

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 29/10/2004

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	BH TV 1 (19,00 hrs)	FED TV (19,30 hrs)	RT RS (19,30)
CoM, FBiH HoR sessions	Paravac – Presidency Chair	RS Govt on Srebrenica	Solana on police reform
Paravac – Presidency Chair	RS Govt on Srebrenica	Solana on single police	RS Govt on Srebrenica
FBiH Govt in session	Momcilo Krajisnik trial	“Sugar affair” linked case	Student protests in BL
RS Govt on Srebrenica	Scheffer on BiH joining PFP	FBiH Govt in Aluminij	Unions will protest

Oslobodjenje	SBiH accuses Brankovic, Pasic and HDZ of not protecting state interests; Gregorian: Supporters of criminals will be paying higher and higher price!; RS government adopted Srebrenica report; Cooperation with the Tribunal in the Hague must be complete; Change of IDs not ceased
Dnevni Avaz	Brankovic, Pasic and HDZ prevented revision; FTV spreads lies on Bosniak terrorism
Dnevni List	US soldiers arrested Capljina citizen
Vecernji List	We pray to God that Damir comes back
Slobodna Dalmacija	Three minors committed 1000 thefts
Nezavisne Novine	Stricter punishments for RS authority; A single police was proposed in the Declaration; SIPA will determine fast whether there are any terrorists in BiH; Ministers from the Party for BiH have left the session
Glas Srpske	Balkans path of marijuana goes through Eastern Herzegovina ;

Vecernje novosti	<i>Features Serbian related headlines</i>
EuroBlic	600 KM tuition approved
Slobodna Bosna	Bosniak TV: Radoncic implements Alija [Izetbegovic]'s dream; BiH Court : Clash between McNair and Jelavic
Dani	Muhamed Ali Gasi, a fugitive chased unsuccessfully by Sarajevo Cantonal police talks to Dani: Celo is the biggest terrorist; Ivanic: Several embassies do their job well

Political issues

<p>Paravac takes over BiH Presidency</p>	<p>RHB, Oslobođenje, cover and pg. 2 'Cooperation with the Tribunal must be complete' by Az. Kalamujic, Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'Better cooperation with Parliamentary Assembly announced' by A.M., Dnevni List pg 4 'Acting on principles of consensus' by D. Polovina-Mandic, Slobodna Dalmacija pg 15 'Paravac Head of Presidency' by D. Pasic, Vecernji List pg 3 'Paravac to be Chairman in next 8 months' by D. Jazvic, Glas Srpske pg 3 'Paravac is a Chairman' not signed, Nezavisne Novine, pg. 4 'Paravac is the Chairman' by A. Sisic, EuroBlic cover RS pages, 'To strengthen authorities of domestic authorities', RS pg2 'Partnership with OHR' by D.S. – Borislav Paravac will serve as the BiH Presidency Chair in the next eight months. Serb member of the BiH Presidency took over this duty from Sulejman Tihic based on the principle of rotation carried out at a formal Presidency session in Sarajevo on Thursday. Paravac said that in the next eight months the Presidency would work on intensifying cooperation with state, entity and other institutions in BiH, leading and improving foreign policy, cooperation with OHR and other international institutions, improving the defence and security system and economic development and recovery of the country.</p> <p>FTV – <i>"Presidency will, in the coming period, improve cooperation with the Parliamentary Assembly at first place. Relations and cooperation with the CoM and entities governments are very important because of recognizing of all indicators of economic and general development but also in leading of foreign affairs which has to be now even more than before in function of economy, especially in foreign investments,"</i> stated Paravac.</p> <p>RTRS – <i>"If the position of domestic institutions is to gradually... take over the responsibility for this country that it should be shown in the active relation towards international institutions in BIH that have to be partners with local authorities. That is the only way of trust and returning of authorities to institutions and carriers of public functions in BIH"</i> says Paravac. He stated that cooperation with ICTY has to be full and in accordance with legal obligations. Main foreign policy goals will be Partnership for Peace and membership in EU as well as improving relations with the states from the region and USA that have a key role in fight against international terrorism.</p> <p>BHT 1 by <u>Suzana Stambol</u> – BHT 1 carries that citizens express their dissatisfaction with the work of Presidency. On another side, Presidency members believe that they can be proud of what has been done. <i>"What we managed to do, we should be proud of,"</i> stated Dragan Covic. <i>"I believe that coming period will be also dynamic, because BiH is in process of transition and reforms which can include constitutional changes,"</i> said Sulejman Tihic.</p>
---	---

<p>SBiH representatives walk out from the FBiH Govt session</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje cover, pg 7 'Party for BiH accuses Brankovic, Pasic and HDZ of not protecting the interest of the state' by <u>A. Omeragic</u> – Representatives of the Party for BiH left a session of the Federation of BiH Government held on Thursday in Mostar after changes to the Law on Privatisation of Firms were not adopted. The Government officials, who are members of the Party for BiH, have accused HDZ and SDA of not protecting interests of the state and state companies, while Nedžad Brankovic (SDA) and Deputy Prime Minister of the Government Dragan Vrankic have replied that the Party for BiH was working against international regulations. If the draft of the Party for BiH had been adopted, HT Zagreb would not be in a position to participate in the privatisation of telecommunication companies in BiH.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz, cover 'Brankovic, Pasic and HDZ prevented an audit' and pg. 3 'HDZ, Brankovic and Pasic obstructed the start of an audit' by <u>A. Hadziarapovic</u> – After the session, the FBiH Prime Minister Ahmet Hadzipasic has stated that the situation should be analysed and it was not excluded there would be some personnel changes at the Government of the Federation of BiH. Dnevni Avaz inset 'Brankovic: Only SDA can remove me' carries a reaction of Nedžad Brankovic, who has stated that it would not be a surprise if the Prime Minister had requested for his resignation, however, he points out that only SDA can request for his resignation.</p> <p>FTV, RHB, Dnevni List pg 3 'Demand for audit of privatization endangered FBiH Government', mentioned on cover, 'Ministers from Party for BiH left session', by <u>I. Glibusic</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija last pg 'Ministers from SBiH left session' by <u>Z. Zekic</u>, Nezavisne Novine cover 'Ministers from the Party for BiH have left the session' and pg. 4 'Ministers from the Party for BiH have left the Government session' by <u>V. Coric</u> – _ – also covered.</p>
<p>DA int with Tihic</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz, cover 'FTV spreads untruth on terrorism of Bosniaks' and pg. 5 'We expect a verdict in case against SiCG for aggression and genocide would be brought in 2006' by <u>Admir Malagic</u> – In an interview to DA, Sulejman Tihic has presented achievements that have been made during his mandate as the Chairman of BiH Presidency. He also commented on the process of deciding on the appointment of Dragan Bozanic and said he was later blamed by some media for failing to use the mechanism of the protection of vital national interest in this case. Tihic said this would be a precedent and he claims FTV had blamed him although it constantly spreads untruth on terrorism of Bosniaks. He also says FTV is misusing its position of a public media and in such way is endangering interests of Bosniak people. In relation to a decision of BiH Constitutional Court on immunity of Dragan Covic, Tihic said the decision itself would not influence the work of the Presidency. Regarding the lawsuit against SiCG, he says he believes a verdict would be brought in 2006, which would confirm the lawsuit and confirm the character of the war – aggression and genocide.</p>

<p>Update to elections in Mostar</p>	<p>FTV, Dnevni List, pg 15 'Are Croats losing power in Mostar?', mentioned on front, by <u>Sanja Bjelica</u>, Oslobodjenje, pg. 5 'Names of 35 councillors are known' by <u>Fena</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'Bosniaks and Croats will each have 15 seats at the Town Council' by <u>F. Vele</u>, Nezavisne Novine, pg. 9 'Mostar Town Council was appointed' by <u>V. C.</u> – The BiH Election Commission presented in Mostar Thursday names of all the councilors in the future composition of the Mostar City Council (MCC). Since the election rules in Mostar stipulate that each constituent people must have at least 4 councilors in the MCC, and in the same time 15 councilors the most, some elected candidates had to be swapped with other candidates in order to satisfy the representation criteria. As a result, no party lost seats in the MCC, and the representation pre-requisite was fulfilled. Future MCC will have four Serb councilors, two coming from the HDZ's list, one from SDA and SDP each. One councilor from the 'others' will be coming from the SBiH.</p> <p>Vecernji List, pg 4 "Consequences for misses', by <u>Miso Relota</u> – The President of HDZ Mostar, Miroslav Coric, notes that formally-legally speaking, any of 35 councilors in the MCC could become a new Mayor of Mostar. However, Coric is convinced that the new Mayor will come from the HDZ-led coalition. Furthermore, Coric says that he is unhappy with the election results and the turnout. <i>"When the HDZ Presidency discusses the election results, the conclusion will come by itself. We are not happy with the number of seats in the future composition of the City Council. Unfortunately, it will draw certain consequences and whatever the Presidency decides, I have to observe those decisions"</i>, says Coric.</p>
---	--

<p>SB on Venice Commission visit to BiH</p>	<p>Slobodna Bosna, pgs. 50-51 'Paddy Ashdown must respect basic conventions of the European legislation in BiH' by <u>Nidzara Ahmetasevic</u> – The article refers to the Venice Commission session held at the beginning of this week in Banja Luka and Sarajevo. It reads that the Assembly of the Council of Europe has presented a stance that some of authorizations of OHR were (not) in accordance with the European Convention on Human Rights and basic democratic principles, as well as that the constitutional organization of BiH is a great obstacle on its path to European Union. One of the Venice Commission representatives, Thomas Markert, has explained the Commission came to BiH to investigate whether the authorization of the High Representative were in accordance with European standards, as well as to investigate whether the BiH constitution was harmonized with European Conventions on human rights and to determine whether the constitutional organization of BiH was rational and efficient. He complimented a positive approach of the High Representative in relation to this issue. Asked to comment whether BiH could enter EU, Merkert said: <i>'BiH is a member country of the Council of Europe and it recognizes it as an independent country. However, it is clear that powers of the High Representative represent an element of a protectorate'</i>. He presented his stance that BiH should not remain the same in the future and he said this was not a path to a complete independence.</p>
<p>Ivanic consulting EU over Bozanic appointment F BiH</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Ivanic consults Ambassadors of EU countries' by <u>Fena</u> – BiH Foreign Affairs Minister Mladen Ivanic, in accordance with the task which he received from the BiH Presidency, started consultations with EU ambassadors aimed at reviewing the decision on appointing Dragan Bozanic as the BiH Ambassador to the Council of Europe. Spokesperson for the Ministry Lepa Babic told FENA that Ivanic would complete that task by the end of this week or early next week.</p>
<p>F BiH HoR against Bozanic's appointment</p>	<p>FTV, RHB, Dnevni List pg 7 'Annulment of Dragan Bozanic's appointment demanded' by <u>I. Glibusic</u>– The F BiH House of Representatives protested against the appointment of Dragan Bozanic as the BiH Ambassador to the Council of Europe. Delegates also urged the BiH Parliament and BiH Presidency to withdraw the decision on his appointment, and to OHR to question it.</p>
<p>SDA against Bozanic's annulment</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija pg 14 'Withdraw Ambassador Bozanic' by <u>D. Pasic</u> says that SDA issued a press release on Thursday, which says that they expect from the BiH Presidency to withdraw the decision on the appointment of Dragan Bozanic to the position of the BiH Ambassador with the Council of Europe.</p>

<p>Dani interview with Ivanic on OHR, ambassadorial appointments</p>	<p>Dani pgs 12-15 'There are few Embassies that did a good job' by <u>Snjezana Lulic Busatlija</u> – In a lengthy interview to Dani, Mladen Ivanic, BiH Foreign Minister, comments the letter sent by Donald Hays, PDHR on 14 September which reads that PDHR was still receiving "<i>disturbing reports</i>" regarding failures of the BiH Foreign Ministry on issuance of visas. Ivanic says: "<i>Only two days after we received that letter, we had a meeting at the BiH Security Ministry with OHR and made agreements on all issues. The point was that State Border Service, Ministry institutions and visa departments link together. I will demand a follow-up meeting with the OHR to check whether this has been completed, since as for Foreign Ministry, it is not our problem.</i>" Regarding the appointments to BiH embassies and consular mission, he notes decision on this issue rests with the BiH Presidency, expressing his personal view there are too many BiH missions in central Asia and Middle East, adding that some members of BiH Presidency would oppose their closure. He reiterates his commitment to constitutional duties and ethnic key during appointment process, owing to which reason some of the positions at the BiH Foreign Ministry are still vacant (for which State Auditors criticised him). Responding to press question as to whether why Krunoslav Vasilj, BiH Ambassador in Jordan (who issued BiH visas to Jordan citizens without the approval of the Foreign Ministry) has not been removed from position over this, he says the Ministry's Audit Office is preparing a report on issuance of visas in Amman.</p>
---	--

<p>War crimes</p>

<p>RS Govt adopts Srebrenica Commission final report</p>	<p>RTRS, RHB, Oslobođenje, cover and pg. 3 'RS Government adopted Srebrenica report' by <u>O. Vukovic</u>, Nezavisne Novine, pg. 3 'Report of Srebrenica Commission was adopted' by <u>D. R.</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija last pg 'RS Government adopted report of Srebrenica Commission' by <u>A. Macanovic</u>, Vecernji List pg 2 'RS Government adopted Commission's report' by <u>bs</u>, Euroblic RS pg 2 'On victims without words' by <u>M.J.</u>, Vecernje Novosti pg 8 'Content a secret' by <u>M.L.</u> – At the extraordinary session closed for public held on Thursday, the RS Government adopted the final report prepared by the Srebrenica Commission. Government accepted the report with several conclusions and forwarded it to Human Rights Commission of the BiH Constitutional Court .</p> <p>FTV, Oslobođenje pg 3 'OHR without comments for the moment' by <u>Fena</u>, Dnevni Avaz, pg. 8 'The Office of the High Representative is waiting for a stance of the Commission for Human Rights' <u>not signed</u> – Ljiljana Radetic , OHR spokesman, said that for any further comment or statements on the report OHR will wait until Human Rights Commission gives its evaluation. It is speculated that the report includes a list of 7,500 names of people killed during the action of RS Army in 1995. After the Human Rights Chamber evaluates the report the conclusion of the RS Government and parts of the report that will not influence further proceedings before relevant judicial institutions will be presented to the public, the RS Government stated.</p> <p>BHT 1, Oslobođenje pg 3 'The truth on Srebrenica is path to reconciliation and future' by <u>Fena</u> – The Speaker of the RS National Assembly, Dusan Stojicic, said in Banja Luka on Thursday that the names of Srebrenica victims have to be discovered and that this is the road that leads towards reconciliation and future in BiH. Information on exact number of victims will be published after BiH Constitutional Court Human Rights Commission evaluate Srebrenica report.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz, pg. 4 'RS Government must bring the question of responsibility of perpetrators of crimes' by <u>A. Hadzic</u> – DA article also carries a statement of Nura Beganovic, a representative of "Zene Srebrenice" Association from Tuzla, who has said that they will demand for names of murderers and their commanders to be published. She also said they will demand from RS Government to bring the question of responsibility of those who have committed these crimes.</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine, pg. 3 'Report of Srebrenica Commission was adopted' by <u>D. R.</u> – NN carries a statement of RS President Dragan Cavic who said that he expected the Commission for Human Rights would accept and approve the report. He has assessed that the report should bring everyone closer to truth on Srebrenica and number of victims, and he also expressed his expectation that the report would serve as an initial grounds for investigating on sufferings of Serbs in Sarajevo and some other places.</p>
---	---

<p>State Department official Raffi Gregorian on war crimes, defence reform</p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 9 'NATO's mission in BiH is to arrest war crime suspects' by <u>D. Polovina-Mandic</u> carries an interview with Deputy Head of the State Department Section for Southeast Europe Raffi Gregorian, who is paying his third visit to BiH. DL says that the primary goal of his visit were the talks on the establishment of a new NATOs' Headquarters in BiH, defence reform and arrest of war crime suspects. Gregorian said: <i>'Due to failure of the RS authorities to arrest Radovan Karadzic some actions were taken against individuals... I believe that you can expect that the price of violation of these obligations, which are 9 nine years old already, will be bigger as the time goes by. The RS authorities are either incompetent or they deliberately obstruct the Dayton Peace Accord.'</i> Gregorian also warned that non-cooperation with the ICTY will cause certain consequences and asked to say something more about these consequences, Gregorian said: <i>"This issue is being discussed within the US Government and the OHR but also with the countries from the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board. I cannot go in details but I believe that you should listen carefully High Representative Paddy Ashdown who says that those who do not behave in accordance with the DPA cannot expect all protection that this agreement offers."</i></p> <p>Oslobodjenje pgs 4-5 'Supporters of criminals will be paying higher and higher prices', mentioned on cover, by <u>A. Prlenda</u> – Gregorian denied any change in US policy on the Hague Tribunal, saying <i>'the door of the Tribunal will remain open until they (Karadzic, Mladic and Gotovina) are apprehended'</i>.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Behaviour of RS authority is unacceptable' by <u>S. Numanovic</u> – DA also carries the inserts from the talks between Gregorian and group of Sarajevo based journalists.</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine cover 'Stricter punishments for RS authority' and pg. 3 'Punishments for RS authority' by <u>M. Cubro</u> – carries an interview with Gregorian. He claims US authority, EU and OHR are intensively negotiating on consequences for institutions and individuals who obstruct arresting of war crimes indictees. He says that legitimacy of RS institutions would be brought in question should it be proven some of these had been obstructing arresting of war crimes indictees.</p>
<p>Tihic on establishment of Registry</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz, cover 'FTV spreads untruth on terrorism of Bosniaks', pg 5 'We expect a verdict in case against SiCG for aggression and genocide would be brought in 2006', inset 'Political conditions for domestic personnel to process war crimes have not been fulfilled' by <u>Admir Malagic</u> – In an interview to DA, the member of BiH Presidency Sulejman Tihic said he was satisfied with the establishing of the Registry Office at BiH Court, nevertheless he thinks the situation requires a presence of international judges and prosecutors. He thinks political pre-requisites for processing of war crimes in RS have not been met as yet, since RS authority have never arrested a single war crimes indictee.</p>

<p>Update to Jelavic trial: Judge concludes seized HB documents to be used in trail</p>	<p>RHB, BHT 1, FTV, Dnevni Avaz, pg. 8 ‘Simmons: Toby Robinson acted in accordance with laws’ by <u>M. Kukan</u>, Oslobodjenje, pg. 3 ‘Toby Robinson acted in accordance with laws’ by <u>A. N.</u>, Vecernji List, pg 5 ‘SFOR’s evidence valid after all!’, mentioned on front, by <u>Dejan Jazvic</u>, Nezavisne Novine, pg. 9 ‘Evidence have been exempted in a legal way’ by <u>A. Durmo</u> – Panel of Judges of BiH Court that is conducting the Hercegovacka bank case ruled Thursday that the documentation, which was confiscated from the said bank by SFOR in April 2001, would be used in the process against former member of BiH Presidency, Ante Jelavic. Judge Malcolm Simmons, who presides the Panel, explained that the documentation was seized in accordance with the law and decision by the High Representative for BiH. Moreover, Judge Simmons has requested Prosecutor John McNair to make a statement of Provisional Administrator for Hercegovacka bank, Toby Robinson, by Friday, November 5, about which she would testify later in the process. The continuation of trials is scheduled for November 10, when Robinson is to continue to testify.</p> <p>Dnevni List, pg 2 ‘Prosecution gathering additional documentation against Jelavic’, mentioned on front, by <u>Erna Mackic</u> – Notes that Judge Simmons has requested from Prosecutor McNair to gather all the documentation and evidence, which should be at disposal of Jelavic’s lawyer by next Friday. McNair noted that all documents needed to be translated from English, whilst some documents had to be translated into English.</p> <p>Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 15 ‘Prosecutor gets a break to find evidence!?’ , mentioned on front, by <u>Zlatko Tulic</u> – Notes that Judge Simmons at one point asked Prosecutor McNair whether he had new witness or evidence he could present the court with, which according to SD, came as a surprise to McNair, who stated that at the moment he had no new evidence, asking for a recess until November 11. McNair noted that he needed a recess in order to gather evidence, which triggered Jelavic’s lawyer to ask the Panel of Judges what the Prosecution had been doing in past nine months during which his client had been in custody.</p>
--	--

<p>SB: 'So far witnesses and Prosecutor McNair still have not charged Ante Jelavic with anything'</p>	<p>Slobodna Bosna, pgs. 30-31 'So far witnesses and Prosecutor McNair still have not charged Ante Jelavic with anything' by <u>Suzana Mijatovic</u> – The article brings an overview of the trial in "Hercegovacka Banka" case saying that, judging everything, Ante Jelavic will at the end suffer the most severe incriminations in this case. The article also carries bits of testimonies of former OHR ACCU member Jaakko Christensen, Director of the FBiH Banking Agency Zlatko Bars, Associate for safety issues of the FBiH Defense Minister Ivo Kulis and temporary administrator of "Hercegovacka Banka" Toby Robinson. According to SB, Robinson has complimented the work of the former Director of "Hercegovacka Banka" Ivica Karlovic. She also confirmed a document signed by Wolfgang Petritsch, which explained reasons for introducing a temporary administration, was authentic.</p> <p>The lawyer of Ante Jelavic has filed a complaint in relation to legitimacy of the process of collecting of evidence. The article concludes by wondering whether the Court council members would reject or accept the complaint and says that, should the Council accept the complaint, Prosecutor John McNair would not be able to use a single evidence from a financial report of the Temporary Administration.</p>
--	---

<p>CIPS claims issuance of documents not temporary halted</p>	<p>RTRS, Dnevni List pg 6 'There is no suspension in issuing of CIPS documents' by D. Pusic, Oslobođenje cover, pgs 4-5 'Exchanging of ID cards had not been stopped' by A. Omeragic – According to the information coming from CIPS spokesperson Sanela Turkovic, issuing of documents is ongoing without any problems and this process has never been suspended. DL says that in this way they denied information that issuing of documents for persons whose documents were processed by the October 26 was stopped. She added that the revision of some documents has been underway and the reason for doing the revision was to determine falsified documents issued based on irregular personal data and false registry numbers (maticni broj). According to Turkovic, in order to prevent such activates, BiH Prosecutor's office started investigation in September this year on suspected persons and announced linkage between police date bases with CIPS offices.</p> <p>RHB – BIH Minister of Civil affairs Safet Halilovic approved a verification process of CIPS documents ordered by BIH Prosecution. RHB claims issuance of CIPS documents has been temporary ceased in some areas.</p> <p>Glas Srpske pg 2 'Officials working at full capacity' by V. Janjic, BHT 1 – BHT 1 also says that issuance of CIPS documents has been stopped in some post offices of BiH, adding that the CIPS Directorate claims they have not demanded so. With regard to misuses around the project, CIPS says that they don't have enough staff members to intensify control. <i>"We were assured that citizens won't suffer because of investigation, so we assumed that time period of issuing documents won't be prolonged or extended,"</i> said State Prosecutor, Ahmed Halebic.</p> <p>FTV – "Issued documents will be revised as well, and this is only for two risky groups, persons which get new registry number through CIPS project and there is about 7500 such persons and other group is persons which get their registry number in former Yugoslavia , and there is about 16.500 such persons," stated Sanela Turkovic.</p>
--	---

<p>Solana: EU wants police at the state level</p>	<p>RTRS, Oslobođenje, pg. 6 'Declaration on unified police forces in BiH' by Fena, Glas Srpske pg 2 'Solana supports one police' <u>no signed</u>, Nezavisne Novine cover 'A single police was proposed in the Declaration' and pg. 3 'The Commission will propose a single police' by <u>M. Cubro</u>— BiH Police Restructuring Commission met in Brussels on Thursday with senior officials of the European Union, High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy, Javier Solana and European Commissioner for External Affairs, Chris Patten. During the meetings, the PRC presented the EU with the Declaration expressing firm commitment to fulfill its mandate to recommend a single structure of policing in BiH.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'EU wants police at the state level' by <u>S.Numanovic – E.Sarac</u> – Javier Solana noted that the PRC had a historical opportunity to show the EU that BiH was serious about its European reform agenda – and its commitment to effective policing. The PRC has been asked to design a single state level structure for BiH's police. <i>"This means that political oversight should be exercised by the Ministry of Security at the State level, which must maintain full responsibility for all legislation relating to police, and for funding the police"</i>, said Solana. <i>"The State could devolve other functions to the lower levels of government, and that is for the PRC to decide upon – based on what works best from a law-enforcement perspective"</i>, he said adding <i>"You must be guided by what is needed for effective law enforcement, not by politics – in the modern world we cannot afford anything less"</i>. A review of police functionality in BiH conducted by the EU and presented in July this year, found BiH's police forces to be divided, over staffed, under-resourced, and unable to operate between BiH's two entities. BiH's law enforcement agencies cannot at the moment effectively tackle crime within BiH's own borders. The source close to the Police commission told DA that Darko Matijasevic, RS MoI, and Radomir Njegus, RS Police Director, still oppose the unification of the police at the state level. DA adds that however, it is expected for them to eventually agree on this.</p> <p>Dnevni List pg 5 'Efficient implementation of Law and not politics' by <u>NINA</u>, – also reported.</p>
--	--

<p>NN interview with SIPA Director Lukac</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine, cover and pg. 11 'SIPA will determine fast whether there are any terrorists in BiH' by <u>A. Susic</u> – SIPA Director Dragan Lukac says that statements of individuals saying there are terrorist organisations in BiH are putting this country in a bad situation. He neither confirmed nor denied any evidence in relation to this issue. He, however, did say that the issue should be fully investigated, defined and labelled with a correct name. He also said SIPA has been working for some time now on collecting of data on crime and he says that SIPA is functioning in reality, although in a limited capacity. With regard to police reform, Lukac said SIPA would remain on the state level of managing and police businesses. <i>'Nothing will change with regard to SIPA'</i>, he said.</p>
---	--

Economic issues

<p>CoM in session: changes on Law on Concession Commission adopted</p>	<p>RHB, Dnevni List, pg 6 'BiH Presidency getting one more car', by <u>Erna Mackic</u> – The BiH Council of Ministers, at a session held on Thursday, determined a Proposal of law on changes to the law on concessions. According to BiH Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Dragan Doko, the changes stipulate that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Commission for concessions, in its first mandate (5 years), are to be appointed by the BiH Council of Ministers, namely by the Chairman of BiH CoM, Adnan Terzic. Doko explained that despite the fact the Commission for concessions was appointed by the BiH Parliament in June 2004, the Commission was yet to meet since it had no Chairman. Furthermore, the BiH CoM has approved the BiH Presidency to spend 70.000 KMs from the budget reserves, and according to Doko, the money will be used to buy a vehicle for the needs of Chairman of BiH Presidency, Borislav Paravac.</p> <p>BHT 1, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Members of Concession Commission to be appointed by HR after all' by <u>F. Cardzic</u>– also covered.</p>
---	--

**FBiH Govt
officials
visit
Aluminij**

Dnevni List pg 3 'Resolving of Aluminij issue without arbitrage', mentioned on cover, by NINA – The Federation of BiH Government delegation met in Mostar on Thursday with the leadership of Aluminij company. FBiH Minister **Dragan Vrankic**, who also attended these talks, stated: *'Among the other things, we talked about the ownership structure in Aluminij and concluded that this is a political issue to a large extent, while, on the other hand we concluded that we have to find high-quality solutions respecting the laws and that we should treat in the same way all the companies in the FBiH no matter whether they are in Zenica, Tuzla, Bihac or Mostar.'* He added that both sides showed certain mood for reaching an agreement without arbitrage. **Vecernji List** pg 2 'New challenge before Mostar's giant' by M. Relota carries a statement given by FBiH Prime Minister **Ahmet Hadzipasic** prior to the aforementioned meeting in which Hadzipasic expressed hope that the FBiH Government and Aluminij will reach an agreement.

Dnevni Avaz, pg. 4 'Solution for "Aluminij" should be sought for aside an arbitrage as well' not signed, **FTV**, **BHT 1** – also covered.

<p>Update to ITA operation</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje, pg. 6 ‘Indirect Taxation Agency to be opened’ by Fena– The High Representative, Paddy Ashdown visits Banja Luka today to attend the official opening ceremony of the Indirect Taxation Administration’s HQ. OHR Spokeswoman in Banja Luka, Ljiljana Radetic , reminded that the timely establishment of the ITA and implementation of reforms in the field of indirect taxation is one of the pre-requisites for start of the accession negotiations with European Union, as specified in EU Feasibility Study.</p> <p>RTRS – The Indirect Taxation Administration of BiH with the head office in Banja Luka will officially start working tomorrow. RTRS says that approximately 1000 people will lose their jobs once the entity customs administrations unite into one. Kemal Causevic, ITA Director, says that 50% of people from current customs administration will lose their jobs adding that about 700 people will be recruited from entity tax administrations. ITA BIH will employ 2224 people in total, and Causevic explains that at the moment IUTA has 193 staff members with however insufficient qualifications and the new statute does not allow these people to work. On the other hand according to the statute ITA will need more lawyers than it has at the moment.</p> <p>Employees that do not have necessary qualifications will receive severance pay.</p>
---	---