

OHR RTRS News Summary, 19 November 1999

News Headlines

- RS Government supports draft BiH Permanent Election Law
- RS National Assembly adopts Law on Local Self-rule and Law on Insurance
- 54 world leaders adopt European Security Charter at [OSCE](#) Istanbul Summit
- Brcko District Statute to be presented at beginning of December – Farrand
- OHR holds press conference
- RS Veteran Organizations discuss social status of soldiers and defenders
- Only one out of 15 evictions realized in RS – IPTF spokesperson Roberts
- SRS acting President Blagojevic calls on Radisic to resign because he supported New York Declaration
- RS Radical Party holds press conference
- RS executive and legislative authorities not functioning – RS Democratic Patriotic Party President Radic
- SDP BiH Vice-president Tokic on BiH political scene
- RS Privatization Agency accepts plan for UNIS to become holding company
- Workers of Banja Luka-based Cajavec Company strike due to unpaid September salaries
- BiH anti-corruption team to be led by entity prime ministers – Bicakcic
- New York Times allegations on billion-dollar fraud in BiH unfounded – international commission of experts
- 40 small-scale enterprises privatized in BiH Federation
- Four killed in car accident near Banja Luka
- [SFOR](#) offers 25,000 DM for information on perpetrators of grenade attack on [SFOR](#) buildings in Zvornik in May 1999

- Kouchner establishes directorate for housing and property – UN
 - World news
 - RT RS General Director Kozomara holds press conference on upcoming Banja Luka Music Festival
 - Sports
 - Weather
 - Seminar on reconstruction and privatization in RS held in Banja Luka
 - Seminar on military legislature concludes in Sarajevo
- News Summary

RS Government supports draft BiH Permanent Election Law

The RS Government held a session in Banja Luka, where the members of the Government supported the draft BiH Permanent Election Law. RS Information Minister Rajko Vasic stated that the Government had supported it before as well. They also supported the idea of the law passing through regular adoption procedure, which would avoid its imposition. Governmental representatives had some objections to the draft. Vasic stated that the draft was in accordance with the RS and BiH Constitutions, apart from one small detail – the term of office of the RS President. According to Vasic, ministers and legal experts will file their suggestions and objections to the draft with the OHR Expert Group. When asked for the name of the current RT RS General Director and if there would be any changes in station management, Vasic said he had no comment. He added that the RS National Assembly conclusions are obligatory for the Government. According to him, the SRS invitation to boycott the municipal elections in 2000 is politically damaging for ongoing processes in the RS and BiH. Vasic believes that it is important for everyone to vote, regardless of for whom.

02:17

OHR holds press conference

OHR spokesperson Oleg Milisic stated at a press conference in Banja Luka that the RS National Assembly conclusion to suspend evictions during the winter period deprives refugees and DPs of the right to return. He added, "that is why High Representative [Wolfgang Petritsch](#) annulled the decision." He also said that the High Representative would not allow any compromise regarding its implementation and the right to return. The RS Government must provide alternative accommodation for those evicted. Milisic added that if alternative accommodation cannot be found, then the eviction cannot be carried out. According to Milisic, Petritsch fully supports the Declaration that the BiH Presidency adopted (signed) in New York, because it contains some principles important for implementation of the [Dayton Agreement](#): the draft border service, draft Permanent Election Law, changes to common passports and the advancement of inter-entity cooperation.

01:15

SDP BiH Vice-president Tokic on BiH political scene

SDP BiH Vice-president Sejfidin Tokic stated at a press conference in Banja Luka that there were still concepts on the BiH political scene that should have been defeated through implementation of the [Dayton Agreement](#). Those are concepts of the SDA, HDZ, SDS and their satellites, which support each other and obstruction to the [Dayton Agreement](#). The SDP BiH supports the idea of constant punishment for individual responsibility for war crimes, as well as for those who obstruct the [Dayton Agreement](#).

00:40