

OHR RTRS News Summary, 9 November 2000

RT RS News Headlines:

- Election silence period starts 7 am Friday (00:10)
- Several thousand SDS supporters attend main party convention in Banja Luka; special envoy of Italian Forza Italia Party holds address saying party president Berlusconi believes SDS will be victorious (01:04)
- SNSD final election rally held in Banja Luka's Krajina square; SNSD guests and DOS leaders emphasise assistance offered by RS during the recent events in Serbia; "I want an RS with lot of new jobs and better future" – SNSD President Milorad Dodik (00:52)
- Victory of hard-liners and national parties would lead BiH into isolation; BiH citizens should vote for those parties that will improve country's future – Petritsch message to BiH citizens (00:40)
- Bush's lead over Gore decreases after Florida recount; US president could be decided from ballots of soldiers in Kosovo and BiH
- Payment of October pensions starts in RS in accordance with new Law on Pensions
- BiH Council of Ministers in Thursday session decides to form 12-member state commission on BiH borders and grant it two-year mandate; mandates for Ombudsmen and CRPC also extended (01:40)
- European Investment Bank grants 60 million Euro loan to reconstruct BiH electricity system (01:08)
- RS Prime Minister Dodik accepts invitation from US-Yugoslav Business Council to attend conference on 13-14 December in Belgrade (00:26)
- Radisic visits western Bosnian municipalities Drvar, Grahovo and Petrovac, meets Serb returnees to these

towns and is informed about refugee problems; “Grahovo represents typical example of organised and conscious obstruction of [Dayton Agreement](#)’s Annex Seven implementation” – Radisic

03:03

- 20 pre-fab houses for Serb refugees constructed in Serb Gorazde Municipality
- RS Prime Minister Dodik decides to allocate pre-fab houses donated by Bulgarian government to evicted families of two RS Army fallen soldiers

02:17

- BiH Federation Government’s passes draft law on BiH Federation budget to amount of 1.022 billion KM; draft to be forwarded to BiH Federation Parliament for consideration – ONASA
- Democratic changes in Serbia will have large-scale consequences for entire Balkan region – Kostunica while submitting request for Yugoslavia to join European Council in Strasbourg
- Four Gypsy returnees killed in village of Dosevac, 20 km west of Pristina – KFOR
- Rioters in three Serbian prisons demanding amnesty and better conditions slowly calm down
- Hague Tribunal considers new charges against Croatian officials involved in Croatian Army’s 1995 Akcija Oluja (Operation Storm)
- World news
- This year’s election campaign more aggressive than any other thus far and based on rhetoric of fear instead of issues important to BiH citizens – [OSCE](#) assessment (02:40)
- If HDZ BiH does not rescind its intention to organise referendum on election day, [OSCE](#) will cancel election silence period and submit Ante Jelavic’s Mostar

statement reminding Croat people to vote in referendum to EASC – [OSCE](#) spokesperson Sanela Becirovic (00:40)

- Approximately 12,000 ballots sent from Yugoslavia to [OSCE](#) Mission to BiH – Head of [OSCE](#) Belgrade Out-of-Country Voting Office De Luke (00:46)
- RTRS report on its 44-day election coverage; IMC rejects all accusations of biased RTRS election programming (02:13)
- Sports
- Weather

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RTRS report on its 44-day election coverage; IMC rejects all accusations of biased RTRS election programming (02:13)

In a review of its election campaign coverage, RTRS presented a tally of all the programs and political parties which appeared on the station during the election campaign period. The total came to 32 parties and one coalition. In eight editions of the show “Presentations of Political Units” parties were given ten minutes each to present their platforms. On 16 and 17 October, RS presidential candidates were on the air. From 19 October until 6 November, a total of 12 TV debates on topics including the Dayton Peace Agreement, human rights, reconstruction, privatisation and investment were organised. RTRS, together with TV BiH, co-produced the impressive Vi Pitate (You Ask) in Banja Luka and Sarajevo studios of the respective media.

In special block segments, RTRS presented the campaign activities of political parties as well as political party commercials. The SDS, DSP and SDP BiH all filed complaints with the IMC alleging that RTRS failed to ensure equal access to each political party. The IMC rejected their grievances and ruled that they were unfounded.