

# OHR BiH Media Round-up, 28/3/2006

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 28 March

<b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (12,00 hrs)	<b>BH Radio 1</b> (12,00 hrs)	<b>RTRS</b> (12,00 hrs)
FBiH HoR's session continues today	FBiH HoR in session	BiH Fiscal Council to convene
Emergency FBiH HoR session today	HVIDRA protests in Mostar	Protests in Bijeljina
On initiative for Lozancic's removal	HNC teachers protest in Mostar	National strikes in France

TV news broadcast on 27 March

<b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (18,00 hrs)	<b>TV PINK</b> (18,00 hrs)	<b>BHT 1</b> (19,00 hrs)
HVIDRA protests in FBiH	Meeting in Italy	FBiH HoR in session
HD support HVIDRA protests	Donors conference on 31 March	Aluminij on increase in el. prices
'Aluminij' on electricity prices	FBiH HoR on public revenues	HVIDRA protests in Mostar
Roundtable on water in BiH	FBiH Gov. regarding tem. allocation	Disabled war veterans from Tuzla

<b>NTV Hayat</b> (19,00 hrs)	<b>FTV</b> (19,30 hrs)	<b>RTRS</b> (19,30 hrs)
Vitezit workers started hunger strike	FBiH HoR in session	EC, UNHCR & EC- rights of refugees
HVIDRA protests in FBiH	Aluminij on increase in el. prices	USA Gov abolished restrict. to Foca

150,000 former soldiers to protest?	HVIDRA protests in Mostar	Inspection of prisons
Teachers' strike in HNC frozen	HVIDRA protests in Travnik	RS MoI issues

<b>Oslobodjenje</b>	Croatia builds bridge suitable for their ships
<b>Dnevni Avaz</b>	[Islamic Community] The best cannot come out of bad at once
<b>Dnevni List</b>	Criminal-political strike against Aluminij ( <i>Aluminij company against announced increase of price of electricity</i> )
<b>Vecernji List</b>	Fake spy of BiH is member of red berrets ( <i>forged IDs of BiH security services found in Montenegro</i> )
<b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>	Special forces waited for defenders (HVIDRA protests in Mostar)
<b>Nezavisne Novine</b>	State forgotten them [ <i>protest of Croat war invalids in F BiH</i> ]
<b>Glas Srpske</b>	A house turned into an island [ <i>Vrba river flooded surrounding area</i> ]
<b>EuroBlic</b>	Out of 760 convicts – 109 were free [ <i>results of unannounced inspection of "Tunjice", "Foca" and "Kula" prisons</i> ]
<b>Vecernje Novosti</b>	Features Serbian related titles

**Latest news of today**

HVIDRA protests for BiH-Cro interstate agreement is not ratified	<b>BH Radio 1</b> – Members of HVIDRA [Association of Croat veterans and disabled veterans] protest in the front of F BiH Government building in Mostar, for the inter-state agreement on rights of HVO victims and members of their families between BiH and Croatia has not been ratified.
Collecting of signatures for removal of F BiH Pres. Lozancic continues	<b>RHB</b> – Collecting of MPs' signatures for the removal of the F BiH President <b>Niko Lozancic</b> continued on Monday.

## Constitutional changes

BiH political leaders attend colloquium in Italy on constitutional changes in BiH; joint conclusion that changes are not ideal, but are step forward

**PINK** – Leaders of BiH major political parties, constitutional law experts, representatives of German and European political scene and international community had colloquium on Monday in Caddenabia (Como Lake, Italy) named ‘Reform of BiH Institutions for Future in the EU’ regarding constitutional reform, future phases of the constitutional structure and BiH way toward EU. **Sulejman Tihic**, BiH Presidency Chair said that purpose of colloquium is to evaluate earlier work on constitutional changes and to discuss which conditions BiH has to fulfil in order to associate with EU. Tihic added that it is very important to pass constitutional amendments so BiH could become partner to EU. **Hayat**– This colloquium is organized by the ‘Conrad Adenauer Stiftung’. In a short statement, representative of this foundation, **Ivana Maric** talked about the purposes and goals of this meeting. 30 high-ranked BiH and international officials, including Head of the EU Delegation for South Eastern Europe **Doris Pack**, Chief Stabilisation and Association Agreement negotiator for the EU **Reinhardt Priebe** and US Ambassador to BiH **Douglas McElhaney** participate in this meeting. The joint conclusion after the first day of the seminar in Caddenabia is that the proposed changes are not ideal solutions, but do represent a radical step forward, and a very big change for BiH. **BHT1, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine** pg 4 ‘Changes for faster trip to Europe were agreed upon’ by D. R. – also reported.

<p>VL: US administration will make sure const. changes agreement does not fail</p>	<p><b>Vecernji List</b>, pg 5, mentioned on front ‘America will not allow failure of constitutional reform’, by <u>Zoran Kresic</u> – VL learns from an ‘anonymous, diplomatic source’ that the US administration will not allow the constitutional reform process to fail, instead it will up the pressure in order to convince the public and parliamentarians that the agreed changes ought to be passed in the BiH Parliament by the stipulated deadline, May 4, when the BiH Election Commission should issue writs for elections. VL goes on to say that the US Ambassador to BiH, <b>Douglas McElhane</b>y, took part in a discussion on constitutional changes that is taking place nearby Milan, Italy, in organization of ‘Conrad Adenauer’ foundation, concluding the US administration is concerned with the number of amendments the Serb side has forwarded to the expert commission in charge of (preparing) amendments to the Constitution.</p>
--	---

<p>Islamic Community passes Resolution on constitutional changes</p>	<p><b>Hayat</b> – Supreme Body [Rijaset] of the Islamic Community in BiH passed a Resolution on Constitutional Changes in BiH. According to this Resolution, BiH should have one president, one prime minister, one state parliament and one police. <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> cover splash ‘The best cannot come out of bad at once’, pg 2 ‘It is not wise to risk everything only because everything cannot be achieved at once’ – Rijaset of the Islamic Community in BiH condemned disqualification of anyone and invited all politicians to take part in work on new BiH Constitution. <b>BHT1, Dnevni List</b> pg 2 ‘People expect democratic state’ by <u>R.D.</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 4 ‘Not everything should be lost’ announced on cover ‘We should not lose everything’ by <u>D. Risojevic</u>– also carried.</p>
--	---

<p>Presidency member Jovic, Cardinal Puljic: Bishops' statement should not be abused</p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 2 'Manipulation with statement of bishops is damaging', by <u>NINA</u>, <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'Cardinal expects greater unity among Croat representatives' by <u>KTA</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'Unity is the most important' by <u>Srna</u> – Member of BiH Presidency, <b>Ivo Miro Jovic</b>, and Cardinal <b>Vinko Puljic</b> met on Monday when they agreed that any manipulation with the statement of the BiH (Catholic) bishops regarding the constitutional changes (bishops oppose agreed changes) would be detrimental to the Croats. Cardinal Puljic also stressed that he expected a more constructive approach of representatives of the Croat people, who will be taking part in the parliamentary discussion about the constitutional changes.</p>
--	---

HR: if const  
changes were  
not adopted it  
would be a  
step back

**Dnevni Avaz** pg 5, mentioned on cover 'I will lobby for more liberal visa regime' by Sead Numanovic – Commenting why OHR did not take more significant part in the process of constitutional changes in an interview to daily, High Representative **Christian Schwarz-Schilling** said: *"When I took over the duty, talks on constitutional changes were at their end and I do not think that I should have taken part in it. But, 2007 should see the next phase when we will take more significant part in the process."*

Schwarz-Schilling added that: *"If parliamentarians decide to reject offered solutions, than they have to come up with alternative ones. Today's situation is not bad, but constitutional changes are better. Someone can say that what is agreed on is neither good or enough. But in politics you have to be realistic and move step by step."* HR noted his priorities also include

help to BiH authorities to pass the negotiations with EU on Stabilisation and Association Agreement [ SAA] and try to convince political leaders to adopt and implement constitutional changes. HR

concluded that the failure of constitutional changes would be psychological step back, and it would impact not only plans of OHR, but also EU and European Commission.



<p>Chairman of NSS Petar Kunic: adoption of amendments to BiH Constitution would abolish RS as BiH's federal unit and transform it into a local community</p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 4 'Constitutional changes are deceit for people of RS' <u>not signed</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 5 'Serious deceit' by <u>Z. M.</u> – Nova Snaga Srpske – NSS (New Strength of Srpska) on Monday stated that the proposed constitutional changes in form of amendments are a great deceit for RS and its people. Chairman of NSS <b>Petar Kunic</b> stated it was unbelievable to learn political leaders have adopted the contents of the presented amendments considering the fact these are superficial and not professional enough, noting that the adoption of the amendments would abolish RS as BiH's federal unit and transform it into a local community.</p>
---	---

GS lists delegates who announced they would not support adoption of amendments to constitutional changes, speculates the Constitution might not be changed

**Glas Srpske** pg 5 'Either Constitution or resignation?' by Z. Markovic – The article reads the destiny of amendments to BiH Constitution is still uncertain, considering the fact 5 delegates of Party for BiH from F BiH, BOSS's **Muhamed Moranjkic**, independent delegates **Mladen Potocnik**, **Petar Kunic** and **Sead Avdic**, and SRS "Dr. Vojislav Seselj" delegate **Mirko Blagojevic**, Party for BiH's **Senija Kapetanovic** have announced they would not support the draft amendments. DNZ's **Ibrahim Dzedovic** and Pensioners' Party delegate **Muhamed Altic** still have not presented their stances. RS delegates –, while SPRS's **Tihomir Gligoric** is still waiting for his party to form a stance on this issue. GS comments that if it turns to be true that the newly-established Club of Croat People (**Martin Raguz**, **Filip Andric**, **Vinko Zoric**, **Ruza Sopta** and **Ivo Lozancic**) were formed to block changes to BiH Constitution then the amendments would not be passed.

<p>DL op-ed: US Ambassador McElhaney will not allow SzBiH founder Silajdzic to undermine const. changes</p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 2 'New return of Silajdzic', by <u>Resad Dautevendic</u> – the author comments on the announcement by 'perennial returner' <b>Haris Silajdzic</b> that he is going to return on the BiH political scene by saying that Silajdzic's chances to be successful in his project are small if he continues lobbying against the agreed constitutional changes. <i>"He can say whatever he wants to</i> (leaders of SDA <b>Sulejman</b>) <b>Tihic</b> and (leader of SDP <b>Zlatko Lagumdžija</b>), <i>and belittle their leadership in change of Constitution, however the US Ambassador <b>Douglas McElhaney</b> will not allow him that"</i>.</p>
<p>Oslobodjenje op-ed on const. changes: Covic opposed Church to get alibi in eyes of Intl. Community</p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> 'Covic's signature' <u>op-ed by Mirko Sagolj</u> – Commenting on recent turbulences on issue of constitutional changes between HDZ leader <b>Dragan Covic</b> and his associates on one side and HDZ deputies in BiH House of Representatives and Catholic Church on the other side, editorial reads that Covic is maybe <i>"playing it very wise"</i>. Author says that there are allegations, speculating in spite of clear stance of the Church, Covic signed the agreement on constitutional changes to provide himself an alibi in the eyes of International Community that could not point finger at him if the agreement does not receive support of Croats in the parliamentary procedure.</p>

<p>SD: HDZ leader Covic is losing support within HDZ</p>	<p><b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, pg 7 'Only SDA is for Covic', by <u>Veso Vegar</u> – the author argues that the leader of HDZ, <b>Dragan Covic</b>, is rapidly losing support within his own party, especially after the BiH (Catholic) bishops issued a statement in which they opposed the agreed constitutional changes that were signed by Covic. SD notes that Covic cannot count on support of majority of HDZ MPs and that only two influential HDZ members that support him are the FBiH President and HDZ Vice President, <b>Niko Lozancic</b>, and FBiH Justice Minister, <b>Borjana Kristo</b>. SD concludes that Covic on the other hand is strongly supported by SDA leaders <b>Sulejman Tihic</b> and <b>Adnan Terzic</b>.</p>
<p>HSP Djapic-Jurismic again calls on Croat MPs not to support const. changes</p>	<p><b>RHB, Dnevni List</b>, pg 7 'Do not support proposed constitutional changes', by <u>A. Beus</u> – Leader of HSP Djapic-Jurismic, <b>Zvonko Jurisic</b>, reiterated at a press conference held in Mostar Monday that his party was against proposed constitutional changes, once again calling on the Croat MPs not to support the changes.</p>

## General political issues

BiH HoP passed amendments to the BiH Election Law, introducing passive registration of voters

**BHT1**– At session on Monday, the BiH House of Peoples has passed the amendments to the BiH Election Law, which installs passive registration of voters. This means that every citizen with CIPS issued ID would be automatically registered on central voters' list. At the same time, this enables BiH Election Commission to schedule elections in 150 days, i.e. in first week of May and held in first week of October. In this way BiH Parliament would have time to pass amendments to the Constitution referring to number of MPs in the Parliament and election of BiH Presidency. **RTRS** – New Election Law kept the regulation from previous one stipulating political parties have to have 30% of women on their election lists. Electoral threshold remained 3% but refers to entity level. Public Broadcasting Services are obligated to follow election campaign for 30 days instead of earlier 60. Private media have no obligation to follow on election campaign but if they decide to follow it, they would have to follow on all political parties. **RHB, Hayat, FTV, Dnevni List** pg 4 'Dispalced persons have right to vote' by D. P. Mandic, **Vecernji List** pg 2 'Election Law changed' by F, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 'Accepted amendments to the Election Law' by H.Orahovac, **Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'Property of ICTY indictees is being frozen' by A.Terzic, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 5 'Changes and addenda to Election Law were adopted' by N. N., **EuroBlic** pg RS2 'Elections to be signed out on May 4' by Duska Stanisic, **Glas Srpske** pg 3 'A step closer to October' by Z. Domazet– also reported.

Part of SDA  
MPs in FBiH  
HoR support  
removal of  
FBiH President  
Lozancic

**Dnevni List**, pg 2, mentioned on front  
'Removal of Lozancic is likely', by Mensud  
Zorlak – According to DL, the necessary pre-  
requisites for removal of the FBiH  
President, **Niko Lozancic**, are being created,  
namely the initiative launched by the SDP  
which requires signatures of 66 MPs (in the  
FBiH HoR) is very close to its realization.  
SDA's **Irfan Ajanovic** (MP) notes an agreement  
has been reached (without saying with whom  
exactly) that a part of SDA MPs will sign  
the initiative. He underlines this is not  
about a rift within the SDA. According to  
SDP's **Slavisa Sucur**, who is collecting the  
signatures, the initiative has so far been  
signed by 63 MPs, expecting that more SDA  
MPs will sign it on Tuesday. Sucur believes  
that once the necessary signatures are  
collected, the same procedure in the FBiH  
HoP will go quicker. (SDP is dissatisfied  
with the work of Lozancic pertaining to  
adoption of 2006 budget, appointment of FBiH  
ministers et al). **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2  
'Signatures for removal of Lozancic  
gathered' by Ad.H. – also report

RS President  
Cavic  
criticizes RS  
PM Dodik for  
removing so  
many officials

**Dnevni Avaz** pg 10 'Due to Dodik's removals RS Official Gazette looks like telephone directory' by N.Diklic – In his interview for DA, RS President **Dragan Cavic** said that he does not agree with policy of RS Prime Minister **Milorad Dodik** who removed so many officials that RS Official Gazette looks now like telephone directory with names full of removed people, adding that it represents political influence on the work of institutions that should be freed from it. Cavic reminded of 1997 when about 6000 people were removed when 'Sloga' coalition came to power, adding: *"These removals were bad decisions since the removed ones will easily get their rights in court. It is RS budget that would be damaged for compensation to the removed. And further, it is a question how system could function when it is shaken with so many changes."*

<p>BiH Constitutional Court to discuss entity symbols; it will not discuss BiH lawsuit v SCG</p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 6 'Failure to execute decision of Court is felony', <u>not signed</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 8 'BiH suit versus SiCG is not on agenda' by <u>SRNA</u> – announces a session of the BiH Constitutional Court scheduled for March 31, which will include among other issues, Chairman of BiH Presidency, <b>Sulejman Tihic's</b>, request related to legality of the entity insignia/symbols. The Court will not discuss the request of member of BiH Presidency, <b>Borislav Paravac</b>, who has contested the legality of the BiH lawsuit against SCG. Finally, the Court will discuss failures to comply and act in accordance to the Court's decisions. In such case, the Court will inform the BiH Prosecution because it represents a felony. <b>RTRS, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 9 'Discussion on Tihic' initiative on Friday' by <u>A.M.</u>– Inset 'On Croatian aid to HVO members'- BiH Constitutional Court is also scheduled to discuss demand of BiH House of People Chair <b>Mustafa Pamuk</b>. Pamuk asked for assessing of constitutionality regarding the statement that contract between BiH and Croatia on cooperation in field of rights of HVO members, is damaging for Bosniak vital national interest.</p>
--	---



<p>HSP Djapic-Jurismic proposes: Each party has to have at least 1000 registered members</p>	<p><b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, pg 11, mentioned on front 'Thousand people for party', by <u>Marko Karacic</u> – According to SD's knowledge, the HSP Djapic-Jurismic is preparing a new law on political parties, which could, if adopted, seal the destiny of numerous small parties. Namely, the law stipulates that every party would have to have at least 1000 properly registered members. Unofficially, the initiative has been supported by HDZ, SDA and SBIH. Similar mood is recorded among members of the IC in BiH. SD notes that, as far as Croat parties are concerned, it is only HDZ, HSP Djapic-Jurismic and NHI that could meet the proposed criteria.</p>
<p>BiH expert commission: Peljesac bridge would limit BiH pass to open sea</p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> cover splash, pgs 4-5 'Croatia builds bridge suitable for their ships' by <u>Az.Kalamujic</u> – BiH expert-commission prepared a document for BiH Council of Ministers which reads that Croatian proposal for building Peljesac bridge would limit BiH pass to open sea. Article says that BiH CoM is expected to accept this document and entrust BiH Foreign Ministry to negotiate an acceptable solution with Croatia.</p>

## Crimes / Cooperation with ICTY

<p>RS Interior Minister Cadjo met RS MoI Trade Union; stressed that ICTY obligation has to be fulfilled</p>	<p><b>PINK</b> – Following the meeting of the Board of the RS Union of Internal Affairs employees, RS Minister of Interior (MoI), <b>Stanislav Cadjo</b> said that cooperation with the ICTY is a legal obligation RS and BiH have to fulfil and that there should be no inactivity in this regard. Cadjo reminded that end of March is the deadline to provide concrete evidence on <b>Ratko Mladic's</b> arrest. The main topics of the meeting were financial status and protection of police officers. According to the RS Police Union Head <b>Dusko Jandric</b> police officers are not well protected, since there were 92 attacks on police officers in 2005 and none of the perpetrators was processed by judiciary. Jandric said that RS MoI employees are satisfied with the 17% increase of salaries (although they previously asked for 20%). <b>BHT1</b> – Cadjo expects the Trade Union to help the Ministry in fighting crime and corruption. <i>"I expect support in an extremely decisive fight against all kinds of corruption and criminal actions, especially those referring to the MoI employees and the Ministry itself"</i>, said Cadjo. <b>RTRS, EuroBlic</b> pg RS3 'Police are looking for protection' <u>not signed</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 5 'Cooperation with the Hague is lawful obligation of RS' by Srna, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 3 'Thicker wallets for policemen' by M. <u>Milunovic</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 3 'Cooperation with the Hague' by M. M– also covered.</p>
---	---

<p>NN op-ed: If a special RS Prosecutor's Office for fight against organised crime is established, then it should have special mechanisms at its disposal</p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> op-ed pg 7 'Prosecutor's Office, a special one' by <u>Dragan Jerinic</u> – The author notes that the announcement on establishing of a special Prosecutor's Office shows that the RS Premier <b>Milorad Dodik</b> wishes to fulfil a promise given before taking over the authority in RS with regard to fight against organised crime. Nevertheless, as soon as the realisation of this project commenced, resistance appeared in political structures, judiciary, individuals at HJPC, BiH Prosecutor's Office and even some representatives of IC are not willing to accept this idea. The author wonders if this is a reflection of a fear that changes might show the "reformed" judiciary had failed to provide with expected results and he concludes by saying that if a special Prosecutor's Office is established, then it should have special mechanisms at its disposal, otherwise this would only represent cosmetic changes.</p>
<p>BiH HoP adopted Law on applying provisional measures to ensure efficient implementation of ICTY mandate</p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 2 'Property of ICTY indictees is being frozen' by <u>A.Terzic</u> – BiH House of Peoples adopted on Monday the Law regulating introduction and application of certain provisional measures aimed at preventing the use, stealing or other disposal with assets and properties of persons indicted before the ICTY, which are not available to the Court and their supporters in avoiding the availability to the Tribunal. BiH House of Representatives adopted the law earlier. BiH HoP also adopted report on harmonization text of budget for BiH institutions and international obligations, which was the last step in the row of adopting the state budget.</p>

<p>RS President Cavic views recent allegations versus SDS as <i>“repellent lies”</i></p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 10 ‘Due to Dodik’s removals RS Official Gazette looks like telephone directory’ <u>by N.Diklic</u> – In his interview for DA, RS President <b>Dragan Cavic</b> commented on recent allegations that SDS leadership was involved in network supporting ICTY fugitives, Cavic said these were <i>“repellent lies that I do not want to comment.”</i></p>
--	---

US Congress  
lifted ban on  
Municipality  
of Foca ;  
bans remain on  
Bijeljina,  
Pale, Han  
Pijesak and  
Sokolac

**RTRS** – The US Congress lifted sanctions against the municipality of Foca following positive improvements of Foca municipal administration, and also improvement of cooperation with the ICTY and implementation of Law on property return and encouragement of return to Foca. **Condoleezza Rice**, US Secretary of State approved US financial aid and all other supports to RS except to municipalities of Bijeljina, Han Pijesak, Pale and Sokolac. **Zdravko Krsmanovic**, Head of Foca municipality said that this would give the opportunity for new start. High Representative to BiH, **Christian Schwarz-Schilling** announced his visit along with Metropolitan of Orthodox Church **Nikolaj Dobrobosanski** and Reis-ul-Ulema **Mustafa Ceric** to Foca on Wednesday, March 29. High Representative said that this proves that application of strict restrictions could have positive effect. Municipalities of Bijeljina, Han Pijesak, Pale and Sokolac are still under US embargo due to poor cooperation with the ICTY. Representatives of these municipalities said that they did not even know they are under US embargo. **BHT1**, **FTV**, **Dnevni List** pg 7 'Part of RS under sanctions' by R.D., **Vecernji List** pg 2 'US Government refused to help certain areas in RS' by Fena, **Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 7 'SDA lifted sanctions for Foca' by H., **Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'Sanctions for Foca abolished' not signed, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 11 'Condoleezza Rice removed sanctions to Foca' by L.Sinanovic, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 5, announced on cover 'USA lifted sanctions to Foca' by A. Sekulic, **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'A ramp to Foca was lifted' by E. G. S. – also carried.

<p>NN and GS carry opposing reports on reactions of Bijeljina Mayor Micic and Pale Mayor Savic on decision of US Administration to lift sanctions to Foca / Sokolac and Han Pijesak Mayors: we never received official information that our municipalities were under sanctions</p>	<p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 5, announced on cover 'USA lifted sanctions to Foca' by <u>A. Sekulic</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'A ramp to Foca was lifted' by <u>E. G. S.</u> – carry opposing reactions on the decision of US Administration to lift sanctions to Foca. While <i>NW</i> quotes Bijeljina Mayor <b>Mico Micic</b> and Pale Mayor <b>Slobodan Savic</b> as welcoming the decision and expressing hope their towns would be next for lifting sanctions, GS reads Micic was "unpleasantly surprised" with the decision and noted Bijeljina had fulfilled everything former mediator for RS and F BiH, current HR <b>Christian Schwarz-Schilling</b>, had recommended to it while Savic expressed disappointment because he thinks Pale had not deserved such a status. <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'They found out from media' by <u>B. G.</u> and <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'Nothing official' by <u>Srna</u> – carry statements of Sokolac Mayor <b>Dragan Cvijetic</b> and Han Pijesak Mayor <b>Milan Borovina</b> respectively, both saying they had never received any official note that their municipalities were under sanctions. <b>Nezavisne novine</b> pg 5 'There were no reasons for imposing sanctions to Han Pijesak' – carries Borovina's statement, saying he does not know why the sanctions were imposed to Han Pijesak nor why these had not been lifted.</p>
---	--

<p>Anton Nikiforov, Advisor to Chief ICTY Prosecutor: Death of Milosevic disturbed ICTY, Chief Prosecutor will demand extradition of all remaining fugitives</p>	<p><b>Vecernje Novosti</b> pg 13 'We want both Karadzic and Mladic' by <u>E. Radosavljevic</u> – in a short interview to VN, <b>Anton Nikiforov</b>, the Advisor to Chief ICTY Prosecutor, has stated that the death of <b>Slobodan Milosevic</b> disturbed the Tribunal greatly and added Chief ICTY Prosecutor <b>Carla del Ponte</b> will demand that the remaining Hague fugitives are extradited. He added they have information both <b>Ratko Mladic</b> and <b>Radovan Karadzic</b> are either in SiCG or BiH adding: <i>'Nobody is disputing this, not even in your countries'</i>.</p>
<p>VL: Former Montenegrin security official in possession of Ids belonging to BiH security agencies</p>	<p><b>Vecernji List</b>, front pg splash and pg 3 'Fake spy of BiH is member of red berets', by <u>Zdenko Jurilj</u> – VL reports that Montenegrin police recently arrested <b>Vasilij Mijovic</b> (during the investigation related to buying of votes for Montenegrin independence) when the police found in Mijovic's apartment several forged IDs that belong to security agencies of BIH, RS and Serbia. VL notes that Mijovic's name was mentioned even in the ICTY because he was the commander of the 'infamous 'Red berets' unit', which took part in wars in BiH and Croatia. VL also does not rule out a possibility that Mijovic had connections in security agencies in BiH (when getting the IDs) because Mijovic was fired from the Montenegrin national security Agency because of the forged diploma of the SarajevoLawSchool.</p>

**Economic / social affairs**

<p>FBiH HoR approved FBiH Government to launch temporary allocation of public revenues</p>	<p><b>BHT1</b> – The FBiH House of Representatives has given approval to FBiH Government to pass decision on temporary allocation of revenues from the single account. The decision would be in force until the Law on Allocation of Public Revenues is passed. The FBiH Constitutional Court is currently processing this Law, at demand of Croat Caucus in FBiH HoP, which invoked vital national interest. <i>“Significance of this move is that finally the money which is on the account would reach budget users; we start financing users; we are getting to the phase of more quality work; however the problem is not solved until the Law on Allocation of Public Revenues is passed. We would try to pass it as soon as possible”,</i> said FBiH Prime Minister <b>Ahmet Hadzipasic</b>. There is about 350 millions KM on the account. <i>“The money will be allocated to Cantons, since no conditions for direct allocation to municipalities have been created, and this will be in force until the Law on Allocation of Public Revenues is passes”,</i> said the FBiH Minister of Finance <b>Dragan Vrankic</b>. Due to impossibility to allocate resources, certain municipalities were unable to perform basic duties. They are worried that they would not get the money immediately. <b>RHB, PINK, Hayat, FTV, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 8 ‘Allocation of revenues as of Thursday’ <u>by S.Se.,</u> <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 2 ‘Financing of budgetary users commences’ <u>by R. Cengic</u> – also reported.</p>
--	---



<p>MPs blame FBIH PM Hadzipasic for financial collapse</p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b> pg 5, mentioned on cover 'Hadzipasic accused for financial collapse' by <u>M. Zorlak</u> also carries that replying to accusations of most MPs who blame the FBIH PM <b>Hadzipasic</b> for the financial collapse of the FBIH due to his inefficiency and carelessness, Hadzipasic said that the MPs are to be blamed for this situation since he sent the Law to the Parliament in September last year. <b>Zahid Mustajbegovic</b> from SBiH denied this claim and added that they received the Law in December when it was too late to do anything. <b>Vecernji List</b> pg 3 'Temporary distribution' by Fena</p>
--	--

<p>Large companies filed complaints to FERK due to announced increase of electricity prices; BiH CoM Chair Terzic embittered with such decisions</p>	<p><b>BHT1</b> – Certain BiH companies, such as ‘MITTAL STEEL’ and ‘Aluminij’ have filed complaints to the FBiH Electricity Regulatory Agency’s [FERK] decision to increase price of electricity, as of April 1. ‘Aluminij’ leadership claims that the increase would cause great losses. The company states that the money, collected in this way, goes to political parties. <i>“Political-criminal actions are behind the whole issue... elections are to take place and we have to make reserves in order to finance parties”</i>, said General Manager of Aluminij <b>Mijo Brajkovic</b>. FERK claims that the increase is justified, since both ‘Elektroprivreda’ [referring to two in FBiH] had great losses in 2005. Aluminij states that due to poor managing in Elektroprivreda, its leaderships should be blamed, not the citizens. BiH Prime Minister <b>Adnan Terzic</b>, who visited Mostar on Monday, was shocked with decision on increase in prices. <i>“I think that this is an example of how so called independent regulatory agencies are able to act as separate entities. I am embittered with such decision and I think that both, FBiH Prime Minister and FBiH Government should dedicate to the issue, although I believe that the so called independency of such agencies makes them unable to act”</i>, said Terzic. Aluminij leadership pointed out that if the production were to be reduced, the state would face losses, as well as all companies they are cooperating with. <b>RHB, FTV, Oslobođenje</b> pgs 4-5 ‘Bad signal to foreign investors’ by Fena, <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 ‘Terzic embittered with FERK decision’ by F.Vele–<b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 ‘Aluminij prepared for worst’ by N.H., carries reactions by Terzic and Brajkovic – also carried.</p>
--	--

<p>Aluminij Gen. Manager Brajkovic opposes higher electricity prices</p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b> cover pg splash and pg 11 'Criminal-political strike against Aluminij' by S. Bjelica, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> pg 13 'Aluminij' is shutting production down ?!' by <u>Z. Zekic</u> – Aluminij CEO <b>Mijo Brajkovic</b> stated that he had informed foreign investors about this situation and impossibility for new investments. He added that, most probably, 'Aluminij' will suspend the ongoing projects including the factory that they build with 'Feal' from Siroki Brijeg, which should employ about 100 persons, as well as the project of the first phase of electrolyses that would secure 1000 new jobs.</p>
<p>FBiH PM Hadzipasic disagrees with increase of electricity prices; proposes meeting with large companies</p>	<p><b>BHT1</b> – late news- FBiH Prime Minister <b>Ahmet Hadzipasic</b> commented on numerous reactions regarding increase in electricity prices, expressing his disagreement with the increase of electricity price, especially due to the fact that it should take place in a year when VAT is being implemented. He added that the only thing the FBiH Government and he could do was to meet larger companies' representatives in order to try to reach concrete activities in order to solve the issue and then propose them to Elektroprivreda.</p>

HR: I will lobby for more liberal visa regime

**Dnevni Avaz** pg 5, mentioned on cover 'I will lobby for more liberal visa regime' by Sead Numanovic – Explaining his priorities for the next twelve months of his work, in his interview for DA, High Representative **Christian Schwarz-Schilling** stressed that more liberal visa regime for BiH businessmen, as part of improving economic situation, would be among his top priorities. Schwarz-Schilling said: *"We have to change image of BiH abroad. I have to admit that I did not expect I would have to deal with this. But, it is really obvious that I have to agitate in favour of BiH in European capitals and change image of this country in their heads."* Inset 'I am against removal of Dixon' by Sead Numanovic – HR said that he is against removal of Indirect Taxation Administration [ITA] Steering Board Chair **Joly Dixon**, adding that this position is anticipated to be inherited by BiH citizen, when the time comes.

<p>HVIDRA members asking for signing of inter-state agreement on right of HVO members</p>	<p><b>FTV</b> – On Monday, Mostar HVIDRA [Association of disabled veterans and veterans of HVO] members held peaceful protests in front of the FBiH Government building. One of the main reasons of protests is the fact that the inter-state agreement on rights of HVO victims and members of their families between BiH and Croatia has not been signed. HVIDRA members said that if their requests were not met, they would take their families to the streets as well. As the HVIDRA members announced, protests should last two days, and if the issue were not solved, they would block roads in the FBiH. Protests were also held in Travnik and Orasje. <b>RHB, BHT1, Hayat, RTRS, Slobodna Dalmacija</b> front pg splash and pg 15 ‘Special police waited for defenders’ by <u>Z. Zekic</u> reports on high security measures of the police during the protest in Mostar. <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 3, mentioned on cover ‘Special Police members were protecting Government from invalids’ by <u>S. Bjelica</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b> pg 2 ‘Invalids threatened with disobedience’ by <u>V. Leto, A. Drmac, N. Koturic</u>, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> pg 15, mentioned on cover ‘On verge of despair’ by <u>F. Mioc</u> <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 13 ‘Because of not signing of the agreement with Croatia, members of HVO in even worst position’ by <u>N.H.</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> cover pg splash ‘State forgotten about them’ and pg 2 ‘They are dissatisfied with care of F BiH and state’ by <u>M. Petrovic</u> – also report on the protests.</p>
---	---

<p>Classes in HNC started again; teachers warn that strike is only frozen not ended / Signing of petition for removal of HNC Education Minister Musa to be launched these days</p>	<p><b>RHB</b>– Classes for elementary schools pupils in Herzegovina-Neretva Canton, which attend classes according to Croat curriculum, have started on Monday morning thanks to the pressure parents made on teachers. All members of HNC Teachers' Trade Union have come to work, but Chair of the Union <b>Slavko Laus</b> stated that strike is not over, but frozen until the HNC Government fulfills their demands. <b>Vecernji List</b> pg 6 'After forced holiday primary school students were eager to be back to school' <u>by I. Brkic-Cubela, T. Nagulov</u>, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> pg 14 'Primary school students started to go to school' <u>by M. Karacic</u>. <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 12 'Petition for removal of Minister Jago Musa' <u>by E. Milavic</u> – carries that Trade Unions of primary and secondary school teachers who work according to the Croat curriculum will start these days signing of the petition for removal of the HNC Education Minister <b>Jago Musa</b> because of his wrong attitude towards the teachers. <b>PINK, BHT1, Hayat, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 4 'Elementary schools stated with classes' <u>by Fena</u>– also reported on continuation of classes.</p>
--	--

## Police / defence reform

<p>RS MoI Cadjo: ICTY cooperation has to be fulfilled</p>	<p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 'Intensive cooperation with the ICTY' by Fena, <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 11 'Proposals for police reform are being prepared in RS MoI' by Fena, <b>EuroBlic</b> pg RS3 'Police are looking for protection' <u>not signed</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 5 'Cooperation with the Hague is lawful obligation of RS' by Srna, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 3 'Thicker wallets for policemen' by M. Milunovic, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 3 'Cooperation with the Hague' by M. M. – Commenting on activities on police reform, RS Interior Minister <b>Stanislav Cadjo</b> stated that all capacities are mobile within entity police in order to prepare proposals, which can be valid in negotiating process. Cadjo stated that solutions in police reform have to contain consensus, stressing: <i>"We have to reach those solutions that would not be of temporary character and then escalate in some other forms and present some other kind of problem or political focuses"</i>.</p>
<p>HR Schwarz Schilling: Hard talks with RS PM Dodik on police reform</p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 5, mentioned on cover 'I will lobby for more liberal visa regime', Inset 'Hard talks with Milorad Dodik' by <u>Sead Numanovic</u> – In an interview to daily, the High Representative to BiH <b>Christian Schwarz-Schilling</b> commented on his talks with RS Prime Minister <b>Milorad Dodik</b> on police reform. HR Schwarz-Schilling said Dodik convinced him that he has no intention to obstruct any reform. <i>"I was glad to hear that since two of us had hard talks both on telephone and in person,"</i> said HR.</p>

<p>DA op-ed: RS PM Dodik tries to make complete state infrastructure within RS</p>	<p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 ‘Dodik and police’ by <u>Edina Sarac</u> – Commenting announcements of RS Prime Minister <b>Milorad Dodik</b> that he is not ready to continue implementation of police reform, editorial reads that this he aims to preserve entity police. <i>“If it is added the idea of forming special court and prosecution, it is clear that Dodik tries to make complete state infrastructure within administrative unit called RS,”</i> concludes author.</p>
<p>Presidency member Tihic: Defence reform behind schedule?</p>	<p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 6 ‘Reform to military is not going according to plan’, by <u>Ljiljana Vidacak</u> – According to member of BiH Presidency, <b>Sulejman Tihic</b>, the defence reform could be behind the schedule since the entity defence structures should cease to exist on July 1. <i>“The joint HQ (of BiH Armed Forces) is already in place, however the entity structures should close down. However I am not sure it could be done by June 30 as agreed”</i>, said Tihic. He did not go into details about reasons behind the statement, noting that the BiH Presidency will receive a delegation of the BiH MoD that should present a plan of future activities related to defence reform.</p>

## Judicial issues



<p>Acting Assistant of RS Justice Minister Djukic: unannounced inspection of prisons showed 109 out of 760 convicts were absent</p>	<p><b>EuroBlic</b> cover pg splash and pg RS1 'Out of 760 convicts – 109 were free' by <u>Tijana Veselinovic</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 3 'Every seventh convict absent', announced on cover '109 convicts were absent during inspections' by <u>S. Karic</u> – Acting Assistant of RS Justice Minister <b>Bosko Djukic</b> has stated that the results of unannounced inspection, carried out on March 23 in "Tunjice", "Foca" and "Kula" prisons, showed that out of 760 convicts 109 were missing and added it will be known soon whether their absence was justified by laws or some of them enjoyed privileges of prisons' managements as it is suspected. Inset 'MoI is dissatisfied too' – RS Minister of Interior <b>Stanislav Cadj</b> on Monday assessed MoI was dissatisfied with the situation in correctional facilities and noted important information and facts indicating irregularities exist in these facilities were collected during the latest action.</p>
---	---

<p>Robinson to transfer money from SDS account to PB ES</p>	<p><b>RTRS, Nezavisne Novine</b> pg 3 'Preparations for transfer of money from SDS account' by <u>N. N.</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b> pg RS3 'Forcible collection from SDS after April 9', announced on cover 'SDS's debts amount 1,95 million KM' by <u>M. S.</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b> pg 2 'Collection as of April' <u>not signed</u>—Provisional Administrator of "Privredna Banka Srpsko Sarajevo" <b>Toby Robinson</b> said that the preparations for transfer of money from the SDS blocked account in "Razvojna Banka Jugoistocne Evrope" are underway. Robinson said that due to legal regulations, the request for payment of debt cannot be activated before April 9. Total SDS debt toward "Privredna Banka Srpsko Sarajevo" is BAM 1.667 million.</p>
---	---