

# OHR BiH TV News Summary, 13 October 1999

## News Headlines

- BiH Parliament House of Representatives continues 11th session
- Situation in Pakistan calm after military coup
- Annan meets with members of Kosovo Transitional Council
- [ICTY](#) did not find any evidence of crime in Kosovo Trepca mine
- International news
- TV BiH Public Service Establishment Board meets with Bicakcic
- Sarovic meets with head of [UNHCR](#) Verner Blater in Travnik
- BiH Association of Refugees announces conference on return to Banja Luka region and BiH Federation
- There will be four phases in implementation of Brcko Arbitration decision – Farrand
- RS Commission for Search for Missing Persons performs exhumation of marked graves in Sarajevo
- [ICRC](#) presents project “People on War”
- Demirel sends letter of thanks to Jelavic regarding BiH assistance following earthquake in Turkey
- Silajdzic meets with [IMF](#) delegation
- Schwarz-Schilling informs Bicakcic of his current visit to BiH and results of his visit to Montenegro
- HDZ delegation visits Zenica Doboje Canton
- SDP initiative in Parliament on harmonizing of all BiH and entity Constitutions with international conventions
- DSP calls on Petritsch to undertake all measures to protect rights of political parties represented in Parliament, saying Chairman of BiH Parliament Enver Kreso does not schedule sessions in accordance with

statute

- Premiere of TV BiH Commercial for one million KM award for information leading to arrest of Leutar assassins
- Director Veljko Bulajic against commercialization of film 'Sarajevo', producers against Bulajic resuming work
- Vox pop of BiH politicians and citizens on resignation of BiH football team coach Hadzibegic
- Sports
- Weather

## **News Summary**

### **BiH Parliament House of Representatives continues 11th session**

The BiH Parliament House of Representatives voted for adoption of the law on immigration and asylum with a majority of 18 delegates, but because the necessary number of delegates from the RS was not among those that supported this draft, the law will go into further harmonization. Delegates rejected a dozen amendments related to ensuring BiH citizens' rights to travel to surrounding countries with identification documents. Prior to this, the BiH Council of Ministers also had a different viewpoint on these amendments. Explaining this decision, BiH Council of Ministers Co-chairman Haris Silajdzic stated that any opening of already balanced issues would cause new problems. The SDP proposal for organizing joint forces for the fight against terrorism, inter-entity crime and the drug trade also did not receive delegates' support, which means that this law will also go into further discussion. Delegates were also expected to discuss the report on the BiH Council of Ministers, but it was announced that the Council planned to complete and prepare its report before Thursday. SDP delegates requested the Council's replacement because of their ignoring of Parliament requests and many indicators pointing to the inefficient work of the Council. The SDP emphasized the Council's weakness in preparation of necessary laws and in [Dayton Agreement](#) implementation. In individual voting on confidence in the Council, delegates supported the Council.

03:12

## **TV BiH Public Service Establishment Board meets with Bicakcic**

The RTV BiH Public Service Establishment Board met on Wednesday with BiH Federation Government officials and discussed financial consolidation of the current TV BiH. Whether the public is aware or not, every day the Establishment Board continues its activities on transformation of the current TV BiH and implementation of the High Representative's decisions. The first task of the Board is to settle the financial situation of RTV BiH so that BiH Federation RTV can begin work on 1 January 2000. With this cause in mind, members of the Establishment Board met with BiH Federation Government Prime Minister Edhem Bicakcic and Deputy Prime Minister Dragan Covic. Bicakcic stated that they were interested in implementation of the OHR decisions relating to BiH Federation TV. He stated that it is necessary to realize improving the conditions of TV BiH, to determine the consolidated balance of accounts for the upcoming months that will ensure the smooth transition of this important subject into these new subjects. Bicakcic stated that BiH Federation Government would assist in this transformation, adding that he will be personally involved in the payment of debts that exist towards public corporations. Covic stated that he hopes the BiH Federation Government will be able to financially support the current TV BiH and to create conditions for the commencement of broadcasting by BiH Federation TV on 1 January. Establishment Board Chairman Tadej Labernik stated that he noticed that the BiH Federation Government is seriously considering the problems of the current RTV BiH and strives to assist in the financial difficulties which will be a cornerstone for future public services in BiH Federation and in BiH. The Establishment Board committed to preserving the current standards until the end of year. This will be achieved thanks to the new method of subscription payment, internal savings and marketing efforts. OHR representatives promised

that they will seek donations for the public service and assistance in establishing a joint system of subscription payment for the entire BiH Federation.

03:43

### **There will be four phases of Implementation of Brcko Arbitration decision – Farrand**

Following the first session of the Commission for Brcko Arbitration Decision Joint Implementation, Supervisor Robert Farrand stated that implementation of the decision will be conducted in four phases. The program of implementation will include creating a statute, police reforms, transitional Government establishment, organizing elections, implementation of election results and will be followed by two-way return to and from Brcko. Finally they will work on revitalization of the district economy and strengthening the infrastructure. Farrand stated that the district statute supersedes all laws and will influence the future of citizens. He added that the statute draft will be handed over on 27 October to Commission members and they will have ten days to consider and comment on it. Regarding requests for his dismissal, Farrand emphasized that he understands the peoples' frustration and that return is most important for them, adding that he insists on two-way returns. In conclusion Farrand stated that he would finish his part of the job, but the people should ask their leaders why return from Brcko to Sarajevo, Tuzla, Travnik, Jajce is going so slowly.

02:03

### **RS Commission for Search for Missing Persons performs exhumation of marked graves in Sarajevo**

Another exhumation is taking place in the Sarajevo Lav cemetery at the request of the RS Commission for Missing Persons, with a list of 41 persons. BiH State Commission Head Amor Masovic stated that they are exhuming identified persons

from regular marked graves and in many of cases the families of the deceased attended the funeral. Masovic stated "that obviously after the ethnic cleansing of living persons, it is now time for the ethnic cleansing of dead ones, and it seems that it is necessary to clean Sarajevo of our compatriot Serbs. Unfortunately certain representatives of the International Community worked hard to ensure this."

01:49