

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 27/11/2005

TV news broadcast on Nov. 26, 2005

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
World news	Bad reception	3 children died in fire near Bijeljina
Regional news		War crime trial starting in Belgrade
Traffic situation in BiH		SIPA's War Crime Investigation Unit
Intervention outside CoM building		Citizens on start of SAA negotiations

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
World news	3 children died in fire near Bijeljina	Solana on Kosovo status
BiH troops departure to Iraq delayed	Snowstorm in Europe caused chaos	3 children die in fire
Statue of Bruce Lee in Mostar	Police warns of traffic accidents	SPONA on constitutional changes
Reactions on BiH Statehood day	14 died in earthquake in China	Rehn on constitutional changes

Oslobodjenje	200 millions KM as compensation?
Dnevni Avaz	A. Terzic: EU wants strong BiH CoM
Dnevni List	Mostar new dragon's nest
Vecernji List	Features Croatia related headline

Nezavisne Novine	Bruce Lee in Mostar
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Political issues	
A. Terzic: EU wants strong BiH CoM	<p>Dnevni Avaz cover pg splash and pg 5 'EC wants stronger BiH CoM' by <u>M. Kukan</u> carries an interview with Chairman of the BiH CoM Adnan Terzic. Asked whether the BiH Constitution is an obstacle for the negotiations with the EU, Terzic said that it is not as far as the SAA negotiations themselves are concerned and he added:</p> <p><i>'The EC does not set ultimately a condition for a change of the Constitution but it keeps insisting that it would like a lot if these changes would reflect on strengthening of the BiH CoM and BiH Government's capacities during the negotiations.'</i></p>

<p>S. Tihic: 'I have been exposed to constant pressures in Washington'</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 6, mentioned on cover 'I have been exposed to constant pressures in Washington' by S. Rozajac carries SDA President Sulejman Tihic as saying: <i>'During the whole negotiations (in Washington) I was coming into conflicts with those who stood for the current constitutional organization and at the end of the negotiations I came into conflict with Donald Hays and leaders of the political parties who stood for such concept. Strong pressures of setting conditions and accusations that the one who does not agree with such results and concepts obstructs the negotiations and that the US will not be satisfied made me to decide to abandon the negotiations.'</i></p>
<p>Stojicic stated that RS will not be a stake so that functional and rational BiH could be made</p>	<p>RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'RS is not going to be currency for settling accounts' – RS National Assembly Speaker Dusan Stojicic stated that the RS will not be a stake or an exchange currency so that a functional and rational BiH could be made. He added that too much administration in BiH is not an RS issue.</p>

<p>RS NGOs will not allow constitutional changes in BiH without previous referendum</p>	<p>RTRS – The Association of RS NGOs will not allow constitutional changes in BiH without a previous referendum on it. Chairman of the Association Branislav Dukic stated that current events are leading towards abolishment of the RS. Savo Cvjetinovic Chairman of RS Veteran organisation stated that the time ahead is very important for the future of Serb people in this area. <i>“If Kosovo gets the right to separate from Serbia then the RS should strongly demand the same right”</i> stated Cvjetinovic. The Association demand from RS representatives who were in Washington to schedule an extraordinary session of the RS National Assembly where they will explain what is supposed to happen in March 2006.</p>
<p>Cavic: Consensus in Washington failed because of Tihic</p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 4 ‘Consensus failed because of Tihic’ by Hina, Oslobodjenje pg 2 ‘Agreement failed because of stubborn Tihic’ – Being a guest at TV show ‘Oci u oci’ RS President Dragan Cavic stated that leaders of BiH political parties reached a high level of consent on functioning of the BiH CoM and he added that the agreement on improving constitutional solutions with regard to the issue of the BiH Presidency was not reached because of stubbornness of SDA President Sulejman Tihic.</p>

Reactions of citizens to start of SAA negotiations

BHT 1 – While most politicians reacted positively to the beginning of the negotiations on Stabilisation and Association Agreement with the EU, interviewed BiH citizens complained that they are not sufficiently informed about the details of the stabilization and association process. However, all featured citizens agreed that membership in the EU would be very positive for BiH, and expressed their hope that the association process is going to bring many improvements to BiH.

SDA. /E. Jahic,
P. Krnjic on
Tihic's demand to
BiH Const. Court
to judge
constitutionality
of RS name

FTV – As stated in a press release, SDA gives full support to the BiH Presidency member **Sulejman Tihic** and his attempts for BiH to become a functional state through constitutional changes. The press release refers to Tihic's request for evaluation of legality of the RS name by the BiH Constitutional Court . According to SDA, naming the entity after only one people allows positive discrimination of Serbs over Bosniaks, Croats and other BiH citizens.

Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'Politicisation of Tihic's demand is unnecessary' by E.H., **Oslobodjenje** pg 2, mentioned on cover 'Cavic is frustrated since RS name cannot remain' by Az.K. carries SDA official **Elmir Jahic** as saying: '*Bosniaks and Croats from the RS know the best a value of this initiative.*' He added that the latest attacks of **Dragan Cavic** on Tihic are reflections of frustration because discriminating provisions of the BiH Constitution and name of the RS cannot survive. Deputy Chairman of the RS Council of Peoples **Pero Krnjic** claims that the Tihic's initiative reflects interests of Croats in the RS since the RS name became disputable when all 3 peoples became constituent on the whole BiH territory.

Reactions on
Tihic's
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NTV Hayat – Commenting on SDA President **Sulejman Tihic's** initiative concerning the name of the RS, the editor comments that instead of judicial, administrative and formal abolishment of entities, the state could unite through economical issues, by claiming and getting its property, what would make entities become regions. The report features statements from leading BiH politicians. RS President **Dragan Cavic**: *“In political sense it is a continuity of what Mr Tihic repeatedly comes up with on the political scene, even more extreme, this is not good. The Constitutional Court cannot change the BiH Constitution. That is a judicial nonsense which stands no chance to succeed.”* PDP's **Dragan Mikerevic**: *“Everyone has the right on his own opinion. The RS has not been established out of nothing but at the basis of Dayton Peace Agreement.”* HDZ's **Velimir Jukic**: *“I approve all legal means everything in accordance with the Constitution and BiH laws.”* PDP leader **Mladen Ivanic**: *“It is all the result of his [Tihic's] personal frustration and wish to abolish the RS.”*

Reactions on Statehood Day not being marked in whole the BiH (Mikerevic, Cavic, Ivanic, Tihic, Paravac, Colak, Jukic

NTV Hayat – The BiH Statehood Day was not marked in whole BiH. Hayat took statements from major BiH political figures regarding this issue. PDP's **Dragan Mikerevic**: *"There are lots of paradoxes in this state, so in one part of the state that day is not being marked and in the other one it is."*

SDS leader **Dragan Cavic**: *"I do not recognize it, it is not a state holiday."*

PDP leader **Mladen Ivanic**: *"I think that the law can be adopted tomorrow, if we declare that the state holidays will be both November 21, the day of signing the Dayton Peace Agreement and November 25."*

BiH Member of Presidency **Sulejman Tihic**:

"These principles [connected with the November 25] have the lasting value, and only following them BiH can enter Euro-Atlantic integrations." BiH Member of BiH Presidency **Borislav Paravac** said he is not familiar with the fact that there is such a holiday in BiH. HDZ leader **Barisa Colak**: *"We absolutely respect it. I know some in BiH do not respect it. We have marked it last night."* HDZ's **Velimir Jukic**: *"As well as the majority of BiH people, I recognize that day as an important date in BiH's history."*

<p>Kadric will ask OHR to get involved in issues reg. RS Law on holidays and changes of Law on territorial org. of RS</p>	<p>FTV, Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'January 9 cannot be RS Day', Oslobodjenje pg 8 'Law on Holidays and RS Territorial Organizations against BiH Constitution'- Head of the RS Council of Peoples Remzija Kadric announced that he is going to ask the OHR to get involved in resolving the issues regarding the RS Law on Holidays and changes to the Law on Territorial Organisation of the RS. He also announced a request for evaluation of legality of these laws by the RS Constitutional Court.</p>
<p>2 day PDP conference started/Ivanic: 'PDP will distance itself from SDS and SNSD'</p>	<p>RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'PDP will distance itself from SDS and SNSD' – A 2-day PDP conference started in Banja Luka on Saturday. PDP Chairman Mladen Ivanic stated PDP will continue to develop its party orientation distancing itself from SDS and SNSD. Ivanic also announced development of the PDP strategy and higher expectations at the next elections. According to Ivanic, PDP is not satisfied with the work of the RS Government.</p>
<p>Solana: Solution on future Kosovo status must not create negative consequences in region</p>	<p>RTRS – EU High Representative for Security and Foreign Policy Javier Solana stated that the solution on the future Kosovo status must not create negative consequences in the region, especially in BiH. He stressed that regardless of Kosovo the status of the BiH borders should not change and added that a change of the borders in Balkans would be a complicated issue. Also reported by Dnevni List pg 5 'Solana warned of danger of changing borders in Balkans' by <u>Nina</u>.</p>

Djapo replied to nSontheim	Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Judgment on Government's members is under my competence exclusively' by Srna – Brcko Mayor Mirsad Djapo replied to the demand of the OHR North Deputy Gerhard Sontheim , and in his reply Djapo said that he would re-examine all complaints on the work of the Heads of departments in the Brcko District Government, however he also said that the judgment on the Government's members is under his competence exclusively.
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War crimes/Terrorism

<p>Trial for war crimes committed in Zvornik area starts in Belgrade on Monday</p>	<p>BHT 1, FTV, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 '5 members of victims' families will follow trial in Belgrade' by <u>E. Huremovic</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Grujic and Popovic are being held accountable for 130 persons killed in Celopek' by <u>V. Jahic</u> – Trial for war crimes committed in Zvornik area in 1992 and 1993 will start in Belgrade on Monday. The indictees are: A former Zvornik Mayor Branko Grujic, former Commander of Territorial Defence Branko Popovic, Dragan Slavkovic, Ivan Korac, Sinisa Filipovic and Dragutin Dragicevic. Families of victims welcomed the beginning of the trial but they are not satisfied with the text of the indictment. They believe that this trial is the first step towards justice, but they emphasized that the indictment in this case is minor compared to the number of victims. The family members claim that all wartime Zvornik officials should be trailed. Head of the Fund for Humanitarian Right Natasa Kondic indicated that wartime officials from Serbia did know about the war crimes committed in Zvornik area. The Fund will provide financial means for the families of victims so that they can come to Belgrade and monitor the trial.</p>
<p>D. Andan: 'Results of search after Karadzic and Mladic soon'</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Results of search after Karadzic and Mladic soon' <u>not signed</u> – RS Police Director Dragomir Andan stated that he has 'good' operative information about the ICTY fugitives Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic and that some results should be expected.</p>

<p>Arrested terrorist is member of group whose members were arrested 10 days ago</p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 2 'Guy arrested in Sarajevo was tasked to show targets' by <u>M. Zorlak</u> – A person that was arrested 3 days ago (see OHR BiH Media Round-up, Nov. 26) was a member of the group, whose members were also arrested 10 days ago because of suspicion that they were preparing a terrorist attack in Sarajevo.</p>
<p>US Congress Advisor: Al Qaeda has plan 'Balkan 2020'</p>	<p>RTRS, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'US Congress Advisor: Al Qaeda has plan 'Balkan 2020' by <u>Beta</u>– A US Congress advisor Josef Bodansky stated at the international conference on terrorism in Belgrade that Al Qaeda has a plan named 'Balkan 2020' that relates to establishment of Islamic centre in the Balkans, as one of the centres for spreading the Islamic terrorism for Western Europe. .</p>

<p>Economy</p>

<p>J. Dixon: ‘There is no ground for claims that RS was damaged for 28 millions KM’</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 2, mentioned on cover ‘There is no ground for claims that RS was damaged for 28 millions KM’ <u>by T.L.</u> carries that Chairman of the ITA Steering Board Joly Dixon in his letter sent to RS Prime Minister Pero Bukejlovic and High Representative Paddy Ashdown says that there is no firm ground to the claim that the RS budget suffered loss because of the way in which coefficients of the income distribution were settled this year. Dixon also said that Bukejlovic did not present facts to the OHR correctly and in a responsible manner. DA inset ‘OHR is considering case’ carries OHR spokesperson Ljiljana Radetic as saying that this is about a serious case and she added: <i>‘We shall consider the case and then present our stand.’</i></p>
<p>Osl. on compensation that FBiH MoD might pay for military polygon near Glamoc</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje cover pg splash and pg 3 ‘200 millions KM necessary for compensation’ <u>by S. Sehercehajic</u> features an article on a polygon for military training near Glamoc, which was taken by the FBiH Defence Ministry before the expropriation of the land was carried out and the amount that the FBiH MoD might pay to owners of this land might amount up to 200 million KMs.</p>

BiH
politicians
destroying
BiH oil
market

NTV Hayat – Senka Hadzovic & Nevzeta Skrijelj – Editor comments that BiH politicians have missed a great opportunity of uniting the state economic market by unifying the oil market. Director of BH Gas **Huso Hadzidedic** says that there are lots of problems in claiming the BiH property from other states in the region. BiH has a one third of property over oil pipeline worth \$ 134 million, says oil expert **Aziz Tukulj**. This pipeline has been connecting Croatia and SCG via BiH. The reporter comments that both entity governments do everything within their power to lose this pipeline – the FBiH Government still does not want to withdraw its decision to sell Energopetrol, adding that the RS would also suffer from this decision, since it will lose its main market, which makes the valuable pre-war investments useless. Bosanski Brod Oil Refinery **Savo Danilovic** says: *“One oil firm should be established at the state level. Establishers should be all oil refiners, distributors and all the ones involved in oil business. That is the way for all of us to achieve better effects.”* Tukulj claims that BiH could supply enough oil for its own needs, but in order to do so, BiH should take Croatia as a model instead of selling its companies to Croatia. Hadzidedic is of opinion that RS authorities should take much more care of ongoing issues and put some more initiatives instead of the FBiH, while the RS has all the oil production. In her comment, reporter reminds how RS Prime Minister **Pero Bukejlovic** have sent a word to Chairman of BiH Council of Ministers, **Adnan Terzic** after Terzic’s recent visited to Brod Refinery to stay away from it since the refinery is Serb property.

<p>Public tender for partnership in Bosanski Brod refinery extended</p>	<p>RTRS – A public tender for partnership in Bosanski Brod refinery has been extended until 8th December. The strategic partner will have to provide 156 million KM necessary for revitalisation of the refinery. Savo Danilovic Director of Bosanski Brod refinery stated that if this tender fails then the refinery should be directly privatised. Employees of the refinery are pleased at the moment since their salaries are provided for. They feel that the production in the refinery could be beneficial for entire BiH. The reporter comments that considering previous experiences with the refinery caution is advised. He adds that “a golden hen” of the RS and BiH economy has 170 million KM debt and is currently working with 10% capacity.</p>
<p>NTV Hayat commentary on BiH state property</p>	<p>NTV Hayat <u>Reporter not stated</u> – The reporter comments that there is no such thing as the official evidence of the BiH state property. The Peace Implementation Council has requested the BiH Council of Ministers to form a Commission for State Property in September 2004. This Commission was to deal with issues regarding the state property. The BiH CoM has named all the Commission members only a half month ago. The reporter comments that the problem is that entity authorities have usurped most of this property and no one seems even trying to start solving this issue and there is around a half year for this problem to be solved between the former Yugoslav republics.</p>

Other issues

<p>Statue of Bruce Lee revealed in Mostar</p>	<p>BHT 1, RTRS, Dnevni List cover pg splash and pg 7 'Mostar new Dragon's nest' by <u>S. Bjelica</u>, Nezavisne Novine cover pg splash and pg 3 'Bruce Lee in Mostar' by <u>N.N.</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 7 'Bruce Lee finally among Mostarians' by <u>F.Vele</u>, Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Politicians even lack techniques of small Dragon', mentioned on cover 'Mostar unveiled monument to Bruce Lee' by <u>A.B.</u> – A statue of Chinese actor Bruce Lee has been unveiled in Mostar on Saturday.</p>
<p>3 children died in fire near Bijeljina</p>	<p>BHT 1, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine pg 3 '3 children died in fire' by <u>Z.K., J.S., D.K.</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 24, mentioned on cover 'Brother and two sisters old between one and five years got killed in fire ' by <u>E. Musli</u> – 3 children got killed in a fire that caught a barrack in the refugee settlement in Janja, near Bijeljina. The fire was probably caused by the fire inside the barrack used for heating. Parents of the children were not there when the tragedy happened. The investigation is ongoing.</p>