OHR RTRS News Summary, 20 March 2000

News Headlines

- RS National Assembly deputies do not adopt agenda after seven-hour debate
- BiH Presidency members meets with <u>UN</u> High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata, she meets with refugees in Sarajevo Dobrinja IV quarter
- **OSCE** issues press release
- Deadline for RS privatization registration in Gorazde, Sarajevo, Tuzla and RS prolonged to 31 March
- Slovenia to give technical aid to RS privatization process, RS envoys to present this process in Slovenia
- <u>World Bank</u> gives DM 1.9 million for reconstruction of bridge in Srbinje
- 34 RS assemblymen vote for proposed agenda, six vote against, 38 abstain, session's agenda not adopted
- Brcko District police arrests 36 persons involved in prostitution ring
- Croatia to halt payment of 20,000 pensions to BiH citizens in April – Zagreb daily Vecernji List
- Implementation of property laws unsuccessful in some towns in southern BiH- Deputy High Representative Matej Hoffman
- Deputy BiH Federation Ombudsman Mithat Causevic comments on property laws
- <u>EU</u> foreign ministers discuss on situation in Serbia and Kosovo
- KFOR military police find body of Kosovo Albanian near Gnjilane
- Zone of Confidence established in Kosovska Mitrovica KFOR
- Convoy of Serbs attacked near Kosovska Kamenica. Kosovo

- Group of Kosovo Serbs from Kosovska Mitrovica and Zvecani block road between towns of Raska and Kosovska Mitrovica to protest against Belgrade regime
- Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov meets with Greek Foreign Minister Papandreau in Moscow, they discuss situation in Kosovo
- Situation in Kosovo is complicated Portuguese Prime Minister
- Refusal of great powers to either support Kosovo in Yugoslavia or independent Kosovo is big problem in Kosovo situation – UN Human Rights envoy Jiri Dienstbier
- <u>ICTY</u> begins trial against Dragomir Kunjarac, Zoran Vukovic and Radomir Kovac, who have been indicted of raping Bosniak women in Srbinje (Foca)
- 15,000 police officers and other democratic forces can successfully defend Montenegro if Milosevic is planning something – Djukanovic
- <u>EU</u> foreign ministers condemn Milosevic's attacks on democratic media and opposition parties
- Branislav Lainovic, aka Dug, killed in Hotel Serbia, close to Belgrade
- World news
- Croatian President Mesic meets with Slovenian President Kucan to discuss bilateral relations
- World news
- Sports and weather
- RS National Assembly Legislative-Justice Commission requests Djokic to discuss 10th session's agenda with RS National Assembly caucus and Government representatives
- KFOR to intensify measures in security zone in Kosovska Mitrovica – KFOR
- French KFOR soldiers distributing pamphlets to Kosovska Mitrovica residents with explanation of <u>NATO</u> exercise in Kosovo
- Yugoslav Foreign Minister Zivadin Jovanovic meets with Jiri Dienstbier in Belgrade, they discuss current situation in Kosovo

- Leader of Kosovo Albanians Hashim Thaci says that he is helping to calm situation in Kosovo
- <u>UN</u> High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson opens <u>UN</u> meeting on human rights in Geneva
- United Serbian opposition calls on Yugoslav Telecommunications Minister Ivan Markovic to return frequencies to local TV stations in four cities: TV Nemanja, TV Pirot, TV Kraljevo and TV Pozega
- World news
- French Embassy to BiH organizes celebration World Day of Franco-phones in Banja Luka and Sarajevo
- SNS holds public debate in Banja Luka settlement Laus, says upcoming local election has great important as indicator for general elections – Plavsic
- PDP RS holds public debate in Laktasi, presents 25 candidates for Laktasi Municipality
- SDS holds public debate in Banja Luka settlement Paprikovac, Main Board member Mirko Banjac condemns calls for boycott of local elections
- SNSD holds public debate in Pribinic, near Teslic, and Stricici, near Banja Luka, says Teslic authority was not in service of its people – SNSD Main Board member Krstan Simic
- Democratic Party for Banja Luka and Krajina has information that RS will be divided into two cantons and, BiH into five, by Sloga Coalition, BiH Federation and Croatian authorities – Party President Nikola Spiric
- People's Radical Party for King and Homeland supports re-establishment of the Monarchy – Doboj Board President Radoljub Sljivic
- BOSS issues press release, calls on IMC to remove SDS editor
- Weather

News Summary

OSCE issues press release

The OSCE sent apologies to political parties and independent candidates who were omitted from the OSCE Election Guide for Citizens. According to the OSCE, the following parties and candidates were unintentionally omitted from this Guide: SDP BiH, SDS, SNS, SNSD, Serb Patriotic Party, Peasant Party 'Gordana Vidovic', RS Peasants-Workers' Party and independent candidates Dragan Spasojevic and Sead Sehic. OSCE spokesperson Sanela Turkovic-Besirevic said this omission occurred due to human error, saying that the OSCE would soon rectify this error by printing an annex to the Guide with the omitted names.

00:49

Deputy BiH Federation Ombudsman Midhat Causevic comments on property laws

Deputy BiH Federation Ombudsman Midhat Causevic stated that many claims for apartment return and other real estate have not yet been resolved. He assessed that this represents an obstruction to the process of return of pre-war citizens. Also, Causevic said that the decisions of the Commission for Real Property Claims (CRPC) are not being implemented even if they are final and binding.

00:26

BOSS issues press release, calls on IMC to remove SDS editor

The Bosnian Party (BOSS) issued a press release. According to the release, BOSS protests over a statement by Doboj Mayor Mirko Stojcinovic, who said that more than 50% of BOSS' candidates in Doboj were Bosniaks. BOSS has eight candidates, one is Bosniak and seven are Serbs, said the release. The party calls on the <u>OSCE</u> to prohibit (candidate) counting on a national basis and the raising of tensions by the SDS. Also, it calls on the IPTF to take control of the security of citizens and political parties in Doboj from the local police until the local elections are held. Furthermore, BOSS calls on the IMC to remove SDS spokesperson Ozren Jorganovic from the function of Editor-in-Chief of TV Doboj to ensure the regularity of the upcoming local elections in the Doboj Municipality.

00:45