

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 27 October 1999

News Headlines

- Petritsch brings decision to amend Laws on Property Rights in both entities
- BiH House of Representatives does not succeed in adopting draft law on immigration and asylum
- BiH Federation House of Representatives discusses issuance of passports to naturalized citizens and curriculum in primary and secondary schools
- Association of Textile and Leather Trade Unions on strike, demands rights and better living and working conditions
- Novi Travnik-based BNT Tool Company workers go on hunger strike due to unpaid wages
- BiH Council of Ministers discusses BiH treasury and corruption in country – Co-chairman Svetozar Mihajlovic
- Prlic to participate at second International Donors' Conference in Slovenia, sponsored by International Foundation for Mine Clearance and Mine Victims of BiH
- Prlic announces preparations for upcoming Business Summit in Sarajevo
- International Transparency Agency drafts list ranking most corrupted countries in world – Yugoslavia tops list
- Milosevic, Karadzic and Mladic must be arrested and stand trial – [ICTY](#) Chief Prosecutor Del Ponte
- The Hague Court accuses Serbia, Croatia and RS of non-compliance and calls on International Community to increase pressure to extradite indicted war criminals
- [EU](#) representatives address diplomatic note to Croatia on dissatisfaction with new election law and non-compliance with The Hague
- World news

- Local Serbs blocked road near Dren settlement, nearby to Kosovska Mitrovica
- Kosovo Serbs still boycotting work of Transitional Kosovo Council
- Number of [SFOR](#) troops in BiH to be reduced – [NATO](#)
- [SFOR](#) still investigating documents confiscated during 14 October security operation in west Mostar
- BiH Federation Ministry for Refugees sends nine truckloads of aid of building materials to Maglaj Municipality
- Djokic suggests meeting of BiH Federation and RS Parliamentary delegations in order to form joint commission for improving [Dayton Agreement](#) implementation
- SDP supports workers' efforts to achieve rights and better living and working conditions
- BiH Patriotic Party supports Confederation of BiH Trade Unions
- Pensioners' Party press release
- Bosniak refugees from Kopaci erect tent city in Zone of Separation to show determination to return

News Summary

Petritsch brings decision to amend Laws on Property Rights in both entities

High Representative [Wolfgang Petritsch](#) brought the decision to amend the Laws on Property Rights in both of Bosnia's entities. In a previously recorded address to BiH citizens on BiH TV, Petritsch said that his decision has been sent in the form of detailed instructions to authorities in both entities. The instructions will explain how the authorities must implement the property laws. "I did this because I am concerned. Four years after the [Dayton Agreement](#), hundreds of thousands of refugees and displaced persons still do not have access to their houses, apartments, and land they own.

I cannot accept this. Such facts are violations of the [Dayton](#)

[Agreement](#), the BiH Constitution and all international conventions governing human rights” Petritsch said.

03:39

Number of [SFOR](#) troops in BiH to be reduced – [NATO](#)

During a meeting in Brussels, the [NATO](#) Permanent Council decided to reduce the number of [SFOR](#) troops in BiH. The decision is expected to become effective in November 1999. With the decision, [NATO](#) will increase the maneuverability of its troops in BiH.

00:23

[SFOR](#) still investigating documents confiscated during 14 October security operation in west Mostar

[SFOR](#) said that it is still examining documents confiscated during the 14 October security operation in west Mostar. [SFOR](#) said the operation was carried out in order to stop anti-Dayton activities. ONASA reports that the results of the operation will be made public after examination of the documents is complete.

00:21

Bosniak refugees from Kopaci erect tent city in Zone of Separation to show determination to return

Hundreds of Bosniak refugees from Kopaci, near Gorazde, gathered in the Zone of Separation and raised a tent city as a sign of their determination to return. At the same time, the Gorazde Municipal Department for Refugee Issues was holding an impromptu session where officials discussed the issue of Serb Gorazde Municipality's refusal to allow displaced Bosniaks to harvest the their pre-war land. Serb Gorazde Municipal officials explained their refusal, saying that there were no appropriate legal acts to regulate property issues. According to the most recent document given by Serb Gorazde Municipality

to Bosniak refugees, Serb Gorazde does not question the rights of Bosniaks. "However, considering the absence of property laws and the very complex general situation, each and every attempt by Bosniaks to access and work the land on their properties will be considered an illegal act."

01:30