

# OHR BiH Media Round-up, 24/7/2005

<b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (18,00 hrs)	<b>TV PINK</b> (18,00 hrs)	<b>BHT 1</b> (19,00 hrs)
BIH CC on PBS law	Terrorist attacks in Egypt	80 killed in terrorist attacks in Egypt
Terrorist attacks in Egypt	No BiH citizens killed in Egypt	London police continues investing.
No killed BiH citizens in Egypt	Terzic on Egypt terrorist attacks	BIH CC on PBS law
World news	World News	Police reform negot. set for Tuesday

<b>NTV Hayat</b> (19,00 hrs)	<b>FTV</b> (19,30 hrs)	<b>RTRS</b> (19,30 hrs)
Terrorist attacks in Egypt	80 killed in terrorist attacks in Egypt	Terrorist attacks in Egypt
No BiH citizens killed in Egypt	BIH CC on PBS law	BIH CC on PBS law
BiH citizens in Egypt	Police reform negot. set for Tuesday	Terzic and HR on police reform
Terzic on Egypt terrorist attacks	Transparency Int. and EC on BiH	DA on constitutional changes

<b>Oslobodjenje</b>	Hundreds of victims of terrorist attack at Sharm El Shaik
<b>Dnevni Avaz</b>	Destructive night at Sharm El Shaik
<b>Vecernji List</b>	All the lies of Jelena Brajsa
<b>Dnevni List</b>	Terrorists attacked Egypt

<b>Nezavisne Novine</b>	Al Qaida kills tens of people
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<b>BiH CC's decision on PBS Law</b>
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<p><b>BIH CC made a decision that the law on PBS is not destructive for Croat vital national interest</b></p>	<p><b>TV PINK</b> – BiH Constitutional Court decided that the Draft law on PBS system does not violate the vital national interests of Croats. According to BiH Constitutional Court, the Draft law on PBS system enables the equality of all three languages, as well as equal representation of all three BiH peoples in PBS Boards. Judge of BiH Constitutional Court <b>David Feldman</b> stated that PBS board is not a public body like other public institutions, such as BiH Presidency or Parliament, where equal representing is necessary. However, he also emphasized that the Draft law doesn't prevent equal representing of the constitutive peoples. Croat Caucus of BiH Parliament Assembly announced that they are not going to give up their insisting on establishing of a third PBS channel in Croatian language. They also announced that they are going to address the Court for Human Rights in Strasbourg regarding this issue. They claim that the decision of BiH Court is not valid, because it was made too fast and under pressure. BiH House of Representatives member <b>Ruza Sopta</b> stated that BiH Constitutional Court has been under great pressure to make a fast decision. The decision of the Court opens the way to adoption of the law, which is one of the last pre-conditions which must be fulfilled before the start of negotiations on Stabilization and Association Agreement. The Law determines that the program should be produced and broadcasted from three PBS centers: Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Mostar. BiH House of Peoples should vote on this law in the next session scheduled for July 28<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><b>NTV Hayat</b> – <i>"It has been confirmed that the statement given by Croat Caucus within BiH House of Peoples on the Law being destructive to Croats' vital national interest did not meet procedural rightness terms since proposal of Law on BiH PBS is not destructive for Croats' vital national interest"</i>, said the Chair of BiH Constitutional Court <b>Mato Tadic</b>. The Court had also discussed and rejected appeal issued by <b>Seada Palavric</b> for her right on freedom to speak being violated.</p> <p><b>RTRS</b> – Chair of BIH House of Peoples <b>Velimir Jukic</b> stated for RTRS over the telephone that the decision of BIH CC is disappointing. Reporter concludes that according to BIH HoP statute deputies in HoP will decide on the law in regular procedure and adds that BIH CC decision is obligatory after it's published in Official Gazette.</p> <p><b>RHB, TV PINK, FTV, Dnevni List</b> pg 2, announced on cover 'Croats lose their TV channel' by <u>Erna Mackic</u>, <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'Proposed Law on PBS does not jeopardise vital national interest of Croats' by <u>H.Orahovac</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 2 'PBS Law is not destructive for Croat people' by <u>M.Lingo</u>, <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 2, announced on cover 'Law does not jeopardise Croat' interest' by <u>FENA</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b> pg 2 'Law is not destructive for Croats' by <u>Eldina Medunjin</u> – also report</p>
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<p><b>Haris Basic</b>  <b>comments on</b>  <b>BiH CC's</b>  <b>decision</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'My Ministry has prepared a truly European Law' by <u>H.O.</u> – <b>Haris Basic</b>, BiH Deputy Minister of Communication and Transport, told DA that since the issue of VNI protection was raised (in relation with PSB Law), he was saying that the proposed solution meet all European demands, and BiH CC's decision is just a verification of my stance. He is glad that his ministry has prepared this Law of European orientation.</p>
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## Reform processes update

**Negotiations on  
police reform to  
continue on  
Tuesday**

**TV PINK** – OHR invited BiH political parties to continue the negotiations on police reform on Tuesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. During this meeting it should be decided whether the police reform should be agreed by political parties, or by police system institution, as RS National Assembly requested. Chair of BiH Council of Minister **Adnan Terzic** stated that the success of the defence reform should bring additional motivation to the police reform. He also explained that the decision on police regions and budget necessary for the reforms should be made during next few meetings. New deadline for the end of negotiations is September 15<sup>th</sup>. According to OHR, police reform is the last major obstacle for start of negotiations on Stabilization and Association Agreement in October. As OHR Spokesperson **Ljiljana Radetic** stressed that any decision on police reform must be approved by the entity parliaments, and this must happen before middle of September. So far, only SDA and SNSD have clear proposals for the reform. SDA suggested territorial organisation of police divided in five with centres in Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Mostar, Tuzla and Zenica. SDA member **Sefik Dzaferovic** stated that the negotiations should continue where they stopped, which means continuing of talks on territorial organisation. SNSD suggested similar organisation. However, they suggested that Travnik area should be divided and added to Banja Luka and Zenica region. Mostar regions should be divided in two regions with centres in Trebinje and Mostar. SNSD also suggested that the centre of Tuzla regions should be transferred to Bijeljina. HDZ didn't comment these suggestions. According to present proposal of the Police Reform Commission which mostly respect the pre-war territorial organisation of police and last population census, police should be organized in 10 regions. Reporter commented that the next meeting on police reform is scheduled for Tuesday, the same they when the session of RS NS is planned, and therefore it's not clear who will represent the Serb parties in the meeting.

**NTV Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni List** pg 2 'Politicians have a chance for reforms' by **NINA**, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'A chance for a decisive step forward', **Nezavisne Novine** pg 2 'Terzic and Ashdown called parties to a meeting on police reform' by **M.Kr., Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'New talks on police reform Tuesday' by **R.I., Vecernji List** pg 2 'Terzic and Ashdown called for a meeting' by **ra** – also report on Tuesday talks police reform talks, referring to OHR press statement saying that the Chair of BiH Council of Ministers **Adnan Terzic** and the High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** invited leaders of political parties which took part in negotiations on police reform on Vlasica to attend meeting in Sarajevo, which should take place on Tuesday, July 26.

<p><b>Dodik says he will not attend Sarajevo meeting on police reform</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 2 'Dodik rejects invitation for a meeting' – <b>Milorad Dodik</b>, SNSD President, has rejected the invitation <b>Ashdown and Terzic</b> addressed to political leaders regarding Sarajevo meeting on police reform. Dodik stressed: <i>"We do not want to be a part of a failed authority concept. Adnan Terzic is no authority to me, since he cannot preserve the ministerial composition and I have no intention of going to that meeting."</i></p>
<p><b>Terzic and HR held informal talks with representatives of political parties in BiH on police reform</b></p>	<p><b>RHB</b> – Chairman of Council of Ministers <b>Adnan Terzic</b> and HR <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> held informal talks with representatives of political parties in BiH on police reform. They called upon the parties who participated in negotiations on police reform in Vlasica to appear in the new meeting on the same subject that should be held in Sarajevo on 26<sup>th</sup> of July. Topic of the meeting will be the activities during the summer that will result in achieving of frame agreement on police restructuring. HR stated that the agreement has to be made soon because entity Parliaments need to agree on the reform by mid September if BiH wants to start negotiations of Stabilisation and Association Agreement by 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dayton Agreement.</p>
<p><b>FBiH politicians approve concrete steps on defense reform, RS disagrees</b></p>	<p><b>NTV Hayat</b> – BiH Law on Defense and Law on Military Service have caused numerous reactions. Great number of international institutions welcomed the laws. While FBiH approve first concrete steps towards defense reform, RS disagree. The Chair of Social Democracy Union (SDU) <b>Sejfidin Tokic</b> says that by abolishing entity Defense Ministries one of the most important BiH issues, namely security, is going to be solved. <i>"Neither one partial, national or entity military structure can ensure such security level as NATO membership can. Thus I expect position and opposition parties to accept certain solutions"</i>, said Tokic. SNSD Main Board member <b>Dubravko Suvara</b> said that SNSD was going to support drafts of the Laws and expressed his hope that they were going to be adopted by entity Parliaments. SRS and DNS, RS parties, are not going to support proposal on defence reform, while SP RS believe that the leading parties have cheated on RS citizens. The Chair of RS NGOs Coordinating Centre <b>Branislav Dukic</b> finds the proposed solution unacceptable. Dukic said that he hoped that RS National Assembly not to accept draft of Defense Law. SDA representative within RS NA <b>Tarik Sadovic</b> said that SDA supported Defense Reform Commission's proposal. BiH Liberal-Democracy Party (LDS) claims that defense reform, along with police reform, will take BiH to EU. BiH Defense Minister <b>Nikola Radovanovic</b> said that the Laws were to pass the regular procedure; any other law had to pass. He added that by the end of September, the procedure had to end and Laws had to be adopted, in order to make budget plans.</p>

<p><b>CoM adopted a conclusion on education reform at the session held on Thursday</b></p>	<p><b>RHB, TV PINK, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'Education reform must be of high priority' by <u>FENA</u> – Council of Ministers adopted a conclusion on education reform at the session held on Thursday. This conclusion states that education reform has to take high priority in BIH. CoM will ask support for this reform will be asked from both Houses of BIH Parliament. BIH Ministry of Civil Affairs feels that reform of education in BIH should have been included in the post-acceptance Council of Europe obligations of BIH.</p>
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## Other political affairs

**Feature story on  
HR's addressing  
to BiH  
Parliamentarians**

**NTV Hayat** – One of the events which marked last week was the High Representative **Paddy Ashdown's** address to BiH Parliamentarians. The HR said that OHR was going to be replaced EU office, but that it was up to BiH politicians on when the replacement was going to take place. The HR also said that strategy on the replacement of OHR should be build upon strategy on BiH's admittance to EU. *"As Stabilization and Association Agreement starts, Peace Implementation Council has already made it clear that it is ready to move ahead, very soon, and to start withdrawing OHR. Bonn powers, which have become dominant in BiH political ambient, are going to be withdrawn. Then, OHR should probably be replaced by the EU, namely EU Special Representative, but with no Bonn powers"*, said Ashdown. All of this could be started as of October or November 2005. *"Whether it happens, depends not only on whether BiH is going to meet terms for SAA, but on what is going to happen as of now till next year. PIC is not going to withdraw OHR if not absolutely sure that it is a safe thing to do"*, said Ashdown. BiH Parliamentary Assembly's Commission in charge concluded that the HR's role was extremely useful to BiH and that it was still necessary, although with redefined authorities. But, another issue emerges, namely issue of constitutionality, since there is no single stance. *"BiH Institutions – Parliament, Council of Ministers and the Presidency, along with the OHR, should make an action plan on transferring the HR powers to the BiH authorities, but we must not forget the fact that we will need the institution of HR on our path to Europe"*, said **Martin Raguz**, the Chair of the Commission. BiH politicians say that the HR's powers should be reduced and transferred to domestic politicians. *"BiH, its institutions and people, should bear more responsibility. What International Community showed us so far is that it can control the crisis, but it cannot find the solutions for the crisis"*, said BiH Presidency Chair **Ivo Miro Jovic**. Certain parliamentarians were not thrilled with the HR's speech. *"He was explaining to us how great the situation was, and it does not take an economist or scientist to see that the situation is not as he presents it"*, said SDP President **Zlatko Lagumdzija**, sarcastically.

<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> <b>claims Ashdown's</b> <b>ultimatum to RS</b> <b>Govt. on Palic</b> <b>case succeeded</b></p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 'RS Government sent report on Palic' by <u>E.Kamenica</u> – Daily claims that RS Government has respected deadline of 22 July, by which it was supposed to send information to OHR in regard to what RS as entity has done to identify location of mortal remains of war-time commander of Zepa <b>Avdo Palic</b>. Avdo's wife <b>Esma</b> told daily she was informed report is made on 32 pages and she will be informed of it on Monday.</p>
<p><b>EC and TI</b> <b>discussed</b> <b>association</b> <b>criteria</b></p>	<p><b>FTV, TV PINK</b> – Coordination Unit of European Commission's General Directorate for Enlargement and Transparency International representatives from potential association candidate countries discussed the fulfilling of political criteria for association. In case of BiH, the conclusions of talks will be included in report on progress, which is essential for start of negotiations on Stabilization and Association Agreement. The report will be presented to BiH authorities and EC in Autumn. In case of BiH, EC representatives were especially interested in strategy for transformation of OHR mandate into mandate of EU's Special Representative and transfer of authorities to BIH institutions. They emphasized that only true successes of local courts, prosecutions and police can return the trust of citizens in legal state and minimize the field of activities of organized crime. They also stressed the need for adoption of anti-corruption strategy and adoption, ratification and implementation of UN Declaration on Corruption. High on the list of priorities is the reform of public administration and elimination of national key in employment which enables control of political parties over administration institutions. The reform must be based on principles of professionalism, transparency and efficiency, with minimization of huge and too expensive administration. They also emphasized the need for full implementation of Law on financing of political parties, Law on conflict of interests and Law on free access to information.</p>

<p><b>Dokic on his position at BiH COM</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 5 ‘I remain on position until Parliament verifies my successor’ by <u>I.Sinanovic</u> – <b>Branko Dokic</b>, BiH Minister of Transport and Communication, explains that:  <i>“It is my legal duty to work and I am of the view that it is in the interest of BiH and implementation of many projects that no stoppage is made. On several occasions, I have asked Premier and PDP President to propose my successor, but it is obvious that a deep crisis has disturbed everything. Still, it is evident that this issue will be solved until September.”</i></p>
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<p><b>Miscellaneous</b></p>	
<p><b>RS Government is determined to reveal the faith of missing persons</b></p>	<p><b>TV PINK, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 2 ‘To reveal destiny of the missing in BiH’ by <u>Agencies</u>, <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 ‘To urgently establish facts on the missing persons in BiH’– According to press release, RS Government is determined to reveal the complete truth about the missing persons.  RS Government invited RS Ministry of Justice, RS Ministry of Interior and RS Office for Missing Persons to conduct investigation on faith of missing persons without delay, in accordance with decision of BiH Constitutional Court.</p>

<p><b>First ICTY Chief Prosecutor: Karadzic and Mladic could have been arrested a long time ago</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 5 'NATO did not want to arrest Karadzic', announced on cover 'Karadzic could have been arrested in 1995' by <u>S. Numanovic</u> – <b>Richard Goldston</b>, former ICTY Chief Prosecutor, stated that <b>Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic</b> are still at large owing to lack of political will of NATO to arrest them. He stated that they could have been arrested in 1995 or 1996. He says: <i>"I do not trust stories in that anybody has reached any sort of secret agreement with Karadzic or Mladic. I have not heard of any evidence that would prove something like that existed. If anybody had made any sort of deal, it would have been known of a long time ago."</i></p> <p>In a statement to DA, he expresses <i>"frustration that they are still at large"</i>. Assessing the current work of the ICTY, he stresses the biggest value is the fact that <i>"negation that crimes were committed on all sides has stopped ... which is good for the process of reconciliation"</i>.</p>
<p><b>Coalition for International Justice claims Mladic preparing his escape from SiCG</b></p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 2 'Mladic is preparing escape from SiCG' – <b>Edgar Checn</b>, Associate of the Coalition for International Justice, in a statement to Voice of America in Washington confirmed rumours that <b>Ratko Mladic</b> is preparing his escape instead of surrender to the ICTY. He stated: <i>"We have also heard those rumours."</i> He added that in case Mladic escaped, SiCG <i>"would face a hard task to explain it without being regarded as accomplice."</i></p>

	<p><b>NOTE: All electronic and printed media report on terrorist attack Sharm El Shaik, in Egypt, when at least 83 persons were killed, while over 200 were injured.</b></p>
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