OHR BiH Media Round-up, 6/6/2006

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 6 June

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	**BH Radio 1** (12,00 hrs)	**RTRS** (12,00 hrs)
BiH Prosecution-Canada cooperate	8th day of hunger strike in Mittal	RS Pres Cavic visitingUK
Ivo Miro Jovic in central Bosnia	Explosion in Jahorina hurts 3	RS PM Dodik in Novi Sad
Oil prices going up	Civil war victims protest	Bomb explosion at Jahorina

TV news broadcast on 5 June

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	**TV PINK** (18,00 hrs)	**BHT 1** (19,00 hrs)
CRO Govt donates MO University	Issue of mitigation of visa regime	Distribution of VAT revenues
Jovic in visit to HB Elektroprivreda	BiH & Slovakia signed 2 agreements	Canada arrests linked with BiH?
HVIDRA in session	Dodik on single account	Better visa regime for BiH citizens?
MO HDZ marks 16th anniversary	Dzombic on single account	Exhumations start at Buk-Bijela

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	**FTV** (19,30 hrs)	**RTRS** (19,30 hrs)
BiH Fiscal Council in session	Distribution of VAT revenues	BiH Fiscal Council had meeting
Liberalization of visa regime	Mittal Steel workers' strike	Police reform issue

Report on low birth rate in BiH	Protest of Sipad and Vranica workers	BiH proposal on visa regime mitigat.
Ljubinac pleads not guilty	Exhumations start at Buk-Bijela	Issue of constructions regulations

Oslobodjenje	Visa regime liberalization by end of year
Dnevni Avaz	[Islamic Community leader Reis Ceric] We listen messages similar to those from 1992
Dnevni List	Military ship chases away tourists (Turkish military ship allegedly chases away tourists from neum)
Vecernji List	Open hunt for Croats has begun (HVIDRA – Croat war veterans' session in Mostar)
Slobodna Dalmacija	Zubak and Jurisic gunning for power together! (HSP Djapic-Jurisic and NHI sign coalition agreement)
Nezavisne Novine	Un-blocking was agreed upon *[BiH Fiscal Council session]*
Glas Srpske	Sincere tears of joy *[RS PM handed over keys of apartments to families of killed soldiers and war invalids in Gradiska]*
EuroBlic	The Government got positive mark and a list of new demands [First 100 days of RS Govt]
Vecernje novosti	Features Serbian related titles

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY

Three Bosniaks injured in Jahorina by bomb thrown at them	**RTRS – Enes Causevic, Dzenan Kadic** and **Dzafer Kadic,** all residents of Trnovo, were injured at Jahorina when an unidentified person last night threw a bomb at them. The three have been hospitalized at Kosevo hospital and are out of life danger. One person was released for home treatment, second patient is slightly injured, while one person was seriously injured. According to **Danka Tesic,** Spokesperson of the Public Security Centre East Sarajevo, police is investigating crime scene. **BH Radio 1** also reported without names, but noting three Bosniaks were injured.
Civic victims of war protests in front of FBiH Parliament's building in Sarajevo	**RTRS –** Around 200 civic victims of war have this morning gathered in front of the FBiH Parliament' building in Sarajevo, protesting against proposed changes to the Law, in line with which, the authority of this category of population would be reduced for 70%. The protestors demand their incomes are legally bound in the ration of 70% of incomes of war invalids. **BH Radio 1** also reported.

FBiH HoR to vote on Law on right of elected officials	**BH Radio 1** by Ljiljana Radl – FBiH House of Representatives is in session today discussing the Law proposal on Rights of Elected Officials in the FBiH Institutions. At the last session, FBiH HoR has discussed the Law, but the voting was postponed as the provisions law has provoked strong reactions in the public mostly caused by the large food allowances which were originally envisaged 39 KM per day but now have been reduced to 26 KM per day.

Economic and property issues

BiH Fiscal Council temporarily unblocks single VAT account; talks on permanent solution to continue on June 20	**BHT1** by Irena Kljajic – The BiH Fiscal Council – in attendance of the three Prime Ministers – on Monday reached an agreement on allocation of public revenues from the Indirect Taxation Administration's single account which will temporary unblock the payments to the FBiH, RS and Brcko District for June. BiH CoM Chair **Adnan Terzic**, RS PM **Milorad Dodik** and FBiH PM **Ahmet Hadzipasic** announced the talks to solve this issue would be continued soon. "*[On Monday] we have reached an agreement to lift the blockade [of the account]…[and] to implement regulations of the agreement three of us signed on April 26* [note: agreement says final decision on the coefficients would be made on a base of the VAT returns]*, and that the coefficients for June – but only for June – are established in line with that agreement*", stated Terzic. Dodik stressed he is against blocking of the account and underlined that according to previous agreement 32% of VAT revenues belong to the RS, 2% to Brcko District, and remaining 66% to FBiH. "*We have accepted distribution of funds for June to be carried out on a basis of this agreement; however, new solution should be proposed by June 20, and it should be the best possible solution for the sustainability of the entire system*", stated Dodik. FBiH officials announced that they would not agree to blackmails; they deem that the final agreement should be satisfying for all sides. "*We all should take only what belong to us. We don't want somebody else's money, but we also don't want to give our own [money]*", stressed FBiH PM Hadzipasic. New meeting is scheduled for June 20, when the final solution on the distribution of money collected by the Indirect Taxation Administration should be reached. **FTV-** "*ITA, and the experts of ITA Steering Board should propose the way we are going to calculate coefficients after July 1, in order to avoid new blockades*", stated Terzic. **RTRS –** "*We believe that the fixed allocation [criteria] should be seriously considered. We should put this into law so we will not have daily or monthly problems regarding blockade of the single account*", said Dodik. **Hayat, PINK, Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 'Account for entities unblocked for June' by T.Lazovic, **Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'Single account temporarily unblocked' by FTV, **Nezavisne Novine** cover pg splash 'Un-blocking was agreed upon' and pg 3 'Un-blocking of distribution of public funds today' by R. Cengic, **EuroBlic** pg RS2 'RS pleads for settling of accounts' by Srna, **Glas Srpske** pg 3 'Temporary agreement' by Z. Domazet **–** carried shorter reports.

EU against introduction of VAT zero rate, CoM Chair Terzic would not propose this rate for introduction	**RTRS –** BiH Fiscal Council also discussed the letter by the EC on potential introduction of the zero VAT rate, which reads this rate is not in line with the European laws. Subsequently, it was concluded BiH CoM Chair **Adnan Terzic** would propose to BiH Parliament not to make any changes of the VAT rates in 2006. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 'Brussels against introduction of VAT zero rate' by S.N. – In this letter, the EU Director-General for Economic and Financial Affairs **Klaus Regling** stated: "*Zero rates are not in line with EU legislative on VAT, but only lower rates, and only for specific types of products.*" Regling also warned that decreasing VAT rate would decrease budget income, which would further lead to "*significant threat to financial stability of country*". He concluded that zero rate could open larger possibilities for mistakes and irregularities in the system.
RS PM Dodik: RS to reconsider transfer of authorities it had made in indirect taxation system	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 'Account for entities unblocked for June' by T.Lazovic, **Nezavisne Novine** cover pg splash 'Un-blocking was agreed upon' and pg 3 'Un-blocking of distribution of public funds today' by R. Cengic Inset 'Dodik: Dixon's decision is illegal' – RS PM **Milorad Dodik** stated on Monday that the decision of ITA Steering Board Chair **Joly Dixon** to block the distribution of ITA funds was completely illegal and he announced RS would reconsider the transfer of authorities it had made in indirect taxation system, if it will be dissatisfied with the system.

RS Finance Minister Dzombic: system for allocation of VAT-revenues unreliable; says two existing banking agencies could be merged into one with seat in BL	**PINK** by Dragica Tojagic – RS Prime Minister **Aleksandar Dzombic** believes that the Indirect Taxation Administration (ITA) allocation system is not reliable. Dzombic proposed the introduction of a new model which would be based on participation of entities in payment o foreign debts by which to RS would obtain 3.5% more revenues in comparison with the current 29.5%. Dzombic also criticises BiH Telekom and said their VAT forms for January/ February were not correct, and further claimed that these situations affect coefficients on expenditures. Commenting the OHR initiative for the establishment of a single BiH banking supervision, which would foresee closure of the entities' banking agencies, Dzombic said that if the RS accepts such option, this supervision should not be the responsibility of BiH Central Bank but an independent institution with a seat in Banja Luka. He added that Central Bank does not have the infrastructure and resources for these affairs, given that the two Entity banking agencies possess all the resources and infrastructure thus he believes it would be easier to merge the two agencies. **RTRS** – Dzombic denied the statement of **Adnan Terzic**, BiH CoM Chair, that entities and cantons irrationally spend money from ITA single account. **Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'Allocation system unreliable' by O.V., **Glas Srpske** pg 3 'Policy of depriving Srpska [of benefits]' by D. Vrhovac Mihajlovic, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'Agency should not control banks only' by D. Risojevic, **Dnevni List**, pg 9 'New model of distribution of indirect taxes needed', not signed – also reported.
OHR: two banking agencies would be excessive	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'Agency should not control banks only' by D. Risojevic Inset 'OHR: two agencies are excessive' – OHR Spokesperson **Ljiljana Radetic** stated the existence of two banking agencies that would deal with same tasks would be excessive, since the banks already have the possibility of conducting inter-entity businesses. '*It is expensive and inefficient to maintain two banking agencies*', Radetic noted.

DA op-ed: RS PM Dodik is blocking reforms from which he cannot have financial interest	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 3 'Dodik's fight for surplus of incomes' op-ed by Tarik Lazovic – Commenting that in gaining power, the RS Prime Minister **Milorad Dodik** was mainly motivated by millions of KM of the surplus in budget incomes [due to VAT collection], editorial reads that "*Dodik is excellently using state treasury, a product of reforms he is fighting against.*" Noting that "*RS is preventing implementation of state law and takes millions KM that FBiH citizens paid through VAT. This political arrogance, unfortunately, passes without consequences, without strong resistance and true reaction, which is the worst,*" author comments that Dodik is blocking other reforms for he sees no financial interest.
Economists, syndicate activists, pensioners and veterans give passing grade to RS Government for first 100 days of its work	**EuroBlic** cover pg splash, RSpg 1 'A passing grade and list of new demands to Government' by Rajna Radosavljevic – Daily reports that economists (**Mladen Micic,** president of RS Chamber of Commerce), syndicate activists (**Ranka Misic**, RS Syndicate Union Chair), pensioners (**Rade Rakulj** President of RS Pensioners' Association) and veterans (**Pantelijha Curguz** President of RS Veterans' Association) share the view in the first 100 days of its work, the RS Government has not implemented any major thing in the field of economy, but it did not disappoint them either. Although all of them share the view the result of **Milorad Dodik's** Cabinet are "*coloured with pre-election campaign*", more important actions regarding privatisation of strategic companies, resolving the status of employees who lost jobs and improvement of material status of pensioners, veterans and disabled persons are expected. According to inset 'Topic: Link with election campaign' – **Tanja Topic,** political analyst, is of the view what differs current RS Government from previous ones is the fact legislative activities were followed by Parliament, owing to which reason promises within the field of legislation were fulfilled. She is also of the view pre-election campaign has started.
World Bank: Economy in BiH growing, so is inflation	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Living costs increased for seven percents' by Agencies, **Vecernji List**, pg 4 'BiH economy growing, inflation too', not signed – according to a statement released by the World Bank in BiH, the country's economy in first quarter of 2006 has recorded strong expansion (5%) owing to foremost the growing mining and metal industry, however in the same time the inflation in BiH has grown. WB also raised concern related to slowing of key social and economic structural reforms.

Osl: Peljesac bridge to be used in election campaigns for Croatian elections; PM Sanader and Cro President Mesic disagree on solution	**Oslobodjenje** pgs 4-5 'More and more voices in Croatia are against the Peljesac bridge', mentioned on cover, by Darjan Zadravec, Zagreb – After the meeting of the BiH Presidency Chair **Sulejman Tihic** and Croatian President **Stjepan Mesic** at the Summit of SEE Presidents in Opatija, Mesic stated that bridge to peninsula Peljesac could be more expensive then some other solutions to connect the lowest southern parts of Croatia, for instance building the highway trough BiH. However, the PM **Ivo Sanader** didn't agree with Mesic, whereas parties HSS and SDP supported it.As author comments the issue of Peljesac bridge could become the main item of the election campaigns upcoming next year in Croatia. Inset 'Bridge doesn't exclude the road'- Sanader stated: *"I respect everything that President Mesic thinks and says on some issues, but here we do not agree and I think differently. And, we are moving forward to building the bridge."* Inset 'Let the profession say what it has'- Commenting the disagreement with Sanader on this issue, Mesic said it is best to allow experts to say what should be a priority in Croatian development. Inset 'New talks BiH – Croatia soon'- State Commissions of BiH and Croatia should met on June 12 to discuss the issue and it is expected that Croatia would propose building of bascule bridge, in order to allow free exist to sea for BiH. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 10 'I don't know whether I am in dispute with Sanader' by Agencies – Mesic's reaction.
SDP's Lagumdzija: SDP will insist on Law on Confiscation of Illegally Acquired Property	**Dnevni List**, pg 8, mentioned on front 'Prove who is criminal', by Mensud Zorlak – Leader of SDP, **Zlatko Lagumdzija**, noted that his party's already third initiative in the BiH Parliament, the aim of which is to adopt the law on confiscation of illegally acquired property, should show who criminals in BiH are. He explained that SDA MPs were against the law on last two occasions.

Political issues

Technical negotiations on mitigation of visa regime to result with some agreement on scholars, students, businessmen; Officials talks to launch in fall	**BHT1** by Marina Martinovic – According to the first outcome of the informal technical negotiations between BiH and the EU on liberalization of visa regime that started on May 30, by the end of year visa regime could be mitigated for scholars, students, journalists, athletes and businessmen from BiH. The talks are informal as the EC has not yet been given mandate for the negotiations, while the formal negotiations on visa facilitation should start in autumn, confirmed BiH Foreign Minister's Assistant for Legal and Consular Affairs **Zoran Perkovic**. However, BiH would have to fulfil numerous conditions if it wants visa regime to be completely abolished. "*According to the statements of the European Commissioner [for Justice and Interior **Franco**] **Frattini**, the agreement on readmission with the EC and the introduction of biometrical passports are two conditions BiH will have to fulfil*", explained representative of the BiH Security Ministry Security **Bakir Dautbasic**. **PINK –** Dautbasic added that mitigation of visa regime might also include other categories such as individuals that need medical treatment in the EU countries or those with family members in the EU countries. Perkovic said that EU officials promised to discuss this issue and that the effects of the visa mitigation could be expected at the end of the year. It was also mentioned that BiH has signed contracts on readmission with all Schengen member countries except France and Finland. **Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 'Mitigations for certain categories first' by M. Cubro, **EuroBlic** pg RS3 'BiH has nine requests' by D. Stanisic, **Glas Srpske** pg 5 'Europe cracked the door open' by Z. Domaze, **Dnevni List**, pg 2 'Easier to visa for nine categories of citizens', by Erna Mackic, **Vecernji List**, pg 2 'Lifting of visas after biometric passports', by Eldina Medunjanin **–** carried similar reports.

Visa liberation regime demands: revision of naturalized citizens	**Oslobodjenje** cover splash, pg 6 'Mitigating of visas for the EU by end of the year' by M.Kavaz Sirucic – Deputy of the BiH Foreign Minister in charge of the Consular Affairs, **Zoran Perkovic**, stated that BiH has proposed several categories for which the visa regime would be alleviated and by which BiH's final goal is to get to the so-called "Schengen White List". Inset 'Revision of Naturalized'- Obligations defined in 'visa module for BiH', which have to be fulfilled by mid of next year [so that BiH could ask for further liberalization or complete abolishment] contain: changes of the Law on moving, residing of foreigners and asylum, passing of series of sub-legal acts on visa issuing manner, as well as finalizing of the process of revision of naturalized citizens.

Bosniak Intellectuals, Orthodox Church as well as Catholic Church condemn poem which insults Jesus Christ	**RHB, Oslobodjenje** pg 5 'To prevent hurting of religious feelings' not signed, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 'VKBI: They demand destruction of collection of poems' by FENA – Bosniak Intellectuals Congress Council sent an open letter to the FBiH Minister of Science and Education **Zijad Pasic** and Sarajevo Canton Minister of Education and Science **Emir Turkusic**, following the publishing of book pf poems which insulted Catholics religious beliefs. [Poem was published in book of Electro-engineeringHigh School from Sarajevo and since it insults Jesus Christ it provoked reactions of CatholicChurch- For details please see Media Round-ups from June 4 and 5]. The Congress asks for each printed copy to be destroyed. **RTRS, Oslobodjenje** pg 5 'Assaulting of Jesus Christ-assault of all believers' not signed, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 'Poem also insults orthodox believers', **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'School poem insults Christians' by V.B. – Dobrobosanska Orthodox Bishop's Diocese condemned publishing of poem, which insults Jesus Christ. Diocese believes that one educational institution instead of promoting such poem should rather educate students on cultural, national and religious tolerance. Cardinal **Vinko Puljic** also condemned publishing of this poem.
Islamic Community leader Ceric: We listen messages similar to those from 1992	**Dnevni Avaz** cover splash, pg 6 'We recently listen messages similar to those from 1992' by A.Malagic – At the occasion of Islamic high school baccalaureate, Islamic Community leader **Reis effendi Ceric** stated that BiH citizens have been recently given different messages: "*Some of them are similar to those we were listening in year 1992 – who owns Bosnia, should there be one or more states, should one take something from BiH. Anyone can go wherever one wants, support the team one likes… but no one has right to take not an inch of Bosnian land*." Ceric also condemned "*all insults on ethnic and religious basis*."

UK Embassy to BiH: the map of The Times does not reflect stance of G. Britain Government	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 4 'The map of "Times" is not a stance of the Government' by R. C. – The Great Britain Embassy to BiH on Monday explained neither the map nor text that were published in "the Times" magazine reflect the stances of the Government of Great Britain. The Times on Saturday published a text on possible future of Europe as well as a map that foresees there would be no BiH in 2020, but instead there would be RS and Herzeg-Bosnia.
London Times editor on map anticipating creation of RS and Herceg-Bosna as separate states: We tried to show that Balkans is still instable	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 2, mentioned on cover 'With map and article we tried to show that Balkans is still instable' by L.Sinanovic – Commenting recently published map and accompanying article which anticipates some about 20 new European states to be formed by 2020, among them Herceg-Bosna and RS, the diplomatic editor of the London-based daily 'The Times', **Richard Beeston,** told DA: "*We wanted to stress the way political map of Europe changed for the last 25 years, and [to point to the fact] it could be changed further. Establishing independent state of Montenegro could easily lead to establishing of independent Kosovo in the near future…. Article is not based on some kind of classified information. I am not even claiming that this would happen for sure. But as someone who was reporting on BiH war, I tried to illustrate how Balkans remained instable even a decade after fall of Yugoslavia.*" Beeston also stressed that this article is not only referring to Balkans, but to entire Europe.

SBiH Vice President Halilovic condemns 'Times' article anticipating creation of RS and Herceg-Bosna as separate states	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'These are not journalist's imaginations, but demonstration of aims of certain British intelligence circles' by E.Sarac – SBiH Vice President **Safet Halilovic** condemned London 'Times' for publishing the map and accompanying article which anticipates creation of Herceg-Bosna and RS as independent states by 2020: "*At the moment when there are new initiatives for RS separation from BiH, such 'cartographies' in British press represents open support to these secessionists efforts.*" Halilovic said that the article was not an incident or innocent journalist's imaginations, but demonstration of aims of certain British intelligence circles against BiH's sovereignty and territorial integrity.
CSS on const. changes: The Catholic bishops went too far with their 'shepardness' and interfered into political decisions	**Sueddeutsche Zeitung** pg 8 'Upsetting stagnation in Belgrade' by Bernhard Küppers – Commenting the talk of RS referendum launched by RS Prime Minister **Milorad Dodik**, in an interview to German daily, the HR **Christian Schwarz-Schilling** said that Dodik had elections in mind, declaring himself as a RS patriot: "*That is however a bubble that rises and will have no permanent effect… Montenegro and RS cannot be compared*." Speaking of his impressions from recent trip to Belgrade, HR said: "*I was upset by the stagnation of Belgrade politics and ongoing story of main ICTY-indictees, like **Ratko Mladic**, were not extradited.*" Noting that constitutional changes failed due to votes of Bosniaks and Croats, author asked CSS to explain the role of Catholic bishops in entire issue to which Schwarz-Schilling responded: "*The Catholic bishops went too far with their 'shepardness' and interfered into political decisions. Looking in long term, the fact that Croats, with Church's blessing, rejected the reform in the Parliament will turn out as a heavy mistake. Rational voices in the Church are already clear with that.*"

VL: Peoples in BiH have to recognize dignity of human beings	**Vecernji List**, pg 2 'Country with human face', by Friar Iko Skoko – the author argues that the two most topical issues in BiH at the moment are the preparations for the forthcoming October elections and 'whispers' that the Serbs will ask for separation from BiH. In such reality, notes Skoko, BiH could become a country of extreme differences that could lead to another war or a country of dialogue that would be an example for Europe. Skoko believes that the remedy lies in the dialogue between all peoples in BiH, which should be identifying best values and interests of all, which foremost have to include dignity of human beings.
SD comment on separation referendum: Croat separatists getting what they want	**Slobodna Dalmacija**, pg 11 'Herceg Bosna returns', by Petar Milos – commenting on the statement by the RS PM, **Milorad Dodik**, regarding possibility of organization of separation referendum in BiH, Milos notes the statement caused numerous reactions by the Bosniak, Serb and IC officials, whilst in the same time the Croat officials kept silent about it, which leads the author to say that they either are sticking to the popular 'silence is gold' saying or simply have nothing to say. On the other hand, Milos argues that Croat separatists in BiH, those who advocate resurgence of 'Herceg-Bosna', are finally happy because they would certainly request a Croat separation referendum in BiH should the RS organize referendum of its own.

JL: Initiative for referendum is ghost over BiH	**Jutarnji List**, pg 18 'Initiative for referendum in RS is new ghost over BiH', by Radovan Stipetic – comments on initiatives related to separation referendum in the RS saying the referendum, which would end in joining of RS and Serbia, would instigate other nationalistic tendencies aimed at division of BiH. Stipetic argues it is the Dayton Peace Accord which is the reason for opening of new 'Pandora's box' in BiH because the entities are sources of instability and conflicts, instead, the author believes the best solution would be to organize BiH in ten or so cantons in which all peoples would be equal, so individual cantons would not be in position to think about joining 'mother lands'. Finally, Stipetic says the HR, **Christian Schwarz-Schilling**, will have more work than he anticipated, believing that Schwarz-Schilling will not be the last HR in BiH despite the IC's original plans.
FAZ: RS PM Dodik speaks of RS referendum only for purpose of wining elections	**Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung** pg 8 'On separate ways' by Michael Martens – Commenting the Montenegrin referendum and subsequent talk of RS referendum by the RS PM **Milorad Dodik**, article reads that "*PM usually described as a reform-oriented… launched only a rhetoric test balloon – elections in BiH are in autumn.*"
Oslob op-ed: Yugoslavia is buried, we need completely new set of politicians	**Oslobodjenje** pg 9 'New set' op-ed by Edin Krehic – Commenting regional impact of Montenegrin independence, editorial reads: "*Fall of former Yugoslavia is coming to its end in which the last unanswered question is Kosovo, still being exported from Belgrade to BiH, i.e. RS. Instead of tensions, we all need cold heads. Yugoslavia is buried… we should start building good neighbours relations. That requires completely new set of politicians.*"

HDZ BiH warns of assimilation and emigration of Croats from BiH	**Dnevni List**, pg 3, mentioned on front 'Prevent demise of Croats', by Dario Pusic – On the occasion of 16th anniversary of HDZ Mostar, the HDZ BiH organized a public forum in Mostar on Monday. According to DL, the main message one could hear during the event was that the reality in BiH includes assimilation and emigration of Croats from BiH, which have to be prevented. The HDZ BiH President, **Dragan Covic**, warned of poor turnout of Croat voters in elections and danger that Croat representatives get elected by Bosniak parties. (similar reports in **Slobodna Dalmacija**, pg 11, mentioned on front 'Croats prepared for emigration', by Z. Zekic, **Vecernji List**, pg 2, mentioned on front 'We will be minority if we do not take part in elections', by Zoran Kresic) **RHB**, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 9 'Covic: Next elections are historic for Croats' by F.Vele, **Oslobodjenje** pg 4 'We need strong and single BiH' by Fena – also reported of anniversary.
VL feature story: Pre-election campaign will be fierce and dirty	**Vecernji List**, pg 5 'Campaign with less money and lots of dirt', by Zdenko Jurilj – according to VL, the pre-election campaign, at least according to representatives of political parties VL has contacted, will be fierce and dirty despite latest provisions in the BiH Election Law, which limits expenditures of political parties during the pre-election campaign. According to HDZ 1990's **Bozo Ljubic**, his party will conduct its campaign in a dignified manner, however should the competition opt to play dirty, HDZ 1990 will know how to reply.

SDS Chair Board to hold session on 21 or 23 June to determine candidates for top positions	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 4 'Cavic and Stojicic candidates for the top functions in RS and BiH' by V.Popovic – Daily learns from a source at SDS top that at the end of this month, the SDS Chair Board will hold a session, at which the candidates for the most important state and entities functions would be determined through a secret vote. As daily learns, the nominations for the top functions – member of BiH Presidency and RS president – were made by **Dragan Cavic and Dusan Stojicic** respectively. As daily learns from its source, SDS Chair Board will hold session on 21 or 23 June, when lists of candidates for RS NA and BiH HoR would be determined. Source notes that if Cavic chooses not to nominate for re-election of RS president, Stojicic or **Mladen Bosic** would be proposed for this position. If Cavic remains in race for RS president, SDS candidates for member of BiH Presidency would be **Ognjen Tadic,** Cavic's advisor, or **Radomir Kezunovic,** East Sarajevo Mayor. Source also says that **Darko Matijasevic,** Cavic's advisor, will remain in reserve as possible solution for BiH security minister.
NHI and HSP Djapic-Jurisic sign coalition agreement, say they will advocate for regionalization of BiH	**Slobodna Dalmacija**, front pg splash and pg 13 'Zubak and Jurisic gunning for power together!', by Marko Karacic – Presidents of HSP Djapic-Jurisic and NHI, **Zvonko Jurisic** and **Kresimir Zubak** respectively, signed an agreement in Mostar on Monday, according to which the two parties will take part in October elections in coalition at all levels. The coalition's candidate for the office of Croat member of BiH Presidency will be Zvonko Jurisic. **Dnevni List**, pg 7 'NHI and HSP Djapic-Jurisic together in elections', not signed – Jurisic noted that the coalition would advocate for regionalization of BiH. **RHB, Vecernji List**, pg 2 'NHI and HSP together on lists', by Fena, M. V. also reported.

SDU and BOSS sign coalition agreement for upcoming elections	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 8 'RS must not be named "Srpska" in new BiH constitution' by D. Mu. – SDU and BOSS held a press conference on Monday, during which they announced they would act as a coalition under the name "Patriotic Block" at the October elections and added the clause on impossibility of separation of any part of BiH and abolishment of prefix "Serb" in the name of RS will be important elements of new BiH Constitution these parties would suggest to be included. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 9 'SDU and BOSS in coalition on next elections' by A.Malagic – also announced.
Oslob op-ed: RS PM Dodik is the strongest in the country, building strength on fear of him	**Oslobodjenje** pg 9 'Fear of Dodik' op-ed by Zija Dizdarevic – Editorial refers to the letter addressed by the **Ivo Bilic Markulj**, representative of Croat community in Ilidza municipality [Sarajevo], protesting against the initiative of the BiH Ambassador to Turkey to include this municipality in the "Union of Turk world", in which he calls on RS Prime Minister **Milorad Dodik** to help out. The author takes this example of demonstrating Dodik's strength, as Markulj was "*convinced that [Dodik] would answer [his] call*" as local politicians in FBiH "*are afraid of him here*". Thus, believes Mrkulj, the problem would be solved. Commenting this statement, and on one made by DEPOS Co-Chair **Svetlana Cenic** [who said that FBiH sees Dodik as competition], editorial reads "*Dodik is being perceived from two environments, two angles as someone people are afraid of and someone who can solve issues on that basis. RS PM and SNSD leader became political particularity with a different and stronger influence on BiH scene than any other RS politician after the war.*" Noting that "*Dodik is as much strong as BiH is weak*", author concludes that in the situation in which 'movement for Greater Serbia' is again threatening BiH's Euro-Atlantic perspective "*it is necessary for USA, EU, NATO and OHR, together with parties that are in alliance with Dodik to make clear and common response.*"

PBS General Director Maric: ideal solution would be to change the law on allocation of TV-subscription	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 10 'Unjust allocation took FTV in crisis' by A.Gajevic – Commenting that 50% of TV-subscription income belongs to Public Broadcasting System [PBS] while other half is being split between FTV and RTRS [25% each], FTV Director **Jasmin Durakovic** stated that FTV is suffering due to such budget allocation. He claims that 80% of all TV-subscribers live in FBiH territory. PBS General Director **Drago Maric** said this situation for FTV also damages the PBS, concluding ideal solution would be to change the law on allocation of TV-subscription.
NN op-ed comments on adoption of Draft High Education Law: outvoting had become natural	**Nezavisne Novine** op-ed pg 7 'Education' by Sandra Gojkovic – The author reminds BiH CoM adopted Draft Law on High Education in spite to disagreement of RS Ministers and comments it is obvious something is wrong in the state when no consensus can be reached on a crucial element of Bologna Declaration, i.e. on the Accrediting and Licensing Agency. She also says it is wrong consensus had become outdated category while outvoting had become the most natural thing in decisions of state importance.

Police, security and judicial issues

BiH and Slovakia signed agreement on readmission and police cooperation	**PINK-** BiH Minister of Security **Barisa Colak** and Slovakian Minister of Interior **Martin Pado** signed on Monday the agreement on readmission of persons who do not meet the legal conditions for entering or staying on territories of the signatory states, as well as the agreement on police cooperation in fighting all forms of crime and terrorism. After the signing, Minister Colak said that this agreement is of a great importance for both countries. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 8 'Pado: To start process of visa abolishment as soon as possible' by Onasa – Pado stressed that "*signing of the agreement enable process of visa abolishment as soon as possible*". **RHB, BHT1, FTV, Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'To exploit experiences of other countries that crossed the European path' by Fena, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 2 'Agreement on police cooperation' by Agencies **–** also carried.

BiH Security Ministry to investigate Canadian media allegations that terrorism arrests are linked to BiH	**BHT1** by Mirela Cosic – BiH Security Ministry will investigate Canadian media reports, according to which seventeen persons, arrested under suspicion they have planned to commit a series of terrorist attacks in Canada, are linked with previous arrests in several other countries, including BiH. "*The only thing I can tell you at this point is that we are going to check those reports*", said BiH Security Minister **Barisa Colak**. Canadian police seized approximately three tons of ammonium nitrate, commonly used for making explosives, during the operation; arrested persons are reported to be of Somalian, Egyptian, Jamaican and Trinidadian descent, most of them with Canadian citizenship. BHT reporter reminded that five persons suspected of planning terrorist activities have been arrested in BiH at the end of 2005. One of them is **Cesur Abdulkadir**; his attorney **Semso Temin** claims that his client has nothing to do with the group arrested in Canada. BiH Prosecutor's Office indicted those five persons for terrorism; members of Prosecutor's Office admitted that during the investigation they have worked together with security structures in numerous countries, but they did not say which ones. *"You know that BiH still has one unsolved problem, the audit of citizenship… Certainly, it will be solved, maybe even by the end of the year*", stated Colak. So far, 38 decisions of giving BiH citizenship have been annulled. **Dnevni List**, pg 4 'We will prove we are not terrorists', by Mensud Zorlak – Minister Colak noted that BiH would prove it is not harbouring terrorists, stressing the problem with the revision of issuance of BiH citizenships, which has often been linked to terrorism threats. Colak hopes the revision will be completed by the end of the year in accordance with laws.

NN source: BiH Prosecutor's Office forwarded information to Canadian colleagues in investigation on 17 suspected terrorists	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 5 'BiH had forwarded information on the arrested terrorists' by M. Cubro – A collocutor of *Nezavisne Novine* at BiH Prosecutor's Office has stated that BiH Prosecutor's Office had forwarded information to their Canadian colleagues regarding the investigation that had resulted in arrest of 17 persons, suspected of terrorism, in Toronto. Canadian media reported 17 persons arrested in Toronto were linked with persons that had been arrested in BiH several months ago under suspicion they have been preparing terrorist activities. Spokesperson of BiH Prosecutor's Office **Boris Grubisic** said BiH PO had cooperated with many countries in investigations on terrorist activities and refused to give any specific details. SIPA also refused to comment on link between persons arrested in BiH and in Toronto. *[The article reminds F BiH MoI arrested **Mirsad Bektasevic, Abdulkadir Cesur** and **Bajro Ikonic** several months ago under suspicion they had been preparing terrorist attack in BIH]*

BiH Security Minister: OSA and police to get wire-tapping equipment	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 4 'Colak: There is no conflict, OSA and police to get equipment' by M.Cubro – Following Monday report in NN (according to which Great Britain and EU would donate a modern wire-tapping equipment to BiH, but Ministers at BiH COM were fighting over as to what institution would get equipment), **Mladen Ivanic**, BiH Foreign Minister, Monday rejected possibility that a new agency (in charge of managing over equipment) would be formed, stressing: "*I do not support establishment of new agencies, since there are already too many institutions. It could easily happen that authorities would overlap.*" He is of the view SIPOA should get the equipment. **Barisa Colak,** BiH Security Minister, also rejected any sort of conflict exists at BiH COM on this, noting: "*There are two projects. Great Britain will donate equipment toIntelligence Agency (OSA), while European Commission will provide tapping devices to police structures.*" He did not want to specify which police structure would get these devices. **Adnan Terzic,** BiH CoM Chair, Monday did not want to comment on alleged clashes at BiH CoM on this issue.

RS officials: RS MoI, Police and regions under their authority are minimum that should be provided	**RTRS** by Nada Arlov – RS Interior Minister **Stanislav Cadjo** believes that decisions passed by the Police Reform Directorate Steering Board without support of the RS representatives would face before the BiH Parliament the same destiny as "Martens plan". Commenting the police reform, the RS National Assembly Speaker **Igor Radojicic** said that RS would not change the recommendations of the RSNA [On 11 May, the RSNA has adopted the "recommendation on model of the future police structure in BiH", which urges the PRD SB to respected the Agreement endorsed by the Assembly in 2005' perseverance of RS MoI and regions within its jurisdiction; and clear structure of new police with a seat in Banja Luka]. "*If FBiH does not care about the Agreement and if they hope that someone would impose decisions, I believe that they will come to their senses very late. Unfortunately, the whole country will delay because of this and we will all suffer because of such way of behaviour*", said Radojicic. BiH Foreign Affairs Minister **Mladen Ivanic** deems that this issue could move away BiH from signing SAA. According to Ivanic, EC is very worried about the issue of police reform and he underlines that some at the EC believe the last year's police reform agreement presents acceptation of the Martens plan while others believe that the last year's police reform agreement opened the way for the new police reform since Martens plan failed. Ivanic asked from EU Enlargement Commissioner **Olli Rehn** that EC takes into consideration proposals on the police reform that come from the RS.

USA report: BiH more and more successful in fight against people trafficking	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'BiH more and more successful in fight against people trafficking' by S. Numanovic – US State Secretary **Condoleezza Rice** presented a report on trafficking people worldwide, which says that the BiH authorities are putting in great effort to fight against trafficking but that the country has not yet reached the standards to eliminate this sort of crime.
Changed law on establishing of Special RS Prosecutor's Office before HJPC as of Wednesday	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 4 'Changed law before HJPC soon' by D. R. – According to sources close to RS Government, a changed draft law on establishing of Special RS Prosecutor's Office will be at HJPC as of Wednesday. According to some information, RS Ministry of Justice had prepared compromise solution to draft changes to the Law on fight against organised and economic crime, which foresees establishing of the Special Prosecutor's Office. RS Government refused to reveal any details on the changes until HJPC presents its stance on this matter.

War crimes

Ljubinac pleads not guilty for war crimes in Rogatica; BiH Prosecution raised indictment with eight points	**Hayat –** On Monday, **Radislav Ljubinac** from Rogatica, charged with war crimes against humanity, pleaded not guilty on all eight counts of the indictment before BiH Court. The indictment, confirmed by the BiH Court in May 2006, explains in details the way in which Ljubinac tortured imprisoned civilians. State Border Service in Zvornik arrested Ljubinac in December 2005. **PINK, BHT1, FTV, Dnevni Avaz** pg 12 'Radislav Ljubinac pleaded not guilty' by N.J, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 9 'Ljubinac pleaded not guilty' by A. Djozo, **Dnevni List**, pg 6 'Ljubinac denies guilt', by E. M. also covered
Hearing for war crimes in case against Damjanovic starts; Prosecution to question 42 witnesses	**FTV –** The main court hearing in a case of **Dragan Damjanovic** commenced on Monday before the BiH War Crime Chamber. Damjanovic is indicted for crimes against humanity – killing, torturing, raping and other inhuman acts – committed in Vogosca and neighbouring villages between July 1992 and January 1993. BiH Prosecutor's Office announced that it would interrogate 42 witnesses and two experts during the court trial. **PINK, BHT1, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz** pg 12 'Prosecutor: Not Court can stay emotionless on witnesses' testimonies' by N.Jamakovic, **Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'Prosecutor announced 42 witnesses and 2 experts' by A.S., **Nezavisne Novine** pg 9 'Prosecutor held introduction speech' by A. Djozo, **Dnevni List**, pg 4 'Prosecution will question 42 witnesses', by E. Mackic, **Vecernji List**, pg 4 'Start of trials to Damjanovic', by ra also reported.

Exhumations in Buk Bijela plant started on Monday; over 20 bodies hidden and buried in a tunnel which was mine	**FTV**by Hasan Gabela – Exhumations of bodies of Bosniaks killed in 1992 started on Monday from the mass grave discovered at the location of Hydroelectric Plant Buk-Bijela near Foca. The bodies have been discovered in a tunnel that was used for examining the porosity of soil; the entrance to this tunnel was mined after the bodies have been buried. Representatives of FBiH Commission for Missing Persons assume that more than 20 victims have been buried in this mass grave, but the exact number will be known only after the exhumation is completed. Since it is not yet entirely clear when and where those persons have been murdered, it is too early to speculate about the names of perpetrators; however, FTV reporter unofficially learns that **Gojko Jankovic** and **Dragan Zelenovic** (both arrested under suspicion for war crimes) can be linked with this crime as well. **PINK, BHT1, Dnevni Avaz** pg 3, mentioned on cover 'Criminals hided bodies of innocent victims in Buk Bijela tunnel' by A.Bajramovicalso carried.

Croat war veterans protest again arrest of its president Radic last Friday	**RHB, FTV, Oslobodjenje** pg 3 ‘State is practicing rigidity’ not signed, **Vecernji List**, front pg splash ‘Open hunt for Croats has begun’, pg 3 ‘They are practicing strictness against Croats again’, by Valentina Rupcic, **Dnevni List**, pg 6 ‘Croat politicians deaf regarding arrest of volunteers’, by V. Soldo – Following the arrest of HVIDRA (Croat war veterans) of Herceg Bosna President, **Marko Radic**, last Friday (arrested on suspicion of committing war crimes), HVIDRA held a session on Monday condemning the arrest and lack of reaction by the Croat officials in BiH.

Montenegrin referendum

Serbian Assembly holds special session and declares that Serbia is a legal successor of former state union of Serbia and Montenegro	**BHT1** by Vesna Simic, Belgrade – At the extraordinary session on Monday, according to the constitutional charter Serbian Parliament declared Serbia the legal successor to the former union of Serbia and Montenegro [Serbia now inherits membership of the United Nations and other international institutions, leaving Montenegro to apply in its own right], Parliament has not declared the independence of Serbia as officials explained this was not necessary, but BHT reporter speculates that the real reason was the lack of consensus. Radicals, late Serbian President **Slobodan Milosevic**'s Socialist Party and representatives of current Serbian Prime Minister **Vojislav Kostunica**'s party all agreed that Serbia has nothing to celebrate, even though it has become an independent state after 88 years. On the other hand, parties of democratic bloc congratulated both Serbian and Montenegrin citizens on becoming citizens of two independent states. **PINK, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje** pg 11 'State of Serbia declared' by Branislav Boskov, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 21 'It is time for reality' – carried similar reports.

EU Ministers to discuss Montenegro independence on meeting scheduled for June 12 in Luxembourg	**PINK, EuroBlic** pg 3 'Solana's offer stays' not signed – **Christina Gallak**, Spokesperson of the EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Affairs [**Javier Solana**] said that the EU doesn't have technical competence to recognize the independence of Montenegro adding that all EU members would decide on this issue individually. Gallak also said that EU Foreign Ministers would discuss Montenegro independence at 12 June meeting in Luxembourg.
BiH Foreign Minister: BiH will recognize Montenegro by end of July	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 2, announced on cover 'BiH will recognize Montenegro by July' by R.Cengic – **Mladen Ivanic,** BiH Foreign Minister, Monday confirmed that if Agreement between all regional states, including Serbia, succeeds, BiH will recognize independence of Montenegro by the end of July, adding: "*I am of the view it would be good if all states in the region, including Serbia and Croatia, at the same time and recognize the independence of Montenegro. I expect we will not need more than 20 to 30 days for that, since it is no longer such a spectacular issue.*" He also noted that if this Agreement were absent, the BiH would first wait for recognition from EU.