

# OHR BiH TV News Summary, 17 November 1999

## News Headlines

- Expelled Podrinje residents bury bodies exhumed from Glumina mass grave
- [OSCE](#) Istanbul Summit starts on Thursday
- BiH Council of Ministers hold session to discuss financing BiH Common Border Service
- BiH Federation House of Representatives adopts Law on Amnesty at session
- Petritsch annuls RS National Assembly decision of 10 November to suspend evictions 1 November – 1 April
- Dodik meets with [SFOR](#) Commander Ronald Adams
- World news
- Macedonian Constitutional Court can rule on results of presidential elections
- Ganic and BiH Federation Government meet with Kopaci refugees
- Brcko District Refugee Return Association hopes for strategic prioritization by IC
- IMC and OHR Mostar on TV Erotel
- Prskalo Office on Tuesday media reports
- School relocation in Mostar made without regard to OHR instructions
- SDP content with New York Declaration
- Association of Anti-Fascist National Liberation Freedom Fighters expresses concern over obstructions to Dayton implementation, functioning of state still not guaranteed four years later
- Society for Threatened Peoples demand [UN](#) General Assembly name guilty parties when adopting Srebrenica Report
- [OSCE](#) Provisional Election Commission extends

- registration deadline for out-of-country voters
- Kakanj cement factory entering privatization process
- Roundtable on influence of transition process
- Tuzla National Theater troop prepares for tour of Slovenia and Croatia
- RS National Assembly to continue 8th session on Wednesday
- Mirza Hajric, Foreign Policy Advisor to BiH Presidency Member Alija Izetbegovic, comments on New York Declaration, [UN](#) admitting responsibility in Srebrenica Report and Dayton Conference
- Silajdzic comments on [OSCE](#) Summit in Istanbul
- BiH Workers' Union demand dialogue with Bicakcic
- Pensioners Party discontent with Bicakcic promises
- Orucevic confirms Prskalo rejected proposal for Mostar Airport executive board while OHR does not view it as full rejection
- BiH Army Fourth Corps celebrates anniversary
- BiH Army 7th Knights Brigade celebrates anniversary
- International Cooperative Alliance President visits BiH counterparts
- Tobacco industry discussed in Orasje
- Sarajevo Canton Association opens Cerebral Palsy care facility in Grbavica
- Sports
- Weather

## **News Summary**

### **Expelled Podrinje residents bury bodies exhumed from Glumina mass grave**

Expelled Podrinje region residents buried 261 Bosniak victims of genocide from eastern Bosnia in Memici, near Kalesija. The victims were exhumed from the largest yet uncovered mass grave in Glumina, near Zvornik. Another appeal has been made for the IC to bring war criminals to justice, which is more important than the [UN](#) admitting its mistakes in Srebrenica. Deputy Head

of the BiH Islamic Community Ismet Spahic said, "what use do the people of Srebrenica have from the [UN](#) admitting its mistake, as you saw them do in their report. What use is that for thousands of orphans. There are no mass graves by our hands and we are proud of that. Europe ought to learn from us what pride is, what morals are, what coexistence is." Out of 274 victims exhumed, 159 had been identified prior to the mass funeral service. Forensic experts must still determine the identities of the other bodies.

02:06

### **Ganic and BiH Federation Government meet with Kopaci refugees**

BiH Federation Vice-president Ejup Ganic and members of the BiH Federation Government met with Kopaci refugees. They regretfully concluded that the IC has not been very helpful in expediting the return of Bosniak refugees, currently living in a tent settlement on the IEBL near Serb Gorazde. The OHR is expected to immediately form a special commission to deal with Gorazde-Kopaci two-way returns.

00:26

### **Brcko District Refugee Return Association hopes for strategic prioritization by IC**

The Brcko District Refugee Return Association hopes that the IC will strategically prioritize returns to Brcko District. The desire for expediting returns to the entire Brcko District has compelled Brcko intellectuals to take a more active role in this Association, implementation of the Final Brcko Arbitration Decision and Annex 7 of the [Dayton Agreement](#). President of the Refugee Association Muhamed Mujkic said, "we believe these processes to be very slow and want to make a contribution towards speeding returns in the future." Welcoming a recent decision by High Representative [Wolfgang Petritsch](#), Association members hope not only for improved two-way return but also economic revival and home and

infrastructure reconstruction. They added that concrete results were expected in the education and health sectors in the Brcko District Association Vice-president Nedim Aksamic said "employing everyone is the goal, not opening three separate healthcare centers as someone had recently proposed. This is, once again, the division of the District into three national units and not the establishment of a healthcare system." Cooperation with International Supervisor Robert Farrand and other IC representatives will only contribute to speeding the implementation of the Final Brcko Arbitration Decision, he added.

02:25

### **IMC and OHR Mostar on TV Erotel**

The IMC and OHR Regional office in Mostar once again dealt with the problems of TV Erotel and HRT broadcasts. "I came to Mostar to appeal once again to TV Erotel to respect the IMC decision" says Head of IMC Licensing Department Dieter Lorraine. Lorraine said that an alleged TV Erotel complaint has not yet reached the IMC, who will, according to him, undertake adequate measures unless this media house stops its broadcast. OHR spokesperson Chris Riley, commenting on unsuccessful negotiations with HRT and the Croatian Government on HRT broadcasts in BiH, said that OHR negotiators offered them one channel in BiH. It is interesting, emphasizes Riley, that Ivic Pasalic and Jozo Curic proposed to stop HRT transmission to BiH in return for TV Erotel coverage of the entire BiH Federation region. "I am afraid that this obstruction is clearly not in favor of the Croats in BiH. We are dealing with business and the personal interests of a very small group in Zagreb, but that will not prevent us from continuing our work on developing a genuine Croat media industry in BiH. Negotiations with the Croat leadership in BiH, who understand what we are trying to do, are continuing" said Riley.

01:50

## **Prskalo Office on Tuesday media reports**

The Office of Mostar Mayor Ivan Prskalo addressed TV BiH regarding information presented in its central newscast on Tuesday. According to the Mayor's Office, the report said that Prskalo, at a regular session of Mostar's leadership, refused a proposal by the OHR and Bosniak side to establish the Mostar Airport Executive Board. Prskalo believes that the "broadcast of this statement definitely proves whose instructions they are following. It is not the first time that untruths have been presented and that program space has been reserved for only one side." TV BiH broadcast this report on Tuesday conveying it literally word for word from an ONASA report. (The presenter reads the contested report). Prskalo's release states "taking into account objective informing, I point out that we are ready to form the Mostar Airport Executive Board according to the same principles arbitrated by former High Representative Carlos Westendorp. The Executive Board will be composed of three Bosniaks and three Croat members as was mentioned at the session, which OHR Mostar Head Gerhard Sontheim did not view as an obstruction. The Bosniak side wants to establish the Board as a special unit within the City's Traffic Department and not within the administration of the Mostar Airport Company."

02:00

## **School relocation in Mostar made without respect to OHR instructions**

"Transferring the Gymnasium School to the City Council Building was done without a decision from the Council, and my instructions were also not respected" Head of OHR Mostar Gerhard Sontheim told a Mostar press conference. "Those responsible for this problem have misused their authority" said Sontheim calling on Mostar political leaders not to manipulate children for political purposes. IC representatives also declined all HVIDRA claims in connection to Property

Laws.

00:33

### **SDP content with New York Declaration**

SDP BiH Vice-president Ljubisa Markovic expresses the party's content with the New York Declaration because it confirms the principles and aims SDP delegates advocated in the BiH Parliament but were unable to solicit support for. The SDP will formulate an initiative for harmonization of the BiH Constitution with European conventions for protection of human rights and freedoms as a condition for reaching a modern election law.

00:34

### **Society for Threatened Peoples demands [UN](#) General Assembly name guilty parties when adopting Srebrenica Report**

The BiH Department of the Society for Threatened Peoples demands that the [UN](#) General Assembly, in addition to admitting its own mistakes, name the guilty parties from the [UN](#) ranks such as Yakusi Akasi, Butros Gali and Fillipe Morillon when adopting the report on Srebrenica.

00:24

### **Silajdzic comments on [OSCE](#) Summit in Istanbul**

BiH Council of Ministers Co-chairmen Haris Silajdzic comments on the upcoming [OSCE](#) Summit in Istanbul: "it would be good to generate more interest in BiH issues, as this region is very important for the security of all of Europe. It is good that resolution of BiH and other regional issues are approached now. The Stability Pact should serve as a basis for resolving those matters, but without the funds it will be very difficult. The situation at the moment is not favourable for integration into Europe because we cannot exploit our potentials, cannot get well organized because differences are

still huge and we need help to develop them for faster integration. I hear that the Dutch Government has already designated funds. The BiH Presidency is our delegation in Istanbul and I am replacing Izetbegovic, therefore I cannot speak on their behalf, but I can offer you my opinion on the situation in Chechnya. The IC is already late with intervention, as they were in BiH.”

03:08

**Orucevic confirms Prskalo rejected proposal for Mostar Airport executive board while OHR does not view it as full rejection**

Mostar Deputy Mayor Safet Orucevic, in a phone statement to ONASA, confirmed that Mostar Mayor Ivan Prskalo for the third time declined a proposal by the OHR and Bosniak side regarding the formation of a Mostar Airport executive board. Following a request by ONASA, the OHR gave a written statement that it was their understanding that Prskalo did not reject the proposal in full.

00:37