

Foreign Press Office - Mostar

MEDIA REPORTS

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10.7.2005

Sarajevo: Abdulahim Maktouf sentenced to five years of prison

FENA

July 1, 2005

The Court of BiH on Friday found Abdulahim Maktouf, Iraqi citizen who lives in Travnik, guilty for assisting in the criminal act of war crime against the population and sentenced him to five years of prison.

Maktouf, who has been in custody since June 12, 2004, will have to pay the court's expenses.

The lowest prison sentence for this criminal act is 10 years of prison, but the Court of BiH has decided, given all the circumstances, to soften the punishment deeming that the five-year prison sentence fits the crime committed.

Maktouf was convicted for helping Abu Dzafer and other members of unit El-Mujaheed in capturing three Croat civilians from Travnik on October 19 1993 and taking them to the unit's camp in Orasac.

Constitutional Court to rule on Croat TV channel

Vecernji list

By Dejan Jazvic

July 1, 2005

The issue of the PBS law will most likely be resolved by the BiH Constitutional Court as the political differences surrounding the submitted proposal for creating a state PBS system are apparent. Bosniak and Serb delegates in the House of Peoples are pushing to adopt the proposal they received from the Council of Ministers, while the Croat delegates invoked protection of their vital national interest.

These developments have reduced to a minimum the possibility of achieving a compromise. If the proposed law is not adopted, it will be sent to the Constitutional Court for consideration.

This would not be the first time that the Constitutional Court is called upon to judge the constitutionality of a proposed law and its destructive influence on the vital national interest of a constituent people.

In a previous case, the Constitutional Court confirmed that Croat delegates in the House of Peoples were correct in arguing the proposed state law on higher education was destructive for their vital national interests. (Excerpt)

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Youth Unemployment in Bosnia and Herzegovina

[Mladi.info](#)

July 1, 2005

During June 2005, [Prism Research](#) conducted its regular public opinion poll on a sample of 1,500 citizens of B&H, older than 18. The poll was conducted under the auspices of the Prism Research Face-to-Face Omnibus.

In addition to other questions, special attention was paid to the analysis of the views of the young population on the problem of unemployment in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The main findings of the poll are:

- 69,8% of the polled between ages 18-30 are unemployed;
- Among the unemployed, the majority (51.6%) are not registered by the Employment Bureau;
- 92,5% of the unemployed that are not registered by the Employment Bureau, said that the Bureau never offered them any job opening;
- 61,2% of all unemployed polled citizens has never applied in a job competition;
- in the past job searches, 21,4% of the unemployed used personal connections and friends, while 8,7% offered bribes to get to a job;
- 37,1% of the unemployed youth listed the lack of connections and important friends as the main reason why they weren't able to find a job. 27,9% listed the fact that there are more laid-off workers in the labour market, while the number of positions is reducing, as their main reason why they couldn't find a job;
- 23,5% of unemployed youth said that it did work on the black labour market, for it was the only chance to earn some living.

The complete results of the poll are available [here](#).