

# UNMIK



United Nations Mission in Kosovo

Division of Public Information

## Media Monitoring

# ► **Headlines**

**Main Stories**

**Weekend Edition**

**25 October (Saturday)**

- **EU High Representative Javier Solana visits Kosovo (*all dailies*)**
- **Haradinaj: UNMIK must ends its mandate (*Epoka e Re*)**
- **Government: There can be no dialogue with arrest warrants (*Kosova Sot*)**
- **Shala: Withdrawing arrest warrants and dissolution of parallel structures (*Zëri*)**
- **Weber: We cannot dissolve education/healthcare parallel structures (*Zëri*)**
- **UNMIK Police deceives the public (*Epoka e Re*)**

## **Kosovo Media Highlights**

### **EU High Representative Javier Solana visits Kosovo (*all dailies*)**

*All dailies* carry reports from the visit by EU High Representative Javier Solana to Pristina yesterday. During his stay here, Solana met with President Ibrahim Rugova, Prime Minister Bajram Rexhepi, Assembly Speaker Nexhat Daci, Oliver Ivanovic, PDK leader Hashim Thaçi, AAK leader Ramush Haradinaj and COMKFOR General Holger Kammerhoff.

*Koha Ditore* reports that Solana told Prime Minister Bajram Rexhepi that he should join the dialogue with Belgrade and continue constructive cooperation with UNMIK and SRSG Harri Holkeri.

‘I think that Rexhepi has a lot of responsibilities, but one of the responsibilities is that he must actively and constructively participate in the dialogue,’ Solana said during a press conference with UNMIK chief Harri Holkeri in Prishtina.

*Koha Ditore* reports that President Rugova said that the meeting in Vienna was positive and he assured Solana that the dialogue would continue.

The paper quoted PM Bajram Rexhepi as saying that the Government of Kosovo believed that the dialogue is one of the standards. Rexhepi also said that he and the

government were not against the dialogue but that the whole process was not prepared in the right way.

Kosovo Assembly Speaker Nexhat Daci said that Kosovo and the international community would be on the same ship of democracy.

*Zëri* quoted Solana as saying, 'For the time being, the most important thing in Brussels is continuing the dialogue, which both sides, Serbia and Kosovo must see as their key to join the European Union'.

'We were disappointed that the Kosovo delegation in Vienna was incomplete,' Solana added.

*Kosova Sot*, which also covered Solana's visit, claimed that so far EU High Representative Javier Solana had never supported the independence of Kosovo and thus he had voiced the European position on the status of Kosovo.

### **Haradinaj: UNMIK must end its mandate (Epoka e Re)**

*Epoka e Re* carried an interview with Ramush Haradinaj, leader of the Alliance for the Future of Kosovo (AAK).

*Despite your opposition and the absence of Prime Minister Rexhepi, the meeting in Vienna was held. What is your assessment of this meeting?*

It is an event and part of the project that derives from the eight standards proposed by Steiner. However, in general, we believe that preparations and the 14<sup>th</sup> October meeting in Vienna are improvisations.

*What is your opinion about Rugova and Daci's participation in the meeting in Vienna and the absence of Prime Minister Rexhepi?*

It was noticed that there was certain discordance about participation from our side. I don't want to comment on the positions and actions of leaders of institutions but we believed that it was unreasonable to participate under such circumstances and without taking into consideration our demands.

*How much has the meeting in Vienna damaged Kosovo?*

Vienna has not damaged the process and Kosovo, but it has pointed out certain developments which must be seriously treated and which deserve a somewhat different approach. Therefore, it was noticed that there is a certain level of stagnation in Kosovo; it was noticed that the international community, especially UNMIK, doesn't share the concerns of the people of Kosovo and I believe that this is a starting point for new positive developments in Kosovo. This implies completing the Kosovo Government and redefining the relations between the Government and UNMIK.

*Does this mean that time has come for UNMIK to end its mission in Kosovo?*

Yes, I think that UNMIK should end its administrative mandate and I think that we are already behind time in this respect. Kosovo is no longer a problem or an issue of administration. We have asked for a permanent mandate of NATO in Kosovo with the aim of including our army, the Kosovo Protection Corps, in NATO.

*Let us put aside Vienna for a minute. What is your comment on the statements of some high-ranking UNMIK officials that there was no war between Kosovo and Serbia but only a conflict?*

These people at UNMIK, they are not to blame. How do they know what happened here? We were the ones who fought the war and we are the ones who are going to give it the assessment it merits, we the people of Kosovo, because the war of liberation was ours. Whereas people who come here say after four years or people who are going to come here later, do not know that there was war here.

**Government: There can be no dialogue with arrest warrants (Kosova Sot)**

*Kosova Sot* quotes Ramadan Avdiu, advisor to Prime Minister Bajram Rexhepi as saying, ‘As long as the Serbian state plays filthy games by using arrest warrants that were issued by the regime which was condemned by the international community, there can be no genuine dialogue between Kosovo and Serbia’.

**Shala: Withdrawing arrest warrants and dissolution of parallel structures (Zëri)**

*Zëri* carries an editorial by Blerim Shala, who writes:

At first sight at least Kosovo has no other problem other than the dialogue with Serbia. This impression was strengthened on Friday when Javier Solana visited Pristina on Friday and met with leading Kosovo politicians.

The main topic of these meetings was continuing the dialogue. The public statements of Albanian politicians proved that they haven’t moved a millimeter from their positions before the meeting in Vienna. Therefore, confusion continues. It seems that not even the case of KPC Commander General Çeku can unite our leaders, despite the fact that on the critical day they all agreed that this was a very serious provocation for Kosovo.

It would be wise if Kosovo leaders were united in the demand that there can be no dialogue unless Belgrade publicly declares null and void all arrest warrants against the leaders of the former Kosovo Liberation Army and until it dissolves parallel structures.

Our politicians, and even Solana, cannot go around pretending like nothing happened in Slovenia a couple of days ago.

It is very true that in both cases, when Hashim Thaçi was stopped in Budapest and when Agim Çeku was detained in Ljubljana, Solana played a key role in their release. But Solana can be the lawyer of Albanian officials and politicians every time they are stopped and every time it is concluded that Serbia limits their freedom of movement in Europe.

Belgrade should declare null and void the arrest warrants, dissolve parallel structures in Serbia and Kosovo and then there can be talks on appointing working groups and on the dialogue on issues of mutual interest.

**Weber: We cannot dissolve education/healthcare parallel structures (Zëri)**

**Zëri** reports that Carsten Weber, director of the OSCE Department for Human Rights and Rule of Law said Friday in Peja that it wasn't possible to dissolve parallel structures for education and healthcare because neither UNMIK nor anyone else could fill the gap that would be created by such an action.

Weber also said that all parallel structures in Kosovo were constantly producing major problems and that they are having a substantial impact on society.

### **UNMIK Police deceives the public (*Epoka e Re*)**

In a page-two article, *Epoka e Re* claims that UNMIK Police had 'distorted the truth' with a press release that it issued regarding the protest that was held Wednesday night in Pristina against the arrest of KPC Commander General Agim Çeku.

*Epoka e Re* quotes the press release as saying that on Wednesday night around 20 persons were involved in a protest against the arrest of a TMK member in Slovenia and that the protesters threw stones and smashed windows. 'But this press release is only a lie of the police,' added *Epoka e Re*.

## **Kosovo Press Headlines**

### **Koha Ditore**

#### **Front page**

- **Europe is dialogue, says Solana**
- **Surroi: Seeking a political offer (on political situation in Albania)**
- **KEK projects bring neither electricity nor funds**
- **Macedonian Government fills the gap with deputy ministers**

#### **Other headlines**

- **Conflict between Nano and Meta aggravates (2)**
- **Incident after Solana-Rexhepi meeting (3)**
- **German Govt refuses to pay Serbs for war consequences in Kosovo (4)**
- **Romas shouldn't be forcibly returned to Kosovo (4)**
- **Three witnesses don't show up in trial of Shefket Musliu (6)**
- **Two Albanians from Presevo arrested in Nis (6)**
- **IRDK: No conditions for immediate return of Egyptians (7)**
- **Kelmendi: There is no one to criticize the Minister of Education! (10)**
- **Martens: The first meeting (10)**

### **Zëri**

#### **Front page**

- **Solana: If Kosovo wants a European future, it must talk with its neighbors**
- **Shala: Withdrawing arrest warrants and dissolution of parallel structures**
- **Contradictory information creates chaos in the education process**
- **Meta: Fatos Nano is controlled by the mafia**

- **ICG: Macedonia needs an international military presence**

#### **Other headlines**

- **Three Serb witnesses don't appear in trial of Shefket Musliu (2)**
- **Kofi Annan calls for joint fight against terrorism (2)**
- **Solana: I don't think Çeku's arrest will damage process of dialogue and reconciliation (3)**
- **Many Kosovan products are ecologically better than imported products (6)**
- **Weber: We cannot dissolve parallel structures for education and healthcare**

## **Bota Sot**

#### **Front page**

- **President Rugova: We are working for a Kosovo integrated in NATO and EU**
- **Reps of Kosovan institutions must cooperate closely with UNMIK**
- **Blocks A3, A4 and A5 not in production**
- **Armed Albanian groups had kidnapped Danish and Dutch ambassadors**

#### **Other headlines**

- **Morina: Who protected the national dignity in Kosovo? (4)**
- **UN, respect the will of the people of Kosovo! (4)**
- **Progress achieved in Kosovo after Holkeri's arrival (5)**
- **UN Secretary General Kofi Annan sends message to the world (5)**
- **Ajeti: New factions in PDK (6)**
- **Families in Suhareka disappointed with UNMIK and local institutions (6)**

## **Kosova Sot**

#### **Front page**

- **Dialogue leads you to EU together with Serbia, says Solana**
- **Government: No dialogue with arrest warrants**
- **Officials want diplomatic passports**
- **Commentary: How to form the state?**
- **Editorial: Solana's key**
- **Kosovo businessmen cut ties with Slovenia**
- **Pessimist Weber yields to parallel structures**

#### **Other headlines**

- **Solana 'forgets' to say goodbye to the Prime Minister (2)**
- **Don't fear arrests, says German Office (4)**
- **AANC: Internationals should repeal Milosevic's orders (4)**
- **Seven days 'Made in Kosovo' (6)**
- **UNMIK has changed the identity of many Kosovans (6)**
- **Illegal schools challenge Minister Osmani (6)**
- **Process filled with ambiguities and fear of investments (7)**

- Competencies of KEK should have been transferred earlier (7)
- Delay in signing contracts results in major losses (8)
- Serb witnesses do not appear in court (14)
- Meta: Nano won't leave because he has mafia connections (15)

## **Epoka e Re**

### **Front page**

- **Haradinaj: UNMIK must end its mandate**
- **Solana visits Pristina and gives 'infusion' to dialogue**
- **Mitrovica families boycott Slovenian products**
- **UNMIK Police deceives the public**

### **Other headlines**

- **Del Ponte: The four Serb generals will be tried in The Hague, not in Serbia**
- **No more indictments against Serbs for crimes committed in Kosovo (3)**
- **Belgrade dissatisfied with Slovenia's decision to release Çeku (4)**
- **Kosovo power plants aren't producing electricity (5)**
- **Shtërpce municipal administration assists Limaj Fund (5)**
- **Meta: Nano won't leave because he has mafia connections (6)**
- **Annan: UN served humanity for 58 years (6)**
- **Ramabaja: EU, NATO and Zeus' anger (6)**
- **OSCE talks about parallel structures even in Peja (9)**
- **Serbian Government invests millions in Serb returns (9)**

## **Belgrade Media Highlights**

- **Francis O'Donnell on the occasion of UN Day (*Politika/Tanjug*)**
- **Solana: Dialogue – only way (*Blic*)**
- **Nobody knows how companies will be sold (*Glas*)**
- **CCK requests investigation against Cheku (*Vecernje Novosti/Tanjug*)**
- **SaM not satisfied with Slovenia's move (*Vecernje Novosti/Beta*)**
- **Rugova offered guarantees on continuation the dialogue (*Danas*)**
- **Restrictions threatens 063 network in Kosovo (*Balkan/Beta*)**

### **Francis O'Donnell on the occasion of UN Day (*Politika/Tanjug*)**

The UN Resident Coordinator in Serbia and Montenegro Francis O'Donnell has assessed that general development trends in the past three years and economic reforms in the country have been progressing well. The growing unemployment and other economic problems will be overcome with assistance of development programs, said O'Donnell on the occasion of the representing of the Joint Assessment of the Situation in SaM, which had been worked out by expert teams of the UN and the state union. He has underlined that institutions should be more efficient, gray economy should be prevented and the Parliament should accelerate enactment of reform laws.

### **Solana: Dialogue – only way (*Blic*)**

The EU High Representative has stated that the Belgrade-Pristina dialogue, commenced in Vienna, must continue through so-called working groups in which minority representatives should also take part. “We are sorry that the Pristina delegation was not complete in Vienna,” said Solana and conveyed to Rexhepi that he must continue to cooperate with UNMIK in a consulting manner. If you want a perspective for Kosovo and Kosovo in Europe, the only way is the way of a dialogue and not politicizing.

### **Nobody knows how companies will be sold (Glas)**

The CCK doesn't know in what way will further privatization of Kosovo companies unfold, i.e. whether the same method will be applied – Kosovo companies to Albanians and their loans to Serbia. Namely, the Board of Directors of the Kosovo Trust Agency, which is offering for sale socially owned companies, announced two days ago that the third round of privatization, following a temporary cease, will commence in seven days. The statement also says that the cases of the selling of companies from the first and second tender will be re-examined in the next 30 days. The newly appointed director of the Kosovo Agency Marie Fuchi is fourth in a row of this institutions directors, because all of the past ones left on their own since the UN and EU missions could not guarantee them legal immunity, i.e. that they will not bear responsibility for brought decisions in case of lodging of complaints before the authorized international court, said Milena Vasic, in charge of CCK's economic sector.

### **CCK requests investigation against Çeku (Vecernje Novosti/Tanjug)**

Concerning the arrest of former commander of the so-called KLA and present KPC commander Agim Çeku in Slovenia and his subsequent release on UNMIK's request, the CCK demands and expects UNMIK to begin an investigation against Çeku, the CCK announced. The announcement adds that the basis for this demand is the statement by the SRSJ Harri Holkeri that crimes committed in Kosovo and Metohija are solely under UNMIK's jurisdiction.

### **SaM not satisfied with Slovenia's move (Vecernje Novosti/Beta)**

SaM has expressed dissatisfaction with Slovenia's decision to release KPC commander Agim Çeku. On the occasion of the release of Çeku, arrested in Ljubljana on the basis of Interpol's warrant of arrest on the request of Serbian judicial bodies, the Slovenian Ambassador in Belgrade Borut Suklje was invited to the SaM Foreign Ministry. The ministry's statement says that dissatisfaction with Slovenia's move was conveyed to the Slovenian Ambassador.

### **Rugova offered guarantees on continuation the dialogue (Danas)**

Kosovo President Ibrahim Rugova has offered in Pristina to Javier Solana guarantees by Kosovo institutions for the continuation of the Pristina-Belgrade dialogue. In talks with Solana, Rugova positively assessed the recent meeting in Vienna, and added that the work should be continued with expert groups. He reiterated the aspirations of the people of Kosovo towards gaining independence. Solana appealed on “continuing what had been agreed upon in Vienna and on forming working groups of the Kosovo institutions and UNMIK.” Kosovo Premier Bajram Rexhepi said in talks with Solana that the Kosovo government was not against dialogue, but assessed that the meeting

between Pristina and Belgrade representatives in Vienna was not prepared in the right way.

### **Restrictions threatens 063 network in Kosovo (Balkan/Beta)**

The Mobtel Serbia Company has announced that it has been engaged in resolving the difficulties in the operation of the 063 mobile network in Kosovo, caused by electric shortage, *Beta* reports. The statement says that Mobtel's technical teams were working on strategically important base stations to enable normal operations of 063 network.

## **26 October (Sunday)**

### **Kosovo Media**

#### **Holkeri is disappointed with irresponsible Kosovar leaders (Koha Ditore)**

SRSB Harri Holkeri is very disappointed with Kosovar leaders. In an interview conducted by the Finnish news agency STT he said he is disappointed with the politicians because they have no willingness to take responsibility about daily life of the Kosovo residents, *Koha Ditore* reported.

He added that differences amongst political parties are the priority for these leaders rather than responsibilities and attempts to improve the life of Kosovars.

'The tensions between the parties are more important than solutions for the daily problems,' Holkeri said. 'It is impossible for me to understand why politicians do not want to negotiate in order to protect the interests of the citizens.' he said.

Next Thursday, Holkeri is due to submit a report to the UNSC, the paper reported. This report is expected to be different from the reports of his predecessors and also this report may be pessimistic about Kosovo's future.

'I intend to be as realistic as I can,' Holkeri said.

On the other hand, the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan has praised work of the Kosovo government and its effort to address needs of the Kosovo citizens, the paper further reported.

#### **UNMIK does not see reason to prosecute Thaçi and Çeku (Koha Ditore)**

UNMIK does not discuss operations issues such as cooperation with Interpol in the media, while Serbia and Montenegro accused Slovenia of Çeku's release and also accused UNMIK spokesperson Sunil Narula as a participant in crimes committed against Serbs in Kosovo, *Koha Ditore* reported.

After the release of Çeku by the Slovenian authorities, CCK demanded from 'UNMIK to begin immediate investigations against KPC commander Agim Çeku'.

Paper further reported that UNMIK spokesperson Sunil Narula is accused by the Serbian Minister of Justice Vladan Batic as a 'participant in the crime, because he has hidden documents regarding charges against Hashim Thaçi and Agim Çeku'.

However, Narula denied fact that Serbia has handed in information that will serve as a basis for the prosecution. He also denied statements of Batic and said that 'UNMIK has received from Serbia any information regarding the charges against Agim Çeku which will serve as a legal base for the prosecution'.

While Batic accused UNMIK spokesperson Sunil Narula for participating in crimes, the latter said that 'I do not want to dignify such statements by responding to it'.

In order not to repeat what happened with Çeku and Thaçi, UNMIK must cooperate with Interpol and to get Serbian warrant withdrawn, the paper further reported.

'Operational issues and cooperation between UNMIK and Interpol cannot be discussed in the media,' Narula said.

## **Kosovo Press Headlines**

### **Koha Ditore**

#### **Front page**

- **Holkeri is disappointed with irresponsible Kosovar leaders**
- **Political anger led to the new elections in Presevo Valley**
- **Annan urges continuation of the dialogue**
- **Ahmeti: Gerogievski had offered division**
- **The Hague turns attention on mass graves in Serbia**

#### **Other headlines**

- **Certification of teachers for the post of lecturer (2)**
- **UNMIK does not see legal basis to prosecute Thaçi and Çeku (3)**
- **Former police determined to achieve its aim (3)**
- **The Hague has no more indictments against Serbians (4)**
- **What will be the new role of the public housing directorate (5)**
- **Rain delays sowing (5)**
- **Alarm at existence of poison (6)**
- **Improvement in teaching conditions (7)**
- **KFOR Turkish battalion celebrates its national day (7)**
- **Market in Ferizaj (7)**
- **Rich people do not support poor residents (8)**
- **Cooperation with police is a patriotic act (8)**
- **New government will have old composition (8)**
- **Children who have classes in containers are in danger (9)**
- **Cufaj: Once blue, always blue (10)**

### **Bota Sot**

#### **Front page**

- **Medicine is preferred subject for postgraduate studies**
- **We are proud of being part of KFOR**
- **Army should get rid of Ukrainian tanks and airplanes [Macedonia]**
- **Boycott**
- **Reis wishes on Ramadan**
- **Four years after the war, businesses know their working hours**
- **Priority to support projects on Shkodra Lake [Albania]**

#### **Other headlines**

- **International community should match its standards towards Kosovo (2)**
- **68 kg cigarettes are confiscated (5)**
- **Contradictions in capital (5)**
- **Enverism should belong to history (5)**
- **A year after the second municipal elections (6)**
- **Citizens not in the mood to walk(6)**
- **President shouldn't allow government with deputy ministers [Albania] (8)**
- **Greek mafia is very strong in Albania (9)**
- **Lots of Albanians want to resolve issue of statehood [Macedonia] (11)**