

# OHR BiH Media Round-up, 27/12/2005

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on **27 December**

<b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (12,00 hrs)	<b>RTRS</b> (12,00 hrs)
Church in Glamoc gets 3 new bells	RS Govt. on financing
Hunt for Mladic	Strategic partner for B.B. Refinery
Introduction of VAT in BiH	Israeli attacks in Gaza

TV news broadcast on **26 December**

<b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (18,00 hrs)	<b>TV PINK</b> (18,00 hrs)	<b>BHT 1</b> (19,00 hrs)
Catholics celebrate St. Steven's Day	Yellow Wasps trial, update	RS Gov't on RS Audit Report
Mladic is negotiating his surrender?	Nicovic on Mladic	Reactions on financing ICTY indict.
Airplane accident in Mostar	Hurtic on VAT	Trial to "Yellow Wasps" continued
Osmanovic on RS Government	RS Market Inspection on VAT	Reactions on trial to "Yellow Wasps"
<b>NTV Hayat</b> (19,00 hrs)	<b>FTV</b> (19,30 hrs)	<b>RTRS</b> (19,30 hrs)
Prices of gas to go up	World News	RS Government session

Price of bread in Mostar increased	World News	SDS supports RS budget proposal
RS Government in session	World News	Mihajlica on RS budget, Government
Issue of decertified police officers	BIH Doctors return from Pakistan	RS Veteran's Organization on budget

<b>Oslobodjenje</b>	Increases of prices are already getting out of control [on VAT]
<b>Dnevni Avaz</b>	[Halilovic] Citizens do not know what is negotiated about
<b>Dnevni List</b>	Only the ambulance driver came to pick up injured young man (traffic accident in Mostar)
<b>Vecernji List</b>	2,5 million SMS Christmas messages (X-mass in BiH)
<b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>	More than 30 million SMS messages (X-mass in Croatia)
<b>Nezavisne Novine</b>	Kazani case is not under investigation
<b>Glas Srpske</b>	Rattel taking make-up examination
<b>EuroBlic</b>	Only bread, water and promises at holiday dine
<b>Vecernje novosti</b>	Features Serbian related cover splash

	<b>LATEST NEWS OF TODAY</b>
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<p><b>Cenic: RS Govt. will not resign</b></p>	<p><b>RTRS – Svetlana Cenic</b>, RS Finance Minister, has today stated that if RS MP's failed to support the budget for 2006 at tomorrow's session of RS NA, the RS Government has already prepared a document on temporary financing. In a statement given to RTRS, she said RS Government has no intention of filing resignation since it has done its work well. She also said that whenever TV cameras were off, MP's commented on proposed budget, saying there has never been a better budget prepared and such proposal should be adopted. However, other statements appear in the media on the eve of the RS NA session, according to her.</p>
<p><b>Minister Perkovic calls on measures to alleviate impact of VAT upon agrarian production</b></p>	<p><b>RTRS – Goran Perkovic</b>, RS Minister of Waters and Forestry, has stated that: <i>"VAT application will have a negative impact upon conditions for agrarian production. Owing to this reason, this area should be well organized in order to alleviate consequences of the VAT introduction."</i></p>
<p><b>Dokic on Vc corridor</b></p>	<p><b>RHB– BiH Transport Minister, Branko Dokic</b>, stated that although Malaysian experts would help BiH prepare financial documents about the corridor Vc, it did not mean that Malaysia would have special guarantees when the tender for building of the corridor is issued.</p>

	<b>Economic issues: VAT, budgets, others</b>
<b>RS Govt in session: Directors of Gacko mine, Elektroprivreda Finance Dept and 13 forest units to be removed</b>	<p><b>RTRS, FTV, Hayat, BHT1, PINK, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 5  ‘Government launched dismissal of directors in RS Elektroprivreda and Srpske Sume’, <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 7  ‘Urgent removal of directors demanded’, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 4, announced on cover ‘Removals of Tesic and Culic demanded’ by <u>D.Risojevic</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b> RSpg 2  ‘13 Directors removed, two more waiting for dismissal’ by <u>T.V.</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 ‘Removals of Culic and Tesic’ by <u>G.Dakic</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 4  ‘14 directors at “RS Forest” removed’, <b>EuroBlic</b> RSpg 2  ‘13 Directors removed, two more waiting for dismissal’ by <u>T.V.</u> – After discussing the audit report on dealings in RS Elektroprivreda (EP), Government ordered EP Supervisory Board to remove the director of Gacko mine and thermal power plant <b>Dragomir Culic</b> and RS EP’ Finance Director <b>Arsen Tesic</b>. According to RS Minister of Economy, Energy and Development <b>Miladin Gligoric</b>, Culic and Tesic will not be able to assume any managerial position until the investigation related to charges against them completes. RS Govt also discussed the situation in public company ‘Srpske Sume’. This company implemented the majority of Government’s conclusions related to audit report, stated Director <b>Vladimir Topalic</b>. According to him, the Supervisory Board has been set up, single bank account formed, and the number of forest units has been reduced from 42 to 23. The directors of 13 forest units have been urgently removed, because they violated the regulations on public procurements. RS Govt also defined the proposal of the Law on the realisation of the 2006 budget, which stipulates the rights and the obligations of public institutions and it adopted the amendments to the law on RS budget system, regulating budget relations between RS, cities and municipalities.</p> <p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 ‘RS Government introduces the position of minister without portfolio’ by <u>Onasa</u> – RS Government announced after Monday’s session that the RS Ministry of Defence will cease to exist on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2006, noting post of minister without portfolio would be introduced.</p>

<p><b>Media analyze VAT introduction: Oslobodjenje warns of bad consequences; RTRS warns on companies already increasing prices</b></p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b>, front pg splash and pgs 4-5  ‘Increases of prices are already getting out of control’, by <u>Marina Kavaz-Sirucic</u> – The article in general is warning of possible bad consequences of the introduction of VAT, carrying statements of <b>Mediha Bakalovic</b> (Association of consumers of Tuzla) and <b>Edhem Biber</b> (leader of BiH Unions), who are worried that the VAT will cause increase of prices of basic groceries in particular. Biber reminds that the Unions have recommended to the BiH CoM and BiH Parliament to use experiences of other countries, which started with single VAT rate, after which they realized they had been wrong.</p> <p><b>RTRS</b> by <u>Nada Arlov</u> – RTRS says that even before the VAT introduction citizens have already felt some consequences, as some companies increased the service costs in order to take a better position on the eve of VAT introduction. In order to prevent the uncontrolled increase of prices, RS Government formed the team for monitoring the prices after the VAT introduction; those who try to gain some extra profit would be penalized. <b>PINK</b> by <u>Ljubisa Davidovic</u> – Despite increases of prices to follow the VAT, the growth in prices cannot be immense and citizens have no reason to be worried, the RS Market Inspection claims. <b>RTRS</b> ‘Pecat’ magazine by <u>Bojan Kecman</u> – Also dedicates the feature to VAT discussing whether or not the prices would be significantly increased, however doesn’t bring any conclusion.</p>
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<p><b>FTV '60 minuta': Terzic, Lagumdzija clash over VAT consequences</b></p>	<p>FTV '60 minuta' current affairs programme by Bakir Hadziomerovic – Programme entirely dedicated to the VAT introduction in BiH discussed both economic and political aspects of the taxation reform in the country. The BiH CoM Chair, <b>Adnan Terzic</b>, stressed: <i>"Our determination to go move forward with the VAT introduction is our response to businessmen, as we promised, and... we have obligation to create business environment in BiH, one which would enable BiH to live on its economy."</i> Terzic added the VAT has become the political issue, where it is very profitable to attack the one rated VAT and stir talks about upcoming alleged chaos. <i>"I am convinced that there will be no chaos, I am convinced that some disturbances will occur, that some prices will increase, but some will also reduce, so... in few months we will be in situation to say: Thanks God we have VAT,"</i> Terzic concluded. SDP leader, <b>Zlatko Lagumdzija</b>, stressed that nobody argues that VAT is not necessary for the country, however opposes one-rate solution. In line with this, he strongly attacked Terzic, stressing the state and banks [mostly foreign] will have most use while "healthy businesses" will have to take credits from the banks to continue functioning. Lagumdzija also presented arguments claiming the prices of food and basic goods would be significantly increased, and demanded from Terzic to advise people to prepare for the holidays before 1 January. Terzic declined this stressing the prices would not go that high.</p>
<p><b>FBiH Govt to appoint VAT monitoring team</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 9 'All members proposed, confirmation at the FBiH Government's session on Thursday' – Members of the FBiH expert team tasked to monitor the prices of the basic goods following the VAT introduction have been proposed on Monday, confirmed the advisor to the FBiH Trade Minister, <b>Ibrahim Tirak</b>. About 15 team members will be approved by the Government at the session on Thursday.</p>

<p><b>Hurtic: VAT to be introduced even if entities fail to adopt budgets</b></p>	<p><b>PINK</b>by <u>Zeljko Mandic</u> – Advisor to BiH Council of Ministers Chair, <b>Zlatko Hurtic</b> said on Monday that VAT was going to be introduced even if entities do not adopt budgets. Hurtic believes that entities are going to adopt budgets and that there will be no greater increase in prices. Hurtic says that profit of tradesmen are to be monitored in order to prevent citizens from becoming victims of profiteers. He hopes that entity Parliaments will respect the agreement and introduce social programs along with VAT. Hurtic added that BiH CoM, together with BiH Indirect Taxation Administration Managing Board, was trying to make publishing free of the VAT.</p>
<p><b>DL: BiH CoM got consent from ITA SB to exempt press from VAT, Spiric refuses to convene session of BiH HoR</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 3, mentioned on front ‘Press exempt from VAT’, by <u>Danka Polovina-Mandic</u> – According to DL, the BiH Council of Ministers got the consent from the Steering Board of Indirect Tax Authority (ITA SB) to exempt books, brochures, magazines, publications and newspapers from VAT. According to an ITA SB member, <b>Haris Basic</b>, during the last session of the ITA SB, it was him, <b>Joly Dixon</b> and minister <b>Ljerka Maric</b>, who supported the BiH CoM’s proposal, whilst <b>Miodrag Kudic</b> abstained from voting and <b>Sefika Hafizovic</b> voted against the proposal. Basic explains that the entity Finance Ministers, <b>Dragan Vrankic</b> and <b>Svetlana Cenic</b>, gave positive opinions too, therefore the issue can go to the (BiH) Parliament. However, according to DL’s source, the Speaker of the BiH House of Representatives, <b>Nikola Spiric</b>, is refusing to convene a session of the BiH HoR by the end of the year because of his position made earlier since he (Spiric) would rather exempt bread, milk and medicines from VAT.</p>

<p><b>Distribution of VAT in first quarter of 2006 to base of rates from 2005</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 4 'First three months, distribution will ground on rate from 2005' by <u>R.Cengic</u> – The BiH Ministry of Finance and BiH ITA Monday confirmed that the money collected through VAT on single account in first three months of 2006 will be divided amongst beneficiaries on the basis of percent from 2005, until new percentage system is put in place. However, <b>Dragan Vrankic</b>, F BiH Finance Minister and member of ITA Administration says that percentage could not have been defined <i>"since no tax has been recorded"</i>.</p>
<p><b>DL: F BiH Pension Fund worried with introduction of VAT</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 5 'New burdens will lead to decrease of pensions', mentioned on front 'Into new year with decreased pensions', by <u>Danka Polovina-Mandic</u> – DL carries the Deputy Director of the F BiH MIO/PIO, <b>Ivan Rogic</b>, who fears that extra funds that will have to be allocated in order to alleviate consequences of the VAT, could lead to decrease of pensions in the F BiH unless the F BiH Government secures the necessary means.</p>
<p><b>Analysis in DL warns of 'psychological inflation' among BiH citizens that could be triggered by VAT</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 23 'VAT-triggered psychological inflation is possible in BiH', by <u>Zeljko Marijanovic</u> – carries an analysis of public opinion (NB: DL does not say who did the analysis, it is highly unlikely DL did it, it looks as though it was done by the UNDP) related to the introduction of the VAT in BiH according to which more than 80% of people expect the prices to go up after the introduction of the VAT. The analysis warns of possibility of 'psychological inflation' among the citizenry, which generally shows the mood of the citizens, and the analysis recommends that the general public in BiH, including the business sector in BiH, should be made aware about all segments of the introduction of the VAT.</p>



<p><b>DA op-ed warns authorities must strike back against irregular price increases</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 3 'Increase of bread prices in Mostar' op-ed by <u>Faruk Vele</u> – Reporting of the increase of bread by Mostar-based 'Zitoprerada' company, DA editorial says that this case shows that a fear of irregular price increases following the VAT introduction are justifiable. While the company has said that the reason was the increase of price of oil, author argues that there is no doubt that VAT was the reason and strongly urges authorities to deal with such practice: <i>"fishing in trouble waters must not be a foundation for lobby which would profit from reforms that should bring well-being for all of us."</i></p>
<p><b>SDS calls on parties to endorse proposed budget</b></p>	<p><b>RTRS, BHT1, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 12 'Call to all parties to endorse proposed budget', <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 5 'SDS will vote for budget' by <u>V.P.</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'They will support budget' by <u>Z.M.</u> – Following the session of the party's Presidency on Monday, the SDS issued a statement expressing the support to a proposal of the RS budget which foresees the increase of education and police salaries and of the pensions. SDS believes that the proposed budget is realistic and balanced, and that it enables the fulfilment of public expectations. SDS called on all parties in the RS National Assembly to adopt the RS budget at the next RS NA session.</p>
<p><b>GS on RS Govt. status: the sole evident issue is that the destiny of the budget is uncertain</b></p>	<p><b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 5 'To destroy in an easy way, to elect the hard way' by <u>Z.Markovic</u> – Reminding of previous statements of political officials regarding status of RS Government, GS notes that the sole evident issue now on the eve of the RS NA session is that the destiny of the budget is uncertain, noting the chances for seeing MP's adopt it are more of theoretic than realistic nature.</p>

<p><b>FBiH budget expected to be harmonized on Wednesday</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'Budget for 2006 should be increased for 15 million KM' by <u>Az. D.</u> – Joint Commission for harmonization of the laws adopted in different texts at the level of the FBiH Parliament will hold session on Wednesday to harmonize the FBiH budget for 2006. The FBiH House of Representatives adopted the 27 amendments to the budget, which were rejected by the House of Peoples who on the other hand adopted its own 5 amendments. Member of Commission, <b>Irfan Ajanovic</b>, says that most probably amendments of both Houses would be endorsed. <i>"I don't think that there will be a great damage to the proposed budget if we exceed it for 1.1 percent, i.e. 15 million KM,"</i> says Ajanovic adding the most important thing is to harmonize texts on time in order to avoid delays in VAT introduction.</p>
<p><b>RS Pension Fund warned the funds collected so far would not be enough to pay the December pension</b></p>	<p><b>BHT1, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni List</b>, pg 2 'Too little means for payment of pensions', <u>not signed</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b> cover pg splash, RSpG 3 'Only bread, water and promises at holiday dine' by <u>SRNA</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'Pension as per usual?' by <u>S.R.T.</u> – RS Pension-Disability Insurance Fund (PDIF) warned that the funds collected so far would not be enough to pay the December pension. PDIF Director <b>Slavko Basic</b> explained that only seven out of necessary 42.5 millions KM are currently on a PDIF's bank account.</p>
<p><b>RS Trade Union urges urgent solution to B. Brod Refinery</b></p>	<p><b>RTRS, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 8 'It is urgent to launch production in Bosanski Brod Refinery', <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 4 'They demand urgent assessment of bids for Refinery' by <u>R.S.</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 3 'Solutions or new strikes' by <u>M.M.-B.T.</u> – The RS Trade Union of the energy security urged the RS Government to urgently launch the negotiations, and form an expert team that would offer the concrete solutions for the Oil Refinery Bosanski Brod and its workers. Syndicate also demands that the list of debtors to oil refinery is published and to be informed about the fate of the contract with British 'Vitol' company.</p>

	<p><b>War crimes</b></p>
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**'Yellow wasps'  
trial in  
Belgrade:  
Filipovic  
pleads not  
guilty**

**RTRS, PINK, BHT1, Hayat, FTV, Glas Srpske** pg 11  
'I have nothing to do with crime' by SRNA,  
**Nezavisne Novine** pg 2 'Report on health  
condition of defendant awaited for' by Divna  
Vidakovic – **Sinisa Filipovic**, who is indicted  
for war crimes against Bosniak civilians in  
Zvornik in 1992, stated before the District  
Court in Belgrade that he has nothing to do  
with all those crimes he is indicted for. Along  
with **Branko Popovic, Branko Grujic, Ivan Korac,**  
**Dragan Slavkovic** and **Dragutin Dragicevic,**  
Filipovic is indicted for killing 22 and  
expelling more than 1,800 Bosniak civilians  
from Zvornik. The trial of members of 'Yellow  
Wasps' unit will be continued on Wednesday  
before the District Court in Belgrade. Also  
covered by **Sarajevo press.**

<p>Serbian officials, media on Mladic whereabouts: negotiating surrender?; EuroBlic claims hunt after Mladic getting accelerated; 'Kurir': CIA located Mladic's aides</p>	<p>RHB, PINK, BHT1, Hayat, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Authority is in negotiations, but holds no control over negotiations' by BETA, Vecernji List, pg 15 'Mladic wants money for going to The Hague', by Zdenko Jurilj, Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 9 'Ratko Mladic negotiating surrender', by H – Marko Nicovic, Serbian police expert, reiterated his claims authority is in talks with Ratko Mladic, adding that it is not excluded Russian and French security agencies (frustrated with an absolute influence of the US security service) are involved. Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Police does not know who is financing Mladic and Karadzic' by B92, Glas Srpske pg 3 'Addresses still unknown' – Dragan Jocic, Serbian Police Minister, stated that police holds no information on who are financiers of Mladic/Karadzic. Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Circle around Ratko Mladic getting tighter', mentioned on cover, by B. Boskov – Daily reads that since Serbian war crimes prosecutor, Vladimir Vukcevic, stated last week that persons who support Mladic were identified, media and public do not stop in guessing who those persons are. Author speculates that identities of those supporters are certainly known to Jocic and Chief of intelligence Rade Bulatovic. EuroBlic pgs 4-5 'Talk detected Mladic' by Tanja N.Djakovic – Daily's source close to the ICTY claims that the talk between Mladic and one of his accomplice was detected, noting this was a trap similar to one in which Ante Gotovina fell in, adding that the ICTY intelligence agents are accelerating pace of hunt after Mladic. Jutarnji List, pg 5 'CIA agents have been looking for Mladic for 6 months in Serbia', not signed – Belgrade-based 'Kurir' reports Mladic's aides in Serbia were located by CIA agents who arrived with to Serbia 6 months ago. Kurir adds the CIA HQ told Belgrade to urgently do something about Mladic's helpers and arrest him.</p>
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<p><b>General Weber:</b> <b>NATO does not know where are Karadzic and Mladic hiding</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'NATO does not know where are Karadzic and Mladic hiding' – Commander of NATO Headquarters in Sarajevo US general Louis Weber said in a statement for the daily that NATO did not have any information on whereabouts of the most wanted ICTY indictees <b>Radovan Karadzic</b> and <b>Ratko Mladic</b>. <i>"If we get such an information we will react. But I repeat, the responsibility for their arrest still primarily lies with domestic and regional authorities,"</i> said Weber.</p>
<p><b>Osmanovic:</b> <b>Government's decision to finance ICTY indictees in detention scandalous; PoWs also criticize decision</b></p>	<p><b>BHT1, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 'Scandalous decision of Pero's Government', pg 9 'Torture in the war, no concern in peace', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 8 'Status of PoWs to be solved through the state law', <b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 2 'Solve status of inmates in single way', <u>not signed</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b>, pg 3 'Solve status of former inmates in BiH', by <u>ra</u> – Representatives of the BiH Association of detention camp victims informed on Monday the RS Vice-president, <b>Adil Osmanovic</b>, on the necessity of issuing a state-level law on detention camp victims for the purpose of resolving the status of all former detainees in an identical manner. President of the Association <b>Murat Tahirovic</b> said he expects the legal status of former detainees to be regulated in the next year. Osmanovic also stated he regarded as scandalous the RS Government's decision to provide material assistance for persons from RS that are in ICTY detention, regardless whether they surrendered voluntarily or were apprehended. <i>"This is truly scandalous and I could not have expected anything better from the Government of Pero Bukeylovic"</i>, said Osmanovic. – RS Govt's decision was also opposed by Tahirovic, deputy chair of RS POWs Association, <b>Slavko Jovicic</b>, Head of RS Helsinki Board <b>Branko Todorovic</b> and <b>Hasecic Bakira</b>, Head of "Women – war victims" association.</p>

<p><b>NN says that senior officers of R BiH Army were not processed over crimes committed in Sarajevo</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> cover pg splash, pg 3 ‘Kazani case is not under investigation’ by <u>M.Cubro</u> – Daily learns from the BiH Prosecutor’s Office (PO) and Sarajevo Cantonal PO have not processed neither have they been engaged in investigations against any senior officer of the R BiH Army over crimes committed against Serbs at the locality of Kazani near Sarajevo. All those charged and found guilty for murders at Kazani were members of the 10<sup>th</sup> Hill Brigade under command of <b>Musan Topalovic</b>.</p>
<p><b>VL: ICTY investigators seeking new information of ‘Prlic and others’ and Delic cases</b></p>	<p><b>Vecernji List</b>, pg 4 ‘Looking for witnesses for indictments against Prlic and Delic’, by <u>Zoran Kresic</u> – VL notes that investigators from the ICTY completed interviews with several former senior officials of Croat Republic of Herceg-Bosna just before X-mass. VL claims to know identities of the interviewees, saying that the investigators were looking for additional information related to indictments against ‘<b>Prlic</b> and others’ and <b>Rasim Delic</b>.</p>

	<p><b>Judicial issues</b></p>
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**BiH Court confirms it returned indictment against Sarovic, others to prosecution; Detention against Sarovic and others expires tomorrow**

**FTV, Oslobođenje** pg 2 'Indictment without witnesses, experts and indictees' by A.O. – BiH Court has returned to the Prosecutor **Jonathan Ratel** the indictment against **Mirko Sarovic, Milorad Govedarica** and **Milovan Bjelica** in case of Privredna Bank East Sarajevo stating the Prosecution has failed to submit the statements by the witnesses, experts or even of the indictees. Bjelica's lawyer, **Ekrem Galijatovic**, claims the indictment has not been properly written. Daily learns that the BiH Court has explained that Ratel grounds indictment on statements by 60 witness, whose names he only listed in the document. Ratel is obliged to submit completed indictment by 31 January next year. **Nezavisne Novine** pg 5 'Detention against Mirko Sarovic expires tomorrow' by A.D. – reports on reversal of indictment against Sarovic and others, highlighting that detention against Sarovic, Govedarica and Bjelica expires tomorrow. BiH prosecutor's Office could not confirm whether Prosecutor **Rattel** filed motion for extension of detention. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 12 'Indictment against Sarovic and others returned because of incomplete evidences' – BiH Court has confirmed it returned the indictment.

<p><b>Attorneys against Sarovic, others indictment</b></p>	<p><b>Glas Srpske</b> cover pg splash ‘Rattel taking make-up examination’ by <u>Z.D.</u> – <u>Daily</u> carries statements of <b>Dragisa Jokic, Mirko Sarovic</b>’ attorney, and attorneys <b>Rajko Bojat</b> and <b>Marko Arsovic</b>, sharing the view that the indictment against Sarovic and others, viewed as incomplete by <b>Judge Susan Meller</b>, introduces the practice of first arresting somebody and then searching for evidence for indictment. They agree such practice has only been seen at the ICTY. <b>Glas Srpske</b> cover pg inset ‘Rigged process’ – carries statement of <b>Dusko Tomic</b>, attorney of <b>Mandic</b>, saying that Court has no courage to reject indictment, which holds no information on time and place of the crime act.</p>
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<p><b>Decertified police officers to file charges against Terzic</b></p>	<p><b>BHT1</b> by <u>Mirela Cosic</u> – Reporter stated that although the Sarajevo District Court issued a decision stating that IPTF’s decision had no legal basis, the officers who were decertified by the UN International Police Task Force are still without the work. Attorney of decertified police officers, <b>Asim Kadribasic</b>, condemned the situation adding that even international regulations were violated by this behaviour. <i>“We are going to organize hunger strake in order to point out the injustice and political lawlessness in BiH. We era going to file charges against Council of Ministers <b>Adnan Terzic</b> and BIH Presidency”,</i> said the Chair of FBiH Association <b>Ramo Suljic</b>. He stated that Authorities had to solve this issue by December 15<sup>th</sup>, but nothing has happened. Terzic stated that he personally informed UN and requested the resolution in the entire situation. <i>“I asked UN to accept the recommendation of the Venice Commission. That is all I can do but if they want, I would be very happy to defend myself at the court which is finally outrageous,”</i> stated Terzic. <b>Hayat</b> also features.</p>
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	<p><b>Other political stories / reforms</b></p>
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<p><b>Osmanovic: RS Government should resign as it brought no good to either entity or state</b></p>	<p><b>RHB, FTV, Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 5 'RS Government' decision is scandalous' by <b>ONASA, Glas Srpske</b> pg 5 'It is good if it left' – RS Vice-president <b>Adil Osmanovic</b> told Fena on Monday that it would be good for the Government of <b>Pero Bukejlovic</b> to leave the political scene as soon as possible because it has not brought anything good to this Entity or the BiH State. <i>"Namely, this Government has proven to be a serious obstacle in the process of necessary reforms expected by the international community and BiH, and thus, I feel it is good for RS and BiH to see the removal of this and appointment of a new government that will not be burdened with the past so much and will be able to move forward more freely"</i>, said Osmanovic.</p>
<p><b>EuroBlic: SNSD still hesitating about initiating removal of RS Government</b></p>	<p><b>EuroBlic</b> RSpG 2 'Dodik is hesitating' by <u>Rajna Radosavljevic</u> – <b>Krstan SIMic</b>, SNSD Vice President, confirmed that the SNSD has not decided as yet whether it would launch procedure for vote-of-confidence to RS Government, stressing that SNSD will wait to see denouement of events after Wednesday's session of the RS NA (and vote on budget and economic policy). <b>Zoran Tesanovic</b> from PDP and <b>Drago Kalabic</b> from DNS are not clear as to why SNSD is now disassociating from its initiative.</p>

<p><b>SP's Djokic says: RS will get new Government by mid January</b></p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 6 'RS will get a new Government by mid January' by <u>V.Popovic</u> – In a brief interview to daily, <b>Petar Djokic</b>, President of the Socialists Party (SP), expresses belief that RS will get a new Government in January 2006, since the current Government led by <b>Pero Buekjlovic</b> must go, since it has no support at the Parliament. He is of the view RS Government' drafts of budget and economic policy for 2006 will not get majority vote, adding SP will not support those documents, but will vote for removal of Government if SNSD launched this initiative.</p>
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**Decision on 10  
members of  
police  
directorates's  
executive board  
on Wednesday**

**Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Commission brings decision on 10 members tomorrow' by E.S. – DA learns that the Commission appointed by the BiH Council of Ministers should bring decision on the candidates for 10 vacant positions in the Executive Board of Police Reform Directorate on Wednesday. The Commission chaired by **Dragan Mektic** has received the proposals from the entities, while 10 cantonal governments are expected to submit theirs by Wednesday morning. Members commission, which also include **Uros Penasa, Ramo Maslesa, Mehmed Zilic** and **Jadranka Matic**, are to submit to the CoM the list of the candidates for the Executive Board by 31 December. The board's chief task is to prepare the proposal for implementation of the police reform by 30 September next year.

<p><b>RS Govt proposes members of police directorates' executive board</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 inset 'Proposal from RS', <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 'Two candidates for each of seven positions', <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 5 'Candidates for Polcie Reform Directorate proposed' by <u>D.R.</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b> RSpG 2 'Candidates for Directorate' – The RS Government at the session on Monday proposed its candidates for the members of the Executive Board of the Police Reform Directorate. <b>Djordje Lazic</b> and <b>Slobodan Nikic</b> have been proposed for the position of the Board's Director, while <b>Dragica Lukic</b> and <b>Predrag Lucic</b> are candidates for Deputy position.</p>
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<p><b>Halilovic: Citizens and BiH Parliament have no influence on course of constitutional reforms talks</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b>, front pg splash and pg 5 ‘Citizens do not know what is negotiated about’, by <u>Sead Numanovic</u> – Carries an interview with the leader of SBiH, <b>Safet Halilovic</b>, who warns that citizens of BiH and the BiH Parliament have no influence on the course of constitutional reforms talks. He warns it is the entities that have been given the sovereignty and who are deciding how functional BiH will be, which is, according to Halilovic, completely wrong. Halilovic also argues that the current negotiations are in fact negotiations of leaders of 8 political parties and that a possible agreement among them cannot be taken as a legitimate draft constitution of BiH. Instead, he says a new constitution should be a result of a public debate, in which legal experts, state Parliament and citizens would take part.</p>
<p><b>NHI: HDZ and SDA cannot reach agreement on constitutional changes</b></p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 5 ‘There is no political agreement between HDZ and SDA’, by <u>NINA</u> – The NHI claims that the course of constitutional reforms talks has shown that the ruling HDZ and SDA cannot reach a minimum political agreement about the future for the country and the citizens.</p>

**VL: Local self-governance in FBiH is disorganized**

**Vecernji List**, pg 5 'Sarajevo is getting stronger, Mostar and Tuzla are decaying', by Zoran Kresic – The article notes that BiH, especially the FBiH, has a disorganized local self-governance in which many cities/towns and municipalities are on decline, whilst thousands of people 'flock' to Sarajevo each year looking for jobs. Head of Tuzla Municipality, **Jasmin Imamovic**, argues that a municipality in the FBiH as it is, cannot take care of needs of the citizens, whilst the Mayor of Mostar, **Ljubo Beslic**, warns that cities in BiH have to organized the same way, alluding to the special election regulations applied in Mostar.

**Topcagic on SAA  
talks: BiH to  
receive no  
special  
treatment**

**RTRS** by Sanja Stankovic – The director of the BiH Directorate of European Integration **Osman Topcagic** denied the information that European Commission could establish a special team to monitor the reforms process in BiH. The only change in the mechanism of BiH negotiations with the European Union refers to the change of the name of Consultative Working Group into Reform Process Monitoring, stated Topcagic. *"I do not know anything about some new and special team... the only announced mechanism are the regular meetings within this Reform Process Monitoring. BiH is not receiving any special treatment, because other countries have the same mechanisms, only under different names"*, explained director of the BiH Directorate of European Integration.

BiH priorities remain the same: cooperation with The Hague Tribunal, police and administration reform, organisation of the united BiH market, changes to the BiH Election Law, and the adequate preparation of the BiH Directorate of European Integration.

Topcagic announced that, after the phase of political dialogue with the European Union, in 2006 BiH would enter the phase of economic dialogue, which Topcagic believes is the proof that BiH is ready to join the European integration.



<p><b>UK Minister for Europe Alexander on BiH 10 after Dayton</b></p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b>, pg 8 'Backing to people in the Balkans', by <u>Douglas Alexander</u> – Carries an op-ed signed by the UK Minister for Europe, <b>Douglas Alexander</b>, in which analyses the ten years after the signing of the DPA and future prospect of BiH. Alexander notes that BiH is the most successful post-conflict mission of the IC conducted so far, arguing that the achievements surpass the expectations from Dayton ten years ago, however he warns that the only 'stain' on BiH's road to Europe in that two most wanted war criminals, <b>Radovan Karadzic</b> and <b>Ratko Mladic</b>, are still at large.</p>
<p><b>RS Constitutional Court says RS Constitution can solely be changed through const. procedures</b></p>	<p><b>EuroBlic</b> RSpG 3 'Imposed decisions will be of no use for BiH' by <u>T.V.</u> – The stance of the RS Constitutional Court, forwarded to the RS NA is that the RS Constitution can only be changed through procedure stipulated by the Constitution. The Court is of the view changes of the RS Constitution through Parliament decisions, decisions of HR or constitutional courts on transfer of powers has negative impact not solely on constitutional status and authority of the entity, but also the entirety of relations established in BiH.</p>

**RTRS 'Pecat' on  
defence reform:  
what is to  
happen with  
entities' MoDs  
staff?**

**RTRS 'Pecat' magazine by Zlatan Druzic**

– As of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2006, entity Ministries of Defence and entity armies will be abolished and replaced by the State Ministry of Defence. This reform is the start of the process of BiH's association with NATO. However, it remains unclear what is to happen with the surplus staff of entity Ministries and their property. Head of the Defence reform Commission **Raffi Gregorian** explained that the reform of defence is going to be implemented step by step, where one sector after the other is going to be integrated in the state Ministry and Army. RS Minister of Defence **Milovan Stankovic** explained that most of the staff of entity Ministries and Armies are going to be transferred to the equivalent state institutions. All surplus staff is going to be supported by social programs. BiH Minister of Defence **Nikola Radovanovic** confirmed this, emphasizing that all employees are going to be taken care of. All property of the entity Ministries is going to be transferred to the State Ministry. Reporter concludes that the whole process of defence reform might be useless if ICTY indictees **Radovan Karadzic** and **Ratko Maldic** are not arrested soon.

**FBIH Govt to  
discuss usage  
of FBIH  
military  
premises after  
31 December**

**Dnevni Avaz** pg 10 'FBIH Government is entitled to temporary rent out military facilities to state institutions' by M.K. – Collegium of the FBIH Government on Monday discussed the warning by the US expert and NATO official in BiH, **Raffi Gregorian**, against release of military premises to civilian use. The Government is to discuss the issue of military premises following the cease of entities' defence ministries function as of 1 January on Thursday. DA reads that most probably Government is to bring decision of being entitled to temporary rent out FBIH MoD's facilities to hospitals, universities and municipalities until the state MoD requires it back. At the same time, Government warns that the military premises in the RS were already sold urging the issue to be equally treated in entire country. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 10 'I wonder why Gregorian did not react when RS issued is military premise' by E. Sarac – **Nermin Vila**, member of the FBIH Commission for defence and security issues, criticises Gregorian's statement wondering why the reaction did not come when RS Army and former HVO [Croat defence council] have sold their premises, whereas only BiH Army's facilities remained at disposal of the armed forces.