OHR BiH Media Round-up, 22/3/2006

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 22 March

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	**BH Radio 1** (12,00 hrs)	**RTRS** (12,00 hrs)
BiH Presidency on const. changes	BiH Pres. endorses const. changes	BH Pres. on Agreement on cc
HNC: Unions, Govt to meet today	'Mittal Steel' employees on strike	Lilic not to testify at ICJ
UK : CRO citizens don't need visa	FBiH HoP discuss draft law on PBS	Ukraine

TV news broadcast on 21 March

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	**TV PINK** (18,00 hrs)	**BHT 1** (19,00 hrs)
No transmission	HR on dismissed officials	Landslides in District Brcko
	Cavic, Kostunica and Tadic on ICTY	Three pupils injured in fight in Zepce
	War crime indictments in HNC	Landslides in TuzlaCanton
	Proposal law on high education	HR on removed officials

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	**FTV** (19,30 hrs)	**RTRS** (19,30 hrs)
Famous BiH actor to be evicted	Two persons saved from drowning	New collective contract signed in RS
Cattle breeders to block highway	Three persons arrested in BL	Dodik on pensioner's initiative

Educational workers' strike in HNC	Report on drug addicts in BiH	RS Government session
Zijad Pasic on strike in HNC	Three pupils injured in fight in Zepce	RS Government on electricity prices

Oslobodjenje	As of 3 April, those removed can return to public institutions
Dnevni Avaz	[HR] I will reassess removals of 130 officials
Dnevni List	Beslic invited Pope to Mostar
Vecernji List	Pupils got into fight after 'Grbavica' (on fight of Bosniak and Croat pupils in Zepce)
Slobodna Dalmacija	Milic does not want to start with classes without 10 % of increase (On HNC teachers' strike, representatives of Croat Trade Unions do not give up their demands)
Nezavisne Novine	Removed politicians got a chance for come-back
Glas Srpske	[Mrkonjic grad municipality] We will sue Croatia
EuroBlic	Cavic: SDS is fighting to survive (SDS Pres.' stat. after session of SDS Pres. Monday)
Vecernje novosti	Features Serbian related topics

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY

BiH Presidency endorses agreement on constitutional changes	**RTRS** – At today's session, the BiH Presidency has supported Agreement reached between leaders of the seven political parties regarding constitutional changes in BiH. The member of the BiH, **Ivo Miro Jovic,** has stated that the Commission in charge will prepare proposals on amendments to BH Constitution by the end of this week at latest. Furthermore, those are then to be forwarded to the BiH House of Representatives for adoption.
RS PM Dodik: If BiH CoM cannot take single stance on suit vs. SCG, it should be deemed illegal, CoM should be removed	**BH Radio 1** – In an interview for Onasa news agency, RS Prime Minister **Milorad Dodik** said that in a case that the BiH Council of Ministers cannot take a joint stance on the BiH lawsuit against SCG for aggression and genocide, this would be an additional argument that the lawsuit is illegitimate and that BiH CoM should be resign. Dodik added that removal of any executive authority would not endanger EU-integration processes, as was shown by recent removal of the RS Government.
SDS ' Bojic: Party will propose to RS NA a diplomatic settlement of BH suit against SICG	**RTRS** – The SDS Vice President, **Borislav Bojic,** has announced that the SDS will tomorrow propose to the RS NA that the issue of the BH suit against SiCG is resolved in a diplomatic manner. At the press conference in Prijedor, Bojic stated that good relations between neighboring states can only be established in such a manner. Bojic said that a civil war was on in BiH, since all of its citizens took part in it, while accusations against Serb people does not lead to reconciliation.

Legal team of SiCG at ICJ to start calling witnesses tomorrow	**BH Radio 1, RTRS** – The legal team of SiCG will tomorrow start brining witnesses International Court of Justice in The Hague in the suit BiH has filed against SiCG for aggression. The first witness will be the former RS Premier, **Vladimir Lukic.** Today's session was postponed for tomorrow since the first witness, **Zoran Lilic,** former President of the SRY, did not go to The Hague.
FBiH HoP to discuss PBS law, Croat MPs announce walking out	**RHB, BH Radio 1** by Maida Alic – FBiH House of Peoples is scheduled to hold a session on Wednesday and discuss the proposal of law on Public RTV service of FBiH. The proposal of law was earlier adopted (March 15) by the FBIH House of Representatives. Representatives of HDZ, Demo Christians and HNZ announced that they would leave the session when the discussion on the Law on PBS starts, as their colleagues earlier did that in BiH House of Representatives.

General political issues

HR opens process of re-examining cases of removed politicians	**Hayat** by Adnan Rondic – The High Representatives to BiH, **Christian Schwarz-Schilling,** on Tuesday announced a revision of decisions on the replacement of elected officials passed during his predecessors' terms. The measures for repealing the removals will be realized in two parallel steps: the first one is an 'individual approach' which is to enable those removed to file a request for the OHR to review decisions. "*After examining their behaviour and activities after the removal, I will decide on whether to suspend the sanctions against them. If the sanctions are lifted these individuals would have the right to stand for any public position, whether elected or appointed*", explained Schwarz-Schilling. The second step is so-called 'horizontal approach': "*This would gradually lift all elements of the existing sanctions for the entire group of removed officials, and it would be done through several phases*", said the HR adding that, in case of a positive outcome, those officials would be allowed to hold positions in public institutions, companies, schools, universities, etc. Measures will not include officials removed for obstructing the cooperation with the ICTY. Schilling emphasized that he would not reassess the previous decisions; instead, he will only say whether those persons stile pose a threat. **Dnevni Avaz** cover splash 'I will reassess removals of 130 officials', pg 3 'Almost 130 removed officials against in OHR's focus' by S. Numanovic – HR said that about 130 officials will be included in the procedure, which is to start on 3 April when decisions allowing removed officials to apply for and hold positions in public institutions is to be announced. **FTV –** The OHR plans to complete this job by the end of its transformation into the Office of the EU Special Representative, mid 2007. Since the powers to remove officials were given to the HR in 1997, 161 officials were replaced. **RHB**, **BHT1**, **RTRS,Oslobodjenje** cover splash, pgs 4-5 'As of 3 April, those removed can return to public institutions' A. Omeragic, **Nezavisne Novine** cover pg splash 'Removed politicians got a chance for come-back' by R.Cengic, **Glas Srpske** pg 3 'Time for pardoning' by Z.Domazet, **EuroBlic** RSpg 3 'Amnesty for those removed' by Dusanka Stanisic, **Dnevni List** pg 2 'Removed ones can work in public institutions' by D. Polovina-Mandic– also reported.

Oslobodjenje op-ed: HR assure BiH citizens that real democracy is yet about to begin	**Oslobodjenje** pg 9 'On Monday' op-ed by Senka Kurtovic – Commenting a decision by the HR **Christian Schwarz-Schilling**to open process of re-examination of cases of removed politicians, editorial points out this was his first concrete decision made Editorial further reads that this was probably a big and important decision for both the HR and removed politicians, but for the citizens was just another decision from the "White House" in Sarajevo. Author says: "*What is unusual, is that we maybe (un)justifiably expected more action from Christian Schwarz-Schilling. Even we knew that his mission was, among other things, to weaken his own and strengthen the role of local authorities. Therefore, the OHR's announcement of being involved in the talks on constitutional changes only 'after first phase' is odd… By that time, Schwarz-Schilling will benevolently pass his role to local authorities, for which he claims they are mature enough*." Editorial ironically concludes that HR assures BiH citizens that real democracy is yet about to begin.

RS President Cavic, Serbian PM Kostunica, Serbian President Tadic agree that ICTY cooperation must continue	**BHT1** by Jadranka Tasic – On Tuesday, the RS President **Dragan Cavic** met with Serbian President **Boris Tadic** and Serbian Prime Minister **Vojislav Kostunica**. They agreed that cooperation with the ICTY was inevitable and that all war crime indictees should be extradited. Although expected, BHT 1 says that three of them did not discuss the exact date when **Ratko Mladic** should be apprehended and extradited. Serbian Justice Minister **Zoran Stojkovic** denied allegation on any kind of ultimatum given to the authorities. "*It is absolutely clear that the deadline cannot be unlimited, but on the other hand it is impossible to talk about exact dates*", said Stojkovic. Stojkovic added that Serbia had met the major part of ICTY terms and the issue of Mladic's extradition was the only one left. When given a change, this term will be met as well, says Stojkovic. **Hayat** – Tadic and Cavic agreed that the cooperation with the ICTY is of a great importance for stability, economic development and European perspectives of the region. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Cavic: It is private lawsuit of Alija Izetbegovic', **Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'On Hague, Mladic and BiH lawsuit' by B. Boskov, **Nezavisne Novine** pg2, announced on cover 'All indictees must go to The Hague' by N.N., **Vecernje Novosti** pg 4 'Mostly about The Hague' by P.D., **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Suit is not legitimate', **Dnevni List** pg 3 'To deliver all The Hague indictees' not signed, **Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 14 'Serbia supports agreement of 3 peoples in BiH' by H – also reported.
Gligoric (MP, SP) wants BiH HoR to discuss removal of BiH CoM on Thursday	**Oslobodjenje**, pg 5, mentioned on front 'Survival of state Government depends on MPs from FBiH', by A. Terzic – An MP in the BiH House of Representatives, **Tihomir Gligoric** (Socialist Party), who started an initiative the aim of which is to remove the BiH Council of Ministers, says he will ask from the Collegium of the BiH HoR to include his initiative in the agenda of the next session of BiH HoR scheduled for Thursday, March 23. Gligoric notes he has enough votes for his initiative as far as MPs from the RS are concerned, expecting that he will get a support from FBiH-based parties, namely HDZ-HD, SDP, independent MPs **Ivo Lozancic** and **Mladen Potocnik** and MPs from BOSS and DNZ. Oslobodjenje argues that the SDA and SBiH will certainly be against the removal.

BH CoM Chair: SDS has not still officially demanded dismissal of its personnel from BiH CoM	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'SDS did not officially demand dismissal of Ministers' by M.Cubro – **Adnan Terzic,** BiH COM Chair, has stated that the SDS has not as yet made an official demand for discharge from BiH COM of its personnel. Terzic has noted he has no intention to remove Ministers of Justice and Defence, since they are doing their job excellently, noting: "*They are not SDS members and their departure would greatly damage the process of reforms.*"" **Slobodan Kovac,** BH Justice Minister, once more reiterated he would not resign. **Slobodan Ecimovic,** BH Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, stated he would resign after he receives official demand to do so, while daily adds that **Nikola Radovanovic,** BH Defence Minister, is also waiting for official demand.
DA: RS Prime Minister Dodik obstructs work of Police Reform Directorate?	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Milorad Dodik doesn't recognize the Police Reform Directorate', mentioned on cover 'Dodik obstructs police reform' by E. Sarac – DA learns that RS Prime Minister, **Milorad Dodik**, sent a letter to the BiH Council of Ministers Chair **Adnan Terzic**, OHR, EUPM and US Embassy to BH questioning legality of the Police Reform Directorate appointed by the CoM on 31 December 2005. According to daily, the letter underlines that unless Dodik's "rules of the game" are accepted, RS Police Director **Dragomir Andan** would not participated the working of the Directorate's Steering Board but will attend the sessions in a position of an observer. DA further says that letter reads Dodik is not satisfied that the Board has only one RS representative, that Brcko District is not involved in the process [even though, as DA writes, its police commissioner **Milenko Milicevic** is board member] and that he objects the role of the CoM and BiH Security Ministry, demanding the entity's governments to be full included. DA concludes that "*the question is whether in the next three years every eventual change in the RS government would bring new blackmails, i.e. obstruction in the police reform.*" The Steering Board will meet today, and the only agenda item are police region concepts presented by the RS and FBiH Police Directors, Andan and **Zlatko Miletic** respectively, an director of the Directorate **Taib Spahic**. DA learns that Adnan will present police maps according to which RS MoI would remain operative, while Miletic and Spahic's proposals are based on the geographical regions. The issue is also the budget. RS representatives continue to demand that one part of the police is financed by the entities.

BiH CoM's Terzic to talk to RS Govt about higher education next week	**Dnevni Avaz**, pg 11 'Terzic will ask for consent of RS Government during the week', by T. Lazovic – Avaz notes that Chairman of BiH CoM, **Adnan Terzic**, Security Minister, **Barisa Colak**, and Civil Affairs Minister, **Safet Halilovic**, on Tuesday got a support from the IC, namely UK Ambassador to BiH, **Matthew Rycroft**, OSCE Chief of Mission, **Douglas Davidson**, and representatives of the World Bank and EC, for their efforts to get political consent for solving the issue of higher education reform. This comes after the HDZ leader, **Dragan Covic**, gave his general consent for a version of the law (on higher education), which foresees establishment of agency for accreditation (of universities) at state level. Avaz also learns that Terzic will next week start talks with RS Government to get consent from them. **Oslobodjenje** pg 4 'Solutions for higher education law', **Dnevni List** pg 4 'To resolve issue of competence of accreditation process urgently' by D. Polovina-Mandic – also reported on the meeting.
DL op-ed: Politics involved in higher education issue	**Dnevni List** pg 2 'High education' by D. Polovina-Mandic comments on the meeting of domestic and international representatives on the higher education issue and the author concludes that it seems that the BiH authorities forget how late they are when meeting of their obligations with regard to this issue is in question. The editorial also says that it is not coincidence that politics has involved in this issue to the extent that warnings, which arrive from the Council of Europe experts, are being neglected.

DL: New political party called HDZ People's Party to be established soon?	**Dnevni List** pg 3, mentioned on cover 'HDZ People's Party to be established soon' by Z. Jukic reminds that many HDZ representatives in the BiH Parliament publicly expressed their opposition to the HDZ President **Dragan Covic's** signature on the constitutional changes agreement and they showed that they do not recognize Covic as their President. DL concludes that in this way they opened up the space for **Bozo Ljubic** and **Martin Raguz** to do something concrete. DL learns from its sources that these HDZ representatives have gathered recently and decided to establish a new party that should be called HDZ People's Party. This idea has got support of European People's Party, CDU and HDZ Croatia and establishment of another HDZ has been expected by the end of March. DL speculates that as far as Ljubic, *'who is known as a hesitating politician'*, is concerned it is not impossible that he together with his supporters misses this, according to DL perhaps the last chance, to remain at the political scene.
Croat Block on BiH PBS organization: Public TV with 3 channels	**Hayat**, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'To broadcast PBS program in languages of three peoples', **Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'Look up to Belgium or Switzerland', **Dnevni List** pg 6 'One channel and RTV centre in Mostar to be given to Croats' by Lj. Vidacak, **Vecernji List** pg 5 'Public TV with 3 channels' by T.K. – At the press conference held on Tuesday the Croat Block presented its proposal on organization of the BiH public RTV system, which would be made of BiH TV with 3 channels in languages of 3 equal peoples. Also, they proposed shutting down of entity TV outlets and that PBS consists of three enterprises, i.e. TV BiH, Radio BiH, and Transmitters and Communications. According to the same proposal, production of all TV programs would be carried out in 3 program centers, i.e. Sarajevo , Banja Luka and Mostar.
DL commentary: BiH political parties are concerned about their election results and not about their obligations	**Dnevni List** pg 7 'Because of political points country goes in collapse' by R. Dautefendic negatively comments on pre-election behaviour of BiH political parties, that are only concerned about their election results and the author says: *'Political parties' leaders are aware that the Election Law would change if constitutional changes were not adopted on time. For this reason they have forgotten the Stabilization and Association Agreement, demands for arrest of **Radovan Karadzic** and **Ratko Mladic** as well as adoption of the Law on Public RTV service.'*

Economic issues	
RS Government endorses law on audit of privatisation process: companies privatized after 1998 to be included; RSNA to discuss law at the end of month	**RTRS** by Momcilo Ostojic – RS Government supported the proposal law on audit of privatisation in of state capital in companies and banks in RS which would include all companies privatized after 1998. The law foresees establishment of special institution in RS to deal with the issue. RS Prime Minister **Milorad Dodik** stated that the law would enable verification of audit process and obligations undertaken in this process are being fulfilled, and the special audit body would receive requests 6 months after its establishment. If it is determined that misuse of privatisation occurred in a company or a bank, that property will be confiscated until final decision of competent court. RS Government annulled agreement on privatisation of companies Glas Srpske and Grafika. Reporter comments that RS National Assembly deputies will discuss this law on session scheduled for March 30 and 31. **PINK** – Procedure for audit of privatisation can be started by anyone, from small shareholders to local authority institutions. **FTV** – Dodik stated: *"With this law (on audit of privatisation process) we want to restore the confidence into the privatisation, which is full of speculations, vagueness and so on… Companies that has been privatised in keeping with the law should not be afraid; those persons and those companies will only receive new certificate confirming that everything is fine, so that we can move on"*. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 9 'All companies privatized since 1998 subject to revisions', **Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'Dodik announced revision of privatization', **Nezavisne Novine** pg 5, announced on cover 'RS to get Prosecution for organised crime' by D.Risojevic, **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'With suspicion during audit' by G.Dakic, **Dnevni List** pg 5 'RS Government cerates conditions for privatization audit' by NINA – also covered.

RS Government adopts law on courts and prosecutions	**RTRS** by Momcilo Ostojic – RS Government adopted amendments to the law on courts and prosecutions in RS. This law provides for establishment of special prosecution whose main goal will be to create institutional frame for fight against organised crime, embezzlement and theft. RS Prime Minister **Milorad Dodik** says that this prosecution will enable forming of institutional frame for fight against organised crime. Reporter comments that RS National Assembly deputies will discuss this law on session scheduled for March 30 and 31. **PINK** – *"It is obvious that county courts and prosecutions are not able to deal with these issues"*, says Dodik. **Nezavisne Novine** pg 5, announced on cover 'RS to get Prosecution for organised crime' by D.Risojevic, **Dnevni List** pg 5 'RS Government cerates conditions for privatization audit' by NINA – also reported.

FBiH HoP authorize FBiH Government to pass a decision on provisional allocation of public revenues	**Hayat** by Alem Karamesic – FBiH House of Peoples decided to authorize FBiH Government to pass a decision on provisional allocation of public revenues from the single account. According to Hayat, original proposal was unacceptable for some of the delegates, because the criteria for the allocation of funds have not been adequately defined. There is still no agreement on allocation of public revenues in FBiH, as the law was passed but was further submitted to the FBiH Constitutional Court to assess it after the Law was rejected by Croat Caucus in FBiH HoP which invoked the vital national interest deeming that law diminishes the roles of cantons by directing revenues straight to municipalities. Chair of Croat Caucus in FBiH HoP **Mate Franjicevic** explained: "*There is no reason for the funds not to be allocated. Until the law takes effect, it would all be some kind of advance payments*". Bosniak representative **Meliha Alic** "*I believe it is necessary that all Cantons receive funds, so that the life could be normalized. At this moment, many Cantons are in some sort of inferior position in regard to some other structures*". **BHT1, Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 'Amendments for purchase of vakuf-owned apartments' by A. Hadziarapovic, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 5 'Temporary distribution of public revenues approved' by Agencies, **Dnevni List** pg 5 'Life of FBiH de-blocked' by M. Zorlak, **Vecernji List** pg 4 'Court will decide on interests of Croats' by Fena – also covered.

FBiH HoP adopts amendments to law on purchase of nationalized apartments in different text from HoR0	**Oslobodjenje** pg 8 'Vakuf-owned apartments for sale', mentioned on cover, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 'Amendments for purchase of vakuf-owned apartments' by A. Hadziarapovic – FBiH House of Peoples also approved the amendments to the law on purchase of apartments, which now allow the holders of tenancy rights for nationalized apartments to purchase those regardless whether they were in ownership of [religious] trust funds or foundations. The adopted low is now different from the version adopted by the House of Representatives [which blocked such sales].
New collective general contract signed in RS: lowest salary 205 KM; Police, education workers salaries to be increased	**RTRS, PINK, Hayat, Nezavisne Novine** pg 8 'The lowest salay in future will be BAM 205' by N.Moraca, **EuroBlic** RSpg 1 'Minimal vague in RS in future will be BAM 205' by Mirna Soja, **Glas Srpske** pg 3 'Lowest salary amounts to BAM 205' by M.Milunovic – The RS Prime minister **Milorad Dodik,** RS Trade Union Chair **Ranka Misic,** RS Association of Employers Chair **Damir Miljevic** and RS Union of Employers Chair **Bosko Djuvic** signed a general collective contract. According to this contract lowest salary in RS is 205 KM. **BHT1, Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'Higher salaries for policemen and teachers' by O.V. – Dodik also announced increase in salaries of budgetary users. Namely, persons employed by RS Ministry of Interior and education sector will have their salaries increased by 100 KM .

ITA: FBiH lost 4,1 million KM in two months of this year, coefficients to be changed	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 4, mentioned on cover 'FBiH lost 4,1 million KM in two months' by A.M. – The analysis carried out by the Indirect Taxation Administration [ITA] on the VAT collection reads that the FBiH lost 4,1 million KM in for the first two months of this year compared to the same period of last year. ITA Steering Board met on Tuesday to discuss the allocation of means collected through VAT concluding that the loss occurred due to the validity of last year's coefficients. Following the analysis, Board also concluded that on 28 March it would discuss the change of the coefficients. ITA also denied accusations of RS Prime Minister **Milorad Dodik** that the RS was damaged by the ITA for some 30 million KM due to the same reason.
Oslobodjenje: Croatian PM Sanader to offer BiH new agreement on PlocePort	**Oslobodjenje**, pg 7, mentioned on front 'Ploce port interested in BiH goods, not capital', by Darjan Zadravec – According to the author, the Croatian PM **Ivo Sanader** will offer to BiH side a new text of agreement on Ploce port. Daily notes that the contents of the new agreement is not known yet, however the daily speculates that the agreement will be based on market-economic relations, namely the BiH side will not be able to be in control of the port as the previous agreement between the two countries stipulated (**NB:** BiH Parliament ratified that agreement, Croatian Parliament did not). Oslobodjenje notes that this and other pending issues between BiH and Croatia will be discussed during the forthcoming visit of PM Sanader to BiH.

IMF delegation visiting BiH: Talks on fiscal, budget policy, VAT, stand-by arrangement	**Dnevni Avaz**, pg 10 'Representatives of BiH answering to IMF's delegation', by T. L. – DA announces that a delegation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), led by head of BiH office, **Peter Doyle**, will meet the BiH CoM Chair, **Adnan Terzic**, state and entity Finance Ministers and representatives of the BiH Central Bank over the next 10 days to discuss issues pertaining to budget and fiscal policy and introduction of VAT. However, according to Avaz's anonymous 'well informed source', one cannot rule out that talks will touch the issue the stand-by arrangement between the IMF and BiH worth 50 million US$, on which talks have been suspended. This is, according to Avaz, highly likely because the budgets in BiH have been adopted despite the IMF's complaints that the budgets exceed realistic expenditures.

Constitutional changes

US welcomes agreement on const. changes, urges adoption in parliament	**BHT1, FTV,Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'We expect rapid adoption in the Parliament', mentioned on cover, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'First steps in creating more functional state', **Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 'USA welcomed constitutional reforms in BiH' by V.P. – The United States welcomed the agreement on constitutional changes signed by seven BiH party leaders on Saturday, stressing that these are significant first steps toward modernizing the structures established by the Dayton Peace Agreement. US State Department spokesperson **Sean McCormack** stated that this is signing the agreement is significant step toward creating a more functional state ready to take its place in Euro-Atlantic institutions, concluding that Washington expects swift parliamentary approval of these reforms.

HR CSS welcomes agreement, urges parliamentarians to approve it now: 'Changes now, or wait until 2010'	**RTRS, Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'Constitutional changes now or in 2010', **Dnevni Avaz** pg 3 inset ' Changes of the Constitution within the set deadline', **Dnevni List** pg 2 'Constitutional changes are necessary' not signed, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'OHR expects changes of Constitution at BH Parliament' **–** HR **Christian Schwarz Schilling** warned that a failure to adopt the constitutional changes agreement in the BiH Parliament would represent a great step backwards for BIH. He promised OHR's help to the parliamentarians to look into the proposed agreement offering legal advice. He also stated that Americans carried out successful mediation in negotiations. **BHT 1** – Schilling noted that agreement should be passed immediately; otherwise the next chance will be only in 2010. "*I know that the BiH Parliament is faced with great effort since this takes a lot of time, but owing to the fact that this is an extraordinary situation I hope that everyone would cooperate, and work day and night in order to have the issue solved in a democratic procedure*", said Schwarz-Schilling announcing that the OHR is to get involved in the process of the constitutional changes in its second phase following the elections in October.

RS President Cavic presents agreement on const. changes to Serbian officials	**RTRS** – On Tuesday, the RS President **Dragan Cavic** met with Serbian President **Boris Tadic** and Serbian Prime Minister **Vojislav Kostunica**, and among other issues presented them the agreement on the constitutional changes in BiH. Cavic said he did so since former Yugoslavia was one of signatories of Dayton Peace Agreement. Cavic stated that all three of them agreed that the future of BIH should depend on its citizens without outside interventions. **RHB –** Cavic also stated that Tadic and Kostunica accept the agreement on constitutional changes in BIH agreed by all 3 peoples in BiH.

DA: SDS conditions support to const. changes with removing ban on financing party imposed by Ashdown?	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'SDS conditions supporting reform of constitution with abolition of verdict?' by D.A. – DA unofficially learns that SDS Presidency brought a decision that they would support constitutional changes only if court lifts a decision that this party should pay compensation in amount of 1,7 million KM to Privredna Banka Eastern Sarajevo [PBES]. Eastern Sarajevo County Court brought the verdict after finding SDS guilty on charges of criminal activities in 'Spektra' and 'Matres' firms in the PBES case. Unnamed SDS official says that this party received nothing but punishments for their contribution in the process of constitutional changes. SDS would also condition the support in the parliament with removal of the ban on financing of this party, imposed by former HR **Paddy Ashdown**, and halt of the process launched against the party by the PBES temporary administration **Toby Robinson**. Inset 'OHR without comment' – OHR spokesperson **Oleg Milisic** stated that OHR never comments media speculations, especially not assumptions on what should allegedly happen. **EuroBlic** cover pg splash, RSpg 3 'Cavic: SDS is fighting to survive' by R.R. – carries the statement by the RS President **Dragan Cavic** following the Presidency session in which he 'did not exclude' radicalisation of situation in BiH unless "*harangue against SDS stops*". [*See OHR BiH Media Round-up 21 March*].

BiH Presidency today discusses const. changes, still unclear whether Parliament will approve	**BHT 1** – BiH Presidency will discuss agreement on BiH constitutional changes on Wednesday. Certain political parties are still stressing their dissatisfaction with agreement, reached by seven BiH political leaders on Saturday. It is still uncertain whether the agreement is going to be passed by the BiH Parliament. HDZ Demo-Christians, who opposed such constitutional changes agreement, say that they still have not taken the final stance. "*I cannot speak on behalf of the HDZ Demo-Christians Caucus in the BiH Parliament, but I think that nothing has dramatically changed in order to have our stance changed*", said the Caucus members **Vinko Zoric**. Party for BiH, SDU and BOSS announced that they were going to block constitutional changes agreement. They claim that sufficient number of BiH Parliament representatives is going to vote against the agreement. **Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'Agreement of the political parties on the BiH Constitution changes on agenda' – announces the session.

GS says key for adoption of Agreement on constitutional changes lays in hands of Croats	**Glas Srpske** pg 5 'Croats holding keys' by Z.Markovic – Daily observes that the keys for adoption of Agreement on constitution changes at BH HoR lays in hands of Croat representatives, noting that RS representatives will sign it, while out of 28 delegates at HoR from F BiH, the necessary two thirds majority vote must have 19 votes. Daily speculates that 9 delegates from SDA and 3 from SDP would support it for the time being. **Miso Relota,** HDZ Spokesperson, stated HDZ delegates will most likely vote for adoption.
VL analysis: Vote of one MP will decide destiny of constitutional changes in Parliament	**Vecernji List**, pg 2 'One MP crucial for 'agreement of seven'', by ms – According to VL, vote of an MP in BiH House of Representative, **Ibrahim Djedovic** (DNZ), will decide whether the agreement of seven political parties on constitutional changes will be supported in the BiH HoR. VL explains that the founder of SBiH **Haris Silajdzic's** claim that 15 MPs will not support the agreement is not accurate, arguing that the agreement will not be supported by 6 SBiH MPs, 1 from BOSS, 5 from HDZ and by independent MPs **Mladen Potocnik** and **Ivo Lozancic**. Therefore, it is only Djedovic, whose vote could be crucial.

DL on destiny of const. changes: Will HDZ's Covic be able to persuade HDZ MPs to sign agreement?	**Dnevni List**, pg 9 'Everything depends on votes of HDZ', by R. Dautefendic – According to DL, the destiny of agreed constitutional changes in BiH Parliament depends on the fact whether the HDZ President, **Dragan Covic**, will be able to persuade two HDZ MPs in the BiH HoR, namely **Ruza Sopta** and **Vlatka Komsic**, to support the changes, since other HDZ MPs are likely to reject them. DL notes that these two votes are necessary to secure a 2/3 majority of MPs from the FBIH.

Interview with S BiH founder Silajdzic: Constitutional changes agreed consolidate entities	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 'Constitutional changes consolidate entities' by M.Cubro – In an interview to daily, **Haris Silajdzic,** founder of Party for BiH (S BiH) stresses that Agreement on constitutional changes blocks the work of joint institutions, reiterating his opposition to these changes owing to the fact those consolidate entities and contribute to ethnic homogenisation. He views the Agreement signed as representing betrayal of Bosnia and Herzegovina. He adds alternative to this Agreement is to conduct constitutional changes that integrate BiH, and bring together instead of separating BiH. This can be achieved through abolishment of rule of entities, i.e. abolishment of entity vote. He reiterates entities are unnatural. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 5 'Basis for annexation of entities to neighbouring states' op-ed by Safet Halilovic – In his op-ed for DA, SBiH leader **Safet Halilovic** comments that agreement on constitutional changes is a basis for division of BiH. **Dnevni List** pg 6 'Do not legalize consequences of genocide' not signed – also carries Halilovic.

BiH HoR Chair Spiric: BH Parliament waiting for amendments to BH Constitution from BH Presidency	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 'Parliament waiting for amendments to Constitution from Presidency' by N.N., **Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'Agreement came into Parliament'– **Nikola Spiric,** Chairperson of the BiH HoR, has stated that the Agreement on constitutional changes which political leaders signed has been delivered to the Parliament, noting Parliament expects that BH Presidency, as official proponent sends amendments to BH Constitution based on the Agreement to the Parliament. He has explained that Parliament should discuss amendments not the Agreement since Agreement was reached by political leaders. He holds no information that Parliament may discuss Agreement on constitutional changes at Thursday's session.

Incidents and crimes

Three pupils injured in fight between Bosniak and Croat children in Zepce	**Hayat** – Fight between students of two secondary schools – one that work under federal curriculum, and the second one that work under Croat curriculum – broke out on Monday evening in Zepce, right after the premiere of movie 'Grbavica'. Three students have been injured; the reason for this fight has not yet been established. According to **Senad Hasic**, spokesperson of the Canton Zenica-Doboj Ministry of Interior, this incident probably would not have happened at all, if the local police were informed about the fact that students would gather to watch the movie together. Investigation is under way. **Vecernji List** cover pg splash 'Pupils got into fight after 'Grbavica' ' and pg 3 ' 'Grbavica' caused conflict between Croats and Bosniaks' not signed – VL says that according to witnesses the conflict also had an ethnic prefix. **BHT1**, **RTRS, Nezavisne Novine** pg 2 'Fight of pupils over "Grbavica"' by A.M., **Dnevni List** pg 19 '3 teenagers got into fight after 'Grbavica' ' by Zeda also covered.

RSNA to discuss BiH lawsuit against SCG on Thursday	**EuroBlic** RSpg 2 'Force of arguments without influence upon Court' by Nedeljka Breberina – Writing about Thursday's special session of the RS NA (which is to discuss BH suit against SiCG), daily notes that although RS representatives at BH joint institutions and RS NA are aware of the fact RS NA conclusions cannot influence decision of International Court of Justice neither BH Constitutional Court, the goal of another session on this issue is "*to once more hear the voice of RS and arguments are provided to the public disputing this suit*". Daily carries comments of **Goran Milojevic,** Deputy Chairperson of BiH HoP (saying RS representatives pointed out to IC officials suit was illegitimate), **Dusan Stojicic,** SDS delegate at RS NA (saying claims of ICJ that it had never received any decision from BH Presidency regarding suit justifies the need for another discussion at RS NA) and **Tarik Sadovic,** Head ofSDA Caucus at RS NA (noting SDA does not support discussion at RS NA on this issue since it may represent pressure against the Court and plaintiff). **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Banja Luka is angry while Belgrade is silent' by N.Diklic – also reported.

OSCE internal report reads it is less likely Mladic will soon be extradited to the Hague	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'It is less likely Mladic will be in The Hague soon' by BETA– The latest OSCE internal report reads that the death of **Slobodan Milosevic** andnationalistic outbursts during his funeral in Serbia point out is less likely General **Ratko Mladic** would soon be extradited to the Hague Tribunal. OSCE Mission in Belgrade said this Report was exclusively intended for diplomatic missions, adding OSCE will not publish neither comment on it.

NN op-ed supportive of EU Foreign Minister's warning regarding war crime suspects/critical of leading officials at BH intelligence and security agencies	**Nezavisne Novine** op-ed pg 7 'Revelation of European Union' by Mirza CUbro – Following Monday announcement of EU Foreign Ministers, according to which Belgrade has been marked as culprit for failure to arrest **Ratko Maldic** and **Radovan Karadzic,** the author notes that EU did not make this announcement following good policy in Sarajevo (that it was so), but instead EU Ministers are pragmatic politicians. Regarding this, he expresses criticism regarding officials leading state intelligence and security agencies, noting **Almir Dzuvo, Risto Zaric (**BH Intelligence Agency Director and his Deputy) and **Vinko Dumancic,** State Border Service Director, cannot ensure a single valid information regarding hiding of war crime suspects would be provided. He concludes by saying that defeating fact is that SDS police-intelligence apparatus, on whose engagement on aiding hiding of war crime suspects BH Prosecution is conducting investigation at the moment according to him, would rather obey orders from Belgrade than Sarajevo.

Hercegovacka Banka indictee Jelavic: 'I am willing to stand trial before Croatian courts'	**Vecernji List** pg 10, mentioned on cover 'I am willing to stand trial before Croatian courts' by Z. Jurilj – Former HDZ President and indictee in the Hercegovacka Bank case **Ante Jelavic** stated that he is willing to stand the trial before Croatia courts for all crimes that are being ascribed to him. He added that he views the BiH Court '*which is under strong influence of the **OHR**, as a political and not judicial body*'.
Mrkonjic grad to sue Croatia for war damage	**Glas Srpske** cover pg splash 'We will sue Croatia' by Sl. Dakic – Daily notes that as years pass by, the intention in Mrkonjic Grad to file a suit against Republic of Croatia demanding compensation of war damage is becoming mature. Delegate at Mrkonjic Grad Assembly **Simo Rudic** presented the proposal for the lawsuit at the last Assembly session. Local Commission for war damage estimated the total damage committed by Croatian Army to BAM 650 million.