OHR BiH Media Round-up, 29/12/2005

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on **29 December**

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	**BH Radio 1** (12,00 hrs)
BiH CoM's session	Parliaments discuss budget
FBiH HoR's session	World news
FBiH HoP's session	Weather

TV news broadcast on **28 December**

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	**TV PINK** (18,00 hrs)	**BHT 1** (19,00 hrs)
SAA talks, EUPM, FBiH budget	Search for Mladic continues	RSNA on RS budget
RS transferred defence authorities	Tadic on search for Mladic	FBiH HoR not adopted budget
Military cooperation with Ukraine	Radovanovic on Mladic's supporters	SIPA arrested one for war crimes
Croatian help to G. Vakuf-Uskoplje	Terzic meets Davidovic	Mladic receiving SCG Army pension

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	**FTV** (19,30 hrs)	**RTRS** (19,30 hrs)
Passing of FBiH Budget postponed	FBiH HoR on budget	Suspected war criminal arrested
RSNA still hasn't passed Budget	RSNA on budget	RS NA on proposed RS budget
No increases of bread prices	State budget adopted	RS NA on RS budget, update
Successes of "Milkos" company	FBiH unemployment rate increases	RS transferred defence authorities

Oslobodjenje	Belgrade wants to sell all Embassies and residences
Dnevni Avaz	[SBS] We have arrested 386 persons from arrest warrants
Dnevni List	Weapon obtained in Ukraina and Albania?!
Vecernji List	6 years old boy charged with robbery
Slobodna Dalmacija	Authority 'moves' Posusje and Grude to Siroki Brijeg
Nezavisne Novine	Customs for goods from EU will be abolished in ten years
Glas Srpske	Troubles at table *[feature story on beneficiaries of public kitchen in Vlasenica]*
EuroBlic	**More money to Hague indictees than to families of killed soldiers**
Vecernje novosti	**Features Serbian related titles**

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY	
RSNA discusses budget; Govt adopted amendments to budget	**BH Radio 1** – RS National Assembly is in session today to discuss the RS proposed budget. **SRNA**– Addressing the RSNA, RS Finance Minister, **Svetlana Cenic**, stated that the Government has adopted numerous amendments to the proposed 2006 budget submitted by the caucuses and assembly's boards. The amendments require increased funds for the disability pensions and housing case for vulnerable categories of population. She also confirmed that following SDA, SDP and NHI demands, the funds for ICTY indictees have been reduced for 150.000 KM. Government also adopted SDA's request to reconstruct Ferhadija mosque in Banja Luka and Aladza mostque in Foca.
BiH CoM in session	**BH Radio1, RHB**– The BiH CoM would discuss today a proposal of the law on amendments to the Law on VAT. They would also discuss a proposal of the decision on guidelines for organizing and work of the negotiating team and working groups for the SAA negotiations between BiH and the EC.
FBiH HoP in session	**BH Radio1, RHB**– The FBiH HoP's session takes place today and they would discuss a budget for 2006.
FBiH Govt adopts VAT social program	**FENA** – FBiH Government today adopted the measures to alleviate consequences of the VAT introduction for the most vulnerable categories of population.

Budgetary issues/ VAT	
RSNA to continue session on budget today; media speculate SDA to provide key votes	**PINK, Oslobodjenje** pg 7 'Millions ensure votes in favour of budget' by O. Vukovic – Following the discussion on the RS proposed budget for 2006 which lasted until the evening, the RS National Assembly Speaker **Dusan Stojicic** interrupted the session scheduling its continuation for Thursday morning when the representatives are expected to vote on the issue. RS Minister of Finance **Svetlana Cenic** presented the new proposal of 2006 budget to the RSNA on Wednesday morning in amount of 1,059 billion KM. It includes increased funds for support of return, construction of apartments for war disabled person, high schools, airports, prisons and RS Ministry of Interior. On request of RSNA members, the finances for the parliament have been increased too. A number of amendments to the budget were filed. To date, the only support to the budget comes from the SDS and SRS, while SNSD, PDP, SDP, SDA and Party for BiH are probably going to reject it. If the proposal is not adopted by RSNA, RS Government will adopt the decision on temporary financing. Commenting the proposal, PDP's **Veselin Poljasevic** said that RS Government can't make any proposals on budget before it decides on a proper economic policy. SDA will not vote in favour of the proposed budget, says **Tarik Sadovic**: "*SDA Caucus has no reason to save this Government and its budget proposal. We think it's the responsibility or irresponsibility of so called Serb majority*." Media speculate that SDA votes are to decide on the issue. Daily adds that SDA has demanded more money for returnees to RS and money for reconstruction of 'Ferhadija' and 'Aladza' mosques, and questioned the decision of the RS Government to finance the ICTY indictees. SNSD leader **Milorad Dodik** announces the initiative for launching a non-confidence vote to the Government, but added he first wants to see what is to happen with the budget and subsequent reaction of RS President **Dragan Cavic** and SDS. **BHT 1 –** Dodik rejected allegations that SNSD wants changes at the state level. **FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje** pg 7 'Millions ensure votes in favour of budget' by O. Vukovic, **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Discussion on the budget' not signed, **EuroBlic** pg RS2 'Battle for the budget' by R. Radosavljevic – also covered.

RSNA discusses budget without looking into economic policy; Jakovljevic expelled from SBiH over budget issue	**Hayat** by ATV– Reporter notes that the RSNA refused to discuss the RS Economic Policy for 2006, which was peculiar for newly turned opposition party, PDP. *"I simply do not know based on what, if there is no economic policy, the Government could propose the Budget. Only at random,"* said **Veselin Poljasevic,** Head of PDP Caucus. *"Government will not improve its capacity even if the Budget is passed, being that objectively it has no support and can bare such shame as it was during the last two sessions,"* said **Milorad Dodik**, President of SNSD. ATV says that example of such 'shameful' events was the case of **Milosava Jakovljevic**, who was expelled form the Party for BiH and moved to independent reps after she decided to support the Government, nothing this is the best Government RS ever had. Reporter mentioned that radical change of stances is frequent in RSNA, stressing that while it was never proved many speculate that money is a reason. Jakovljevic denied this was her case, but head of SBiH Caucus **Dzevad Osmancevic** is not rejecting this possibility, stressing that this would not the first time.
NN: Terzic appealed on SDA to vote in favour of RS budget	**Nezavisne novine** pg 3 'SDA to reach a final decision', announced on cover 'Neither SDS nor SNSD have the majority, SDA votes will decide' by V. Popovic – Reports on the situation at RS Government and situation regarding the adoption of draft 2006 RS budget and reads SDA's **Adnan Terzic** denied he had called SDA Caucus at RS NA adding that all delegates that have supported RS Government should support the budget as well, in order not to bring in question BiH's journey to Euro-Atlantic integrations. SDA's **Sadik Ahmetovic** stated Terzic had appealed on those who have elected RS Government to vote for the budget.

Budgetary users demand increased funds	**BHT1** by Tanja Alavuk – RS Trade Union President **Ranka Misic** said she has been disappointed with the proposed budget, since there is not enough money in the social program for the workers fired in the course of the privatisation process. **RTRS** by Nada Arlov – Report by Gordana Cimesa – Representative of RS PoWs Association **Savo Cvjetinovic** stressed that disability pensions must be increased. **Obrad Belenzada** from the RS Federation of Trade Unions called on RS Government to reduce all the budget items for five percent, and to transfer surplus money to the account of RS Pension Disability-Insurance Fund for workers who lost their job.
DL: 'Milorad Dodik has concept of new RS Government'	**Dnevni List** pg 5 'Milorad Dodik has concept of new RS Government' SNSD President **Milorad Dodik** stated on Wednesday that when the RS Government led by **Pero Bukejlovic** gets a vote of no-confidence SNSD would come up with a concept for forming the new RS Government. He added: '*If we get the support for this initiative we shall take over the Government and if we do not get the support we shall not*.' He also said that SNSD does not want the authority but changes.

FBIH HoR without vote on budget; continuation of session today	**BHT1, RTRS, Hayat, Dnevni Avaz** pg 10 'Decision on the budget today', **Oslobodjenje** pg 7 'Decision on budget today', 'Vote [on Energopetrol] postponed', **Dnevni List** pg 2 'New way of distribution of incomes accepted' not signed, **Vecernji List** pg 5 'New way of distribution of incomes in FBiH' by E. Medunjanin – FBiH House of Representatives postponed for Thursday the discussion on the discussion on the report filed by the FBiH Parliamentary Commission for harmonizing the laws, which on Wednesday harmonized the final text of the FBiH budget for 2006. The Commission has rejected the amendments previously adopted by the HoR and HoP, endorsing the FBiH Govt's proposal. FBiH Government proposed the budget in total amount of one billion and 136 millions, but previously adopted amendments require additional 15 millions KM. The HoR also asked the FBIH Government to prepare the decision on temporary financing in case the representatives do not adopt the proposed budget at the session today. FBiH Prime Minister **Ahmet Hadzipasic** warned HoR that in that case those there would be no money to finance those who are to become the budgetary beneficiaries next years, such as civilian invalids and victims of the war. The voting on Government's proposal on renouncing 67 percent of Energopetrol to the Croatian-Hungarian consortium INA-MOL has been postponed as well. **FTV** – SDA's **Irfan Ajanovic** expressed his hopes that FBiH will get its budget after the New Year, since, as he claimed, BiH Finance and Treasury Minister **Ljerka Maric**said there is a possibility for budget to be adopted by January 15. Ajanovic added that RS has also not adopted the budget adding this wouldn't influence the VAT instalment. **Slobodna Dalmacija** last pg 'Without budget in 2006?' by F, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 2, announced on cover 'Joint commission rejected all amendments' by R. Cengic – also report.

FBiH HoR postpones discussion on Energopetrol	**Hayat** by Elma Kazagic– FBiH Parliament's House of Representatives has postponed the discussion on "Energopetrol", whereas at the time of agenda item discussion majority of HDZ members weren't present and majority of SDA Representatives have left the session. However, quorum was provided but the HoR nevertheless postponed discussion. Ruling parties asked for more information and additional documents and FBiH HoR delegate **Irfan Ajanovic** stressed that more time should be given in order to pass the right decision. Hayat says that it was peculiar for the initiator of this session BOSS' **Mirnes Ajanovic** to also ask for delay in vote justifying requesting with a need to obtain additional documents to determine the legality of FBiH Government's decision. HoR representatives also expect that name of new FBiH Minister of Industry, Energetic and Mining to be known soon, and they have instructed FBiH President and two Vice Presidents to fulfil their constitutional obligation and submit the decision on appointment of previously nominated candidate. Party for BiH has nominated **Vahid Heco**, but that FBiH President **Niko Lozancic** has never submitted this proposal to the Parliament.
Oslobodjenje: VAT fear and euphoria without reason; press/books to be exempted; VL: prices can go up by 5 %	**Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'Fear and euphoria without reason', mentioned on cover, A. Omeragic – According to the daily, the prices in shops have started being increased even before official introduction of VAT. As traders blame suppliers for increased prices, suppliers are saying that the traders and their intention to gain extra profit are to be blamed for such a trend. Inset 'Press and books without VAT' – The Indirect Taxation Administration Steering Board approved exemption of final products in printing sector (press, books…) from VAT. Qs and As were collected during a number of seminars on VAT. **Vecernji List** pgs 4 and 5 'Prices can go up by 5 %' by D. Jazvic carries on the same issue that prices of most products should not go higher than 5 %. **Hayat**By Semsudin Skejic– In an interview to Hayat, Klas Executive Director **Alija Sabanovic**, confirmed they would not increase the price of bread due to VAT. **Glas Srpske** published a special inset on 12 pages containing questions and answers about VAT.

RS Minister of Trades and Tourism Gaspar: increases in prices up to 5% after VAT introduction	**Glas Srpske** pg 6 'Increases in prices up to 5%' by D. Vrhovac-Mihajlovic – RS Minister of Trade and Tourism and member of RS Team for monitoring of prices after VAT introduction, **Boris Gaspar**, stated prognosis saying VAT would cause a chaos in prices of goods and services are exaggerated, because increases in prices would not be higher than 5%.
ITA: prices increases due to VAT that happened so far unjustified	**Dnevni List** pg 9, mentioned on cover 'Teams start with control of prices the first working day' by T. Primorac – ITA Spokesperson **Ratko Kovacevic** stated that all increases of prices due to the VAT introduction that have happened so far are not justified. He added: '*Citizens should report increase of prices that the ITA would register so that teams formed at the entity level can start with the control of prices the first working day.*'
FBiH PIO: welfare of pensioners to be improved due to VAT	**Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'Today in banks, postmen arriving tomorrow' by A.T. – Announcing the payment of the pensions in FBiH in December, the spokesperson for the FBiH Pension and Disability Fund [PIO], **Zarif Safic**, said that the Fund will hold session in January to review first results of the VAT introduction. Safic explained the PIO expects better financial discipline due to VAT and consequently improvements in welfare of pensioners. In addition, January pensions are to include an increase of 10KM as the assistance for alleviating VAT impact.

Osl: 'Belgrade wants to sell all Embassies and residences of former Yugoslavia'	**Oslobodjenje** cover pg splash and pgs 4 and 5 'Belgrade wants to sell all Embassies and residences' by A. Kalamujic carries that the SCiG Ministry of Foreign Affairs has proposed in mid December the sale of all Embassies, residences and flats succeeded from former Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia. According to an informal proposal from Belgrade that was sent to former Yugoslav Republics money from the sale would be distributed among the Republics according to already determined quotas. Osl. says that their value amounted to 270 millions KM 10 years ago, however, now it is much bigger. Osl. inset 'Poor calculations of BiH' says that the platform on distribution of the property of the former Yugoslavia adopted by the BiH Council of Ministers is full of omissions that reduces chances of BiH to profit in the whole issue.

Other political issues/ reforms	

Davidovic submits proposal of SAA working groups heads: Transition period should be 10 year long at most	**PINK** by Zeljko Mandic – The Chair of BiH Council of Ministers **Adnan Terzic** on Wednesday met with the state delegation for negotiations with the EC on the Stabilisation and Association Agreement. They debated on the issues that would be discussed at the first SAA negotiation meeting on 25 January. Chief Negotiator **Igor Davidovic** presented the nominations for heads of eight negotiation groups to be publicly presented after the Thursday's session of BiH CoM, when the Council of Ministers should adopt directives for the talks. Davidovic said that he is very satisfied with all nominated heads of working groups, stressing that all of them are great professionals and added that the state delegation has also adopted the proposed platform for the negotiations. He also stated that the negotiation groups are going to consist of professionals and experts in different fields. Commenting the transition period, Davidovic said that it can't be longer than 10 years, but he expressed his intentions to make it as short as possible. BiH Mission to EU Chief **Lidija Topic** also added that EU gave BiH a promise that this period should last not more than ten years, leaving to BiH authorities to set the upper limit. **Nezavisne novine** cover pg splash and pg 4 'Customs for goods from EU will be abolished in ten years' by M. Cubro – Davidovic added he also expects the customs fees for goods from EU to be abolished in 10 years. **BHT1** – Party for BiH's **Beriz Belkic** thinks that the public should have taken part into a debate on this issue. Belkic doubts that professionalism has been the criteria for choosing candidates; he thinks that it would be a matter of inter-party compromises. **RTRS, FTV, Hayat, RHB, Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'Transition period will be no longer than 10 years!', mentioned on cover, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Davidovic presented proposals on heads of groups', **Vecernji List** pg 4 'Grounds for negotiations with EC harmonized' by D. Jazvic– also covered.

BiH Presidency in session: agreement on dual citizenship with Croatia accepted	**RHB, PINK, BHT1, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje** pg 4 'Agreement on dual citizenship with Croatia', **Slobodna Dalmacija** last pg 'Agreement on Double Citizenship between BiH and Croatia accepted' by B. Kristo, **Dnevni List** pg 2 'Agreement on double citizenship with Croatia adopted' by D. Polovina-Mandic, **Vecernji List** pg 3 'Agreement with Croatia as with SCiG' by D. Jazvic, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 2 'Defence reform is the most important event' by A. Sisic, **Glas Srpske** pg 5 'From negotiators to fight of football fans' by Fena – BiH Presidency has held its last session in this year, during which they discussed issues of BiH Central Bank and agreement on dual-citizenship. By decision of BiH Presidency, all members of BiH CB Steering Board are domestic staff, where current member **Peter Nichol** will be replaced by **Mehmed Jahic**. Member of BiH Presidency **Sulejman Tihic** said that this is a good example and guideline for other Institutions. During this session agreement on dual-citizenship with Croatia was passed, while Tihic summarised the 2005 year, stressing that there was more positive then negative issues, as it was the taking of oath of recruits in Manjaca. Tihic stated that 2006 should be successful as this one was. *"We expect the signing of the agreement on closing of the contract with the EU and for BiH to become the candidate for membership, that is, so to say, our most important strategic determination. We expect for war criminals to be arrested and for BiH to become member of PfP and to implement remaining parts of defence reform, in order to become members of NATO in 2008,"* said Tihic. BiH Presidency has also adopted the decision extending the mandate of the EUPM mission in BiH for another two years. During its session RSNA has passed Amendments to RS Constitution, which are transferring RS authorities on defence to BiH level.

RSNA transfers defence authorities to the state level	**RTRS** by Biljana Knezevic – Representatives in the RS National Assembly have adopted on Wednesday the amendments to the Constitution, which means that this entity no longer has the authorities in the field of defence. Constitutional authorities in the field of defence will be officially transferred to the state level on January 1, 2006. Since RS Ministry of Defence will cease to exist on January 1, representatives decided that current Minister of Defence **Milovan Stankovic** would be the member of the RS Government as the minister without portfolio. Although the adoption of those amendments marks the end of the defence reform process, RSNA representatives once again discussed the justifiability of terminating the RS Ministry of Defence and RS Army. "*It is the fact that all the completed processes boils down to the same thing – the need to transfer Dayton authorities from RS to the state level*", stated SRS' **Milanko Mihajlica**. "*It is not good to terminate its own army, and it is not good to create joint army. History teaches us that it is not a good thing*", stated **Milan Lazic** from the SRS 'Dr. **Vojislav Seselj**'. "*We truly believe that the demilitarisation is the best thing for an invalid country such as BiH*", stated DNS **Drago Kalabic**. SNSD representatives also agree with this statement; SNSD leader **Milorad Dodik** stressed that now the most important thing is to preserve the institution of the tripartite BiH Presidency. **RTS** [Serbian state TV], **BK TV**, **RHB, Hayat, FTV**, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 5 'As of 1 January, RS Army and Defence Ministry abolished', **Dnevni List** pg 7 'RS authorities in area of defence erased' not signed, **Vecernji List** pg 2 'RS Ministry of Defence abolished' by B. Stevandic, **Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 8 'RS left without Army' by A.M., **Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'Defence was transferred to BiH level' by V. P., **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Army, at ease!' by G. Dakic and Z. Markovic, **EuroBlic** pg RS2 'Lesser competences' by Srna – also covered.

RS CoP accepts defence amendments to RS Constitution, but urges RSNA to respect procedures in future	**RTRS** by Sanja Popovic – RS Council of Peoples (CoP) has adopted the amendments to the RS Constitution, which transfer the authorities in the field of defence to the state level. By adopting those amendments, RS President lost the right to command over RS armed forces. Delegates in the RS CoP urged representatives in the RSNA to obey the constitutional procedure in the future, and to adopt the amendments before discussing some higher acts. "*In this particular case everything has been agreed and changed before constitutional amendments were adopted. We believe that this is irresponsible… If RS NA does not obey its own regulations and the Constitution, than who will?*" stated RS Council of Peoples Co-chair **Miroslav Mikes**.
Radovanovic: Next year is crucial for BiH	**Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'Next year is crucial for BiH' – BiH Defense Minister **Nikola** Radovanovic declared that 2005 will be one of the crucial years. "*2006 is defined through the Law on Defense in the segment that speaks about transition. We have clear deadlines and commitments. There are several important dates, and the first one is January 1 2006 that will mark termination of the Entity defense ministries and the Entity armies*", Minister Radovanovic told Fena.
Draft law on higher education sent to procedure	**BHT1, Hayat, Dnevni List** pg 4 'Draft law on higher education sent to procedure' not signed, **Vecernji List** pg 3 'Law on higher education in procedure' by ra, **Nezavisne novine** pg 6 'The Law before delegates in January' by M. R., **Glas Srpske** pg 3 'A framework for high education' by Srna, **EuroBlic** pg RS2 'The law in procedure' not signed– BiH Ministry of Civil Affairs has submitted proposal of Law on High Education, which was drafted by working group, stated the Cabinet of BiH Minister of Civil Affairs **Safet Halilovic**. It is expected that CoM will pass the proposal of this Law at its next session.

DA interview with A. Terzic on property relations with Croatia , SAA negotiations	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 5 'Stamps on flour are being introduced', mentioned on cover 'We shall prevent smuggling of flour in BiH' by S. Numanovic – DA learns that during the next year BiH will introduce a special kind of stamps on imported flour in order to help domestic producers of flour and bread and in order to protect the BiH market of the flour of poor quality coming from abroad. In an interview given to DA Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers **Adnan Terzic** confirmed this intention and announced similar measures in other segments although he could not say precisely as to when these measures would come into force. Talking about the issue of property relations with Croatia Terzic, among the other things, says: *'If the change in the RS Government takes place then the reform processes in BiH as well as the issue of the property relations between BiH and Croatia would be prolonged.'* Terzic also says that he is convinced that BiH can secure that the EC does not stop the negotiations on the SAA. He added: *'As early as on January 15 we shall have the first round of talks and then the EC would demand to meet conditions for further continuation of the negotiations. We shall appoint the Police Reform Directorate on Thursday in order to respect the deadline. The Law on Public RTV Service has been harmonized. It would be published after the New Year and then its implementation follows.'* Terzic also said that he does not believe that Brussels would interpret the RS Government's decision to finance ICTY indictees and members of their families as a support to the cooperation with the ICTY.

Tihic on BiH's membership in EU, NATO: BiH should sign SAA in 2006	**Dnevni List** pg 2 'To become candidate for membership in EU' not signed – BiH Presidency member **Sulejman Tihic** expects BiH in 2006 to sign a Stabilization and Association Agreement with the EU and become a candidate for membership in this European association. 'In 2006, we expect to see the apprehensions of the remaining indicted war criminals in the run and for BiH to join the Partnership for Peace, and continuation of implementation of other segments of defence reform so that we could join NATO in 2008, which is realistic if we keep up the current pace', Tihic told a press conference after the BiH Presidency session.
BHT 1 on PB laws: Deadline for entities' adoption 5 January	**BHT1** Mediha Adrovic – European Commission will overview the adoption and implementation the last condition from the Feasibility Study – Law on PBS, said the presenter, adding that the deadline for adoption of this law at the entity level is January 6. FBiH Government has fulfilled its obligation by adopting draft law on FBiH PBS. FBiH Prime Minister **Ahmet Hadzipasic** said that the FBiH Government wants the founder of FBiH PBS to be the FBiH House of Representatives. FBiH HoR has still not voted on this issue, though the deadline is very close, comments the reporter. RS Government has adopted draft law on RS PBS; it still has to be adopted in RSNA. State and entity laws on PBS have to be harmonized within sixty days from the day it takes effects.

SDP on defense, police and tax system reforms: police reform complete failure	**Oslobodjenje** pgs 4-5 'Unsuccessful efforts to implement reforms marked 2005', **Dnevni List** pg 6 'Armed forces cannot guarantee security of country' by M. Zorlak carries that **Karlo Filipovic** from SDP expressed the opinion of this party with regard to the defense, police and tax reforms. Filipovic said that SDP believes that the defense reform has been completed relatively successfully, while the police reform was a complete failure. Talking about the tax system reform, SDP welcomes an important step ahead that was made and which is obvious in the beginning of the VAT application.
Candidates for Police Reform Directorate's Executive Board not yet selected	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 2 'Candidates for the Executive Board still not elected' – Member of the BiH Council of Minister's Commission, **Mehmed Zilic**, stated that this body has not yet selected 10 candidates for the positions in the Executive Board of the Police Reform Directorate as several cantons are still expected to submit their proposals. Zilic deems that the CoM will receive the proposals before its session today. The deadline to appoint the members of the Executive Board, which is to be in charge of drafting the laws related to the police reform, is 31 December.
VN op-ed comparing reforms in RS and Kosovo: two armies, two directions	**Vecernje Novosti** op-ed pg 2 'Two armies, two directions' by Djuro Bilbija – the author refers to the transfer of competences from RS onto BiH level, which he believes to be a result of pressures of the international community, and notes that, at the same time, the international community authorised Albanian authorities in Pristine (Kosovo) to establish a temporary Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Justice of Kosovo. The author wonders why no official representative from Banja Luka had asked the question: "If Kosovo can be independent, or – independent in principles, then why couldn't RS have the same?"

Danas: 'US-German agreement on BiH: We want new authority'	**Danas** cover pg splash 'US-German agreement on BiH: We want new authority' and pgs 14-17 'Unified state with new authority with withering away of entities' by Z. Jukic – Sources close to the British and German Embassies in BiH reveal that diplomacies of these two countries have reached a full consensus on BiH. Danas believes that new High Representative **Christian Schwarz-Schilling** and US Ambassador to BiH **Douglas McElhaney** would work together in BiH in the same way as former HR **Wolfgang Petritsch** and former US Ambassador **Thomas Miller** used to do. Danas also says that the USA and Germany with the open support of some western countries and Vatican have made the plan on the ground of which they would make a functional state out of BiH. According to the weekly's source both countries agreed that in the first package of the constitutional changes the entities should not be abolished since this would de-stabilize the situation in the region, however, they are determined to create conditions that in the planned, second package of the constitutional changes, that is to take place in a few years, would result in the abolishment of the entities. The source also reveals that the USA and Germany would do everything that the change of the authority in BiH takes place. Danas also says that the US-German agreement resulted in the election of Schwarz-Schilling for the new HR.

Danas: 'Christian Schwarz-Schilling will carry out thorough purges in OHR'	**Danas** pg 8 'Christian Schwarz-Schilling will carry out thorough purges in OHR' – Danas sources reveal that new High Representative **Christian Schwarz-Schilling** will make through purges in the OHR Sarajevo. The same sources say that HR **Paddy Ashdown** installed in the OHR Sarajevo domestic and foreign cadres of suspicious past and suspicious behavior who are involved in various espionage, corruption and criminal affairs. The sources added that in order to get the support of domestic officials for *'his shameful deeds'* Ashdown was hiring close associates of some political parties' leaders.

War crimes	
SIPA arrests war crimes suspect in Konjic	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Huso Soko Alic arrested under the BiH Prosecution order' – SIPA have arrested one person suspected for committing war crimes against the civilians at the territory of Konjic municipality. BiH Prosecutor's Office has issued the warrant for this arrest. The daily learns that the person arrested in Konjic on Wednesday on suspicion of involvement in war crimes is **Huso Soko Alic**. SIPA officers did not want to confirm this information. **RTRS, BHT1, FTV, Hayat, Oslobodjenje** pg 4 'War crimes suspect locked up', **Nezavisne Novine** pg 4 'War crimes indictee was arrested in Konjic' by D. Mu. – also reports on the arrest, but without revealing the identity.

Families of killed soldiers, pensioners criticize the RS Govt's decision to financially help Hague indictees who have surrendered or have been arrested	**EuroBlic** cover pg splash 'More money to Hague indictees than to families of killed soldiers' and pgs RS2-3 'Hague indictee four times more valuable than a killed soldier' by Mirna Soja – The Chairman of the RS Association of Families of Killed Soldiers and Missing Civilians, **Zarko Radic**, Head of "Pomoc" Foundation **Milorad Kalamanda** and Chairman of RS Association of Pensioners **Rade Rakulj** all agree that the decision of RS Government with regard to payments to Hague indictees from RS who have surrender or have been arrested was unrealistic. Radic and Rakulj especially pointed on the fact such payments would be considerably higher than payments to families of killed and missing persons or payments to pensioners.
AP: Mladic in Russia?	**EuroBlic** pgs 4-5 'Mladic's safety net cracked', announced on cover 'Mladic in Russia?' by Tanja Nikolic-Djakovic – AP reported western countries' diplomats in Belgrade believe Mladic is moving on relation between Serbia and RS. BiH Defence Minister **Nikola Radovanovic** says more than 40 former and current members of RS Army are a part of Mladic's support network. AP also reported police have intercepted Mladic's phone call and says there is a possibility Mladic made this phone call from Russia. **Glas srpske** pg 3 'A call from Russia?' by AP – also reported

Serbian President Tadic: I have no information saying we are close to resolving “Mladic” case	**RHB, PINK, Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 ‘I have no information saying we are close to resolving “Mladic” case’ by Beta – Serbian President **Boris Tadic** denied the media speculations that Serbian authorities know where ICTY indictee **Ratko Mladic** is currently, saying that intelligence information does not indicate that this case would be closed soon. Tadic added that so-called international intelligence community should be established in order to arrest Ratko Mladic, just like Croatia did in order to arrest fugitive general **Ante Gotovina**. **EuroBlic** pgs 4-5 ‘Mladic’s safety net cracked’, announced on cover ‘Mladic in Russia?’ by Tanja Nikolic-Djakovic, **Oslobodjenje** pg 3 ‘Several Mladic’s supporters discovered’ – also carries. **Oslobodjenje** pg 3 ‘Mladic’s file submitted to the ICTY 7-8 times’, mentioned on cover – The Chief Commander of the SCG Army HQ, **Ljubisa Jokic**, stated that the Army is fulfilling its obligations when it comes to the ICTY cooperation, but warns that **Ratko Mladic** – who is military pensioners – is, under the law, to be looked for by the Ministry of Interior. He added that the Army also meets its obligation by submitting documentation to the ICTY once or twice a year, adding that they have submitted the documentation on Mladic seven or eight time to date.

B92 Radio: Mladic's pensions were being collected on regular basis	**FTV, Nezavisne novine** pg 6 'Mladic pension was collected on regular basis' by B92 – Belgrade's B92 Radio reported that **Ratko Mladic's** pension was being collected until the last month. According to unofficial sources, two active SCG Army officers, besides Mladic's family, have been authorised to collect his pension check. According to the B92 source there is a large number of people close to Mladic working in the Military-Security Agency. **EuroBlic** pgs 4-5 'Mladic's safety net cracked', announced on cover 'Mladic in Russia?' by Tanja Nikolic-Djakovic inset 'He was receiving pensions', **Oslobodjenej** pg 3 – also reported.
Matijasevic: There is no evidences that Mladic and Karadzic are in RS	**RHB, Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'There is no evidences that Mladic and Karadzic are in RS', **Dnevni List** pg 5 'Cooperation with The Hague strategic issue' not signed – RS Minister of Interior **Darko Matijasevic** stated that the RS cooperation with The Hague Tribunal would not be completely satisfying until all the ICTY indictees end up in The Hague. Matijasevic reiterated that there are no evidences that most wanted ICTY indictees **Radovan Karadzic** and **Ratko Mladic** permanently or temporarily stay in RS.

Judicial issues, arrests, crime	

SBS Deputy Director Alagic on SBS results achieved in 2005: 386 persons from arrest warrants arrested in 9 months of this year	**Dnevni Avaz** cover pg splash 'We have arrested 386 persons from arrest warrants' and pg 3 '386 persons from arrest warrants arrested in 9 months of this year' by Aj. Delic carries Deputy Director of the State Border Service (SBS) **Vahid Alagic** who talks about the results that SBS has achieved during this year. According to Alagic, during the first 9 months of this year the SBS has arrested 386 persons, 502 persons have been prevented in illegal crossing of borders. Also 285 vehicles have been confiscated and 286 falsified documents. Alagic also said that currently they work in disastrous conditions and he says that 500 employees are necessary for more efficient work of the SBS.
Follow up to Zagreb arrests: Weapon obtained from Ukraine or Albania	**Dnevni List** cover pg splash and pg 5 'Weapon obtained in Ukraine and Albania' by A. Vrebac – With regard to two smugglers of weapon from Mostar who were arrested in Croatia, DL learns unofficially that the weapon was obtained either in Ukraine or Albania. Zagreb police confirmed on Tuesday that it has arrested two BiH citizens and confiscated 10 'Uzi' machine guns and ammunition.

SIPA raided premises of FBiH Ministry of Trade in Mostar	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Investigators took away huge documentation about 'Sipad', mentioned on cover 'SIPA raided Ministry of Trade' by F. Vele – According to the BiH Prosecution's order SIPA members raided premises of the FBiH Ministry of Trade and Tourism in Mostar on Wednesday. According to DA information they took away from this Ministry huge documentation with regard to company 'Sipad Export Import.
PBES case: Indictment being worked out by domestic prosecutors; witnesses to include Paravac, Cavic, Bosic, etc.	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'Indictment being worked out by domestic prosecutors; witnesses to include Paravac, Cavic, Bosic…' S. Turcalo – After BiH Court's pre-trial judge **Susan Moller** returned the indictment against actors of Eastern Sarajevo Privredna Bank affair to the State Prosecution as incomplete, the domestic prosecutors have been taken over the job although, officially, Prosecutor **Johnatan Rattel**, currently on leave, is still tasked with the case. The domestic prosecutors are expected to do a tough job since his international colleague Rattel has attached only one testimony to the indictment while he is intending to call some 60 witnesses. This means that by January 31 the prosecutors have to collect yet 59 testimonies. The list of witnesses includes former SDS leader **Dragan Kalinic**, current SDS and RS President **Dragan Cavic**, his deputy in the party **Mladen Bosic**, Serb member of the BiH Presidency **Borislav Paravac**…

Lawyers criticize BiH Court over PBES trial	**Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Following the Hague recipe?' by N. Zelenovic – Referring to PBES trial, lawyers **Dusko Tomic, Marko Arsovic** and **Rajko Bojat** have warned that, despite to domestic laws, BiH Court is gradually introducing the practice exercised in Hague Tribunal, according to which suspects are first arrested and collecting of evidence for raising and confirming an indictment follows only after this, while suspects are kept in detention.
OHR welcomes land allocation to state prison	**BHT1, Oslobodjenje pg Dnevni Avaz** pg 9 'Welcoming decision on allocating the land for state prison', **Dnevni List** pg 6 'Decision to allocate land to prison welcomed' by NINA – The OHR welcomes the Decision of the Municipal Assembly of East Ilidza, by which 120 acres of land were given for the construction of the BiH State Prison.
R. Sulic: 'OHR influenced court verdicts against policemen'	**Dnevni List** pg 8 'OHR influenced court verdicts against policemen' by D. Kozina carries President of the FBiH Association of De-certified Policemen **Ramo Sulic** who says that when some of de-certified policemen started to win the cases before domestic courts the OHR exerted pressure against the courts to suspend the trial in favor of the decertified policemen or to pass the verdict that is not in their favor.