

# OHR BiH Media Round-up, 23/3/2005

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 23 March 2005

<b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (12,00 hrs)	<b>BH Radio 1</b> (12,00 hrs)	<b>RTRS</b> (12,00 hrs)
OSCE Davidson to hold pc	Nikolic did not plea before ICTY	Nikolic to enter plea in a month-time
Congratulations of Easter	2 killed in Lebanon bomb attack	Jelavic transferred to BiH Court
BOSS against Bozanic's appointment	80 guerrillas killed in Iraq	Sava and Drina water levels falling

TV news broadcast on 22 March 2005

<b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (18,00 hrs)	<b>TV PINK</b> (18,00 hrs)	<b>BHT 1</b> (19,00 hrs)
Komarica on the war in Yugoslavia	BiH Presidency in session	Doctor's negligence
BiH Presidency in session	Dokic and Pavic indicted	Covic's case
BiH House of Peoples in session	BiH HoP in session	Dokic's indictment
FBIH HoR in session	Ivanic meets CoE representatives	Bozanic Ambassador at large

<b>NTV Hayat</b> (19,00 hrs)	<b>FTV</b> (19,30 hrs)	<b>RTRS</b> (19,30 hrs)
BiH Presidency in session	Ashdown in America	BiH Presidency on Covic case
Interview with Sulejman Tihic	BiH Presidency on Covic, Bozanic	Fagus company affair

HR visit to the USA	Dokic's indictment	Dokic case update
Dokic indicted	HoP session	Steven Schook on Defence Reform

<b>Oslobodjenje</b>	Presidency unanimously supported Dragan Covic
<b>Dnevni Avaz</b>	Jelavic is the first dweller of the state jail
<b>Dnevni List</b>	Belgrade : Joint production of arms proposed
<b>Vecernji List</b>	Jelavic transferred from Kula to Sarajevo
<b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>	They allocated millions KM that all of us pay back
<b>Glas Srpske</b>	BiH Helsinki Committee for Human Rights: Return Algerians (from Guantanamo)
<b>Nezavisne Novine</b>	They to The Hague or we to the hell; SDS supports defence reform
<b>Blic</b>	Campaign with the flaw
<b>Vecernje Novosti</b>	Features Serbia related topics
<b>Belgarde's Nacional</b>	Features Serbian related topics

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY	
<b>Covic will not resign</b>	<b>FENA – Dragan Covic</b> will remain at the position of the BiH Presidency member. He added at the press conference held in Sarajevo today that he will respected whichever decision that the international community will bring. The indictment against Covic in Lijanovic case was confirmed by the BiH Court on 10 March.

<p><b>Pandurevic left for the Hague</b></p>	<p><b>SRNA</b> – Retired RS Army general, <b>Vinko Pandurevic</b>, left for the Hague today where he will voluntarily surrender to the ICTY. Padurevic is escorted by the RS Interior Minister, <b>Darko Matijasevic</b>, and RS Government announced it will offer guarantees for release until the beginning of the trial. Pandurevic was indicted for war crimes committed in Srebrenica.</p>
<p><b>Nikolic did not enter plea</b></p>	<p><b>BH Radio 1, RS Radio</b> – Former RS Army officer, <b>Drago Nikolic</b>, indicted for war crimes committed in Srebrenica region, did not plea on the charges of the indictment before the ICTY today. Nikolic called on his right to enter plea within 30 days. This was Nikolic's first appearance before the ICTY following his voluntary surrender last week.</p>
<p><b>Bukejlovic meets with RS Pensioners' Association representatives</b></p>	<p><b>RS Radio</b> – <b>Pero Bukejlovic</b>, RS Premier, has today received the delegation of the RS Association of Pensioners. <b>Rade Rakulj</b>, Association President, stated that Association was interested why Government failed to pay out February pension with an increase of 8%. The meeting concluded that pensioners should hold a meeting with RS Finance Minister and RS Minister of Labour and to examine whether March pensions may be increased.</p>

## Legal proceedings

<p><b>BiH Presidency says it is up to Covic, HDZ to decide on his future political engagement</b></p>	<p><b>RHB, Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje</b> cover page, pg 3 'Presidency unanimously supported Dragan Covic' <u>M. Kavaz-Sirucic</u>, <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'Indictment against Dragan Covic a matter for judiciary', <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 5 'BiH Presidency does not want to discuss indictment' by <u>D. Polovina-Mandic</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b> pg 3 'BiH Presidency also supported Dragan Covic' by <u>D. Jazvic</u>, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> last pg 'Paravac: Decision on Covic is in hands of judiciary' by <u>D. Pasic</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 2, announced on cover 'Covic won't tender resignation' by <u>A. Sisic</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b> RSpG 2 'Paravac: Judiciary to decide on Covic' by <u>D.S.</u> – BiH Presidency has discussed on the issue of indictment against Croat member of BiH President, <b>Dragan Covic</b>, and decided that it was up to Covic and the political party he belonged to, to decide on his future political work. The Presidency decided not to discuss on the issue, since it was a matter of judicial institutions. <i>"Whether Covic is going to continue his work in the Presidency depends on whether he is respecting the BiH laws and his own opinion, as well as the opinion of his party"</i>, said BiH Presidency President, <b>Borislav Paravac</b>. Paravac added that he thought that the work could be continued with no problems. Covic is going to express his opinion on the whole issue at a press conference scheduled for Wednesday.</p>
---	--

<p>OHR, EC reiterate Covic has to step down</p>	<p><b>Pink, FTV, Hayat, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2          ‘Ashdown will with US officials discuss          Covic resignation as well’, <b>Dnevni List</b> pg          6, mentioned on cover ‘Ashdown: Covic must          submit resignation’ <u>not signed</u>, <b>Vecernji          List</b> pg 2 ‘Ashdown in USA on D. Covic’s          resignation’ <u>by F</u>, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> pg          16 ‘Ashdown: Dragan Covic must submit          resignation’ <u>by D. Pasic</u> – Spokesperson          for the OHR, <b>Mario Brkic</b> said at a press          conference in Sarajevo on Tuesday that the          High Representative, <b>Paddy Ashdown</b>, who          was in visit to the USA, was going to          inform the USA officials on the          International Community stance that Covic          had to resign.</p> <p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 ‘Covic must step down’          also carried OHR statement. The daily also          quotes EC Spokesman in Sarajevo <b>Frane          Maroevic</b> as saying that the EC position on          the issue was also clear, which was that          Covic should resign from the office.</p>
---	---

<p><b>DL editorial commenting on HRs and processes against BiH politicians</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b> pg 2 'For fistful of Dollars' by <u>N. Bise</u> carries an editorial which says that each <b>High Representative</b> that BiH has had so far, has put BiH back. According to the author, the HRs were giving away our property as if it was their own and on the eve of their departure from BiH, each HR killed a hope for better future. The author concludes the editorial by saying that for this reason it is ridiculous to refer on our small-time criminals embodied in persons, who pretended to represent the will of BiH peoples. The author added: <i>'Foreigners set them up robbery, power, influence, persecution, processing and jail for fistful of money as in Clint Eastwood's westerns.'</i></p>
<p><b>DA: Jelavic moved to BiH Court 's detention unit</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> cover splash 'Jelavic is first dweller of the state jail', pg 2 'Ante Jelavic is the first dweller of the detention unit of BiH Court' by <u>A.M.</u> – DA learns that <b>Ante Jelavic</b>, currently being processed for the misuse of office and authorities during the time he was FBiH Defence Minister, has been transferred to the detention unit of BiH Court. The detention, built under the modern standards, was inaugurated 14 days ago, and currently Jelavic is the only inmate.</p>

<p><b>VL comments on demand for Jelavic's detention for Croat self-rule case</b></p>	<p><b>Vecernji List</b> cover pg splash and pg 5 'Jelavic transferred from Kula to Sarajevo' by <u>Z. Kresic</u> carries that Prosecutor <b>John McNair</b> demanded extension of detention for former HDZ President <b>Ante Jelavic</b> because of the Croat self-rule case. According to VL, this is a politically motivated move since McNair did it before one-year detention for Jelavic because of the Hercegovacka Banka case expires in May. The article also says that according to sources close to the foreign Prosecutors Jelavic was transferred on Tuesday from prison Kula to a newly established detention unit with the BiH Court. An anonymous source said that Jelavic was transferred to Sarajevo because of better conditions in that detention unit.</p>
--	--

<p><b>BL Court received indictment against Dokic, Pavic</b></p>	<p><b>Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2, mentioned on cover 'Minister Branko Dokic will not resign', <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 4 'Branko Dokic: Political discrediting and pressures on prosecution', <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 2 'Branko Dokic claims he is not guilty' by <u>V. Popovic</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b> RSpG 2, announced on cover 'Dokic denies, Pavic keeps silent' by <u>Nedeljka Breberina</u> – The Court in Banjaluka will decide whether it will confirm the indictment against <b>Branko Dokic</b>, BiH Minister of Communications and Transport, and <b>Marko Pavic</b>, Head of Prijedor Municipality, until the end of the week. Dokic and Pavic are indicted for misuse of power and authority while working as ministers of communications and transport in RS government, and for disappearance of almost 900 thousand KM from the state and entity budgets. In his statement for media, Dokic said that the main goal of this indictment is to discredit him politically. He added that he was working absolutely in line with the government decisions. He added that he was not even thinking about to resign.</p>
<p><b>Terzic refuses to comment on indictment against Dokic</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'No comments on Dokic' – The CoM Chair, <b>Adnan Terzic</b>, did not want to comment on the indictment filed against the BiH Transport and Communications Minister, <b>Branko Dokic</b>. Terzic only said he doesn't want to interfere with the work of judiciary, and adds that if the court confirms the indictment the CoM would discuss this issue further.</p>



<p><b>NN op-ed critical of Dokic</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 7 'The unbreakable connection' by <u>Predrag Klinčov</u> – The author is commenting on the indictment brought against <b>Branko Dokic and Marko Pavic</b>, noting that Dokic was mostly hurt over the fact that when Court upholds the indictment, he would have to tender resignation to the position of state minister, who gets hold of state millions' worth projects. The author concludes it is clear to everybody know why PDP failed to support European demands for resignation of <b>Dragan Covic</b>.</p>
--	--

**Both sides in preparation for renewal of Alijagic case before the Court**

**Dnevni Avaz** 2 'Alijagic: Cuk forgets this is not 1992' by A.M. – Head of Trebinje Municipality, **Dobroslav Cuk**, announced that this municipality will establish the expert team which will represent it before the court at the renewed trial in Alijagic case. Last year, the Trebinje District Court brought the decision ordering RS Government and Metalac company to pay out about 36 million KM of compensation for stolen property to **Salih Alijagic**, however the RS Supreme Court has recently returned the case to the new trial. *"We will make expert study... and we will also check all documents submitted to the court. Those who brought forged documents will have to be held responsible for that,"* said Cuk referring to documents of company 'Obod' from Cetinje and some other companies from Western Herzegovina which prove the usage of stolen Alijagic's property. *"I would like to remind that the RS MoI checked those documents and found nothing problematic. There was nothing disputable in previous verdict of the District Court, and it has been returned only because of the large pressure from both domestic and international officials,"* commented Alijagic.

**BHT, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 'Initiative for return of money from Alijagic' launched' by V. Duka also reported on the issue and carried Cuk's statement.

<p><b>RS MoI under investigation of BL Prosecutor's Office</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 5, announced on cover 'RS MoI under investigation of Prosecutor's Office' by <u>S. Karic/P.Klinco</u> – Banja Luka District Prosecutor's Office has confirmed to <i>NV</i> that this Office is conducting an investigation into illegalities in the work of the RS Ministry of Internal Affairs. The investigation has been launched following publication of the audit report on the work of RS MOI for 2003 (which gives a number of irregularities in procurement procedure, large expenditures during the visit of Pope John Paul II to Banja Luka ).</p>
--	---

**BiH Helsinki  
Committee for  
Human Rights  
demands  
return of  
Algerian  
group**

**Glas Srpske** cover pg splash 'Return the Algerians!', **Nezavisne Novine** pg 8 'Algerian six to be returned to BiH' by N.M. – The BiH Helsinki Human Rights Committee Tuesday called the Chairperson of the BiH Council of Ministers, **Adnan Terzic**, to appoint persons to negotiate the return of six Algerian citizens known as the "Algerian group" with the US administration. The Committee's President, **Srdjan Dizdarevic**, noted that the six citizens extradited by BiH had been in the US "Guantanamo" prison in Cuba for three years and points out that although they had been arrested and extradited on terrorism charges, there was no investigation against them. He also noted that the extradition had been carried out contrary to the decision of the BiH Federation Supreme Court and the Human Rights Chamber. **Sarajevo media** also covered the issue.

## **Political developments/reforms**

<p><b>Dragan Bozanic appointed Ambassador at large</b></p>	<p><b>RHB, Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 'Bozanic appointed Ambassador at BiH Foreign Ministry', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'Indictment against Dragan Covic a matter for judiciary', <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 5 'Bozanic Ambassador in Ministry of Foreign Affairs' <u>not signed</u> – <b>Dragan Bozanic</b> was appointed as the so-called ambassador at large in the BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs at a session of the BiH Presidency in Sarajevo on Tuesday. In his statement about this decision, member of BiH Presidency <b>Sulejman Tihic</b> said that Bozanic couldn't be ambassador, not even in the office of Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Sarajevo , and that he was therefore against his appointment. Dragan Bozanic was recently nominated for the position of the BiH Ambassador to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg , but EU refused to approve that appointment.</p>
--	--

<p><b>Tihic voted against Bozanic's appointment</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'Who will Bozanic cooperate with if US and EU are against him' <b>FENA</b> – BiH Presidency member <b>Sulejman Tihic</b> voted against the appointment of <b>Dragan Bozanic</b> as the ambassador at large in the BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs. <i>"Today, just like before when we voted on his appointment as the ambassador to the Council of Europe, I voted against his appointment"</i>, Tihic told FENA on Tuesday. Tihic believes that the same reasons that existed then exist nowadays and he says that Bozanic, by serving as the information minister in Radovan Karadzic's Government during the aggression against BiH, played a negative role and incited national and religious hatred. <i>"Both the EU and USA adopted a clear position towards this issues when they refused to approve his appointment. I see no one he could work with here in the BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs if all EU countries and USA are against his appointment"</i>, Tihic said. This appointment will again be discussed at the next session of the BiH Presidency when Bozanic could be appointed as the ambassador at large.</p> <p><b>TV Hayat</b> carried an interview with Tihic on the issue.</p>
---	--

<p><b>Cavic responds to Gregorian: SDS supports defence reform</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 7, announced on cover ‘SDS supports defence reform’ by <u>Dragan Cavic</u> – This is a letter <b>Dragan Cavic</b>, RS President, wrote as a response to accusations of <b>Rafi Gregorian</b>, DRC Chair, where Cavic denies SDS is impeding the defence reform. Cavic brings details related to previous flow of defence reform, saying this level of reform would not have been achieved without the support and assistance of the SDS. He stresses that SDS is of the view a full implementation of reform called “Path towards PfP” should mainly be achieved, after which the process of adjustment and re-structuring for BiH admission to NATO should be launched. He underlines that <i>“SDS supports a full professionalisation of the armed forces in BiH, which stipulate a complete abolishment of any sort of obligatory training. SDS is also of the view that this process may commence immediately.”</i></p>
--	---

<p>RS MoD denies Gregorian: SDS is not impeder</p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 6 'SDS is not impeder' by <u>N.M.</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'Gregorian without arguments' by <u>M. Dzepina</u> – The RS Ministry of Defence has reacted upon an open letter published Tuesday by <b>Rafi Gregorian</b>, DRC Chair. The Ministry released a press statement, viewing Gregorian's claims (that SDS is impeding the process of defence reform in BiH) as non-argumented. The release notes: <i>"The conclusions and declaration referring to defence reform adopted at the latest session of the RS NA (supported by SDS, PDP, DNS) showed we want to join NATO on the principles RS Parliament has enacted."</i></p>
--	---



<p><b>NATO Commander Schook concerned about RS, SDS opposition to Defence Reform</b></p>	<p><b>Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'General Schook called BL-based NATO officer for consultations in Sarajevo', <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 6 'Concern since RS Government opposes defence reform' <u>not</u> <u>signed</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 6 'NATO is concerned with the RS Government stance' by <u>N.N.</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'Bad signals' – NATO Commander to BiH, <b>Steven Schook</b> is worried due to recent RS Government signals, led by SDS, which state that RS opposes defence reform and BiH's attempts to be admitted to NATO. <i>"We are going to monitor RS Government's activities very closely, regarding their participation in defence reform, before we submit the report to NATO. I want to stress that the work of the Defence Reform Commission is going to be continued, as well as cooperation between NATO Headquarter to Sarajevo and BiH Ministry of Defence"</i>, said NATO Spokesperson, <b>Derek Chappell</b>. Chappell added that RS National Assembly adopted decision by which it denied constitutional role/right of BiH Presidency to decide on foreign and defence politics.</p>
--	--

<p><b>RS' Bukejlovic, Sakan reject Schook's claims</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 6 'SDS is not an impeder' by <u>N.M.</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'We do not impede reforms' – <b>Pero Bukejlovic</b>, RS Premier, stated that RS Government does not impede reforms, adding there is no need for international organisations to be concerned over the RS Government's commitment to see BiH join NATO.</p> <p>Commenting on Schook's statement, Bukejlovic said that conclusions were not reached by SDS, but instead by 45 delegates from various political parties.</p> <p><b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'False assessments' by <u>SRNA</u> – <b>Velimir Sakan</b>, Presidnet of the RS NA Board for surveillance over institutions of defence and internal affairs, finds statement of Schook as being false, adding: <i>"Such statements are unbalanced and false, since conclusions are not aimed at blocking the reform, but instead at creating realistic steps towards fulfilment of conditions placed for PFP membership."</i></p>
--	--

**Terzic  
attends EPP  
summit in  
Brussels**

**Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'BiH moves towards EU with stability' by S. Numanovic – The Chair of the Council of Ministers, **Adnan Terzic**, attended, in a capacity of the guest, the summit of EU Prime Ministers from peoples' parties held in Brussels on Tuesday. The European People's Party [EPP] is the largest representatives' group in the EU Parliament, and at the summit leading European politicians have gathered to discuss the economic, enlargement and internal relations issues. *"This is the first time BiH attends summit like this. This even is important, especially since it gathers 10 out of 25 EU member states ,"* Terzic told DA. He stated to participants that there *"further postponements of the negotiations [on the Stabilisation and Association Agreement] could be an attack on reformatory processes in BiH."*

**BL Bishop  
Komarica  
meets with  
Irish  
Ambassadors,  
says  
international  
community  
should be  
partly blamed  
for war in  
former  
Yugoslavia**

**RHB, Oslobođenje** pg 8 'Rewarding persecutors, punishing those who were being persecuted', **Dnevni List** pg 7 'International Community failed at exam in BiH' by NINA, **Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 14 'World approved persecutions from RS' by F – Banja Luka's Bishop **Franjo Komarica** stated that the International Community is partly responsible for the war in former Yugoslavia. He also stated that International Community is still punishing victims and refugees from these parts and rewarding the responsible people said Komarica on the meeting with Irish Ambassador for Slovenia, Croatia and BIH **Gerald Ansbrough**. He expressed concern for decreasing number of Catholics in Banja Luka and RS. Ansbrough said that International Community failed in BIH and Ireland as its member was prepared to admit it. The wrong information on the situation in BIH was a reason for the terrible decisions in the past, according to the Ambassador.

<p><b>VL: Instead of being Head of SIPA, Croat to be Head of DGS</b></p>	<p><b>Vecernji List</b> pg 4 'Are Serbs meant to be in charge of state security?!', mentioned on cover 'Instead of SIPA Croats to get State Border Service' by <u>M. Relota</u> carries that <b>Sredoje Novic</b> will be a new Head of SIPA and according to VL Novic is a favourite of the <b>OHR</b> and <b>EUMP</b>. VL goes on to say that Croats were supposed to get this position, however, since this is not going to happen, in return a Croat should be a Head of the State Border Service (DGS). The article also questions regularity of Novic's election and the author wonders whether it is possible that only Serbs can be in charge of security apparatus in BiH as it was before the war.</p>
<p><b>EUPM denies it demanded a secret meeting with RS Association of former detention camp inmates</b></p>	<p><b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 3 'Journalists "scared" police!' by <u>O. Matavulj</u> – <b>Slavko Jovicic</b>, Vice President of the RS Association of former detention camp inmates, on Tuesday confirmed that EUPM Banja Luka officials demanded to hold a secret meeting with the Association officials, but the Association rejected to hold a secret meeting. Instead, they called the press to mark the even. However, when EUPM officials saw the members of the press, they did not want to approach the building but observed the group from the distance. Jovicic presumes EUPM wanted to talk about police reform, adding Association stances are clear (no abolishment of interior ministry). The EUPM Press Office Banja Luka on Tuesday released a statement, saying no official of EUPM in Banja Luka has scheduled a meeting with Association.</p>

<p><b>Ivan Tomljenovic left SDP BiH</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 3 'Tomljenovic left SDP of BiH' by <u>V. P.</u> – <b>Ivan Tomljenovic</b>, RS Vice President, on Tuesday confirmed he had left the membership of SDP of BiH, noting he had done so <i>“since SDP of BiH viewed his media statements in contradiction with the party programme and hence disreputing the party”</i>. He added that his views can be regarded as left-oriented, adding that his leaving SDP does not mean he would join another party, since he <i>“does not put up with party restrictions and always say opinion, which does not have to comply with the party programme”</i>.</p> <p><b>All other both electronic and print media in BiH</b> also reported on the issue.</p>
---	---

<p><b>Economic/social issues</b></p>
--------------------------------------

<p><b>FBiH Defence Minister laments Ashdown's ban on property sale</b></p>	<p><b>RHB, Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, Oslobodjenje</b> pgs 4-5, mentioned on cover 'Federation looked after former JNA property better than RS' <b>Az. Kalamujic Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 5 'Non-perspective facilities are burden for the FBiH Army', <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 3 'Overdue salaries only to those who complained to court' by <b>M. Zorlak, Vecernji List</b> pg 2 'Situation in FBiH Army depends on sale of 277 facilities' by <b>E. Medunjanin, Slobodna Dalmacija</b> pg 14 'Damaging ban on sale of barracks' by <b>F. FENA</b> – Federation Defence Minister <b>Miroslav Nikolic</b> said on Tuesday that High Representative <b>Paddy Ashdown's</b> decision on a temporary ban on the sale of state property especially affected the Federation Defence Ministry, and that it could have negative repercussions on the consolidation of the financial situation in the defence sector. Speaking about the possible implications of such a decision, Minister Nikolic said at a news conference in Sarajevo that disused military locations (property of the former JNA – Yugoslav People's Army) currently owned by the Federation Defence Ministry represented a "ballast" which exacerbated the already difficult financial situation in which this ministry and the Federation of BiH Army were in. Our intention was to put these locations "into circulation" and so rid ourselves of their maintenance and security, Nikolic said, recalling that the funds secured by the sale of disused locations could be allocated for urgent needs in the defence sector. These funds, he said, could be used to improve the status of the members of defence structures and their housing, as well as the necessary maintenance of the Bosnia-Herzegovina Federation Army's armaments and equipment. According to Nikolic, although the Federation had in the meantime passed laws enabling the sale of disused army property, the OHR's decision overrode this, i.e. prevented the implementation of the established legal framework which regulated this area. Stressing that he welcomed in principle all measures aimed at protecting state property, the defence minister added that he was surprised that such measures had not been taken while the sale of military property was topical in the [Bosnian] Serb Republic where two thirds of military facilities that used to be owned by the Serb Republic Army were privatized. The Federation Defence Ministry owns 127 disused locations, buildings (barracks etc), corresponding to 150 business facilities which the ministry says could be put up for sale.</p>
--	---

<p><b>OHR, BiH Minister Halilovic on state property: Halilovic says it is alarming that State Property Comm. doesn't work</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 8 'Safet Halilovic: Lack of work by the State Property Commission is alarming' by <u>M. Drinjakovic</u> – OHR Spokesman <b>Mario Brkic</b> said on Tuesday that the decision of the HR to temporarily freeze the sale of public property should allow the State Property Commission to do its work. The HR also specified that the Commission, established in December last year by the BiH CoM with a task to recommend authorities steps to undertake to ensure protection of the state property, must present its report to the CoM by 30 November this year, however the Commission hasn't met yet. The BiH Civil Affairs Minister, <b>Safet Halilovic</b>, commented that the CoM has no information on the activities of this Commission: <i>"Of course, the focus of the Commission's work is extremely important issue, and since it has not done in a span of several months, I think that is alarming.. I think this body should urgently create the register of the BiH property,"</i> said Halilovic adding it is necessary to propose the audit measures in the cases in which state property was disrupted by anybody.</p> <p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 11 'Commission for state property must become operational' also carried OHR statement.</p>
<p><b>FBiH HoR adopts law on sale of unclaimed apartments</b></p>	<p><b>RHB, Pink, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 6, mentioned on cover 'Purchase for vouchers for those being employed before 1991' <u>A. Terzic</u>, <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 10 "Law on return, allocation and sale of apartments adopted' <u>A. Basic</u>, <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 5 'Changes to Law on Privatisation of Companies refused' by <u>I. Glibusic</u> – At the session in Sarajevo on Tuesday, the FBiH House of Representatives adopted the draft Law on return, allocation and sale of unclaimed apartments. According to the law, these apartments, which served as the alternative accommodation for refugees, should be returned to the companies which owned them in 1991. In order to purchase such apartment, 600 KM per square meter in cash should be paid, or in very specific cases the payment can be made through certificates. In total, there are 6327 such apartments in Federation. The law doesn't regulate the purchase of the apartments under restitution. FBiH HoR did not adopt draft Law on changes and amendments to Law on Privatization of Companies.</p>



<p><b>BiH HoP not discussed draft law on competition, deputies dissatisfied with ministers</b></p>	<p><b>RHB, Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 8, mentioned on cover 'Deputies dissatisfied with ministers' arrogance, <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 10, <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 4 'Irresponsibility of CoM and BiH Presidency continues' <u>by N.B.</u> – During Tuesday's session in Sarajevo BiH House of Peoples has decided not to discuss on issues, proposed by members of the BiH Council of Ministers, since they were not present at the session. Namely, it was not discussed on proposal of law on competition, which is one of the Feasibility Study terms. The HoP has accepted the BiH CoM's request to discuss on amendments on law on BiH state service.</p>
<p><b>FBiH delegation visiting Belgrade , economic cooperation in focus</b></p>	<p><b>Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 2, mentioned on cover 'BiH, SCG willing to resolve issue of customs duties', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 3 'Tadic requested issue of customs duties to be resolved by the beginning of April', mentioned on cover 'To remove obstacles to further cooperation', <b>Dnevni List</b> cover pg splash and page 3 'Belgrade: Joint production of arms proposed' <u>by I. Glibusic</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b> pg 2 'Investments of FBiH and Serbia' <u>by kj</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 5 'Possible cooperation of Serbia and BiH in arms production' by <u>BETA</u>, <b>Vecernje Novosti</b> pg 5 'We have will: Situation will improve' by <u>D. Radek</u> – FBiH Prime Minister, <b>Ahmet Hadzipasic</b> met Tuesday with Serbian President, <b>Boris Tadic</b>. They agreed that the issue of free trade agreement had to be solved. Tadic said that Croatia, BiH and SCG had common obstacles regarding the cooperation with the ICTY. <i>"The fact is that we are not going to become the EU State members by adopting laws, but by implementing adopted measures"</i>, said Hadzipasic. <i>"We have to head towards the European integrations together"</i>, said Tadic. Tadic offered himself to be Ambassador of BiH economy in the World. Hadzipasic said that BiH also wanted to be Ambassador of SCG economy.</p>
<p><b>SD on allocation of FBiH Investment Bank funds</b></p>	<p><b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> cover pg splash, pg 15 'They allocated millions KM that all of us pay back' <u>by Z. Tulic</u> carries an article on a big number of loans granted to Bosniak majority areas in the Federation of BiH that all FBiH citizens have to pay back now. As an example SD states the Malaysian donation amounting to 10,5 million KM, which was given through loans to Bosniak companies exclusively, however, according to SD all FBiH citizens will have to pay back these loans and many others, which came through FBiH Investment Bank.</p>

<p><b>Bukejlovic visited B. Brod Refinery: Refinery is ready for production</b></p>	<p><b>EuroBlic</b> RSpg 3 'Refinery is ready' by <u>T.V.</u> – During Tuesday's visit to Bosanski Brod Oil Refinery, <b>Pero Bukejlovic</b>, RS PM, stated that Government is firmly committed to prepare Refinery for a continuous production, adding that some concrete actions with the Refinery management have already been set up. Bukejlovic said: <i>"Refinery is ready in technological regard to resume production process, if continuous supply of oil is ensured."</i></p> <p><b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'Under the burden of debts' by <u>S. Pecic</u> – Bukejlovic denied accusations that London firm "Vitol" is not a serious partner. He is of the view that the Refinery management is responsible for the bad situation at the Refinery.</p>
---	--

<p><b>War crimes/cooperation with ICTY</b></p>	
<p><b>NGOs, judicial officials discuss preparations for war crime trials in BiH</b></p>	<p><b>FTV, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 5, mentioned on cover 'Kreso: BiH Court is not Court of revenge but justice', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 5 – Representatives of BiH non-governmental organizations and BiH Administration of Justice held a meeting in Sarajevo to discuss the ways of creating conditions for objective trials against persons indicted for war crimes committed in BiH. The Court of BiH President <b>Meddzida Kreso</b> said that the confidence in the domestic judiciary system should be strengthened, and that is possible only if court decisions are based on the evidences and law, without any political interference. After the meeting in Sarajevo , organized by the American Institute for Peace from Washington , similar meeting will be organized in Banjaluka.</p>

RS Govt.  
campaign to  
improve  
cooperation  
with ICTY  
fails –  
journalists  
critical of  
campaign  
presentation

**Nezavisne Novine** pg 3, announced on cover 'They to The Hague or we to the hell' by G. Golub, **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Them or us?' by M.Mi. – The RS Government Secretariat for Relations with the ICTY on Tuesday presented the campaign "They to The Hague or we to Hell", aimed at informing the public on necessity to fulfil international duties RS has towards Tribunal. There were many omission of the campaign, observed by the members of the press (including misspelling of war crime indictees, listing some of indictees who surrendered on the list of fugitives etc.). **Jovan Spajic**, Director of the Secretariat, said campaign would be broadcast on TV stations, placed on billboards after mistakes are corrected.

**EuroBlic** RSpg 1 'Campaign with error, authority and authors confused', announced on cover 'Campaign with flaw' by Nedeljka Breberina – The author criticises a number of flaws during the campaign presentation, adding that Secretariat officials admitted to the press they received the material a last minute and were not able to examine it, also noting that *"BiH COM ordered them to run campaign". The author stresses campaign was badly devised and lagging behind timing. "*

**Sarajevo media** also report on the campaign launch.

<p><b>Update to BiH lawsuit against SiCG for aggression and genocide</b></p>	<p><b>Vecernje Novosti</b> pg 4 'Suits spoil reconciliation' by <u>Sanja Remic</u> – carries an interview with <b>Radoslav Stojanovic</b>, SiCG agent before International Court of Justice on BiH lawsuit against SiCG. He reiterates SiCG' stance to insist on diplomatic settlement of the suit. Responding to press question whether SiCG would re-launch procedure against BiH and Croatia, he says that <i>"it would not be good. We would then face with situation that Court regards us as unserious partner."</i> He also adds that burdening of future relations between the states with a verdict is not good for the cause of the international community – which is to accomplish ethnic reconciliation and cooperation amongst former Yugoslavia states.</p>
<p><b>Update to freeze of property of Hague fugitives</b></p>	<p><b>Nacional</b> pg 5 'To freeze property of indictees' – SiCG Council for cooperation with ICTY is of the view it is necessary to apply decision of the EU regarding the freeze of property of Hague indictees at large, including <b>Ratko Mladic, Radovan Karadzic, Goran Borovnica</b>, etc. <b>Aleksandra Milenov</b>, representative of the Secretariat of Hague Tribunal in Belgrade , welcomed this decision.</p>