# OHR RTRS News Summary, 25 September 1999

### **News Headlines**

- Dodik to visit US
- Dodik to meet with Albright, Holbrooke and officials of World Bank and International Monetary Fund
- Dodik to visit Moscow and meet with Ivanov
- HDZ BiH considers permanent election law to be unacceptable
- OSCE on permanent election law, independent media and next elections
- School year at Banja Luka University to begin on 11
  October
- Banja Luka University Dean Mirjanic on education at University
- Education at Serb Sarajevo University
- One Serb killed, four injured near Ajnovce
- One Serb body and four injured Serbs discovered near
  Gnjilane Kouchner
- 170 Serbs killed since <u>UN</u> Mission began
- Gracanica Serbs speak with KFOR on reopening Pristina-Gnjilane road
- KFOR discovers Serb body in Pristina
- Near Orahovac, KFOR Dutch and German soldiers arrest four Serbs suspected of committing war crimes
- KFOR HQ Skopje on gypsies at Macedonian-Kosovo border
- White House does not support Kosovo independence
- Movement for Democratic Serbia President Perisic does not support tyrannous return of Serb forces to Kosovo
- Rugova on elections
- BiH Embassy in Vienna did not issue BiH passport to terrorist Bin Laden — BiH Foreign Deputy Minister Spahic
- Sarajevo Cantonal police arrest businessman Alemko

#### Nuhanovic

- Violinist Jovan Kolundzija holds concert in Sarajevo
- Djokic opens police station in Petrovo on Mt. Ozren
- World news
- Playsic remains SNS President
- SNS holds elective session
- Plavsic on Poplasen
- Economic fair held in Doboj
- Brass bands meet in Bijeljina
- Sports and weather

### **News Summary**

# OSCE on permanent election law, independent media and next elections

OSCE spokesperson Tanya Domi stated that independent media in BiH would have the right to collect money for the presentation of political parties, while the rules on forbidding access to public media would not be revoked. The proposal of the permanent law opens great possibility for the Permanent Election Commission to interpret the manner of implementation of its decisions on the role of media during the election campaign. Regarding access of political parties to the media, Domi said that the PEC should define five or six political parties to have equal access in the media.

In her opinion, the situation during municipal elections will be different. The PEC is authorized to define public media advertising as free. According to the decision on media restructuring, such media will likely be RTV RS, RTV BiH and HRT. Private media should not be damaged during the preelection period. Domi stated that the election silence would begin 24 hours before the polling stations open. Regarding media seriousness, Domi voiced her hope that journalists would behave responsibly. Domi added that all journalist associations had adopted a code of ethics.

## Plavsic on Poplasen

SNS President Biljana Plavsic believes that many problems in the RS "would not exist if we had a presidential institution." Plavsic thinks that dismissed RS President Nikola Poplasen acted irresponsibly towards his duty and the Serb nation. He was transferring the SRS, Belgrade-centralized and Seselj policy to the RS. "Poplasen was irresponsibly playing with the fate of this nation" Plavsic stated.

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