

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 29/9/2004

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	BH TV 1 (19,00 hrs)	FED TV (19,30 hrs)	RT RS (19,30)
Hebrang in Siroki Brijeg	Paralympic gold for BiH	Child molesting case	HR in Siroki Brijeg
Terzic on Cavtat hospital	Cornea transplantation	15 exhumations in Seljani	Matijasevic on RS MoI
SFOR released Bjelica	Matijasevic on RS MoI	Prosper visited ICTY	Serbian MoI hunts Mladic
Covic in Novi Travnik	Serbian MoI hunts Mladic	Serb. MoI searching Mladic	Prosper in ICTY

Oslobodjenje	The hunt on Mladic has started ?!; On Friday, pensions for September and military pensions [to be disbursed]; Naser Oric ready for trial
Dnevni Avaz	Covic's immunity canceled; Ashdown: Vote!; Special police in hunt for Mladic
Dnevni List	Ashdown: Quality mayors needed
Vecernji List	Removal of Constitutional Court President
Slobodna Dalmacija	They offer Croats Republic within borders of Herzegovina
Nezavisne Novine	Milions of KM are blocked; Police Minister ordered arresting of the Hague indictees; Fuel becomes more expensive again; Business conducting of "Banja Luka Brewery" to be checked
Glas Srpske	Packing of Doris Pack; Serb Brod Refinery: processing to commence

EuroBlic	RS students protest over tuition amounting 600 KM
Vecernje novosti	There will be no Dayton 2; The stranglehold around Mladic?
Nacional	A warning-shot for Ratko Mladic; Karla awaits for Mladic

War crimes

<p>AP: Serbian police pursues Mladic</p>	<p>BHT 1, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'Special police from Serbia has launched big chase after Mladic', mentioned on cover 'Special police started with hunt on Mladic', Dnevni List pg 2 'Stranglehold around Mladic is getting tighter' by <u>NINA</u>, Nacional Belgrade daily, cover 'Warning shot for Ratko Mladic' and pg. 3 'Warning shot for Mladic' by <u>N. H. N.</u>, Vecernje Novosti, cover 'Stranglehold around Mladic?', pg. 3 'Is stranglehold around Mladic getting tighter?' <u>not signed</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg. 2 'Search for Mladic' by <u>AP</u>, EuroBlic, pg. 3 'The stranglehold around Mladic is getting tighter' by <u>E. B.</u> – According to <i>Associated Press</i>, an elite unit of Serbian police, with help of expert team from the West, are searching for Ratko Mladic in vicinity of Valjevo in Serbia. An anonymous officer has stated that an anti-terrorism unit has commenced the search for Mladic upon American and other intelligence information.</p> <p><i>'The stranglehold around Mladic is getting tighter'</i>, the officer has stated.</p> <p>Nacional Belgrade daily, cover 'Warning shot for Ratko Mladic' and pg. 3 'Warning shot for Mladic' by <u>N. H. N.</u> – The article carries a statement of a collocutor who has said that majority of the Serbian special police members would refuse to arrest their former commander and also says that it would be enough if only one of them "accidentally" fired a shot too early and let Mladic's security guards know something is wrong.</p> <p>Oslobodjenje cover splash, pg 2 'Hunt on Mladic started?!' by <u>Branislav Boskov</u> – Commenting to the claims presented in AP article, <i>Oslobodjenje</i> carries that its colleagues, journalists, from Radio Valjevo said that nothing dramatic is taking place.</p>
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<p>RS MoI Matijasevic: obligations towards ICTY will be met</p>	<p>RTRS, Nezavisne Novine, cover 'Police Minister ordered arresting of the Hague indictees' and pg. 2 'He ordered arresting of the Hague indictees' by <u>S. Karic</u>, Glas Srpske, pg. 2 'Crime as target' by <u>V. Janjic</u>, EuroBlic, pg. RS2 'I will fulfil tasks' by <u>Rajna Radosavljevic</u> – RS Minister of Interior Darko Matijasevic stated at his first press conference that he gave a clear order to MoI special units and units for operational support to fulfil their tasks without mistakes. Matijasevic stated that reform of security sector in BiH will be the priority of his Ministry. He is decisive on fulfilling all the tasks related to cooperation with ICTY. <i>"There will be no dilemma when it comes to fulfilling these obligations. Cooperation will be total and two way. There will be no calculations when it comes to arrest of war crimes suspects"</i>, says Matijasevic. He added that MoI will fight terrorism, organised crime and all other crimes. Matijasevic stated that the police have to be in the service of the citizens.</p> <p>FTV, Oslobođenje back page 'Special police ordered to arrest criminals' by <u>Onasa</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'Matijasevic: There will be no calculations with arrests of war crimes suspects' by <u>M.Radetic</u>, – Matijasevic pledged to cooperate with the ICTY, adding this the cooperation will be more comprehensive and two-sided. <i>"In upcoming period, this Ministry will continue to carries out concrete, timely defined and efficient measures with an aim for RS and BiH to fulfil their obligations under the Law on cooperation with the ICTY,"</i> Matijasevic said.</p> <p>BHT 1 – BHT 1 comments that the Minister didn't announce any personnel changes in spite the public speculations on this. RS Vice President Adil Osmanovic said in statement to BHT 1 that RS police officials are involved in political fight between current authorities and opposition.</p>
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<p>SFOR releases Bjelica</p>	<p>RHB, BHT 1, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 2 'SFOR released Bjelica from detention' by Fena, Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'SFOR released Milovan Bjelica', Dnevni List pg 8 'Milovan Cicko Bjelica released from prison' by <u>D.P.M.</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija last pg 'SFOR released Karadzic's associate' by <u>H</u> and Vecernji List pg 3 'Bjelica released from prison' by <u>f</u>, EuroBlic, pg. RS2 'SFOR released Milovan Bjelica' by <u>J. D.</u>, Glas Srpske, pg. 3 'In trap of false accusations' by <u>B. Gajevic</u> – SFOR released former Serb Sarajevo Assembly Chair Milovan Bjelica on Monday evening.</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine, pg. 2 'Bjelica: SFOR did not ask me about Karadzic' by <u>M. C.</u> – <i>"SFOR investigators have asked me whether I have had contacts with war crimes indictees, their families and they have also asked me whether I have any kind of relations with these persons. I told them what they already know – I have nothing to do with war crimes indictees. They have not asked any questions with regard to Radovan Karadzic", Bjelica has stated.</i></p>
<p>Prosper meets ICTY officials</p>	<p>BHT 1, FTV, RTRS – US envoy for the war crimes at large, Pierre Richard-Prosper held talks in the Hague Tribunal with Court and Prosecution officials on Tuesday. The visit comes following Prosper's last week talks with Serbia-Montenegro Foreign Affairs Minister Vuk Draskovic in New York. Prosper then said that if Belgrade wishes to resolve the issue of cooperation with the Hague Tribunal once and for all it would have to hand over Ratko Mladic. <i>"Then we can expect to see trials in Belgrade, including the trial of the four Generals"</i>, Prosper said then, but warned that the international community was starting to lose patience.</p> <p>Oslobođenje 'Hunt on Mladic started?!' by <u>Branislav Boskov</u> – also carries on the meeting between Prosper and ICTY officials.</p>

<p>Ivanic, Tadic support cooperation with ICTY</p>	<p>FTV, Oslobodjenje back page 'Ivanic in Belgrade', Nezavisne Novine, pg. 5 'Support to Dayton' by <u>Srna</u>, Vecernje Novosti, pg. 2 'Completely with the Hague' <u>not signed</u> – BiH Foreign Affairs Minister Mladen Ivanic met with Serbian President Boris Tadic in Belgrade on Tuesday. They assessed during the meeting that the cooperation with the Hague Tribunal was a pre-requisite for a progress of the two countries.</p> <p>Glas Srpske, pg. 3 'Together to Europe' <u>not signed</u> – Ivanic has stated after the meeting that Tadic has assured him that Serbia will do everything in its power to help the work of the Srebrenica Commission. Ivanic also said that the international community will not ask for changes to the Dayton Agreement.</p>
<p>Oric's trial in ICTY to begin</p>	<p>BHT 1 – The pre-trial conference in the case against Naser Oric was held before the Hague Tribunal on Tuesday. The trial of Naser Oric is scheduled to start on October 6. Oric is charged with violating laws and customs of war.</p> <p>Oslobodjenje pg 8 'Naser Oric ready for trial', mentioned on cover, by <u>Sense</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 8 Prosecutor included 62 witnesses on the list' by <u>A. Hadzic</u> – also reported on the beginning of the trial.</p>

<p>VN on HB archive: deadline expires tomorrow</p>	<p>Vecernji List pg 4 'Mihaljevic is handing over 20 000 documents', mentioned on cover, 'About 20 000 documents for The Hague' by <u>D. Jazvic</u> – Regarding the ICTY demand for the documents of the former Croat Community of Herceg Bosna (the ICTY deadline expires tomorrow), Croat Liaison Officer for Relations with the ICTY Goran Mihaljevic stated that most of the documents have been collected and depending on technical possibilities all the documents will be handed over to ICTY representatives today or tomorrow. He added that the documents were collected in the Croatian State Archive in Zagreb and HDZ BiH branch offices, which, according to Mihaljevic, were very cooperative, as well as, HDZ President Barisa Colak.</p>
<p>EUFOR to support ICTY</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'EUFOR will pursue persons wanted by the ICTY' by S.N. – <i>"One of the key EUFOR's tasks will be to support the activities of the ICTY. That includes the detention of the persons indicted for the war crimes,"</i> Christina Galjak, spokeswoman for the EU Foreign Affairs Commissioner Javier Solava, says. She added that the EUFOR's mandate is being prepared in cooperation with the NATO, especially in the matter of war crimes. EUFOR, Galjak says, will contribute to growing EU presence in BiH coordinated by Paddy Ashdown.</p>

<p>Tomljenovic on RS MoI efforts to arrest ICTY suspects</p>	<p>Euro Blic RSpG 2 'Tomljenovic: The Hague as a challenge for the police' by <u>Lj.Lj.</u> – A Vice-President of the RS, who is, also, a member of the BiH SDP Presidency, Ivan Tomljenovic, stated in Bijeljina that the police in the RS has to tackle seriously the issue of arrests of Hague Tribunal fugitives, noting <i>"This is not only about Karadzic and Mladic, but about other indicted persons, who are less important. The burden of the past is on the back of an entire people."</i> He further assessed that the judiciary in BiH should be brought to the level to match the European standards in terms of its capabilities and preparedness to process such cases.</p>
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Political issues

**HR visits Siroki
Brijeg**

RHB, Dnevni list, cover page 'Quality mayors needed' & pg 3, 'BiH needs quality mayors', by Nina, **Vecernji list**, pg 2, 'BiH will never be centralised', by Miro Bosnjak & Frano Vukoja, and **Slobodna Dalmacija**, pg 17, 'All praises to the Mayor', by D. Ivankovic – Following his meetings with Mayor **Miljenko Jelic** and the political parties which have their candidates for the position of mayors at the forthcoming local elections in Siroki Brijeg, the High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** said that BiH needed good mayors who would give quality to policy that serves municipal level of authority and citizens, and not politicians. In that light, Ashdown mentioned consensus by all political parties in BiH on the need to strengthen municipalities. The HR also added that his visit and meetings in Siroki Brijeg should not be seen in the context of the forthcoming elections, i.e. as a support to any particular party because, although the IC may have interfered in elections in BiH in the past, the OHR would not do so.

Commenting on initiatives to change the BiH Constitution, the HR stated it was a matter of agreement between the three constituent peoples and not something the IC could impose.

RTRS, FTV, Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Constitution cannot be imposed' by Onasa, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'No need for the change of BiH Constitution' by SRNA – Ashdown stated during his visit to Siroki Brijeg that it is not necessary to change BiH Constitution if BiH wants to be admitted into Partnership for Peace. He said: *"This is your Constitution and only you can change it. The international community cannot impose Constitution."* He emphasised that BiH *"has achieved some good results swiftly and now two gates, through which it might pass in the next six or seven months, are open ahead of it."*

FTV – On upcoming elections, Ashdown stated: *"I do not support political parties in this country, I accept opinion of the electoral body, we don't interfere with the election process and I object in strongest terms to any political candidate who seeks to use me in his campaign to benefit him."*

**Ashdown calls on
BiH citizens to
vote: IC has no
favourite in
upcoming
elections**

Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'We have no favourite at these elections', mentioned on cover 'Vote!', by S. Numanovic – *"I call on voters to vote. That is very important. The international community has not favourites in these elections. We appreciate people by their actions, and not parties they are member of. The worst thing is not to vote,"* the High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** stresses at the beginning of the interview for DA, stressing that these elections mark the change of BiH Constitution by giving more power to municipalities. Secondly, Ashdown says, this would change the mentality of the politicians towards making the servants of the citizens, and not their political allies. At the same time, HR expresses the concern with possible low election turnout, as people had it with politics and politicians. Asked what are his hopes for Mostar, the High Representative answered he hopes that the appointments to 21 key positions in City Administration will be completed. As for the current debate on the possibilities to change the BiH Constitution, Ashdown stressed: *"I emphasize, the changes are necessary because of citizens and BiH's European path. But, all that cannot be done only on the foundations of the consensus. Eventually, the new BiH Constitution will not be imposed by either the high representative or the IC. It cannot be imposed by one or two peoples. It has to be a result of an agreement between three peoples."* In an interview, HR also said that case against **Ante Jelavic** and others has been prepared in complete accordance with the law, and that pressures in this and other cases and against the court will not be allowed.

<p>DA: BiH Constitutional Court cancelled immunity to Dragan Covic, and others</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz cover splash ‘Covic’s immunity cancelled’, pg 4 ‘Immunity to Dragan Covic cancelled’ by <u>H. Orahovac</u> – DA learns that the BiH Constitutional Court has brought decision to cancel immunity status to the member of BiH Presidency Dragan Covic. This decision will also be valid for all current and former officials who called on immunity before the courts leading proceedings against them. The President of the Court, Mato Tadic stated: <i>“The truth is that BiH Constitutional Court brought decision in a case of assessing the constitutionality of the BiH Immunity Law and entities’ laws on immunity. However, the decision has not been published in the Official Gazette, and I cannot tell you what has been decided. However, I also don’t want to deny your information according to which immunity for politicians has been cancelled.”</i> DA says that this first stance decision is waiting to be published due to upcoming elections, which Tadic denies explaining that its text needs further improvements and that it will be verified in one of the upcoming Court’s sessions.</p>
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<p>Covic on possible constitutional changes/processes against Croats</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija front and pg 15 'They offer Croats Republic within borders of Herzegovina' by <u>Z. Tulic</u> – Talking at the public forum in the Sarajevo Municipality Centar on Monday Croat member of the BiH Presidency and HDZ Vice President Dragan Covic stated that he is convinced that the constitutional changes will take place next year while it has been expected that negotiations on this issue should start at the end of this year. Commenting on the proposals to organize BiH as 3 Republics, Covic rejected such solution and added that the Croat people will never agree to have the Republic within the borders of Western Herzegovina as some individuals offer them. Covic also said that only a few people think in this way and for this reason he believes that there will be no 3 Republics in BiH. According to Covic, the future of BiH is in regional organization of this country with decentralized authority and considerably reduced administrative apparatus. Covic also said that at the moment there are strange political processes against some Croats in which verdict has been passed in advance only because these Croats were fighting for equality of the Croat people. For this reason Covic is afraid that regardless as to who represents Croats in the executive authority they will not be able to influence a lot the future organization of BiH.</p>
<p>Lozancic on possible constitutional changes/processes against Croats</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija on front and pg 15 'They offer to Croats Republic within borders of Herzegovina' by <u>Z. Tulic</u>, inset 'New processes against HDZ members?' – In an inset to the aforementioned article published in SD carries Federation of BiH President Niko Lozancic who says that the current situation in BiH where we have 4 Constitutions is not sustainable and changes are necessary. Lozancic also said: <i>"Now there are processes against BiH Croats and, perhaps, similar things will be happening in the future since HDZ will be fighting for the change of the BiH Constitution resolutely."</i></p>

<p>VL int with Tihic on abolishing of prefix Serb in names of towns, constitutional changes</p>	<p>Vecernji List pg 6 'BiH will soon go from Dayton to Brussels' phase' by <u>F. Matic</u> – VL carries an interview with Chairman of the BiH Presidency Sulejman Tihic.</p> <p>Asked whether there would be problems in the implementation of the BiH Constitutional Court's decision about abolishment of prefix Serb in names of some towns, Tihic says that he believes that common sense will prevail among RS politicians since it is completely clear that those structures, which were giving mono-ethnic prefixes to these towns, have weakened. Asked about his stand regarding the constitutional changes, Tihic says that he is standing for drafting of a new BiH Constitution after the arrest of Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic (he hopes it will happen by the end of this year), on the tenth anniversary of signing the Dayton Peace Accord. Tihic added that domestic politicians will draft new BiH Constitution without any pressures or suggestions coming from the other sides and this will show how mature BiH is.</p>
<p>VL on Cavic's and Tihic's contradictory concepts of BiH</p>	<p>Vecernji list, cover page 'Tihic in favour of Brussels BiH, Cavic in favour of self-determination of the RS', and pg 6, 'RS to be given the same status Montenegro has in Serbia and Montenegro', by <u>Eldina Medunjanin</u> – summarising reactions of the RS President Dragan Cavic to Sulejman Tihic's frequent mentioning of the change of BiH Constitution, the author says that other Serb parties oppose the tentative change of the constitutional concept of BiH too, but Dragan Cavic is the first one who openly hinted the requests for the RS's self-determination, i.e. copying of the status which Montenegro has in the state-building formation with Serbia.</p>

<p>VN int with Mladen Ivanic: 'There will be no Dayton 2'</p>	<p>Vecernje Novosti pg 2 'There will be no Dayton 2' by Dubravka Vujanovic – In a brief interview to VC, Mladen Ivanic, BiH Foreign Minister, says that demands for Dayton Agreement revision come from the parties seated in Sarajevo, which justify their demands with the alleged need for adjusting BiH structure with European structures. And this is completely untrue according to Ivanic, since Dayton Agreement has brought peace here. Ivanic stresses not a single international community official is supportive of these demands. He notes the final goal of those pledging for change of Dayton is the abolishment of the RS, <i>"which is actually a minimum beyond which we cannot agree."</i> The journalist questions why Sulejman Tihic has not been removed since <i>"heads fell down for much less in RS than statements"</i>. Ivanic responds that High Representative should be asked this question, noting that <i>"[Paddy] Ashdown would have to clarify why it is so soon, if he wants to keep the trust of both sides"</i>. He rejects the possibility of seeing new officials in RS removed.</p>
<p>Solana's office: Currently, talks on Dayton change are not welcomed</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'EUFOR will pursue persons wanted by the ICTY' by S.N. –Christina Galjak, spokeswoman for the EU Foreign Affairs Commissioner Javier Solana, was asked to comment Solana's statement that the Dayton should not be changed. Ganjak answered: <i>"It is not time to talk about the change of Dayton. The current stories on that appear to us like part of election campaign, and we don't want to be a part of it... As BiH is getting closer to Europe, it is possible that certain changes will be needed. When that happens, perhaps eventually there should be a talk about changes. However, current such talks are not welcomed."</i></p>

<p>Reactions to Tihic's statement on necessity for constitutional changes</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'BiH needs more functional constitution adopted to Europe' by <u>M.D. – Az.B.</u> – DA article brings comments to the Sulejman Tihic's statement on a necessity to change ViH Constitution. Leader of Party for BiH Safet Halilovic, Deputy Speaker of BiH House of Representatives Martin Raguz, SDU Vice President Sejfudin Tokic and HNZ Vice President Milenko Brkic. However, article also bring statement by SNSD leader Milorad Dodik who opposes any changes: <i>"BiH can function in this kind constitutional and legal framework, but the problem is criminalized authorities."</i></p> <p>Oslobodjenje pg 4 'RS must not be put in question' – also bring Dodik's statement.</p> <p>Glas Srpske, pg. 2 'Sparkles upon agreement' by <u>G. D.</u> –Dodik also invited all RS parties to sign a joint statement on not accepting any kind of negotiations on changing of BiH Constitution.</p>
<p>Pero Sudar, auxiliary Bishop of Vrhbosna, on the situation in BiH</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 17, 'No lasting peace in BiH', by <u>M. Landeka</u> – following the 3-day meeting of European Commissions "Iustitia et Pax", auxiliary Bishop of Vrhbosna Pero Sudar has stated that the goal of the meeting was to once more try to prevent BiH and its problems be forgotten. <i>"There is a danger that 10 years after the signing of the Dayton Accord, on the ground of well-embellished reports, one gets the impression that everything in BiH is fine and that BiH does not need help any longer"</i>, Sudar said. He accused the international community representatives in BiH of being the authors of such dressed-up reports since they want to present the results of their work to be better than they actually are. Adding that there is no lasting peace in BiH, Sudar said that lasting peace does not mean absence of war but it means justice and normal living which is still not at sight in BiH. Sudar concluded by saying that BiH still needs justice, hope and confidence in the future.</p>

**SD op-ed says
situation in BiH
same like before
the war**

Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 10, 'Dayton BiH suits mafia only', by Marin Erceg – in light of fierce debates of BiH politicians on the changes to BiH Constitution and the Dayton Accords on the eve of local elections, the author comments that the current political situation in BiH is the same as it was just before the war: on one side, Bosniaks and Croats want the change of the Dayton, while Serbs are not in favour of BiH just like they did not want to replace Yugoslavia with BiH back in 1991. All the demands both then and now are, according to Erceg, fully legitimate. For him, one thing is certain – BiH as it is is unsustainable. *"If BiH cannot give the same rights to all its citizens and peoples, if it cannot protect basic human rights, if political rigged processes are possible, if there is no economic prosperity, if there is high degree of corruption, crime and undemocratic political parties, if it depends on presence of foreign military, then it is unnecessary"*, he says. Erceg also says it is high time for consensus of all peoples and international factors on the new organisation stipulated by the new Constitution but, if this is impossible to achieve, the only solution seems to be a referendum. *"Simply, this region still suffers from all diseases from which ex-Yugoslavia died. Being held alive thanks to respirators (foreign authority embodied in the OHR), it has no meaning and justification any longer. If this goes on, only mafia will have use of it"*, Erceg concludes.

Economic and social issues

**Terzic asks
from Sanader
to stop sale
of Cavtat
hospital**

RHB, BHT1, RTRS, Dnevni List pg 4 'BiH demands protection of its property in Croatia' by NINA – The Chairman of the Council of Ministers, **Adnan Terzic**, sent a letter to Croatian Prime Minister **Ivo Sanader** asking him to prevent the illegal sale of children hospital in Cavtat. He also informed Sanader that the Court in Split used the war in BiH in 1993 and prevented BiH to protect its property in Cavtat. [*for details, see Media Round-up for Sept 28*]

Slobodna Dalmacija pg 5 'Terzic: Illegally confiscated property of BiH', inset under headline 'Government will consider Terzic's letter', by B. Kristo – Croatian Government confirmed that they received Terzic's letter, it will examine all given facts and state its stand on Terzic's letter.

Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'Terzic: we will prove this was illegal procedure' by J. Sogolj – Terzic stated he believes that BiH will have a possibility to prove that the sale procedure was illegal.

<p>McElhaney meets BiH HoR: BiH must create better business environment</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 2 'Too much politics, too little of business' by <u>Onasa</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Procedures for foreign investments to be made simple to maximum', Dnevni List pg 2 'McElhaney: BiH must create better business environment' by <u>M. Batarello</u>, Nezavisne Novine, pg. 5 'A better business environment is needed' by <u>Fena</u> – Newly appointed US Ambassador to BiH Douglas McElhaney met with the leadership of the BiH House of Representatives in Sarajevo on Tuesday. This was his first meeting with them during which the US Ambassador stated that BiH must create better business environment and maximally simplify procedure so that foreign investors can invest in BiH in an easier way. Chairman of the BiH HoR Martin Raguz agreed with McElhaney and added that the fact is that there is too much politics in BiH and too little business. According to Raguz, the biggest problem in BiH at the moment is the lack of macro strategy for the BiH development.</p>
<p>Fuel prices in BiH increase</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine, cover 'Fuel becomes more expensive again' and pg. 3 'Fuel in BiH to become more expensive' by <u>D. Risojevic</u> – Petroleum distributors yesterday announced that prices of petroleum products will increase again in BiH, due to increase of prices of crude oil at the world market. According to the article, the price will increase in average of 0,05 KM per litre.</p>

<p>Students protest in BL</p>	<p>BHT 1, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 3 'Student protests' by Fena, Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'Asking tuition to remain the same' – Students of Banja Luka protested on Tuesday in front of the Law Faculty in this city. They expressed dissatisfaction with increase of tuitions and demanded from the RS Ministry of Education to reduce it to the last year's amount. Banjaluka's University supported students' demands. RS Education Ministry spokesperson Duska Golic said that the RS Government would discuss proposal on change of tuition after both RS Universities send their proposals for fees amounts.</p>
<p>Health workers in CBC still in strike</p>	<p>FTV – Strike in 12 health institutions in the Central-Bosnia Canton (CBC) have continued even after 58 days. CBC Health Union announces new protests for Friday in a front of the CBC Government building. The protests were scheduled following the unsuccessful negotiations which were scheduled for Tuesday. A chief condition of the CBC Government to being with the negotiations is to temporarily suspend the strike, however health workers have rejected it.</p>

<p>GS on return process, Doris Pack</p>	<p>Glas Srpske, cover page story 'Packing of Doris Pack' by <u>E. G. S.</u> – the article carries a statement of the Head of the European Parliament Delegation for SE Europe, Doris Pack, given to <i>Slobodna Dalmacija</i>. GS claims Pack has stated that Croats returning to RS still have to face greater problems than Serbs returning to the Federation of BiH. <i>'As a consequence, very few Croats are returning to their pre-war homes and RS is now more or less clearly ethnically Serb area'</i>, Pack has stated.</p> <p>GS brings a number of examples proving the opposite.</p>
<p>OHR on Public Procurement Law</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Big progress struggle in fight against corruption', Dnevni List pg 8 'Big progress in struggle against corruption' by <u>D. Polovina-Mandic</u> –OHR Spokesperson Vedran Persic states that High Representative Paddy Ashdown believes that by passing the Law on Public Procurement, the BiH Parliament made a huge step forward in fighting corruption in BiH and finally ending a system in which public contracts go to companies that have personal connections with officials responsible for organizing tenders.</p>

<p>NN update to BL Brewery case</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine cover and pg 5 'Review into business dealings of "Pivara" to follow' by <u>A. Sekulic</u> – Rodoljub Trkulja, RS Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Waterpower, said that all information related to irregularities in business dealings of "Banjalucka Pivara" (Banja Luka Brewery) will be looked into, and Supervision Board of Brewery will have a key task to investigate into these claims.</p>
<p>Mikerevic on request from RS pensioners</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 17 'Government would not meet pensioners' requests' by <u>B. Gagula</u> – Dragan Mikerevic, RS Prime Minister, yesterday stated that RS Government would not meet pensioners' request in the next 10 days (request relate to improvement of pensioners' material status). Mikerevic said: <i>"I will not make decision within short time frame, which would meet demands of a certain category of population and hence create bigger problems for RS."</i></p>

GS update to
ex RA Tax
Admin.
Director
criticism
against OHR

Glas Srpske pg 5 'Those obedient are desirable' by D. Vrhovac Mihajlovic – GS brings article regarding the statement of the **Milica Bisic**, former Director of RS Tax Administration awarded by the Transparency International for fight against corruption, that she quit due to the conflict with OHR over the VAT [see *BiH Media Round-up Sept 28*]. **Vedran Persic**, OHR Spokesperson, commented on her criticism by saying: *"She has a right to say whatever she wants. VAT is is a key requirement for BiH admission into EuroAtlantic integration."* GS further carries statement of **Boris Divjak**, TI Director, saying that silent pressures and conditioning, as was the case with Milica Bisic, are in direct violation of democratic rights and freedoms, stressing: *"OHR acts as a Supreme Judge in BiH, whose decisions can never be examined. Nobody has an influence upon its work."*

Security/intelligence/judicial issues

**Ze-Do MoI
completes
probe into
lost CIPS
driving
licences**

FTV, BHT 1, Oslobođenje pg 7 '37 driving licences stolen' by D.P., **Dnevni Avaz** pg 10 'Zenica-Doboj Cantonal MoI launched disciplinary procedure against two officials' by A. Dzonlic – The Interior Ministry of the Zenica Doboj Canton stated it has completed the investigation into 37 driving licences missing from Zenica's CIPS officers. MoI identified two of its officials to be responsible for the case, and has launched the disciplinary procedure against them. The licences went missing in August.

**VL: McNair to
remove Tadic
because of
corruption**

Vecernji List front pg 'Removal of Constitutional Court President' and pg 3 'McNair removes Tadic because of corruption' by Z. Kresic and M. Relota – According to VL unofficial information, Head of the Special Department for Struggle against Organized Crime with the BiH Prosecution **John McNair** removed President of the BiH Constitutional Court **Mato Tadic** yesterday because Tadic was allegedly receiving bribe in the case on immunity of former and current high-ranked BiH political officials. VL says that in case that this information is correct it would just represent one more decision in which officials of the International Community are above domestic, legally elected institutions and law introducing protectorate in BiH. VL also says that McNair has already demanded from the **OHR** to remove Tadic although it should be clear that the state Parliament only is authorized to remove someone who holds such position. VL says that Tadic's problem is actually the fact that he was strictly working according to the BiH Constitution. VL also says that yesterday they failed to get from the OHR confirmation about Tadic's removal and they expect that during the day many things regarding this case will be clearer.

<p>DL op-ed on corruption of judges</p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 2 'Corruption of judges' by <u>E. Mackic</u> carries an editorial, which says that according to a survey of Transparency International the BiH judiciary is on the list of 10 most corrupted institutions of BiH. The author mentions the trial against former HDZ President Ante Jelavic and other suspects in the Hercegovacka Banka case and the fact that their lawyers demanded that domestic and not international judges are in charge of this process. The author says that such demands are not justified because of corruption of domestic judges.</p>
<p>DA: All lawyers give up on HB case</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'All lawyers give up on Hercegovacka Bank case' by <u>F. V.</u> – The lawyer of Ante Jelavic, one of six suspects for embezzlement in the Hercegovacka Bank, Josip Muselimovic stated for DA that most probably he will not continue with the case. He added that the similar will be done by all lawyers of all other defendants. <i>"Our decision is not a protests because of something, but an effort for our citizens to say that our citizens have a right to fair proceeding,"</i> said Muselimovic.</p>

<p>BiH authority sent a report to UN Anti-terrorism Committee</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine, cover and pg. 3 'Millions of KM are blocked' by <u>M. Cubro</u> – BiH authority has, in the past year, blocked property of eight humanitarian organisations due to a suspicion these had been financing terrorism activities, as the Report on Fight against Terrorism, which was sent to UN Anti-terrorism Committee, reads. Deputy BiH Minister for Safety, Dragan Mektic, confirmed on Tuesday this information and said that all documentation in relation to these cases has been forwarded to BiH Prosecution.</p>
<p>Novic on terrorism allegations</p>	<p>EuroBlic, pg. RS 4 'Novic: nothing should be excluded' by <u>J. D.</u> – SIPA Director Sredoje Novic thinks it would be difficult to say at the moment whether there are terrorism camps in BiH or not. According to Novic, the answer to this question can be given at the beginning of the next year, by which time SIPA will become a fully functional institution. Novic claims that <i>'BiH is an area in which it is possible that certain residues of some terrorism organisations still exist, as well as of those that might be a potential future carriers of terrorism activities in BiH'</i>.</p>

Blic: Croats and Bosniaks ask for more space

Euro Blic RSpG 4 "Croats and Bosniaks asking for more space" by Rajna Radosavljevic – **Ivan Tomljenovic**, a Vice-President of the RS, told the daily that persons of other ethnic background (other than Serb) should be employed at the institutions of the RS in order to make people understand and feel that this entity belongs to everybody. **Tomljenovic** stressed that he submitted such a request to the OHR. The request has, also, been signed by the other Vice-President of the RS, **Adil Osmanovic**, and two Deputy Speakers of the RS NA. **Tomljenovic** noted: *"We wish to inform the top level officials of BiH of the need to employ Croats and Bosniaks in the RS institutions, and primarily in the police, but, also, in the education field, health care system and judiciary"*. According to him, Croats and Bosniaks will not give up on the position of the RS Police Director, but will, also, request that the police at all other levels be filled with members of the two peoples. The two Vice-Presidents along with the two Deputy Speakers of the RS NA expect to meet with the HiRep in BiH, **Paddy Ashdown**, and the EUPM Commissioner **Kevin Carty** some time at the beginning of next week after which they would meet with the Entities' Interior Ministers. The Spokesperson for the RS Prime Minister, **Goran Radivojac**, said that the Law regulates employment procedures in the institutions in question. He did not wish to comment on speculations on the possible removal of the current Police Director, **Radomir Njegus**.

<p>NN: Radomir Njegus gives up position at SIPA</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Radomir Njegus gave up on SIPA' – Banja Luka ATV Station reported on Tuesday night that Radomir Njegus, RS Police Director, has given up on the position at the SIPA and would remain on this post for the time being. He said he has given up on candidature upon request of Darko Matijasevic, new RS Interior Minister. Independent Board for election and appointment of police director on Tuesday concluded that there is no argument for removal of Njegus, following his speech at the press conference dated 20 August. The Board also assessed that although speech was tactless, Njegus had no intention of insulting the members of the press. The Board also asked Njegus to schedule a press conference by 8 October at latest, at which he would have to respond to all questions the journalists raised during their protest.</p>
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**VL on alleged
presences of
MI6 spies in
BiH**

Vecernji List pg 3 'British spies from Department MI6 were blackmailing politicians', mentioned on cover, by Z. Jurilj – Commenting on the Daily Telegraph article about withdrawal of MI6 agents from Sarajevo and Zagreb after local media revealed their identity, a former high-ranked FOSS official stated for VL that it is possible that only some of them withdrew, while MI6 agents are still present the British Embassy in BiH providing the OHR with information. The same source said that before the coming of **Paddy Ashdown** to the position of the HR in BiH, one of the FOSS priorities was to connect with British spies from MI6. Source says that afterwards FOSS was very cooperative, however, it was not the case with MI6 whose agents were arrogant and they even started to decide on personnel solutions in FOSS. The VL source says that none from the BiH authority representatives could not and did not want to control them since many of them were blackmailed by discrediting material collected by MI6.