

# OHR SRT News Summary, 19 May 1998

## Headlines

- Miodrag Bulatovic – a new candidate for FRY Prime Minister
- RS Government session held today
- RS President Biljana Plavsic in Chicago with Serb Community representatives
- Exchange of territories in the Municipality of Ribnik
- Deadline for registration of parties and independent candidates expires

The RS Government at today's regular session discussed amendments to laws proposed by the caucuses of four parliamentary parties, such as the Law on Internal Affairs, the Law on intelligence and security affairs and the legal Acts from the field of finances, that are to be discussed at tomorrow's session of the RS NA. It was also concluded that an RS Government delegation would urgently visit the municipality of Ribnik where an exchange of territories took place today. The Government discussed construction of Sokolac airport.

1:00

Two villages, Dubocani and Velecevo in the RS, were exchanged for the village of Koprivna in the Federation today. This agreement was signed by the former Government and Velibor Ostojic, the RS Government Deputy President at the time. The municipal authorities of Ribnik claim that they were never informed by the RS authorities about this exchange and that the Serb side will not sign the document on the handover of the two villages.

1:00

RS President Biljana Plavsic spoke to Serb community representatives in Chicago today. The President stressed the

importance of assistance and thanked them for their support to the RS.

2:10

The 5th RS NA session will resume tomorrow.

0:30

The CoM of B&H decided at today's session held in the Museum in Sarajevo that the issue of the joint passports would start on May 29th in BL and SA simultaneously. The Council of Ministers also discussed the Agreements on cooperation with Croatia and the FRY. It failed to discuss the Law on privatisation, since the OHR had assumed responsibility to prepare the new text of the Law and present it at the next session of the CoM.

2:00

Today at 17:00 hrs the deadline expired for registration of parties and independent candidates for the forthcoming elections scheduled for September 13/14. An OSCE spokesperson stated at today's press conference that 25 political parties had registered with the PEC and that the deadline for registration of the coalitions was June 12th. Aisling Byrne, OHR spokesperson, stated at the press conference in Sarajevo that OHR knew about the exchange of two villages from the Federation for one village from the RS. According to A. Byrne, an investigation is in progress and details will be announced soon. She also added that the B&H Parliament had dropped the proposed coat of arms of B&H and that it was a matter for the HR to decide. Aisling Byrne announced that RS and Federation Ministers of Education had spoken the previous day about the content of text books.

3:00

The RS Vice President and the Rector of BL University, Dragoljub Mirjanic, met a representative of an international organisation engaged in assisting the B&H education system. They spoke about assistance to BL University.

00:30

The reconstructed Student Dormitory was opened in Banjaluka today. The British Ambassador to B&H, Charles Crawford, attended the opening ceremony.

1:00

Oslo: The two-day congress of the Socialist International finished today. The congress supports all decisions made by the HR of the IC, emphasises the necessity of speeding up the refugee return process, strengthening of the joint institutions and economic reconstruction in the B&H, it was stated in the Declaration released after the congress.

1:10

The Party of Independent Social Democrats of RS will suggest Biljana Plavsic be nominated for the President of the RS, Zivko Radisic for the member of the B&H Presidency and Mladen Ivanic for the co-president of the CoM in the forthcoming elections, Nenad Bastinac said at today's press conference.

1:30