

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 2/5/2005

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
Labour Day celebrations	Labour Day celebrations	International Labour Day
World news	World news	International Labour Day in Europe
Orthodox Easter in BiH	Labour Day celebrations, Sarajevo	International Labour Day history
World news	Labour Day celebrations, Banja Luka	Story about Alija Sirotanovic

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
No signal	Strikes on International Labour Day	Orthodox Easter
	Difficult situation in Bosnaexpress	Tensions in Kljevcici village
	International Labour Day	Regional news
	May 1 protests in Europe	Easter in Banja Luka

Dnevni Avaz	Dodik accused for incidents in Manjaca and Bileca
Dnevni List	First communion in Mostar

Vecernji List	Croats deem BiH as their motherland
Slobodna Dalmacija	<i>Croatian related headlines</i>

Defence and military issues

DA: RS MoD blames Dodik, media and parents for Manjaca/Bileca incidents

Dnevni Avaz cover splash 'Dodik accused for incidents in Manjaca and Bileca', pg 2 'Dodik, media and parents accused for scandals in Manjaca and Bileca' by Sead Numanovic – DA learns that the report prepared by the RS Defence Ministry accuses SNSD leader **Milorad Dodik** for the incidents that occurred on 16 April when recruits at the swearing-in ceremonies held on Manjaca and Bileca booed BiH anthem and rejected to take an oath to BiH. According to daily, the report will be presented to the public by BiH and RS Defence Ministers, **Nikola Radovanovic** and **Milovan Stankovic** respectively, in this week. DA's source [who read the report] states: *"Report we have received from RS MoD is, at least, 'unserious'. It doesn't point to the responsibility and mistakes by the military bodies, but blames it all on the [demilitarisation] campaign... by SNSD, some current affairs programs and headlines in media..., as well as the families of the recruits."* However, the source underlines that the report carries clear evidences that RS political and military bodies were partly responsible, which is obvious in description of the preparations for the ceremonies. The source also says that RS authorities did nothing to either prevent or correct mistakes done, underlying that high-ranking officers present did not react at the ceremonies. The source claims that the International Community is dissatisfied with the report, and explains that BiH Defence Ministry cannot do anything on its own but instead it has to brief the Presidency and propose measures. If there is any kind of decision for removals, says that source, it would be taken by the Presidency. Inset 'Tihic: I was not informed' carries the BiH Presidency member, **Sulejman Tihic**, expressing his dissatisfaction because he was not submitted with the report.

<p>FBiH MoD Nikolic on defence reform: Not too many soldiers will lose jobs in professionalization of armed forces</p>	<p>Dnevni list pg 8 'About 15% of soldiers to stay without jobs' by <u>N. Vrebac</u> – The FBiH Defence Minister, Miroslav Nikolic, stated in Livno that the BiH enters the second stage of defence reform which <i>"I believe will be implemented by the end of this year, and the consequence of the report will be abolishment of entities' military institutions and general conscription."</i></p> <p>Nikolic adds that a final agreement on future structure of the Armed Forces has not yet been reached, while the works is still being done regarding the changes and amendments to the defence law and new law on service in the BiH Armed forces.</p> <p><i>"Reforms goes in the direction of complete professionalization of the army so BiH will have smaller professional composition of probably 10.000 troops,"</i> said Nikolic adding that he doesn't believe that a large number of troops will stay without their jobs following the professionalization of the army <i>"as in that case armed forces would lose its function and purpose."</i></p>
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SIPA and police issues

<p>Colak continues to insist on appointment of Dragan Luka to SIPA Director position</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'I will insist for Lukac to be SIPA Director' by <u>F. Vele</u> – BiH Security Minister, Barisa Colak, states for DA that he expects the agreement on the appointment of the SIPA Director to be completed by the next week's session of the BiH Council of Ministers. Even tough Sredoje Novic's mandate expired on 23 April, new SIPA Director has not yet been chosen because BiH Foreign Minister Mladen Ivanic opposed Colak's proposal to appoint Dragan Lukac to the position. Meanwhile, CoM asked from OHR to extend Novic's mandate for seven days. Colak stresses he will continue to insist on Lukac's appointment: <i>"He has been proposed because, among other things, the position of SIPA Director was agreed in the inter-party talks to be occupied by Croat... If there is no agreement on this issue by the next week... in accordance with the law, the selection of the agency's Director will be decided by majority votes, i.e. it needs two votes from each of constituent people's representatives."</i> Dnevni list pg 5 'Police regions bring reached agreement into question' by <u>Ivica Glibusic</u> – DL also brings Colak's comment on Lukac appointment.</p>
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**Colak on
Vlasic
talks: We
would not
have
finalized
talks on
maps in 3
days**

Dnevni list pg 5 'Police regions bring reached agreement into question' by Ivica Glibusic – The article, which sums up the conclusions of the police reform negotiations between 11 political leads held on Vlasic mountain last week, brings comment by the BiH Security Minister **Barisa Colak** who said that the most important issue – the police regions – was not discussed. *"Due to the importance of the topics which we discussed, maps were not a subject of more serious debate. It has been estimated that we would not succeed to finalize those talks in three days time,"* said Colak. The author notes that the statements by the political leaders following the talks bring into the question reached agreement, as one support state police, others urge survival of entities MoIs while they are yet to discuss the police regions starting from 11 May.

<p>Former FBiH MoI Ramo Maslesa on police reform: If RS is recognized as one region, reform would make no sense</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'Reform will go down if RS is declared as one region' by <u>E. Sarac</u></p> <p>– Commenting to the talks on police reforms held on Vlasic last week as the expert in police matters, former FBiH Interior Minister, Ramo Maslesa, states for DA that the reform currently being implemented is a transitional solution <i>"because police was not liberated of the political control. The result of the political compromise is an establishment of the Police Board which could be a big obstacle in a police work in the future. Also, the Police Director will have two assistants, which is again useless."</i> He stresses that the police reform would make no sense if a proposal for RS to be one region is accepted. Maslesa also notes some positive steps agreed on Vlasic, such as is the legislation and financing at the state level. Talking about the roles of entity MoIs, Maslesa said that they could only have administrative role, while in the future, if preserved, should deal with civilian protection and ecological policing.</p>
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Political and judicial issues

VL: 80% of Croats and only 47% of Serbs deem BiH as their motherland; Bosniaks unconditionally support BiH

Vecernji list cover splash 'Croats deem BiH as their motherland', pg 3 'Eight percent of Croats deem BiH as their motherland' by Miroslav Vasilj – According to the latest survey conducted by the Banja Luka based 'Partner marketing' agency, 80% of Croats in BiH deem Bosnia and Herzegovina as their motherland. Survey also demonstrates that Bosniaks unconditionally support BiH, while only 47% of Serb population sees BiH as their country. Director of the agency, **Srdjan Popovic**, comments that in general people in RS pay more importance to ethnicity than to nationality. Inset 'BiH neglects rights of Croats' brings the comment by the author who says while Croats support BiH, the state and its institutions for years neglect and sometimes even suppress rights of this population. Comment also notes that Croatia moves further and further away from Croats in BiH.

**VL: Jelavic's
defence
commences with
presenting
evidences in
Hercegovacka
Bank case**

Vecernji list pg 3 'Jelavic's defence brings out witnesses!' by Zoran Kresic – VL reads that the defence lawyers of the former BiH Presidency member, **Ante Jelavic**, will start on 4 May to present its evidences in the case of Herzegovacka Bank. Daily reminds that the Prosecution, headed by the Special Prosecutor **John McNair**, took six months to present its evidences and accusations against Jelavic. In an exclusive statement to VL, Jelavic speaks of his defence underlying it is crucial to bring Croatian former and current officials: *"The documents of the Croatian Government clearly show that the money was intended also to finance Croat institutions of the Herzeg-Bosnia. We are in possession of those documents, we have people who were at the top of Croatian Government at the time and we will certainly prove that there was no redirection, but everything is a result of the political decisions... significantly influenced by Republic of Croatia."*

DL op-ed on possibility of Ivo Miro Jovic to succeed Covic: 'Croats do not deserve such humiliation'

Dnevni list pg 9 'Croats do not deserve such humiliation' op-ed by Slavo Kukic – The editorial is extremely critical of HDZ member **Ivo Miro Jovic** following the speculations that he could succeed **Dragan Covic** at the position of Croat member of the BiH Presidency. Outraged with such possibility, author argues: *"However, at least two details leave some space for hope: At the latest session, HDZ Presidency again did not select the member of BiH Presidency... Covic will try to prevent that until the HDZ Congress in order to ensure his position of the party's leader. And if the member of the Presidency is nominated before that, [Covic] could lose. Therefore, the game with Jovic could be a part of the blackmail plan orchestrated by Covic himself – either I will be the party's chief or I will spit on you as only I know with Jovic in the Presidency. Another sign of hope is to be hinted at in the announcement of the Head of the HDZ Caucus in BiH House of Representatives, who said that if HDZ Presidency fails to propose [a candidate]... he, together with his colleagues, will do so at the first Parliament's session in May. But he also stressed that this redneck [Jovic]... doesn't enjoy... [their] support."* The author concludes that if Jovic's is to be appointed it would a humiliation *"which Croats, whether someone would admit or not, despite everything did not deserve."*