

In This Issue You Can Read About:

- **Monitor's Eye: Suspicious Exclusivity**
- **Analysis**
- **Radio-Television Of Croatia: Step By Step Changes**
- **Freedom House – Report On Freedom Of Media: Press Freedom On The End Of The Century**
- **News**

Media News

Prepared by the
SAFAX News Agency Sarajevo
<http://www.mp-institu.com/>

• **Journalism and Democracy**

• **Media in Transition**

No 60, Vol. I

Sarajevo, July 12, 2000

Monitor's Eye

Suspicious Exclusivity

TVBiH advertised exclusive interview with the President of the Presidency of B&H Alija Izetbegovic on May the 5th. On the beginning of the 6th May TV daily news in 19.30 the important statement of the President has been announced by Senad Hadzifejzovic. Then Izetbegovic showed up and with words "Dear citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina ..." he announced his retirement from the B&H Presidency in October 2000. All newspapers and agencies have cited this statement that been catch on the ear by their monitors.

In the professional sense this news and Izetbegovic's statement deserve priority in the hierarchy of local news on that day. However pageant TVBiH exclusivity on this news has suspicious professional and ethic connotations. The first, a normal decision of the statesman in any normal state could not be subjected in such size to the setting and image of any media even if it is television. The second, avoiding to give important information in the same time to all media is obvious derogation of media's rights for the equal access to all information's sources. Alija Izetbegovic is public person, the statesman who has been selected and who is responsible to people and public, and not some show business star whose piquancy from the private life and business some journalist exclusively announces or extracts from his mouth. Finally, if he has already decided to say something to the public on the official way with "dear citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina", he had at least to know that barely the third part of Bosnia and Herzegovina can hear and see him in that moment.

In our opinion pranks with such exclusivity more refers on the brace of the authorities and media than on the journalist's feat. As well as the official announce to all Bosnia and Herzegovina by just one media definite discovers narrow minded perception of the time and space where one statesman's career ends.

Television And Refugees

How the biggest three TV stations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, TVBiH, RTV of Republic of Srpska and OBN in their top informative shows follow the problem of return of refugees in B&H, how much attention they pay to this matter, from which angle they treat it, is there also "other side" in their reports, how much is that job done objectively and professional and how much under the pressure of the daily and local politics? Answers on these questions have been searched through compared analyzing of The daily news of TV BiH that is broadcast every day in 19.30, then The daily news of RTRS broadcast in the same time, and the show TV INFO that is broadcast each day in 20.00. The mentioned shows have been observed in the ten days period –from 27th May to 5th June 2000.

The Maximum Attention For Refugees On TV BiH

Refugees' matters in these three shows have been treated on the usual way of the presenting – in the main introductory shows' announcements, through the reports covered with picture, with reporter's reports and statements from the place, then with standard news read by the show's editor. This question has been sporadic wriggled, especially in the case of TVBiH, also through the different reports which in general deal with other topics as are reports from different meetings, parliament's reports, information about activities of various parties, organizations and persons. Refugees' problem is often interposed on less or more clever way in to reports about opening up of various buildings (Kolonija in Pocitelj or mesdzid – religious building near Kiseljak), reports on exhumations (Kozarac and Kazani), on commissioning of the local bridge (Bosanska Krupa), on culture (exposition of Ismar Mujezionovic), and even on sports, etc.

Although the bare statistics about this subject's treatment does not speak much by itself, here are some data from the observed period:

In ten days TVBiH has dedicated to different refugees' reports, including also the announcements, approximately 50 minutes, RTRS approximately 20 minutes, and OBN approximately 25 minutes.

In the observed ten days TVBiH only one day has not have "nor word" about refugees, RTRS even four days did not mentioned refugees and their problems, while the main OBN's informative show three days has been without such news and reports.

"Refugees" report or news TVBiH has place even five times in ten days on the first place of the announcement in the Daily news, giving on that way priority to a subject. RTRS and OBN have done that two times each.



Media News- all the media news of BiH collected in one place.

Issued every second Monday in English and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian. Texts by local authors are published in whatever variant is appropriate to the author.

Published by **Media Plan - Safax**

Editor: Zoran Udovičić

Editorial in Sarajevo:

Patriotske lige 30,

(Arhitektonski fakultet) Sarajevo;

Tel/fax:+387 (0) 71 206 542, 213 251

Office Banja Luka – SOS – open line

for journalists: Tel/fax (0) 58 313 524

E-mail:

Safax-mp@bih.net.ba

<http://www.mediaplan.ba>

Copyright © 1999 Media Plan Institute

REPRODUCTION OF THE TEXTS IS PERMITTED IF BOTH THE NAME OF THE AGENCY AND NAME OF THE AUTHOR ARE SHOWN

Media News service is supported by French Government

It is insight that TVBiH follows this problem mainly through the reports of the own reporters (the most assiduous in the following of such subjects is Salih Brkic from Tuzla) and with comments from the redaction without using of information and materials of other sources. RTRS and OBN rely themselves in their reports on their own sources, but also on the other's as well as ONASA, BHPRES, etc. RTRS has informed on news from "the other side" more often than TVBiH, while TVBiH has informed nothing that has not been connected for the refugee's destiny of the Bosnjaks. News from Federation which RTRS has announced, however, instigate problems in this environment and refer on the **conflicts** between Bosnjaks and Croats. At such news announcing RTRS mainly refers on the sources from Federation. In Tuesday, 30 May, the news about explosive mean sent on the house with Bosnjak's refugees at Pocitelj has been announced, and the same day also the story about 1,700 Tuzla's medical employees which are in front of the expel is offered. In Monday, 5th June, RTRS has informed about "mass fight between Bosnjaks and Croats in Stolac". This news has not been announced by TVBiH nor OBN.

Extensive And Unfinished Reports

If we look in general it is easy to come to the conclusion that TVBiH ordinary and accentuated follows the refugees' problems although not always on the professional balanced, informative complete and professional effective way. Reports are often emotional colored and unnecessary extensive, as were report from the third June from Suceška when the reporter concludes: "In any way it will be persisted...", and the refugee repeats "it has to be..." and few times like that. In the same time there are no chain of the relevant information about problem's causes in the mentioned case of the start of the return in Suceška, which the viewer may find out only if he watch the same topic on the other TV. Two old people, married couple, which are alone on the debris of their house with no one beside them, without electricity, etc. are the subject of the report about dramatic conditions under which refugees are living – the first returnees in Srebrenica. Afterwards we find out that "they get electricity via extended cable". From who they get it if there is no one beside them and if they are the only Bosnjaks there. It seems that the answer on this logic question did not fit in the previous information's elements. Uninformed viewer hardly could understand way and how problem in Kotorsko, when Serbs blocked way to Bosnjaks who come to repair their houses, has been caused. Over many statements of Bosnjak's refugees and formulation that reporter has been used, the only conclusion that has been possible to make was that Serbs attack Bosnjaks without big reason, and quite discreet at the end of the report also Vozuca has been mentioned, the place from where Serbs escaped, without precise explanation what it is about. It has been shown in latter days' reports that Vozuca actually were the initial cause of the action of mentioned Serbs. Related to this case OBN has gave the opportunity to UNHCR representative to explicit said that refusal of promised visit of Serbs to Vozuca, where from they escaped in Kotorsko, has provoked dissatisfaction converted in to protest.

The Most Precise Is OBN

OBN's informative show TV INFO offers less information about refugees' problems, those information are not always in the top of the show as are in TVBiH, but journalists processed them more precisely, concretely and with arguments from the more angles. Typical example is the report about conflict in Kotarsko that has been treated as well as the other did, as extended information through daily news in two days. From the beginning it has been obvious what it is about, who started it, way, where it bring up and when the problem can be solved.

In difference of obvious effort of TVBiH to keep the problem of refugees always on the daily schedule indicating that return is really one of the key problem in BiH, and of the OBN's endeavour that deals with this matter always when the professional reasons request that, you can get impression that boosted and cognizable effort on this topic does not exist in the editorial policy of RTRS. This TV house deals with refugees' problem sporadically, without special interest and concept. Topic, obviously, does not dominate in yonder political life, and when it is in the top of the political structure's and public interesting then it is unrarely more connected for the relation with Croatia than with B&H. It is not unlogic when is known that the largest number of refugees in RS is right from Croatia.

Shortly, the ten days observing of the main informative shows of the three biggest TV houses in B&H has confirmed that, in the most cases, television still invest greater effort to be "on the course" of the daily-political way of thinking on the refugee's subject, than on the line of strictly independent, professional and objective journalism. When compare these three houses, the greatest skip in this direction has been made at OBN. When something happened on the "refugee's field" see INFO. There the information is most often given from three different sources, it is concise and without circumlocution, unburied with stressed pathetic laments which mainly from one way direction throttle the information. (Monitoring center of Media Plan – Zlatko Dizdarevic)

R a d i o - t e l e v i s i o n o f C r o a t i a

Step By Step Changes

(For "News about media" from Gordana Vilovic, The Freedom Forum News Library, Faculty of the political sciences, Zagreb)

"On the Croatian radio-television, despite political changes from the beginning of the year, protocols in the news presenting in the main informative political news are still prevailed, and less the consistency in the events' valuation. Rhetoric and vocabulary have been changed, there is no more news' presenters but they are edited and presented by the editors – proved TV professionals whereof the third expressed their attitudes transparently through *Forum 21* (self-organized group of journalists which have striven for independent journalism and new concept of RTV – note of red.). But it is just a step to the final goal – transformation of the state in to the public television."

Thereby were the summary of young journalist, participants of Journalists' workshop of Croatian journalists' association, after the analysis of "One day in Croatian media" that has been prepared by Dr. Stjepan Malovic, docent on the study of journalism on Faculty of the political sciences. Much critical was Fabrice Dujardin, journalist of the French television and teacher on the High school of journalism in Lilleu, who led journalists' workshop also on the Croatian television. According to his opinion the existing informative program looks like in "the best communists' years".

However, Croatian radio-television is on its milestone. People who took up hard role to change the ugly image of so far television, have took over the big task with uncertain result, and not rarely they are exposed to different critics, also the un-normed ones. Radical or step by step changes? New HRTV's management has destined itself for step by step. There were no changes as in 1990 when on that same television, just as in all media, personal changes have been momentary. By the short practice. There are some forgotten faces coming back now, but there are still journalists who extremely promote propagandistically TV-journalism. Certainly, the bed examples from the past should not be followed, since on that way the new injustices can be avoided. But, how much the critics that the step-by-step changes converted themselves in to slowness are reasonable?

General director of HRT, Mirko Galic, one of the most respectable Croatian journalists, has diagnosed in few cases all diseases of the strongest Croatian media, always with optimism that "there is energy for changes". Galic was completely direct also in his recent interview for the daily news "*New newspaper*": "Television is as inflammable tanker that moves slowly and it is hard to manage it, especially when it is in such shoal as it is now; with the ballast of finance crisis, with mortgage of the castle television and the bulk of oversized costs which started to throttle it ... Television has so far functioned as the state television, both in the socialism and in ten years of the Croatian state. It functioned as the opium for people, so it has had expressed propaganda political function in the presentation of the authorities and regime" ("NL", 15th May 2000, page 5, N. Santic)

Any authority in the world, and so this in Croatia, does not drop "the paw" from the television. If that fact is certain for the countries with developed democracy, where public television has long year tradition, with developed competitive network of the commercial televisions, how we can expect that drastic changes happened in Croatia over the night?! It can! And it is very simple: it will be helped to HRTV –tanker in the shoal, as Mirko Galic said, on the way that council's discussion about prepared

proposals of Public television legislation (those of Government, and the other proposal that representative Jadranka Kosor signs) be done in democratic tone and as soon as possible, and there after to allow to professionals to really protect public interests, and not interests of politicians. Everything else – as recent "glorified" statements of the high Croatian officials "we are not satisfied with media" (Drazen Budisa) or "media are not good attendant of the present authority" (Zlatko Tomcic), said on the softness way, are the clumsy lapses and they should be forgotten as soon as possible! Repeated mistakes of such nature can be nasty boomerang to the present authority who wants for ever to last. The earlier authority has just because of the "unnatural marriage" with television and the majority of media attracted all animosities of the prosperity world and, what is tragicomic, of the own nation. Nation shown it without any mercy on the January elections.

Notwithstanding the hard economic situation, the existing Government has done a lot that world believes that Croatia yet has chances to accede to the civil society. Therefore the relation toward all media is so important. And especially toward the television.

Freedom House - Press Freedom Report

Press Freedom At The Turn Of The Century

(Southeast Europe And The World)

Press Freedom As Universal Value

This paper presents the summary of the reports of the Freedom House: *The News of the Century – Press Freedom 1999*¹ and *The Internet and Press Freedom 2000*², and offers an insight into the state of press freedom in the 1999 and early 2000 worldwide. Additionally, it provides a comparison of the level of press freedom in the world, for the period 1978 - 2000, and it also focuses on the conditions in the media sphere in Southeast European countries.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states: *Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers. (Article 19) All states, members of UN, have thus accepted this declaration and are obliged to guarantee the freedom of expression. Nevertheless, many of them still deny the universal character of information freedom, thus denying one of the most basic human rights.*

Naturally, there are some objective barriers to the freedom of information, depending on cultural and economic characteristics of a particular state. Cultural differences and economic underdevelopment can significantly restrict the information flow within and between countries. Nevertheless, these excuses are more than frequently used by governments to legitimize their centralized control over informational channels and usually do not reflect the real capacity of a society to facilitate the free information exchange. One such example is that of China with its government constantly legitimizing its harsh constraints on freedom of expression by claiming that such 'Western' values are contradictory to 'Asian' values. Similar arguments are applied in respect to the restriction of Internet in Arab world. Hence, in order to protect these values from dangerous external influences, many governments are restricting the inflow of information into their cultural space.

Nevertheless, significant positive changes also happen, as it was the case with the fall of Communism in late 1980s and early 1990s. In other words, the general conditions of press freedom in

¹ Leonard R. Sussman, *The News of the Century – Press Freedom 1999*, Freedom House, <http://freedomhouse.org/pfs99/sussman.html>

² Leonard R. Sussman, *Censor Dot Gov – The Internet and Press Freedom 2000*, Freedom House, <http://www.freedomhouse.org/pfs2000/reports.html>

the world are extremely dynamic, with sometimes-unpredictable changes, for better or worse. Significant differences are registered between different states, and in many cases there are poor countries that allow freedom of information and there are developed countries that restrict the information exchange and diversity.

As mentioned above, the data presented here are extracted from the Freedom House reports. Thus, it is necessary here to outline basic methodological procedures and determinants as applied by Freedom House experts for acquiring the data we used here: The first level of analysis is the structure of the media system: laws and regulatory mechanisms and their influence on the media content. The second focus of analysis is the political control over the media content. Third interest of analysis is actual economic pressure on media content exerted either by private owners or government. And finally, the fourth analytical concern is the intensity of actual violations against the media, such as censorship, harassment, physical attacks and murders of media professionals.

The first three categories of analysis (laws, politics, and economy) are scored 0 to 15, and the fourth category 0 to 5 – the lower the number, the freer the media. Press and electronic media are evaluated separately. Hence, a scale has been set presenting the overall level of media freedom in any analyzed country: Countries that scored from 0 – 30 points are considered as having free media. Those scoring from 31 to 60 are marked as having partly free media, and those scoring from 61 to 100 as prohibiting freedom of the media.

Press Freedom: Trends And Processes 1978 - 2000

The 20th century has been marked with tremendous developments in both, the technologies of mass communication and in actual implementation of principles and practices of freedom of expression and information. Freedom House has set before itself a task to track and record these changes through systematic Press Freedom Surveys that started in 1978.

The analysis conducted in the early 1979 encompassed 161 countries. Out of that number, only 51 (31%) had free news media. Among these countries with generally free media, only 37 countries had free broadcast media what makes 24% of the total number of countries studied. Some 54 countries (or 34%) had partly free media whereas 56 nations (35%) had not-free media. One decade later, in 1989, there was an increase in press freedom in Eastern Europe that was initiated by the fall of Communism. Out of 159 countries examined in 1989, 56 of them (35%) had free press, 29 (18%) partly free, and 74 (or 47%) had not-free press.³ We can see how the category of partly-free countries has been split, with one part of the countries obviously improving to free category whereas other part slides back to not-free category.

The process of changes continued in 1990s. Hence, at the beginning of 1999 the results of the analysis of press freedom in 186 countries showed that 68 nations or some 36% belong to the free category. Significant growth was registered in the partly free category with 52 countries (28%) belonging to this group. Some 66 nations or 36% belonged to the not-free category.

The Freedom House press freedom survey from the early 2000 analyzed 186 countries. Out of that number, 69 nations (37%) belong to the free category. The partly free category includes 51 country (27%) and there are 66 countries (36%) that belong to the not-free category. If we consider the size of population of these countries, some 1.253 billions or 21% of people live in the countries with free press, and 2.357 billions (29%) live in countries with partly free press. Remaining 2.364 billions or 40% live in countries with not-free press.⁴

Regional comparison of the level of press freedom in early 2000 shows that North America has 2 countries (100%) in the free category, Western Europe has 20 countries (95%) in free category and 1 country (5%) in partly-free category, and Oceania has 8 countries (67%) in free category and 4 countries (33%) in the partly-free category. None of these three regions has countries with not-free media. Latin America and Caribbean region have 17 countries (52%) in free category, 14 countries (42%) in partly

³ *ibid.*

⁴ Leonard R. Sussman, *Censor Dot Gov – The Internet and Press Freedom 2000*, Freedom House, <http://www.freedomhouse.org/pfs2000/reports.html>

free group, and 2 countries (6%) in not-free category. Out of 27 countries in the region of Eastern, Central, and Southeast Europe and New Independent States, there is equal distribution of states into each of the three categories: 9 states (33%) belong to the free category, 9 (33%) belong to the partly free category and another 9 (33%) belong to the not-free category.

If we speak in percentages, the most difficult situation in 1999 and early 2000 is in the Middle East where only 1 country (7%) has free media, 2 countries (14%) have partly free press and 11 (79%) have not-free press. If we speak in numbers, the worst situation is in Africa where 6 countries (11%) belong to the free category, 17 (32%) belong to the partly free category, and the total of 30 countries (57%) belong to the not-free category. Asia also belongs to the regions with the rather difficult situation in the field of press freedom: 6 countries (25%) have free press, 4 (17%) have partly free press, and 14 (56%) have not-free press.

If we pay attention to the number of violations of the press freedom, there was 48 media professionals killed in 17 countries in 1999. During the period 1982 – 1999, some 892 media professionals were killed. There was 60 kidnapped, disappeared or abducted media professionals in 1999, and some 368 were arrested or detained during that year.

Southeast Europe: From Free Journalism To Torture

Before focusing on the region of Southeast Europe, firstly we have to achieve an agreement about the countries that actually belong to this region. There are many different criteria which are almost impossible to harmonize, therefore we have chosen the following countries according to our arbitrary estimate of their connection to Southeast European region: Albania, Bosnia–Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Slovenia, and Yugoslavia.

Out of this group of countries, only Bulgaria and Slovenia are evaluated as having free press. Bulgaria has in this year moved from the countries with partly free press to the free press group. In 1999, one Bulgarian journalist was investigated by the government, and another was assaulted after exposing corruption practices in privatization. Under the Bulgarian criminal code, libel is punishable with imprisonment and high fines but these measures have not been used frequently in recent years. The case of Slovenia is the most positive one in the whole region. The limitations of freedom of the press in Slovenia are not coming from government but rather from self-censorship.⁵

In the region of Southeast Europe, the largest category is that of countries with partly free media. There are 5 countries in this group: Albania, Bosnia – Herzegovina, Macedonia, Moldova, and Romania. Among these countries, Macedonia and Romania have scored the best (42 and 44 points respectively). Macedonian constitution prohibits censorship and guarantees press freedom and access to information and no significant violations have been registered in this country during 1999 and early 2000. The situation in Romania is somewhat more difficult, with constitutional and legal prohibition of defamation, libel, ‘offense to authority’ and ‘false information’ that can endanger national security. Journalists can be imprisoned if convicted of these offenses. According to the Freedom House report on Romania: “In 1999 six journalists were convicted of libel and slander, one reporter was arrested for exposing corruption, two were attacked while investigating a construction site, and another was robbed of his manuscript and thrown from a moving train.”

Other three countries with the partly free media are Albania (56 points), Bosnia – Herzegovina (56 points) and Moldova (58 points) which are actually very close to the not-free category (61 – 100 points). The Albanian criminal code prohibits defamation of public officials and symbols. Penalties range from fines to three years imprisonment sentences. Albania is characterized with rather large numbers of media outlets: public broadcaster, 30 private TV stations, 20 private radio stations, and some 250 registered newspapers. In 1999 one Albanian journalist was killed after presenting a report.

Bosnia-Herzegovina, due to its specific situation, also has rather specific pressures on the media scene, which are coming both from international actors and from local authorities. Apart from the lack of proper laws, significant political pressures and partisanship of many media, additional pressure

⁵ *ibid.*

comes from the rather difficult economic situation and the lack of media market. During 1999 one radio station was bombed, and a TV crew was attacked by demonstrators. After publishing articles on war crimes, one journalist was severely injured by a bomb set into his car.

The situation in Moldova actually derogated in 1999 and early 2000 in comparison with the level of its press freedom in 1998. The country lacks the law on freedom of information, and the defamation and insulting the state are prohibited by the constitution, the penal code and the press laws. The state controls the majority of electronic media and thus reduces the access to its opponents to these media. During 1999 several physical attacks on journalists have been registered: offices of one paper were attacked by crowd and one independent journalist was beaten after publishing a report about corruption.

Two Southeast European countries that have radically prevented the press freedom in 1999 and early 2000 are Croatia and Yugoslavia and are thus placed into the group of states with not-free press. Croatian criminal code provides that anyone convicted of insulting government may be sentenced to up to three years imprisonment. The printing and distribution facilities were monopolized by the, in 1999 still ruling, HDZ party, thus allowing authorities to exercise additional pressure on the media in the country. Moreover, until late 1999 authorities controlled major state broadcasting media, and effectively limited the reach of private media outlets. During the 1999 journalists were targets of harassment, death threats, police interrogation and indictments for offending government in their reports. With the removal of HDZ party from the power in early 2000 there are grounded expectations that Croatia will be among the first countries from this region (after Slovenia and Bulgaria) to allow free press and freedom of information. Nevertheless, this is yet to be seen although there are signs that the country has taken completely new course, toward true democratization and liberalization.

One country in the region that has clearly scored the worse on the scale of press freedom is Yugoslavia with 81 points. With such a high level of the obstruction of the freedom of expression and of communication, Yugoslavia belongs to a group of the 20 most authoritarian countries in the world which scored 80 and more points (such as Belarus with 80 points, Burundi with 83, Afghanistan with 90, or Cuba with 94 points). Under the cover of infamous Law on Public Information from 1998 authorities have started the series of attacks against independent media and journalists, only to intensify them during and after the NATO bombing campaign in mid 1999. This 'media war' culminated in recent months and weeks when authorities started real offensive on the remaining independent media outlets, bringing the country on the brink of the civil war. Journalists and media professionals have been constantly exposed to prosecutions, harassment, life threats and assassination attempts.

Conclusion: Journalists As A Threat For Power Elite

The dramatic developments in the politics, economy and technology in 20th century have made journalism and mass media to become among most significant determinants of the life in modern societies. One may say that the free press has become a necessary asset for functional modern societies who are in desperate need for effective control of complex societal processes of power distribution. The lack of transparency and the lack of free flow of information can make societies incapable of functioning properly, stuck in the vicious circle of corruption and abuse of powers. One significant example is the Asian financial crisis from the late 1990s that showed how lack of transparency in economy could have destructive consequences on the whole societies.⁶ The media and journalists have thus occupied central position in the processes of change in modern societies. Nevertheless, such position necessarily brings significant dangers, placing journalists under the ever-severe attacks of those forces that try to resist processes of liberalization and democratization. This necessarily leads to the oppressive actions against journalists and media outlets, which are often seen as enemies of the state and most severe danger for dominant power elite.

⁶ Leonard R. Sussman, *The News of the Century – Press Freedom 1999*, Freedom House, <http://freedomhouse.org/pfs99/sussman.html>

The Second Generation Of Students Of Media Plan's School Of Journalism Has Been Promoted

The second generation of students of Media plan's School of journalism has been promoted in Sarajevo on 31st May. 21 participants have successfully completed the nine month education. They are young journalists who work in their redaction, while in this school they have got additional expert specialization from the radio and television journalism, press, journalists' ethic, Internet, French language ...

On the promotion were about one hundred of guests composed from the representatives of the international organizations, media which have enabled to their journalists to spend a part of their time in last year in the school, and redactions that sign on students for the next generation. Also Director of Independent Media Commission Krister Thelin congratulated to completed students with words that Bosnia needs journalists – professionals, who will contribute to peace stabilization with their objective informing, and that he hopes promoted journalists are the core of such expectations. Representative of the Embassy of France in B&H Bernard Semerie has hand in diplomas.

School of journalism Media plan closely cooperates with the High school for journalism from Lil whose teachers performed almost 30 percents of the lectures in Sarajevo. The majority of teachers in the school in Sarajevo are domestic journalists, fitters, and cameramen with long year media experience. From the next year School of journalism Media plan will open the door to young journalists from the region, while as guest teachers will be engaged also journalists from the Croatia and Yugoslavia.

The second generation of the completed student are: Elvira Aganović, Darija Tankosić, Adis Šaranović, Elvira Velić, Merima Kurtović-Pašalić, Ognjen Blagojević, Elvir Trebinjac, Sanela Piralčić, Belma Bećirbašić, Nermin Bise, Indira Tabučić, Nedim Komadarić, Elma Kazagić, Angelina Kotromanović, Siniša Subotić, Nina Karanjac, Aleksandra Bosiočić, Ramiz Hajdarević, Šefik Tatlić, Safeta Lončarić and Dragana Aleksić.

"The Midnight Invasion" In "Dnevni Avaz"

Taxation police has invaded in to rooms of the printing office of Sarajevo's daily newspaper "Dnevni avaz" early in the morning on the 6th June. Inspectors have then forbidden employees and security to use phone and then the hand counting of numbers of "Dnevni avaz". According to the statement of Mensur Osmanović, the main and responsible editor of the paper, "Dnevni avaz" has nothing against the control of its finance, but it has against the way on which it has been done. By Osmović, the way of invasion in the printing office can be considered as a brutal political frightening and attempt of compromitation of business reputation and media impact of "Dnevni avaz". "Avaz" management informed publicity that this house regularly reconciles all its tax liabilities and that it shown profit of 2,500,000 KM in the last year and therefore paid the tax in the amount of 30%.

Ambassador of the OSCE Mission in B&H Robert Barry has meet general manager Fahrudin Radončić and the main and responsible editor of "Avaz" Mensur Osmović and discussed about this incident. Barry stated that he severely deprecates "the midnight invasions" in the press houses, and that this action can be interpreted as a pressure and misuse of the legal rights by the Sarajevo's authority. Also the High representative Petritsch and US Ambassador in Sarajevo Miler have expressed their concern about behavior of the tax police.

It can be unofficially heard in "Dnevni avaz" that police in the middle of the night is connected with recent threats of the individuals from the Party of democratic action (SDA) because of paper's

alienation from the governing Bosnjak's party. Party's headquarter has denied this accuses in public statement.

"Večernje" In The New Apparel

Sarajevo's daily "Večernje novine" has finally, after completed privatization by the company "Alden print" started battle for bringing back of the rocky issues. After the new editor Ahmed Bosnic is bring, and after the reinforcement of the correspondence network, the paper has shown up on the 5th June with changed design. Better descriptiveness of the paper is the first visual impression of different newspaper breach with new logotype. Rubrics are more conspicuous, and texts' arrangement makes the content more readable. However, the first "refreshed" numbers show some more presence of the statements or interviews with famous persons.

"In front of us are extremely hard tasks and obligations. With accepting of the abundant journalists' deposits, we are oblige to continue the honest journalists' mission in B&H..." – says the introduction of the first issue created on this way, Ahmed Bosnic.

Reward To Boro Kontić

European program reward, international acknowledgement from the area of media accomplishments has been awarded to director of the Media center Sarajevo, Boro Kontić, on 30th May in German city Postdam. Reward, whose sponsor is BBC, argumentation is that Kontić had "extraordinary contribution to training and development of young journalists in Europ".

No BH Press In The West Herzegovina

Press agency ONASA says that even five years after the war in B&H in the most municipalities of Livno canton the newspapers which are published in Sarajevo can not be bought.

On the kiosks in Drvar, Bosansko Grahovo, Glamoč, Kupres, and Tomislavgrad none daily news from B&H is available, and in Livno only "Oslobodjenje" and "Dnevni avaz" are available, reports pressman of the agency from this canton.

In municipalities of Livno canton also program of TV BiH can not be followed, so the citizens exclusively follow the program of the Croatian state television.

Participants of the workshop "Presence of political parties in media" held recently in Livno have concluded that "media dark" is still present in this canton, and that exclusively guilt for such condition is on the governing Croatian democratic community (HDZ) B&H.

Action For Help To Hardly Ill Journalist

Independent union of professional journalists of B&H and Union of journalist of B&H have organized action of collecting sources for the urgent treatment of journalist from Sarajevo Mimo Šahinpašić.

Šahinpašić, long year journalist-reporter of the Independent RTV Studio 99, momentary employed on the Fern Radio, has hardly diseased and he need urgent kidney transplantation. "With your modest donation of 100 DM a young life could be saved", says in letter of two journalists' unions.

Mimo Šahinpašić has acquired a great popularity during the war while he edited contact program on Studio 99 in which Sarajevo's citizens openly and with arguments talked about their attitudes on problems in the city and the state.

Money aid can be paid on the account 10100-602-16 in Central profit banka, refer to number 6006110-2302118.

Council of Media Plan Institute: Prof. Dr. Muhamed Nuhic, Hamza Baksic (Sarajevo); Perica Vucinic (Banja Luka); M.S. Lenart Setinc (Ljubljana); Prof. Dr. Mario Plenkovic (Zagreb); M.S. Loius de la Ronciere (Paris); M.S. Aleksandar Todorovic (Montreaux); Prof. Dr. Slavo Kukic (Mostar), Prof.Dr. Miroljub Radojkovic (Beograd)