

# OHR BiH TV News Summary, 2 December 1999

## News Headlines

- BiH Federation Government meets in Mostar and decides not to increase oil prices
- Oil companies stop buying and selling petroleum on Friday, people hoard gas
- BiH Federation Government adopts draft budget that respects IC and BiH Federation Parliament criteria
- BiH parliamentarians are not working enough on BiH Election Law – Barry
- Petritsch and Barry call on BiH Parliament to adopt Election Law by February 2000
- Nationality was not factor in dismissing officials – Haselock
- Dayton implementation and readiness to resolve problems will have direct impact on our investments – Miller
- 28 RS National Assembly members initiate special session to discuss role and participation of RS officials in New York Declaration
- Radisic says no declaration had been signed in New York
- All declarations after [Dayton Agreement](#) are path to fall of entity sovereignty – SDS Dragan Cavic at RS National Assembly session
- We cannot accept authority and name 'BiH Border Service' – SRS Milan Lazic during Assembly session
- Miller meets with Dodik and Radisic in Banja Luka
- NY Declaration was signed by all BiH Presidency members, making it binding, so it must be implemented in uncompromising manner
- BiH receives Bosnian International Bank with main HQ in Sarajevo
- Tuzla Canton Government crisis continues with

- resignation of Deputy Premier and three ministers
- German Government Coordinator Hans Koschnik, great supporter of refugee returns, leaving BiH, German Embassy Refugee Department Head to assume his duties
  - Departure of 360 [SFOR](#) troops marks reduction of IC forces in BiH
  - World news
  - Agency for Transparency Head Marshall meets with Izetbegovic Advisor Mirza Hajric and says he wants to cooperate in fight against corruption
  - International Federation of Red Cross and Crescent officials sign agreement regulating organization's legal status in BiH
  - IPTF concerned over possibility that Gacko mine incident designed to threaten refugee returns – Coffman
  - SDA not backing apartment-exchange initiative launched in Bicakcic-Dodik talks – SDA spokesperson Jahic
  - Tuzla Canton Government Ministers and Deputy Premier resign after being requested to do so by Mandate and Immunity Commission, SDA Cantonal Board will hold session to discuss situation
  - Lagumdzija presents principles of SDP draft BiH Permanent Election Law to [EU](#) Ambassador, saying adoption of [OSCE](#) draft Election Law would stop or complicate social renewal
  - BiH Republican Party condemns proposal initiated at Dodik-Bicakcic talks concerning possible flat exchanges – Stjepan Kljuic
  - BiH Republican Party demands Petritsch draft Law on Restitution, since ruling parties unwilling to do so because they already manage majority of building property
  - [SFOR](#) inspecting TV Erotel transmitters – Monroe
  - Maglaj-based Natron Company on verge of bankruptcy after French partner pulls out
  - Use of harmful asbestos to stop in BiH
  - Celebration of 50th anniversary of University of

## Sarajevo

- TV BiH program introduces new addition to weather report in broadcast
- Sports
- Weather
- MND Southwest holds press conference in Livno
- Brcko Refugee Association Povratak holds press conference in Tuzla, suggesting Farrand appoint new officials in Brcko district administration
- Internal control of entity and cantonal Interior Ministry holds two-day conference
- Dutch humanitarian organization reconstructs additional 14 apartments in Novi Travnik
- Sarajevo Canton Governor Beriz Belkic comments on land slide on road M5 Sarajevo-Pale
- Erotel director announces resignation – HINA
- Ombudsmen Gret Haller meets with Human Rights Commissions of Both BiH Parliamentary Houses
- Association of Srebrenica mothers distance themselves from Ibran Mustafic's accusations against Kofi Annan for events in Srebrenica
- Silajdzic announces establishment of Bosnian International Bank
- Prlic meets with Turkish Ambassador to BiH
- Prlic meets with Italian Parliament Defense Board
- Seminar on Transition of Social Protection Sector in BiH
- Car-bombing near Gacko could be intentional – Douglas Coffman
- 10 Skoda Felicia vehicles donated to war invalids in Travnik
- Ceric meets with BiH Islamic community Mufti and Imams prior to Ramadan
- Memorial to BiH Jewish victims of WWII unveiled in Mostar

## News Summary

## **BiH parliamentarians are not working enough on BiH Election Law – Barry**

Disappointed with the lack of activity on the BiH Election Law, [OSCE](#) Head of Mission Robert Barry called on BiH parliamentarians to strive for a compromise. Barry said that, although parliamentarians are expressing discontent with certain provisions of the Law, they are not proposing amendments to help reach a compromise. He reminded that the Election Law was presented at the end of October and that it has not yet been voted on. Barry said he is prepared for further cooperation, expecting proactive participation from parliamentarians. “The way things stand now, they are not doing anything about this” said Barry.

00:46

## **Nationality was not factor in dismissing officials – Haselock**

The OHR replied to a statement by Alija Izetbegovic that the replacement of Bosniak officials was carried out to achieve ethnic balance. Deputy High Representative for Media Issues Simon Haselock said, “22 officials were removed from office because of their individual responsibility. Nationality was not a factor in deciding on the dismissals.”

00:30

## **Dayton implementation and readiness to resolve problems will have direct impact on our investments – Miller**

As the dismissals (of BiH officials) were made public, Mostar officials received warning letters that problems in Mostar must urgently be resolved. US Ambassador to BiH Thomas Miller reiterated this request to Mostar Mayor Ivan Prskalo and Deputy Mayor Safet Orucevic during his visit to Mostar on Wednesday. Miller was especially interested in the rotation of lead posts in the Canton and Mostar. Miller added, “Dayton implementation and the readiness to resolve problems would

have a direct impact on our investments in BiH.”

00:32

### **Tuzla Canton Government crisis continues with resignation of Deputy Premier and three ministers**

Tuzla Canton Deputy Premier Mehmed Barjaktarevic, Minister of Education, Science and Sports Ismet Osmanovic, Finance Minister Muhibija Delic and Refugee Minister Adib Dzoovic have all resigned from office. “They have resigned for moral reasons and have accepted such a decision to enable normal court proceedings” said Tarik Arapcic, the Governor of the Tuzla Canton. A demand by the Cantonal Prosecutor to strip them of their official immunity incited their resignations, since the Tuzla Canton Constitution grants them immunity, in which the Cantonal Assembly has a say. It is alleged that these Tuzla officials abused their official duties and misappropriated public funds.

01:28

### **[SFOR](#) inspecting TV Erotel transmitters – Monroe**

The HDZ BiH Main Board has replaced the entire TV Erotel Executive Board to resolve current problems and continue with the construction of public broadcasting system in BiH. TV Erotel has appealed an IMC decision to interrupt its broadcasting. According to [SFOR](#) MND Southwest spokesperson David Monroe, ([SFOR](#)) has not undertaken measures to stop TV Erotel broadcasts, but are inspecting all locations where the station has transmitters.

00:33

### **Erotel director announces resignation – HINA**

Director of Mostar TV station Erotel Branko Colak and representative of the Executive Board of minority owners of Croat TV Erotel and HRT Editor Jozo Curic announced their

resignations in Mostar on Thursday evening, HRT reports. As reason for the announced resignations, they cited disagreements with the dissolution of Erotel and HRT broadcasting in the BiH Federation and insufficient support for TV Erotel, HINA reports.

00:20