OHR RTRS News Summary, 17 April 2000

News Headlines

- RS Government prolongs deadline for RS privatization registration
- 142 privatization programs have been approved RS Privatization Agency
- RS Health Ministry orders abolishment of decision to charge participation fee for healthcare services in Banja Luka Clinical Center
- RS Education Minister Suzic informs BiH Federation, Council of Europe and the OHR of the Declaration on Education
- Brcko District Transitional Government President Djapo and Vice-president Pajic agree that the Government did not achieve too much
- BiH House of Human Rights made 206 decisions regarding human rights violations in 1999 – the House's Annual Report on Human Rights Violations
- Brush fires in Srebrenica still burning
- Final elections results will be announced this week <u>OSCE</u> press conference in Sarajevo
- SPRS Banja Luka City Board interim leadership open letter to RS Information Minister Vasic
- Craftsmen and occupants of nationalized apartments in Sarajevo request BiH Federation Government to cancel its decision concerning use of nationalized apartments
- Serbian Association for Assistance to Refugees organizes petition calling for protection of refugee human rights
- Group of Kosovo Albanians attacks police patrol in Bujanovac
- Group of Kosovo Albanians stones priest's automobile in Koretin, Kosovo

- Former KLA officer Besim Mala killed in Pristina
- KFOR arrests 12 persons for various criminal activities
- ICTY continues exhumation process in Kosovo
- Registration period for Kosovo refugees in Serbia extended – <u>UNHCR</u>
- Kosovo and Metohija Serb National Council and Serb Resistance Movement delegation visiting Moscow
- Tisa River floods certain regions in Vojvodina
- World News
- RS Government proposal for TV subscription collection through electricity bill discussed at session of Elektroprivreda power utility Steering Board
- Severing Ugljevik Thermal Power Plant's telephone lines does not have political background – RS Telecom
- Bus route to Beli Manastir, Croatia, initiated
- Sarajevo Music Academy's orchestra holds concert in Banja Luka
- Sports and Weather
- EASC rejects complaints of Refugees Association in Visegrad and SDS concerning alleged political pressures
- Serb prisoners in Kosovska Mitrovica prison continue with their hunger strike
- Three Kosovo Albanians attack UNMIK police officers in Pristina
- Poland sends 42 more soldiers to Kosovo
- Transfer of command to Eurocorps will not change the peace mission's policy – Reinhardt
- US Ambassador to BiH Miller and <u>UN</u> Deputy Envoy Halsten present <u>UN</u> Security Council model in Sarajevo

News Summary

SPRS Banja Luka City Board interim leadership open letter to RS Information Minister Vasic

The interim leadership of the SPRS Banja Luka City Board sent an open letter to RS Information Minister Vasic, in which it calls on Vasic to reaffirm his constitutional role in the creation of system of objective public service broadcasting. The SPRS claims that a special psychological and propaganda war is being conducted against them. The general public is not receiving the information, even through official party statements, that 33 of 47 members of the former SPRS Banja Luka City Board have remained loyal to the party. Also, of the total 52 Banja Luka City local boards, 47 are currently functioning and did not have any staffing changes at all. The SPRS requests Vasic to publicly, through a media that is under the state's jurisdiction, clear up dilemmas concerning the established and activities of the Democratic Socialists Party (DSP).

01:35