

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 6/4/2005

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 6 April 2005

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	BH Radio 1 (12,00 hrs)	RTRS (12,00 hrs)
Vatican : News about Pope's death	Protests of workers in Zenica	RS NA in session
Holy masses served throughout BiH	Kurdish leader named Iraqi president	Terzic on constitutional changes
Albania : Meeting of regional FMs	Monaco prince Rainier dies at age 81	Prince Rainier III of Monaco died

TV news broadcast on 5 April 2005

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
Last respects for Pope	HR in Brussels	Draskovic on Hague indictees
BiH delegation at Pope's funeral	Schook on Partnership for Peace	Schook on war crime indictees
Reactions to Pope's death	Tihic on war crimes in Sarajevo	Ashdown in Brussels
Schook on BiH membership in PFP	Srebrenica Commission report	Terzic meets IMF representatives

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
Terzic on IMF loans	No decision about Conclave	Schook on Defence Reform
Draskovic on war crime indictees	Agca wants to attend funeral	Humphreys on BiH integration

Sreten Lukic leaves for The Hague	Requiem for Pope	Srebrenica Commission report
HR in Brussels	BiH delegation at Pope's funeral	Exhumed persons update

Oslobodjenje	Serbian authorities know where is Ratko Mladic
Dnevni Avaz	Terzic's initiative: It will be possible to reduce officials' salaries
Dnevni List	Mostar Fair opened
Vecernji List	Vatican: Who is the secret cardinal?
Slobodna Dalmacija	Marija Pavlovic, Ivana Dragicevic on meetings with Pope: Pope saw us in private
Glas Srpske	Remembering genocide
Nezavisne Novine	FBiH paid 500,000 KM to Oscar Vega
Blic	Who ever fails to legalize will be forced to dismantle
Vecernje Novosti	Features Serbia-related titles
Belgrade's Nacional	Is someone lying?

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY	
RSNA in session	BH Radio 1 <u>Brana Markovic</u> , RS Radio – The RS National Assembly has continued the session today discussing the issues related to the return process, DPs and refugees and the RS Law on Holiday, which is to be adopted in urgent procedure. The delegates will also discuss the implementation of the RS Government's action plan for cooperation with the ICTY.

<p>Workers protesting in Zenica</p>	<p>BH Radio 1 <u>Dzelaludin Ramic</u> – About 800 workers of ‘Zeljezara Zenica’ have protested today demanding from the FBiH Government to solve their status. In accordance with the law on public companies, imposed by the OHR and implemented as of last month, they will loose 40 KM of minimum monthly wage while they are on the waiting list.</p>
<p>Cavic/Matijasevic/ Terzic to go to PIC session in Brussels</p>	<p>RS Radio – Dragan Cavic, RS President, Darko Matijasevic, RS Minister of Internal Affairs, and Adnan Terzic, BiH COM Chair, will go to The Hague today, where they will attend the session of the PIC in Brussels. The session is to assess the current position of BiH regarding fulfilment of conditions for launchment of talks on SAA. Thursday’s session will also be attended by HR Paddy Ashdown.</p>

<p>Political developments/Reforms</p>
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NATO Commander
Schook: Entity
Defence
Ministries had
to be abolished

RHB, Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje
pg 3 'There is a network of support to Karadzic
and Mladic in RS', **Dnevni Avaz** pg 5 'The time
has come for entities' ministries of defense to
be abolished', **Dnevni List**, pg 5 'NATO requests
abolishment of entity ministries', mentioned on
front 'NATO abolishes entity ministries', by
NINA, **Slobodna Dalmacija**, back pg 'Abolish
entity ministries of defence', by A. Macanovic,
Nezavisne Novine pg 2, announced on cover
'Abolishment of RS Defense Ministry is not a
punishment' by D. Risojevic, **Vecernje Novosti** pg
5 'Support network of Karadic and Mladic' by Sl.
P., **Glas Srpske** pg 3 'Time for abolishment has
come' by M. Dzepina – Although all technical
terms needed for BiH's admittance to the
Partnership for Peace have been met, during
Peace Implementation Council's session, which is
going to be held on Thursday in Brussels, BiH's
application for the program is not going to be
discussed. NATO Commander to BiH, **Steven Schook**
said in Banja Luka on Tuesday that it would not
be able to discuss on BiH's admittance to NATO
until full cooperation with the ICTY is not
established. Schook welcomes surrenders of low
ranked war crime indictees, but he stresses the
fact that the highly ranked war crime indictees,
namely **Radovan Karadzic** and **Ratko Mladic** are
still free. *"The current policy of the
International Community to this region is that
all war crime indictees should be transferred to
the ICTY"*, said Schook. When it comes to defence
reform, Schook says that it does not present any
kind of punishment, but that by it NATO
standards are to be met. Schook pointed out that
if BiH wanted to become NATO member, entities'
Ministries of Defence had to be abolished.

<p>Reaction to NATO Schook's statement: SDS is for reform and demilitarisation</p>	<p>RTRS Report by <u>Sinisa Mihailovic</u> –NATO Commander to BiH Steven Schook said that Defence Reform requires abolishment of Ministries of Defence on Entity levels. <i>"RSNA approved a conclusion that obstructs RS to participate in decision making process for Defence Reform"</i> said Schook. Sinisa Pivisevic from SDS said that FBiH is advocating for obstruction of abolishment of the Entity Ministers. He added that SDS is for the reform and demilitarization. Velimir Sakan the president of RSNA Board for monitoring the work of defence and police said that RS will not accept the abolishment. From SNSD stated that the reform got a negative turn. <i>"We are again at the beginning and they started to advocate for having reserve forces"</i> said Igor Radojicic. In SDS said that NATO contradicted their conclusion since Istanbul communiqué wrote that BiH did not meet all conditions and NATO is satisfied with technicalities. <i>"RS has a strong network that supports Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic but nothing is done to stop it"</i> said Schook. Tarik Sadovic from SDA is surprised with the BiH Minister of Defence Nikola Radovanovic's statement. He said that RS is not for the reform and that the Minister Radovanovic knows that. Sakan said that BiH met lot of conditions and that it can apply for the Partnership. SNSD does not agree that it is a right moment for application.</p>
<p>BiH Foreign Minister Ivanic: NATO is BiH's strategic goal</p>	<p>BHT – At the meeting of the American-Adriatic Charter signatory countries held in Tirana, BiH Minister of Foreign Affairs Mladen Ivanic said that if BiH joins Partnership for Peace, it will create certain prerequisites for BiH membership in NATO – which is BiH's strategic goal.</p>

**NN op-ed: BiH
must meet
European
standards to
enter PfP and EU**

Nezavisne Novine op-ed pg 7 'How to get to EU' by Dragan Risojevic – The author refers to the DRC officials saying that BiH will not get close to PfP door at the NATO Summit on 20 and 21 April, since the apprehension of main war crime suspects, **Radovan Karadzic** and **Ratko Mladic**, is main pre-requisite for PfP admission. He writes about PfP program as nothing sensational, nothing that will bring bread on our tables. Furthermore, he stresses people should learn a lesson from this that regardless of content of the aspiration, BiH must meet European lessons, because Europe would not accept this state until it breaks off with the dark individuals from its past in middle 90's. it is all about principles, he underlines, without whose fulfillment BiH can forget about Europe .

<p>HR to address NATO officials, EU Security Committee in Brussels</p>	<p>TV Pink, BHT, Hayat, RTRS – The High Representative, Paddy Ashdown is going to address to NATO officials and EU Security Committee in Brussels. According to the OHR Spokesperson, Mario Brkic, during the meeting, NATO and EU should create estimation on progress BiH has achieved in meeting necessary, Feasibility Study terms. The HR is going to talk about the progress BiH has achieved regarding cooperation with the ICTY. According to the HR, RS has achieved great progress, since it delivered 6 war crimes indictees in last 3 months. <i>“The HR is also going to point out that this presents a major step forward, and that it is of extreme importance for the process to be continued. The cooperation will not be full until Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic do not be imprisoned. The HR is also going to say that as the 10th Srebrenica anniversary approaches, this request may become more urgent”</i>, said Brkic. The HR is also going to discuss on police reform in BiH, which is one of the crucial, final reforms the EU asks for.</p>
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Ashdown: 'As long as Karadzic and Mladic are at large, BiH will not enter NATO or EU'

Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'As long as Karadzic and Mladic are at large, there is not way [to enter] NATO and EU', mentioned on cover, by S. Numanovic –

The High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** has started with the series of meetings being held with the officials in Brussels on Tuesday in the eve of upcoming decisions on BiH's admission to the Partnership for Peace and the beginning of the negotiations on Stabilization and Association Agreement. Ashdown told daily that he ha already talked with officials of EU and NATO discussing the current police reform and the cooperation with the ICTY. *"It is clear that that the negotiations on the police reform will be very difficult, but we are all clear that whatever we do in BiH it has to be in accordance with the European principles. Some in RS are not delighted with such situation, but they are clear that failure to respect European principles means depriving BiH of its European's future. I think that on the occasion of 10th Srebrenica anniversary we have to insist on transfer of Karadzic and Mladic to the Hague. We cannot accept anything less,"* said Ashdown noting the progress achieved in RS cooperation with the ICTY but stressing that NATO and NATO want to see Karadzic/Mladic detained.

EC's Humphreys
meets with RS PM
Bukejlovic: BiH
is heading
towards EU but
not fast enough

RHB, Pink, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 11 'The importance of European partnership', Dnevni Avaz pg 5, Dnevni List, pg 9 'Government establishes body for European integration', by NINA, Glas Srpske pg 3 'Three months for reaching agreement' by Lj. Cicic – RS Prime minister Pero Bukejlovic met with Chief of EC delegation in BiH Michael Humphreys in Banja Luka on Tuesday. He stated on the occasion that RS Government started to form a coordination body for European integrations. Humphreys agreed that it is necessary to improve communication, coordination and determination of appropriate procedures on which he will speak with representatives of BiH Directorate for European Integrations. During the meeting, Humphreys said that BiH was heading towards the European integrations, but not fast enough. When it comes to police reform, Humphreys said that the Police Reform Commission's report did not state whether entities' Ministries of Interior should be abolished, and that the decision should be brought by BiH institutions in charge. Humphreys said when it comes to police reform, authorities should be transferred to the state level, regional organization should be in line with technical and operative principles and police should be freed from political impact. *"Politicians should be involved in general politics; they should not directly impact the police"*, said Humphreys. He added that a great progress had been achieved when it comes to the issue of cooperation with the ICTY. He welcomes RS' determination to make progress in this domain.

<p>Terzic proposes constitutional change regarding salaries for BiH officials</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz cover splash, pg 2 'Officials' salaries will be possible to reduce' by <u>S.N.</u> – DA learns that BiH Ministers today should discuss the proposal by the Chair of the Council of Ministers, Adnan Terzic, to change BiH Constitution by removing Article IX, Paragraph II. The disputable article stipulates that the salaries of persons working in BiH institutions cannot be reduced during their mandate. Terzic says that the officials cannot be guaranteed with the amount of money they receive, and secondly he hopes to ensure flexible budget for the new state institutions. If the ministers adopt this constitutional change, they will also meet one of the IMF demands for decreasing the costs of public administration.</p>
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<p>Decision on Constituency of Peoples is not being implemented</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Peoples have equal rights only on paper' <u>by N. Krsman</u> – BiH Constitutional Court has no information on as to how the decision on Constituency of Peoples is being implemented, as BiH Constitutional Court Secretary Dusko Kalember confirmed Tuesday. <i>'The Court had reached the decision on Constituency of Peoples and set a deadline by which it needs to be implemented, yet competent entities' institutions and other authority bodies must keep records on the implementation of the Decision'</i>, Kalember explained. Information of F BiH Constitutional Court reads that, although it had been almost three years since HR had imposed amendments to F BiH Constitution with regard to realization of the decision on Constituency of Peoples, F BiH Parliament still had not adopted these changes. On the other hand, bodies of executive and legislative authority have been established in accordance with the imposed amendments. The information further reads some Cantons still have not harmonized their constitutions with F BiH Constitution, although the deadline expired in January 2003.</p>
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<p>SD: HR Ashdown was perfidious in removing Covic</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 19, mentioned on front 'Dragan Covic left for HDZ to destroy him', by <u>Ivica Mlivoncic</u> – The author calls the decision by the High Representative, Paddy Ashdown, to remove the Croat member of BiH Presidency, Dragan Covic, "<i>perfidious</i>" and goes on to say that the HR knew that the decision would cause mess within the HDZ, which will be fighting among each other regarding Covic's successor. According to the author, all this will happen during times when the strongest Croat party in BiH (HDZ) should be dealing with problems that are related to the survival of Croats in BiH, and by taking the decision, the HR manages to destroy the HDZ from within.</p>
<p>Sarovic: Covic was legitimate Croat representative</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 19 'Punishment for cooperative ones too', by <u>A. Macanovic</u>, Vecernji List, pg 10 'Croats gave lecture to Serbs', by <u>B. S.</u> – Former member of BiH Presidency, Mirko Sarovic, stated it was pity that Dragan Covic got removed from the BiH Presidency because he was a legitimate representative of the Croat people. In an interview to the Belgrade-based 'Vecernje novosti', Sarovic stated that for as long as a High Representative was in BiH, nobody would be in position to protect his/her fundamental rights and freedoms, nor would any institution have the power to question Paddy Ashdown's decisions.</p>

<p>CoE, OSCE: BiH violated CoE post-accession obligations</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 2 'BiH violates post-accession obligations of Council of Europe', <u>nit signed</u> – The Council of Europe and OSCE reminded BiH authorities that the existence of 54 'two schools under one roof' represents a grave violation of post-accession obligations after BiH became a member of Council of Europe. A joint press release by the CoE and OSCE says that procedures for abolishment of such schools must be completed by end May, so the new measures could be in place by the start of the next school year. Sarajevo media also covered the issue.</p>
<p>PDP replies to SDS: SDS recognised itself in Ivanic's assessments</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 4, announced on cover 'PDP: SDS recognised itself in Ivanic's assessments' by <u>V.P.</u> – The daily notes that PDP officials are of the view that the attempted satanisation of this party under the veil of fight against crime is on scene, as well as that it is indicative that PDP coalition partner SDS has recognised itself in assessments of Mladen Ivanic that local centres of power are behind this "political pursuit" against PDP. Gavrilo Antonic, PDP Executive Director said: "We are surprised over these reactions since we made no reference to SDS." He also said that PDP demands from judicial authorities to bring the latest cases of investigation against PDP officials to an end as soon as possible and to uphold or drop charges, since any delay would further politicise the situation.</p>

<p>SCG Foreign Minister Draskovic: Serbian authorities know where is Ratko Mladic</p>	<p>BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje cover page, pg 3 'Serbian authorities know where is Ratko Mladic', Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Ratko Mladic is supported by Serbian secret services', Dnevni List, pg 25 'Serbian security service knows where Ratko Mladic is', <u>not signed</u>, Vecernji List, pg 19 'Mladic protected by authorities', by <u>H. Slobodna Dalmacija</u>, pg 8 'Serbian authorities know well where Mladic is', by <u>H. Srpski Nacional</u> cover pg splash 'Is someone lying?' and pg 13 'Serbian authorities know where Mladic is hiding', Vecernje Novosti pg 7, announced on cover 'Services are hiding Mladic' by <u>P. Vasiljevic</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'BIA can arrest Mladic as soon as today' by <u>N. N.</u> – Former RS Army Commander Ratko Mladic is hiding from the Serbian government with the help of the Serbian Security Information Agency (SIA), said Serbia-Montenegro Minister of Foreign Affairs Vuk Draskovic. It is logical that the SIA knows where Mladic is, Draskovic told "Financial Times", because without their protection Mladic would not be able to remain invisible. <i>"If I were prime minister, I would call the SIA chief and ask him where Mladic is. If he replied that he did not know, I would dismiss him from the position"</i>, BHT reporter quoted Draskovic's words. "Financial Times" stressed that Draskovic's statement is the first claim of this kind from a high Serbian official.</p> <p>BHT, Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Mladic and Karadzic are not (hiding) in military facilities', Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Mladic and Pavkovic are not in military facilities' by <u>Beta</u>, Srpski Nacional pg 3 'They are not hiding in military facilities' <u>not signed</u>, Glas Srpske, pg 8 'Neither Mladic nor Pavkovic' <u>not signed</u> – On the other hand, Serbia-Montenegro Defence Minister Prvoslav Davinic said that Serbian security services don't know where Mladic and Radovan Karadzic are, and that there are no Hague suspects hiding in military facilities.</p>
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<p>Orthodox Bishop Grigorije in Washington : War crime suspects should prove their innocence before ICTY</p>	<p>Glas Srpske pg 3 'Innocence to be proved in the Hague' by <u>M.B.</u> – Trebinje-based Orthodox Bishop Grigorije stated in Washington that <i>"persons accused of war crimes should surrender to the Hague Tribunal. Those people should be told that it is hard when one person is hurt, but it is not good at all when everybody is hurt because of one. On behalf of people and in the name of God, if they believe in it, those people should be called to prove their innocence before the ICTY."</i></p>
<p>BiH Presidency member Tihic: Commission for Truth has to be established</p>	<p>Pink, Hayat, Oslobodjenje pgs 4-5, mentioned on cover 'Comparing Sarajevo with Srebrenica senseless' <u>S. Rozajac</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Some does not want the truth to be established', Dnevni List, pg 6 'Prevent manipulation with number of victims of war', by <u>Mensud Zorlak</u> – BiH Presidency member, Sulejman Tihic said during his visit to the Sarajevo-based Research-Documentation Center on Tuesday that it was necessary to investigate into events, which happened in BiH during the war, in order not to manipulate the number of war victims any longer. Tihic says that BiH Commission for Truth has to be established, which would, in professional way, investigate sufferings in all BiH municipalities. Competent BiH Ministry is considering the idea, but there is still no final proposal. Recently, there have been many speculations on the number of war victims in BiH. <i>"With all due respect to all Serbs who were killed in Sarajevo on both sides, I think that the events which took place in BiH and in the region are trying to be politicized"</i>, said Tihic. Even though there is still no consensus on establishment of the Commission, Tihic stresses its relevance/importance, especially due to the fact that it would be consisted of experts, who do not belong to any political party, since any other solution brings BiH nations into fresh disputes.</p>

<p>DL op-ed: Tihic slow in visiting Investigative centre</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 2 'Slowed down Tihic', by <u>Mensud Zorlak</u> – Commenting on the yesterday's (first) visit by the Bosniak member of BiH Presidency, Sulejman Tihic, to the 'Investigative-documentation centre', when he said that the centre was the only institution that is objective in establishing the truth about the last war, the author argues that Tihic's patriotism woke up only after the RS Prime Minister Pero Bukejlovic's "lies" about the suffering of the Sarajevo Serbs, despite the fact that the centre has been active for several years already.</p>
<p>Ivanic: Bosniak Ministers are hindering establishment of commission on sufferings in Sarajevo</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 9 'Bosniak ministers are hindering establishment of Commission for sufferings in Sarajevo' by <u>SRNA</u> – Mladen Ivanic Tuesday stated that there is no agreement at BiH COM regarding the establishment of Sarajevo Commission (which would establish the truth about suffering of Serbs, Bosniaks, Jews and others in Sarajevo during the war) owing to a negative stance on this issue by Ministers of Bosniak nationality. He told SRNA: <i>"This problem must be resolved in the coming ten days. The truth must come to the surface soon or later..."</i> He added that a great opposition is offered from F BiH towards demand from RS public regarding the establishment of the Commission.</p>

<p>RSNA rejects to condemn PM Bukejlovic's statement on war crimes in Sarajevo/Srebrenica</p>	<p>Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje pg 4 'Condemnation of Bukejlovic's statement rejected', Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'SDA requested for condemnation of Bukejlovic's statement', Slobodna Dalmacija, back pg 'Exchange of fire' between Serb and Bosniak representatives', by <u>A. Macanovic</u>, Nezavisne novine pg 4 'Discussion on declaration of SDA was rejected' by <u>V. P.</u>, Glas Srpske pg 2 'Ramp for Ahmetovic' by <u>N. Diklic</u> – RS National Assembly is not going to take any stance on RS PM Pero Bukejlovic's statement on genocide against Serbs being committed in Sarajevo.</p> <p>Proposal of SDA representative, Sadik Ahmetovic, to put the adoption of Declaration, by which RS PM's statement would be condemned, on the agenda, was not supported by necessary majority. Ahmetovic said that such statement expanded national hatred. SRS representative, Milenko Mihajlica said that Ahmetovic's proposal was an attempt for the real truth to be hidden; namely the fact that Serbs were killed during the war. <i>"By minimizing Serb victims, the full truth is being hidden and the most responsible SDA structures, who committed crimes against Serbs, are being protected"</i>, said Mihajlica. <i>"I only wanted to protect what has been proved – the fact that genocide was committed in Srebrenica in 1995, and that was my intention"</i>, said Ahmetovic. <i>"This is a story which has been present for 10 years now and due to this citizens are not able to have some of their main problems solved"</i>, said SNSD representative, Igor Radojicic.</p>
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BiH Prosecution receives names of public office holders involved in Srebrenica crime	TV Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS – BiH Prosecution has received the RS Government's report, which identifies 892 persons, involved in events in Srebrenica, but who are still employed within BiH institutions. BiH Prosecution has established a team to look into the report. BiH Prosecution could not disclose names stated in the list, until an official procedure related to the issue is not completed.
RS Vice President Osmanovic accuses RS leadership of hiding Srebrenica report	Vecernje Novosti pg 5 'They are hiding report on Srebrenica' – Adil Osmanovic , RS Vice President, has accused RS leadership of hiding the report on Srebrenica from other two constitutive peoples. In regard to this, Osmanovic, <i>"on behalf of all Bosniak and Croat officials of RS"</i> addressed a letter to HR Paddy Ashdown , where he expressed hope that Ashdown would react and examine as to why representatives of other two constitutive peoples must not know the content of the report.
Donja Gradina prepares for 60 th anniversary of escape of the last group of Jasenovac (World War II) concentration camp inmates	Glas Srpske cover pg splash 'Remembering genocide' by <u>M. Batos</u> – announces that on Sunday, April 17, 60 th anniversary of escape of the last group of Jasenovac concentration camp inmates will be marked in Donja Gradina near Kozarska Dubica. Mayor of Kozarska Dubica Branko Barac has stated he expects the ceremony will be attended by RS officials, BiH officials, officials from neighboring countries, Israel, World Congress of Hebrews, representatives of the "Jad-Wasem" Museum of Holocaust, representatives of Serb Orthodox church, Jewish Religious Community and Romany community.

Economic/Social Issues

<p>BiH CoM Chairman Terzic meets IMF's Doyle</p>	<p>BHT, Oslobođenje pg 4 'IMF helped stabilization of BiH', Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'IMF allowed financial discipline establishment', Dnevni List, pg 4 'Terzic and Doyle on development of economic situation', by <u>NINA</u>, FENA – BiH Council of Ministers Chair Adnan Terzic met representatives of the International Monetary Fund led by IMF Mission to BiH Head Peter Doyle in Sarajevo on Tuesday. They discussed current economic and political elements that can influence the future development of the economic situation in BiH. They also discussed regular annual consultations between member states and the IMF. Doyle informed Terzic about the plan of the IMF Mission's visit to BiH. Terzic said that the engagement of the IMF so far has helped the stabilisation of the macroeconomic situation in BiH and ensured discipline in budget spending. He also confirmed his confidence that this visit will help the IMF get an insight into the current political and economic situation in BiH, and based on that information accept arguments of BiH authorities on the need for the development of BiH.</p>
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Terzic: This time BiH is going to negotiate with IMF

Hayat – Up to now, any signing of the agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has been referred to as good news. But, BiH is not going to sign agreement with the IMF without negotiations. The issue is what kind of arguments BiH has, not to accept the money which it is being offered. *“Neither entities’ government nor BiH Council of Ministers has planned any means from IMF in 2005 budget. The crucial thing is that I believe that we have enough internal means in order to finance the external debt. IMF has extremely unfavourable loans, namely they are seven times higher than the funds we received through the World Bank’s funds”,* said the Chair of BiH Council of Ministers, **Adnan Terzic**. Terzic added that BiH was going to sign the 3rd Standby arrangement, but that this time BiH was going to negotiate. Terzic said that he expected the agreement to be signed during the last meeting in Banjaluka. But IMF representatives had new proposals to offer; they asked for administration salaries to be cut down by 15 %. BiH representatives agreed to cut the salaries by 10 %, even though the Constitution states that the salaries cannot be cut down. *“We are ready to do that, to change the Constitution and to cut down the salaries by 10 %, but IMF asked for 15 %, which has no arguments, as far as I am concerned”,* said Terzic. IMF denies that it asks for salaries to be cut down by 15 %.

<p>Trade Unions discuss economic, social situation in BiH</p>	<p>Pink, Hayat, Oslobođenje pg 18 'Government ignores trade unions' recommendations', Dnevni List, pg 8 'Unions want confiscation of illegally acquired property', by <u>D. P. Mandić</u> – Representatives from BiH Independent Trade Union, RS Trade Union and District Brcko Trade Union met in Sarajevo on Tuesday in order to discuss employment and concrete solutions by which poverty would be reduced in BiH. Unfortunately, trade unions are offered unable to do anything, due to numerous criminal lobbies. The Chair of BiH Independent Trade Union, Edhem Biber said that not a single reform should bring a job and workers' social status in question. The Chair of RS Trade Union, Cedo Volas said that workers' dignity should not be violated. It was said that 20 % of BiH citizens lived below poverty limit; employment rate was extremely low, and the same goes for salaries. The labor market has to be improved, in line with laws and labor market economy. According to BiH Independent Trade Union there is 640.000 employed, 488.000 unemployed and 450.000 pensioners. There are 100.000 of those, working at the black market. BiH Independent Trade Union, RS Trade Union and District Brcko Trade Union have agreed that the existing labor market, privatization, social program and pension funds have to be analyzed. The Chair of BiH Independent Trade Union, Edhem Biber said that privatization should be continued but that all irregularities had to be investigated and removed. The Chair of RS Trade Union, Cedo Volas said that privatization process had to be revised. Representatives of the World bank and International Monetary Fund attended the meeting, and they stated that 1.1 billion dollars had been invested in reconstruction in BiH, which included reform of this sector.</p>
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<p>Mostar Fair opens</p>	<p>Dnevni List, front pg splash and pgs 16-17 'Mostar Fair opened', by <u>NINA/De. L.</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 18, mentioned on front 'More than 500 exhibitors', by <u>Zoran Zekic</u>, Vecernji List, pgs 64-69, mentioned on front 'International fair Mostar 2005 opened' – The 8th Mostar International Fair was opened in Mostar yesterday (Tuesday) by the FBiH President, Niko Lozancic. On this occasion, Lozancic stated: <i>"These people want to participate in building of a European and democratic BiH. They are not affected by catastrophic omens or assessments of our almighty administrators"</i>. China is this year's partner country. Sarajevo media, Nezavisne Novine pg 15, announced on cover 'More than 550 exhibitors from 29 countries will participate' by <u>V. Coric</u> also reported on the event.</p>
<p>Legalization of illegal construction in RS</p>	<p>EuroBlic cover pg splash and pg RS4 'Who ever fails to legalize will be forced to dismantle' by <u>Zeljka Knezevic</u> – Officials of the Ministry for Urbanism, Construction and Ecology delivered material and aero-photos of 19 municipalities to representatives of Banja Luka Town Administration, in frame of a project that should accelerate resolving of the problem of illegal construction. According to some estimations, there are more than 100,000 illegal buildings in RS, out of which number there are approximately 10,000 illegal buildings in Banja Luka . The deadline for submitting applications for legalization will be 6 months, yet some permits will not be issued for some of these buildings because they do not meet legal pre-requisites for legalization. Such buildings will have to be dismantled.</p>

Legal Proceedings

FBiH Govt had paid 500,000 KM to former UN officer Vega as reward for information on Leutar murder

Nezavisne Novine cover pg splash and pg 3 'F BiH paid 500,000 KM to Oscar Vega' by V. Sisic – The Government of F BiH had paid 500,000 KM to former UN official **Oscar Vega** as a reward for "information" on the murder of former Deputy Interior Minister **Jozo Leutar**, as a source close to the investigation claims. The source claims Vega was working for **Jacques Paul Klein** and was in contact with foreign intelligence services. According to the source, it was Klein and Government of **Edhem Bicakcic** who had approved the payment. Former F BiH PM Bicakcic had rejected these claims, saying it is true that a reward was offered for any relevant information regarding the murder of Jozo Leutar but, since there was no such information, the reward was paid to nobody. F BiH President **Niko Lozancic** Tuesday confirmed he is in possession of information that the F BiH Government had transferred 500,000 KM *'to the account of an officer of UN'*.

Knezevic: It is uncertain will FBiH Prosecution investigate Leutar case

Oslobodjenje pg 2 'Uncertain whether there will be an investigation on irregularities', mentioned on cover, by A. Omeragic – On Tuesday, the FBiH Chief Prosecutor, **Zdravko Knezevic**, could not confirm will the FBiH Prosecution open the investigation to determine the possible irregularities in processing the case of a murder of former FBiH Deputy Interior Ministry, **Jozo Leutar**. Knezevic, asked by FBiH President **Niko Lozancic** to investigate why Leutar's murder was not solved six years after it was committed, told daily that the priority is to determine how come this case got into going in such wrong direction. Stressing that mistakes do not necessarily mean that the law was breached, Knezevic refused to confirm whether protected witness, UNMIBH official, was paid a large sum of money from FBiH budget as speculated.

<p>BiH Court rejects objections/appeals by defendants' lawyers in 'Croat self-rule' case</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 3 'Start of trials at end of month', mentioned on front 'Objections by defence in 'self-rule' case rejected', by <u>Erna Mackic</u> – The BiH Court yesterday (Tuesday) rejected all appeals/objections of lawyers of indictees in the 'Croat self-rule' case (Ante Jelavic, Miroslav Prce and Dragan Curcic). Objections were related to taking of oath by foreign judges and prosecutors, use of English language in the courtroom, illegitimacy of foreign judges and jurisdiction of the BiH Court. The first trial is scheduled for April 28, which is the first available date. The issue is also covered by Vecernji List, pg 11 'Solitary cell makes defence difficult', by <u>Ana Drmac</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 19, mentioned on front 'English is official language in BiH!?', by <u>Zlatko Tulic</u>, Sarajevo media, ezavisne Novine pg 5 'Trial in case of Croat self-rule was postponed' by <u>A. Durmo</u>.</p>
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