

# OHR SRT News Summary, 18 August 1999

## News Headlines

- Owen announces final arbitration decision for Brcko
- Farrand holds press conference on final arbitration decision
- Over 3,500 dead and 20,000 injured by earthquake in Turkey
- Mihajlovic sends condolences to Turkish Prime Minister
- Turkish Government proclaims state of emergency in some Turkish regions
- 40 UK earthquake experts on their way to Turkey
- Petritsch assumes High Representative duty
- Petritsch holds press conference
- RS and BiH Federation Governments and Assemblies should respond to corruption – Mihajlovic
- BiH has fulfilled almost all conditions for membership in European Council – European Council and BiH Council of Ministers
- BiH Council of Ministers meets with European Council
- Three Serbs injured in Gnjilane – KFOR spokesperson
- Seven Serbs injured in Gnjilane – Gnjilane Church Board
- 300 gypsies leave Gnjilane
- Bomb thrown at Serb-owned house in Pristina
- Two Serb women beaten in Kosovo
- Seven dead, 17 injured in Prizren over last seven days
- Yugoslav Commission for Cooperation with [UN](#) sends Yugoslav Government positions on situation in Kosovo, respect of [UN](#) resolution on Kosovo and Kumanovo agreement to Jackson and Kouchner
- KFOR and [UN](#) Mission main aim is protection of all nations in Kosovo – Jackson and Kouchner
- Yugoslav Government sends request on Kosovo to [UN](#)

## Security Council Chairman

- [NATO](#) Council debates warning to KLA
- Protest organized by Alliance for Changes and G-17 to take place on 19 August in Belgrade
- Yugoslav Assembly should dismiss Milosevic – Movement for Democratic Serbia President Perisic
- Montenegrin Justice Minister on Montenegrin secession
- Serbian People's Union on Yugoslav leadership attack on Vesna Pesic
- Alliance for Changes on Yugoslav leadership attack on Vesna Pesic
- Electricity losses in Yugoslavia initiate electricity losses in RS
- BiH Federation and RS Healthcare Ministries discuss healthcare for returnees
- [UNHCR](#) asks donors to support return of refugees in south part of BiH
- [UN](#) and IPTF spokesperson Roberts holds press conference on return of refugees
- Killer Rifet Bakovic in Banja Luka prison – Roberts
- IMC press release
- [OSCE](#) and BiH Federation Ombudsmen on Ombudsmen special assistant for media
- Former ICG Head Chris Bennett on budget defaults
- US State Department spokesman Rubin on budget defaults in BiH
- Izetbegovic criticizes New York Times report on corruption
- Izetbegovic's son does not own 15% of Air-Bosnia
- Zubak on corruption in BiH
- SDP Vice-president criticizes BiH authorities
- Local multiethnic government not established in Gornji Vakuf
- Swiss leadership debates withholding \$1 million in BiH Bank
- [OSCE](#) and USAID on missing funds in BiH Bank

- World news
- Sports and weather
- Serbian police train special forces for security at protest meeting in Belgrade on 19 August – Belgrade daily Politika
- Milosevic and Milutinovic should resign – Draskovic
- Serbian People's Union President Vesna Pesic visits Montenegro
- Valjevo protest initiator to be questioned by Valjevo Court on Thursday
- RS Government to hold session in Banja Luka on Thursday
- 'Sana' company workers end strike
- BiH-German economics club on economic cooperation between BiH and Germany
- US to continue pressure because of corruption in BiH – Kauzlarich
- Culture

## **News Summary**

### **Farrand holds press conference on final arbitration decision**

Main Arbiter Roberts Owen released the annex to the final decision on Brcko, which includes comments of the RS and BiH Federation Governments. In Brcko on Wednesday, Brcko Supervisor Robert Farrand held a press conference. According to the annex to the Brcko decision, Farrand received robust authorities and aims of what should be implement in the Brcko District in the near future. Farrand stated that the annex was consistent with the principles of the arbitration decision. Farrand consulted with [SFOR](#) representatives regarding demilitarization in the Brcko District. He believes that they also need to establish a new tax system and custom stations. In his opinion, the main task is to establish a District Statute. Farrand stated that they should consider forming of an internal government and until laws are harmonized, RS and BiH Federation laws will be respected in the RS and BiH Federation parts of the Brcko area. Farrand invited all

political bodies, especially parties, to cooperate and voiced hope that Brcko will become the most progressive city in BiH. At the end of the press conference, Farrand addressed Brcko citizens, saying that he wanted to assure them that he would do his best to implement the arbitration decision in a balanced and fair manner.

03:16

### **BiH Federation and RS Healthcare Ministries discuss on healthcare for returnees**

In Banja Luka on Wednesday, delegations of the RS and BiH Federation Healthcare Ministries discussed healthcare for returnees and are now expected to sign a protocol for cooperation, which will define healthcare for returnees. An Inter-entity Health Board will also be established. The possibility of the International Community assisting returnees in both entities with health care for the next four years was mentioned. Deputy BiH Federation Healthcare Minister Faris Gavrankapetanovic stated that a similar protocol was signed in Travnik. Gavrankapetanovic added that they discussed the conditions for respecting the clinic of the humanitarian organization 'Merhamet' by the RS Healthcare Ministry. The BiH Federation Healthcare Ministry sent a donation to 'Merhamet' worth DM 70,000.

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### **IMC press release**

The IMC supports the establishment of an Ombudsman special assistant for media position on the BiH state level. By establishing such an institution, the conditions for journalism without fear, threats and attacks would be made. The work of the Ombudsman special assistant for media will be priceless in attaining the freedoms of speech and movement.

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