS2-RS3 ‘Terzic’s calculation failed’ by D. Stanisic, Nezavisne Novine pg 4 ‘Information on VAT effects was rejected’ by N. Krsman, Glas Srpske pg 2 ‘Surplus caused headache’ by Z.Domazet, Oslobodjenje cover splash, pg 6 ‘Deputies rejected information on VAT’ by A.Terzic, Dnevni Avaz pg 8 ‘Information on VAT effects rejected’ by H.Orahovac – report on BiH HoR session.</p>
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HoR on VAT: SDP
Lagumdžija says
life worsened,
MP Gligoric
notes
information
unrealistic;
Daily: SDA MPs
supported Terzić
much later

Hayat – Commenting the information on the VAT effects, the BiH HoR representative **Tihomir Gligoric** said Parliament wanted a report, not information containing no realistic picture of social and economic situation in BiH, and he stressed the situation in BiH is quite difficult since no new jobs are being created, poverty is increasing etc. SDP's **Zlatko Lagumdžija** said CoM Chair, his assistants and CoM members in general obviously live in a world not close to reality, and added: *'To say that average consumers basket for a four-member family is 226 KM per month, and explain that it is not much of increase, because it is only seven KM more than before, only demonstrates inaccuracy of such analysis'*. Lagumdžija criticised CoM whose representatives left the session during the break [before the vote]. **BHT1** – HoR deputies disagreed with the information **Adnan Terzić** presented saying it was incomplete. *"I see no positive effects beside the fact that a law has been passed, a single account has been established and we have 'stolen' from poor people money we were unable to steal from grey economy"*, Gligoric says. The session concluded that 6 months after VAT introduction, BiH citizens' life has not improved but worsened. **FTV-** *"People in BiH are living no better, number of unemployed has increased"*, said a HoR MP **Sead Avdic**. SDS' **Momcilo Novakovic**, said, *"not a thing was returned to an ordinary citizen."* **Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 *'Information on VAT effects rejected' by H.Orahovac* – Daily also notes that no MP was directly opposing Zlatko Lagumdžija's arguments against the VAT, including SDA members. *DA* comments that one *"could conclude from this that [Lagumdžija] was right. To be honest, Terzić's arguments were defended by the SDA MPs but much later."* **Oslobodjenje** cover splash, pg 6 *'Deputies rejected information on VAT' by A.Terzić*, inset *'Voting'*- SDP, SDS, SNSD, larger part Croat Caucus and several independent deputies voted for rejection of the information, while SDA MPs and Pensioner Party's **Muhamed Altic** were against this. SBiH MPs, HDZ 1990's **Martin Raguz**, Avdic and PDP's **Jelina Djurkovic** abstained from vote. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 *'Information on VAT effects rejected' by H.Orahovac* – The CoMs information was rejected by the individual vote in the Parliament after BiH HoR Co-Chair **Sefik Džaferovic** expressed some doubts in electronic voting.

<p>VL: As elections approach, more and more requests for zero VAT rate</p>	<p>Vecernji List, pg 7 'More requests for zero rate', by <u>Eldina Medunjanin</u> – also reports on the BiH HoR session underlining that with the October elections approaching, more and more parties and MPs are advocating changes to the VAT law, for example the SDS, which originally supported the single, 17% VAT rate, which now advocates the zero rate for food, medicines etc. According to CoM Chair Adnan Terzic, introduction of zero rate would not diminish increase of prices, however it would result in loss of public revenues for as much as 260 million KMs.</p>
<p>RS Fin. Min says he will propose 66.6% of revenues is allocated to F BiH, while 33.3% is allocated to RS</p>	<p>Glas Srpske cover pg report 'One third to Srpska' by – Aleksandar Dzombic, RS Finance Minister, has confirmed in a statement to daily that at today's session of the ITA Steering Board, he will propose 66.6% of revenues is allocated to F BiH, and 33.3% of revenues are allocated to RS, adding: <i>"This is a model of entities' participation in pay-off of foreign debt...My proposal is that within the frame of this percentage, we should agree on percentage to be allocated to Brcko District and what percentage will be allocated for financing of joint institutions."</i> According to him, it is acceptable that apart from debated VAT claims, the size, number of population, income or combination of all these may be a model for distribution of revenues.</p>
<p>ITA SB member Hafizovic on money allocation from ITA single account: RS Finance Minister Dzombic would have to explain upon what did he reach percentage he is demanding</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'Will there be agreement on method of money allocation?' by <u>T.Lazovic</u> – Commenting the session of the ITA Steering Board on Tuesday, FBiH member of the Board, Sefika Hafizovic, told DA that FBiH Finance Ministry cannot accept proposal of the RS Finance Minister Aleksandar Dzombic who proposes fixed coefficient for the RS [32% of total income] in allocation of money from the ITA single account. She added that FBiH's suggestion is to allocate funds on base of the monthly VAT payments, as defined by law: <i>"On base of what does he demand 32% or defining 2% for someone else? It has to be explained how that number was reached. Besides, it would mean demand change of law, which is more apprehensive procedure."</i> Daily reminds that deadline for ITA SB to determine method of money allocation is end of month, adding that if it is not respected, ITA single account could be freeze again, as happened in previous two months.</p>

<p>Brcko District: RS Government's initiative to reduce revenues collected through VAT is an attempt on economic and political destabilization</p>	<p>FTV – As it was pointed out during the meeting between the Brcko District Assembly representatives, Brcko Mayor Mirsad Djapo and Supervisor of Brcko District Susan Johnson, Brcko District finds the RS Government's initiative to reduce VAT distribution coefficients as an attempt on economic and political destabilization. <i>"By reducing the revenues, District would no longer be financially sustainable"</i>, said Djapo. <i>"In this way, District's fiscal self-sustainability would be endangered and despite the fact that, according to the Final Award, entities should be the one to finance the District, the question is whether they would do that since they have never done it"</i>, Head of Brcko District Revenue Agency Osman Osmanovic said. The District officials believe that the District Assembly would stress the issue in a resolution, which is being prepared. Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'With 2% from BiH treasury, District loses financial independence' by E.R. EuroBlic pg RS9 'They will defend taxes with Resolution' by L. S.</p> <p>–Brcko District Assembly delegates adopted the Resolution on criteria on distribution of VAT revenues in BiH late Monday afternoon, by which they demand from the Mayor and BD Office at BiH CoM, with the support of the Supervisor of Brcko District, that in urgent communication with BiH institutions they explain the necessity of implementation of the Final Award and the existing manner of self-financing of Brcko District of BiH.</p>
<p>Three PMs meet to discuss public revenues allocation; ITA SB to do the same on Tuesday</p>	<p>RTRS – BiH Council of Ministers Chair Adnan Terzic met the entities Prime Ministers Milorad Dodik and Ahmet Hadzipasic to discuss the allocation of the public revenues. ITA Steering Board will discuss the same issue on Tuesday. If the Board fails to reach an agreement on coefficient of VAT income distribution, the assets at the ITA single account will be blocked again. Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'On distribution of revenues today' by Srna – announces ITA Steering Board meeting.</p>

<p>HR and BiH Minister of Communications and Transport Dokic met with representatives of IT sector</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'Whether state institutions are closed for BiH IT industry?' – The High Representative, Christian Schwarz-Schilling and BiH Minister of Communications and Transport Branko Dokic met on Monday with the representatives of BiH companies dealing in Information Technologies (IT), gathered in the Association "Bajt". After the meeting, HR said that talks were continued on the subjects arranged recently in Hanover IT fair, with accent on the laws that must be amended and implemented. On the other side, said Dokic, representatives of the IT sector have requested amendments of the Law on Ownership, additional explanations in the Law on Indirect Taxation and ensuring of competitiveness of domestic IT industry, especially in the State institutions. Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Computing systems in BiH institutions are led by ignorant people' <u>by Az.K.</u> – Dokic stated: <i>"In many state institutions there are incompetent people that deal with software, which adds to overall weakening of IT technologies in the state."</i></p>
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	<p>Political issues</p>
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<p>Peaceful march in Mostar against violence, xenophobia and hatred</p>	<p>FTV – On Monday, Youth Cultural Centre ‘Abrasevic’ organized a peaceful march against violence, xenophobia and hatred in Mostar. Namely, after several recent incidents that took place in Mostar, including riots after football match between Croatia and Brazil, and threats a Mostar Gymnasium was faced with, the Centre organized march. <i>“We want to try and talk, teach ourselves a different history, work with youth in different ways”</i>, said Husein Orucevic from the Centre. Persons interviewed in streets said they support such initiatives, saying all Mostar citizens should take part. No representatives of the authorities were present. RHB, PINK, BHT1, Hayat, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 3 ‘They do not want the city in which fear an terror rules” by <u>F.Vele</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 3 ‘Everyone is swearing in the peace and are doing contradictory’ by <u>Fena</u>, Dnevni List pg 12, mentioned on front, ‘Stop violence and hatred’ by <u>Esmir Milavic</u>, Vecernji List pg 4 ‘Protest against hatred and violence in Mostar’ by <u>r. a. Slobodna Dalmacija</u> pg 15, mentioned on front, ‘Stop violence and hatred’ by <u>F</u> – also covered.</p>
<p>DL op-ed on Mostar riots: Schooling system, general public has to do more</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 2 ‘Stop to hatred’, by <u>Sanja Bjelica</u> – commenting on the recent cases of hooliganism in Mostar and yesterday’s protest march organized by ‘Abrasevic’ youth centre, <u>Bjelica</u> believes that more people of Mostar should be protesting against violence and that the schooling system has to play a bigger part since it is not teaching children about tolerance, as well as the public in general.</p>

**HR organizes
dinner to re-
launch talks on
constitutional
changes**

RTRS – RTRS learns the HR **Christian Schwarz Schilling** invited leaders of seven political parties to dinner, with an aim to re-launch the dialogue on constitutional changes. Leaders of five political parties confirmed they would attend dinner to take place in the HR's residency in Sarajevo. **EuroBlic** pg RS2 'On constitution during dinner at Schwarz-Schilling's' by Srna, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 4 'Talk on constitutional changes as well' by V. P. – also report a dinner will be organised.

**Six party
leaders met HR
CSS; SDP
Lagumdzija: OHR
cannot leave
until BiH is
strong enough
to negotiate
with EU and
fulfil European
conditions**

Dnevni Avaz pg 3, mentioned on cover 'Politicians at Schwarz-Schilling's for dinner' by S.N. and A.M. – Leaders of six major parties, that supported the proposed constitutional amendments [HDZ, SNSD, SDS, SDA, SDP leaders **Dragan Covic**, **Milorad Dodik**, **Dragan Covic**, **Sulejman Tihic**, **Zlatko Lagumdzija**, respectively and PDP's **Vinko Radovanovic**], met High Representative **Christian Schwarz-Schilling** at his residence Monday evening for dinner. OHR Spokesperson **Oleg Milisic** stated that HR is planning to organize row of such meetings in the future, inviting representatives of cultural and political scene. Commenting the meeting, Covic told DA: *"We talked about recent issues in BiH, our host wanted to hear what do we expect from our political actions in couple of next months."* HDZ leader added that he expects struggle for elections result: *"Regarding everything else, including reforms, I am afraid that everyone will be dedicated to their elections campaign, and not to those tasks. It is obviously our reality."* Lagumdzija stated that the process of constitutional changes should be continued after the elections, adding that the second phase should be immediately included. Commenting the future status of OHR and abolishing of some of its powers, Lagumdzija noted: *"OHR cannot leave from here unless the state is strengthened, i.e. until it is strong enough to negotiate with EU and fulfil European conditions."* **Vecernji List**, pg 4 'Leaders of six parties at Schilling's', by Zoran Kresic –VL notes BiH politicians were clearly told that the EU was expecting thorough changes because the country needs to have political and institutional unity as soon as the SAA is signed in order to meet Brussels' requirements. As for constitutional changes, VL notes the EU and US administration want to secure necessary support after the elections in order not to have a repeat of the last voting in the parliament when the changes got rejected.

<p>CEIS: only way out from const. crisis is if three constituent peoples were to abandon their "war myths"</p>	<p>Vecernji List, pg 5 'Bosniaks without Yugo-domination', by <u>Zoran Kresic</u> – reports that the CEIS (Centre for European Integration Strategies), whose membership includes prominent European politicians and professors, including former High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch, assessed that the only way out of the crisis in BiH regarding the constitutional reform is if the three constituent peoples were to leave their 'war myths', namely if Croats are to get closer to solutions reached by other two peoples, if Bosniaks are to give up the domination resembling the old Yugoslav model (in which they would rule as majority people in BiH) and if Serbs realize that survival of the RS is untenable. CEIS also warns that the Serbs in the RS have not completely accepted the fact that the RS would always be a part of BiH, whilst the Bosniaks have to support de-centralization of state.</p>
<p>SD: PIC to discuss abolishment of HR's Bonn powers, some powers will be kept to protect vital interests of state</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 15, mentioned on front 'Schilling's authorities 'clipped'', by <u>Zlatko Tulic</u> – SD notes that the Peace Implementation Council should be discussing about possible abolishment of the High Representative's Bonn powers at its session scheduled for end of this week. VL comments one can already say that the abolishment will go gradually, noting that RS parties are in favour of the abolishment of the Bonn powers, whilst the Bosniak parties believe it is too early to do that and the Croat parties have not reacted probably thinking it cannot influence the position of Croats in BiH. Finally, SD claims it has learned from sources close to the OHR that a part of the Bonn powers would be kept in case vital interests of the state were to be endangered.</p>

<p>BiH CoM Chair Terzic: We have chance to receive green light to sign SAA with EU in October; political pressure from RS must stop, experts should lead the way</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz cover splash ‘RS tears down police reform’, pg 2 ‘We have chance to receive green light from EU in October already’ by <u>E.Sarac</u> –</p> <p>Commenting blockade of the Police Reform Directorate [PRD], BiH Council of Ministers Chair Adnan Terzic claims it was a good decision to built in an unfreeze-mechanism in the work of PRD: <i>“That mechanism was never to be used at all. On the contrary, under political pressure of the RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik, such atmosphere has been fabricated as if that was the only way of decision-making process. The real way is consensus, experts should reach an agreement by consensus without any political influences... We have fantastic opportunity to receive a green light in October already, for signing the Stabilisation and Association Agreement [SAA] with EU, and I will do everything within my power not to let reforms be put under question but to implement them within the set deadlines.”</i> Article carries that PRD should discuss police structure at the state level at its Wednesday’s session. RS member in PRD Steering Board, RS Police acting Director Nijaz Smajlovic freezes his status and participate PRD session only as an observer. Other members reached consensus regarding Opinion on the model of police structure and refused RS demand to preserve entity polices, in line with three EU principles. The three EU principles urge for the exclusive state competency for police legislation and budgetary issues, local police areas designed on the basis of technical policing criteria and a system that protects the police from improper political interference.</p>
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<p>SRS' Mihajlica: RSNA to start process of returning of authorities</p>	<p>RTRS, Dnevni List, pg 7 'Return of transferred authorities to RS requested', <u>not signed</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'Dodik should remove SDA and PforBiH Ministers' <u>by Agencies</u> – President of SRS Milanko Mihaljica demands from RS National Assembly to start the process of return of authorities, which have been transferred to BiH level. According to Mihaljica, the transfer of authorities from RS to BiH level didn't provide the expected results.</p>
<p>Former PDHR Hays: transferring authorities from the state back to entity level would stop BiH way to EU and help criminals</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'Dodik is now leading wrong policy', mentioned on cover 'Every attack on VAT is attack on European way' <u>by Sead Numanovic</u> – Commenting demands of some RS political parties, in an interview for daily former PDHR Donald Hays said that transferring authorities from the state back to entity level would stop BiH way to EU and help criminals. He reminded that former EU demanded from BiH to introduce single VAT rate: <i>"Reason for such demand was the fact that duty rates were in pretty mess. Our estimates were that due to that, BiH is yearly losing between one and two billion KM. That money was vanishing either in certain political channels or it was result of corruption."</i> He stressed that demand for transferring the authorities to the entity level is just a try of some politicians to gain money for their pre-elections campaign. Asked to comment series of statements made by RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik regarding possible referendum on RS secession, Hays said that the policy Dodik is leading now is wrong and that it can 'turn on' only ignorant: <i>"Majority of BiH people do not want past. They want to be part of Europe, have bigger salaries and better life... BiH will not fall apart, International Community clearly said so."</i> Hays is now engaged with drafting second phase of BiH constitutional changes and a project that works on improving the function of municipalities in BiH.</p>

<p>Brcko District Mayor Djapo: Brcko wants to have right to vote at BiH institutions, wants to be either police region or seat of police region</p>	<p>EuroBlic pg RS9 'They will defend taxes through Resolution' by <u>L. S.</u> – Brcko District Mayor Mirsad Djapo presented some stances with regard to continuation of negotiations with state institutions, which will be held in next several days in Sarajevo with mediation of American administration, and he noted Brcko District wantsto be represented in every BiH institution and wants to have the right to vote in these, especially at the ITA Steering Board and at the Fiscal Council. He warned no further transfer of competences of the District would be allowed without consent of the elected representatives of the authorities in Brcko, and emphasized, when it comes to the police, Brcko must be either a police region or the centre of a police region.</p>
<p>BiH Court rejects HDZ BiH's complaint against elections verification of HDZ 1990</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Objection filed against verification of HDZ 1990 for general elections rejected' by <u>FENA</u>, Dnevni List, pg 3, mentioned on front 'Covic lost, Ljubic to take part in elections', by <u>Lj. Vidacak</u>, Vecernji List, pg 4 'HDZ 1990 – together in elections', by <u>Fena</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'Covic's attempt to exclude us from elections failed' by <u>Fena</u> – FENA has reported that the BiH Court has rejected the complaint HDZ to BiH filed asking annulment of election verification of HDZ 1990. The Court assessed that the Central Election Commission rightfully and legally verified HDZ 1990' application for general elections.</p>
<p>SDA Ahmetovic: Denying our support to RS Gov would not change anything</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'Ahmetovic: Us leaving would not change anything' by <u>N.D.</u> – Commenting why SDA Main Board did not bring decision on leaving RS National Assembly majority and deny support to the Government of the RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik, SDA Presidency member Sadik Ahmetovic told daily: <i>"Regardless to the fact we are in the majority with SNSD and that we do not support antireform processes launched by Dodik, situation would not change even if we would withdraw the majority."</i></p>

<p>Parties to disclose names of candidates during the course of next week</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Parties to disclose names of candidates during the course of next week' by <u>A.Malagic</u> – Daily observes that although 10-day deadline for application of lists of candidates for the upcoming general elections starts on Friday, Party for BiH, Patriotic Block (SDU and BOSS), HDZ and SDP of BiH confirmed they are still collecting information from the field, adding lists will be disclosed during the course of next week. As for SDA, only several Cantonal Boards have completed their lists. According to inset 'Osmanovic is candidate for President of RS' – daily learns that Adil Osmanovic will be SDA candidate for RS President.</p>
<p>SDS to disclose list after SDS Chair Board session on 23 June</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'SDS will have a final list on 23 June' by <u>N.D.</u> – Daily observes the parties from RS have not completed the lists of candidates for the upcoming elections, waiting for other parties to reveal their nominations. Bosko Siljegovic, SDS Vice President, confirmed to daily that SDS will take a final stance on candidates on 21 and 23 June, when sessions of the SDS President and Chair Board respectively will be held. DEPOS, PDP and SNSD confirmed proposals from the field are still being collected.</p>
<p>HDZ BiH's Herceg calls on Croats to turn out in October elections</p>	<p>Vecernji List, pg 6, mentioned on front 'Get Croat member of BiH Presidency through coalition', by <u>Zoran Kresic</u> – carries an interview with HDZ BiH Secretary General, Nevenko Herceg, in which he calls on the Croat electorate in BiH to turn out in the October elections in order to prevent Bosniak parties from representing the Croats. In this context, he fears Bosniak parties could be able to win the elections for the office of the Croat member of BiH Presidency, underlining that this especially refers to the SDP, which will most likely not run for the Bosniak member of the Presidency and instead focus on the Croat office. (NB: Herceg does not speak anything about formation of a (Croat) coalition that would make sure Croats elect their representative)</p>

<p>SBiH replies to SDA's Tihic: it is SDA members who are leaving their party to join SBiH</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 7 'Tihic's quisling-like policy' by <u>Presidency of Party for BiH</u> – Referring to the interview SDA President Sulejman Tihic gave to <i>Nezavisne Novine</i> [see <i>OHR BiH Media Round-up, June 19</i>], the Presidency of the Party for BiH reached a conclusion the editorial board of <i>NN</i> treats everything that has anything to do with Party for BiH in a malicious manner since the interview's title reads SBiH committed a crime towards the state only because it failed to support an arrangement of Tihic with regard to constitutional amendments. Referring to Tihic's reply to journalist claim [that <i>SBiH members are leaving the party and joining SDA</i>], SBiH says it is SDA members who are actually leaving their party to join SBiH because they have recognised "Tihic's quisling-like policy".</p>
<p>GS op-ed says situations at both sides of Drina so similar, while solutions US and EU propose differ</p>	<p>Glas Srpske op-ed pg 2 'Contradictions of the great ones' by <u>Nenad Kecmanovic</u> – The author says that "<i>the contradictory approach the USA and EU – embodied in insistence that BiH is centralised while Serbia and Montenegro disintegrated – represents a drastic level of inconsistency especially in regard to attempts of western centers of power not to connect the future status of Kosovo with RS status! However, the situations on both sides of Drina river is so similar, while announced solutions differ to the extent of insult of common sense. Since they have no arguments, nobody from Washington and Brussels is even trying to explain anything.</i>" Furthermore, he adds he does not support application of Bosnian model in Kosovo but rather Kosovo model should be applied to BiH.</p>

<p>Serb delegates at BiH HoR will not support framework law on high education, sent to the procedure by Minister Halilovic</p>	<p>EuroBlic pg RS2 ‘Deadlines approaching, no compromise’ by <u>R. R.</u> – Serb delegates at BiH HoR have announced they would not support framework law on high education, which was sent to the parliamentary procedure upon a request of BiH Civil Affairs Minister Safet Halilovic. SNSD’s Dusanka Majkic thinks BiH CoM had deliberately transferred this sensitive issue onto BiH Parliament, although it was not realistic to expect RS delegates would support the framework law since BiH Constitution foresees the entities should keep certain competences in this field. PDP’s Jelina Djurkovic too confirmed she would not support the framework law because she did not get consent of RS NA for such action, while SDS’s Momcilo Novakovic warned there is another high education law already in the procedure. Novakovic added the way in which BiH CoM sent the framework law to the Parliament was a brave move and, most probably, an attempt to blame the Serb side for failure of this reform. Glas Srpske pg 4 ‘Amendments secretly’ by <u>M.Filipovic</u> – carries SNSD Majkic’s statement.</p>
<p>CSS: every single day is important for BiH’ history</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 5 ‘Every single day is important for BiH’ by <u>FENA</u> – Christian Schwarz Schilling, HR to BiH stated Monday at the Forum “BIH and European Union – one-sided process of association or mutual learning?” that SAA talks with EU represent a positive process, adding BiH now must implement important reforms, adding moving force must be at State Parliament. He underlined: <i>“I am of the view that every single day is important for the history of BiH, but not all parliamentarians are conscious about this.”</i></p>

<p>Chief BiH negotiator with EU Davidovic: Liberalization of visa regime is key issue</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 9 'Visa regime is mother of all issues', by <u>Danijela Kozina</u> – carries an interview with the chief BiH negotiator with EU, Igor Davidovic, who mostly talks about economic aspects of negotiations between BiH and EU, underlining that the public focuses on issue of liberalization of markets between the two sides. However, according to Davidovic the key issue in the negotiations is the issue of liberalization of visa regime. In that context, he says one cannot say with certainty as to when the liberalization will indeed take place, underlining that the BiH negotiating team and he personally use every opportunity (in talks with EU officials) to stress the issue.</p>
<p>Serbian President Tadic paying visit to BiH on June 28</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 2, mentioned on cover 'Boris Tadic in Sarajevo by end of June' <u>by M.K.S.</u> – Daily unofficially learns that, on June 28 Serbian President Boris Tadic will pay his first official visit to BiH after Serbia became independent state. Author notes that Tadic initiated the visit, expressing the wish to talk about future relations between BiH and Serbia with BiH Presidency members, BiH Council of Ministers Chair Adnan Terzic and BiH Foreign Minister Mladen Ivanic.</p>

	<p>War crimes, criminal procedure code, judiciary</p>
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**BiH
Prosecution
welcomes
decision of
HR to change
Criminal
Procedure
Code, BiH HoR
MP Novakovic
says it would
had been
better for
Parliament to
do that**

BHT1 by Damir Simic – BiH Prosecution welcomes the decision by the HR **Christian Schwarz-Schilling** to introduce changes to the BiH Criminal Procedure Code, especially in terms of detention issues, which extends detention in the BiH Court to maximum 3 years. Prosecution welcomes the decision especially due to the fact that there is possibility for indictees with double citizenships to escape to Croatia or Serbia. *"There are no legislative or constitutional possibilities to perform extradition, and this issue is no longer of a legal but political nature, and regional politicians should bring solutions which would enable extradition between the three states"*, said BiH Chief Prosecutor **Marinko Jurcevic**. *"It is not good for the practice the see the High Representative continue bringing laws. It would be much better for the BiH Parliament to do that"*, said SDS representative in the BiH House of Representatives, **Momcilo Novakovic**. *"Such decision is justified, but it should not present a kind of an indirect justification to Courts and Prosecutions to delay the processes"*, said the BiH Constitutional-Legal Commission representative **Mirsad Ceman**. The decision was brought upon BiH authorities' request and parliamentary procedure has been avoided due to its urgency, claims BiH Justice Minister **Slobodan Kovac**.

**BiH
Prosecution,
Justice
Minister and
Attorneys
greet the
HR's decision
on extending
of detention
for most
severe cases**

Oslobodjenje pgs 4-5 'Three years of detention only to ones indicted for most severe war crimes', mentioned on cover, by A.Omeragic– Spokesperson of the BiH Prosecution **Boris Grubesic** welcomed the decision of the HR **Christian Schwarz-Schilling** to amend the BiH Criminal Process Code and extend the detention for most severe cases to maximum three years. BiH Justice Minister **Slobodan Kovac** said these changes were necessary and added he advocated for two-year detention, however the HR decided otherwise. Daily comments that OHR, which passed state judiciary laws, was trying to accelerate the processing of war crimes and make judiciary more efficient, but the deadlines showed to be too short. It also stresses the ICTY experiences have shown it takes more than a year for a trial. Attorneys are pleased with HR's decision, as they do not have to wait for an end of the trial to be paid. Attorney **Dragan Gotovac** says this is a good thing, adding that in other countries detention period is also longer for most severe cases. Commenting the fact that HR imposed the decision despite the fact he said he would not use Bonn powers too often, Kovac said: *"HR told me that he is reluctant to do this, but that he has no choice because the changes wouldn't be passed on time".*

**RS President
Cavic call on
BiH judiciary
officials to
take the
stance toward
information
on
humiliating
and inhuman
treatment of
war crimes'
indictees in
Tuzla**

RTRS – On Monday, the RS President **Dragan Cavic** called on BiH Chief Prosecutor **Marinko Jurcevic**, President of the BiH Court **Meddzida Kreso** and BiH Justice Minister **Slobodan Kovac** to present their stances on the information *"that quite precisely reveal arguments about harsh violations of criminal laws and brutal treatment of persons detained under suspicion they had committed the criminal acts of war crimes, which is done by the Cantonal Court in Tuzla"*. According to the claims of detainees, their families and legal representatives, some of the detained persons were treated in a humiliating and inhumane way, which resulted in great revolt of families, citizens in the Zvornik region and the RS, including the announced mass protests, reads the statement issued by the Cabinet of RS President. **BHT1, Dnevni List** pg 9 'Court in Tuzla breaking laws? Unsigned, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 12 'Cavic accuses Tuzla Prosecution for inhuman relation toward the ICTY indictees' by Srna, **Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'State on the violation of Criminal Code in Tuzla' by Fena, **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Severe violation of Law' by Z.M., **Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 'To investigate the treatment of Tuzla detainees' by V. P. – also carried

Dusko Tomic, defence attorney of Mandic in PB ES case says new developments regarding his client makes us suspect the aim of actions is to keep Mandic in prison

Glas Srpske cover pg splash 'Double-dealing goddess of justice' by V.Bugarin
– In regard to latest developments in the court proceeding against **Momcilo Mandic**, daily reports that announcement on new indictment against Mandic (for war crimes) has raised disbelief amongst Mandic's defence attorneys in Privredna Banka East Sarajevo case (frauds and embezzlement charges). **Dusko Tomic**, one of them, says that new indictment, at this point in time and in this manner, makes us suspect it is extremely incorrect and rigged process, raising the question as to whether the aim of new indictment is solely to keep Mandic in prison. Tomic also expresses discontent with the fact that Serbs are unequally treated before BiH Court in comparison with Croat or Bosniak officials who are defending themselves while free. Inset 'Toby Robinson', Tomic has announced his client will press charges against PB ES Provisional Administrator, **Toby Robinson**, before American Court .

<p>SD warns of interference into work of BiH judiciary by SDA's Izetbegovic</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 15 'Mercy to defenders', by <u>Milo Jukic</u> – Following reports that suggested that Vice President of SDA, Bakir Izetbegovic, stated at meeting of SDA Main Board held in Tuzla last Friday that judges should <i>"be braver toward the criminals and more sympathetic toward people that defended the state"</i> (for details see OHR Media Round-up, June 18), SD says if this is true, then it clearly represents interference into the work of judiciary, in the same time warning if Izetbegovic's words <i>"hit fertile ground"</i>, the BiH judiciary would be heavily compromised.</p>
<p>Montenegrin President Vujanovic: Montenegro feels sorry for wartime past</p>	<p>BHT1- Commenting the material damage retribution, Montenegro has to pay to Croatia and BiH lawsuit against SCG for aggression and genocide before the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Montenegrin President Filip Vujanovic said that Montenegro felt sorry for wartime past and numerous victims from both sides. Vujanovic added that Montenegro would pay the compensation to Croatia, as was agreed before, while in the case of the lawsuit he said that <i>"we should wait for the end of the trial, since the process is ongoing"</i>.</p>

	<p>Other issues</p>
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**BiH takes
over partial
control of
its air space
in area above
3 thousand
meters**

FTV by Nerminka Emric – As of June 19, BiH will be in charge of a part of its air space, controlled by EUFOR to date. On Monday, the BiH Minister of Communications and Transport **Branko Dokic** and EUFOR Commander to BiH **Gian Marco Chiarini** signed a protocol on transfer of authorities. The protocol transfers all EUFOR authorities to BiH institutions in terms of air traffic control in area above 3.000 meters. *“Our civil authorities are ready to take over full responsibility in organizing and controlling the air area in BiH”*, said Dokic. EUFOR will remain in charge of air area below 3.000 meters. *“We are ready to transfer the authorities regarding this part of the air space to local authorities the moment they technically become able to take over the responsibility”*, said Chiarini. **Hayat** – BiH will have 100% control over its airspace once it purchases necessary equipment, which could happen at the beginning of 2009, said Deputy Director of the Civil Aviation Administration **Marinko Simunovic**. The headquarters of Flight Control will be in Banjaluka. **BHT1-** BHT 1 argues that due to technical inability, flight control from Zagreb and Belgrade means a loss of great amounts of money. For example, if BiH had its control system, it would have collected 8.5 millions Euros in 2005. **RHB, PINK, RTRS, Dnevni List** pg 5 ‘We are taking over control of our sky’ by Mensud Zorlak, **Vecernji List** pg 4, mentioned on front ‘BiH to control its sky from 2008’ by Eldina Medunjanin, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 ‘BiH finally owner of its own sky, but control remains in Zagreb and Belgrade’ by L.Sinanovic, **Oslobodjenje** pg 7 ‘Sky above 3,000 meters in hands of BiH’ by A.Prlenda, **EuroBlic** pg RS1 ‘EUFOR transferred competences onto BiH’ by D. S., **Nezavisne Novine** pg 5 ‘BiH is controlling sky over 3.000 meters’ by D. Muminovic – also covered.

<p>Igman Initiative Conference: regional media offer no quality or accurate information on neighbouring countries</p>	<p>BHT1 by <u>Lejla Zvizdic</u> – Two-day conference of the Igman Initiative under title “Monitoring of Media Reports in the Dayton Triangle States” commenced in Sarajevo on Sunday. The Initiative was established in 2000 and it gathers more than 140 NGOs from Serbia, Montenegro, BiH, and Croatia with a goal to facilitate renewing cooperation and normalizing inter-state relations within the Dayton Triangle. Media in the region offer no quality or accurate information on neighbouring states; mostly negative issues are being presented, as it was concluded at the session in Sarajevo. The situation could be changed by a project of 30-minutes regional TV magazine, which would be broadcasted in BiH, Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia and Kosovo. <i>“If we continue writing and speaking about each other in this way, we will become hostages of people who committed some of the worst crimes”</i>, said BiH Council of Ministers Chair Adnan Terzic. <i>“Europe’s perception regarding the West Balkans is in the most cases extremely negative and we are to be blamed since we are presenting no affirmative and positive values on our neighbouring countries”</i>, said Igman Initiative’s representative Sejfudin Tokic. <i>“Certain media in BiH are still being very partial; this does not refer to BHT and Radio Free Europe”</i>, said the Head of the OSCE mission to BiH Douglas Davidson. PINK, RTRS, Dnevni List pg 4 ‘Media report only bad things about neighbours’ by <u>R. Dautefendic</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 8 ‘Role of the media in renewing of trust in the region, is large’ <u>not signed</u> Oslobodjenje pg 8 ‘Support to TV show on life in the region’ by <u>S.R.</u>, EuroBlic pg RS3 ‘Davidson criticised media’ by <u>Srna</u> – also carried.</p>
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