OHR BiH TV News Summary, 18 September 2000

News Headlines:

- BiH Federation Interior Ministry arrests Zeljko Cosic due to possible involvement in terrorist acts committed in BiH Federation
- Croatian and BiH Parliaments to establish two working groups to improve inter-state cooperation, intensify refugee return process and implement joint projects within Stability Pact for Southeast Europe
- EU adopts so-called "Scheme on Asymmetric Trade Measures" to improve import of industrial and agricultural products from Balkan countries, excluding wine, meat and textiles
- RS Government holds session and adopts program to combat black market and corruption that was proposed by <u>IMF</u>
- Kakanj cement plant and its strategic partner from Germany with Monday's adoption of factory's statute complete privatisation process and officially start work as joint-stock company
- Mostar tobacco factory opens international tender and finally starts process of large-scale privatisation
- Civic Associations of Owners of Nationalised and Confiscated Property hold press conference to discuss non-adoption of draft law on restitution by BiH Parliament
- BiH Federation Government presents keys of new Skoda Felicia cars to Director of Tuzla Refugee Return Office Fadil Banjanovic and President of Drvar Refugee Association Mile Marceta
- Price of internal transport of passengers and goods to be increased by 12.5% – BiH Federation Chamber of Commerce's Association of Transport Companies

- More than 80% of BiH citizens intend to vote at upcoming general elections – poll of Coalition of NGOs and Helsinki Committee in BiH
- All media in BiH are obliged to respect IMC Code on Media Rules for Elections – IMC
- SDP BiH President Lagumdzija meets with representatives of Jablanica municipal authority to discuss problems there
- Liberal and democratic ideas are foundation of European democracy – LDS official Muhamed Filipovic
- Tuzla Clinical Center starts health assistance operation for refugees in Grab Potok, Banovici Municipality
- World news
- Kamerni (Chamber) Theatre 55 from Sarajevo wins prestigious Audience Award at First International Theater Festival Titus Brezovacki in Lepoglava, Croatia
- Miss BiH Semi-finals for World Miss Pageant to be held in Bihac late on Monday
- Sports
- Weather

News Summary:

BiH Federation Interior Ministry arrests Zeljko Cosic due to possible involvement in terrorist acts committed in BiH Federation (02:50) The BiH Federation Interior Ministry arrested Zeljko Cosic, the chauffeur and official escort of late BiH Federation Deputy Interior Minister Jozo Leutar, late on Sunday. According to an Interior Ministry public announcement, Cosic is connected with terrorist acts committed in the BiH Federation. Chief of BiH State Border Service (SBS) Operations Department Nedjeljko Jandric said that IPTF and BiH SBS officials were mistreated during the arrest operation at the border. Jandric added the assessment that this was very irresponsible and illegal behavior by the BiH Federation Interior because all SBS members enjoy certain immunities according to state law. He further assessed that members of the BiH Federation Interior Ministry violated provisions of the Law on Criminal Procedure. According to TV BiH, no one from BiH Federation Interior Ministry wanted to comment on the Cosic arrest operation. UN spokesperson Douglas Coffman said the UN considers the arrest operation to be legal, and that it understands the reasons behind the level of secrecy maintained during and before the arrest operation. Jandric said that SBS is a serious institution, and "we will not allow arrest operation to be carried out in this manner again." Jandric categorically stated that there would be no second time for such operations.