

Country/entity	Bosnia and Herzegovina Yugoslavia (former)
Region	Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Statement of Principles on Bosnia, International Conference on Former Yugoslavia (The London Conference)
Date	27 Aug 1992
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Interstate/intrastate conflict(s)

Balkan Conflicts (1991 - 1995) (1998 - 2001)

Former Yugoslavia

The disintegration of former Yugoslavia post cold war saw conflicts which became mediated and produced peace agreements in Slovenia (where the brief independence conflict was mediated by the EC Troika in 1991), Croatia (between Croatian and Serb populations 1991-1995), in Bosnia (between Croatian, Serb and Bosniak populations 1992-1995), in Macedonia (where mediation played a key pre-emptive role in preventing large scale conflict in 2001), in Kosovo (between Kosovar Albanians and Serbian population and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), but also between FRY and NATO, 1998-1999), and a conflict in the Presevo Valley (between Albanians in South Serbia and FRY, 2000-2001). The continued fall-out of the disintegration of former Yugoslavia also saw mediated agreement and ultimate dissolution of the Union between Serbia and Montenegro.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

In 1991, after nationalist parties won the first multi-party elections in the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, a violent process of disintegration commenced. With its mixed population, Bosnia-Herzegovina became the centre of the following civil war that began in 1992 between the newly formed army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina (mostly Muslim Bosniacs), and the parastatal forces of self-declared Bosnian Croat (Herzeg-Bosnia) and Bosnian Serb (Republika Srpska) entities within Bosnia-Herzegovina, supported by Croatia and Serbia, with various, often short-lived, coalitions. The General Framework Agreement (Dayton Peace Agreement), signed in 1995, split the country into two ethno-federal entities, the Bosniak-Croat Federation and the Republika Srpska, and included continued peacekeeping and institutional administration by international actors.

Kosovo

The conflict between Serbs and Kosovar Albanians has a long history and always involved territorial disputes as well as ethno-political, cultural and linguistic factors. The most recent phase of the conflict began in November 1997 when the Albanian Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA or UCK) began their campaign for the independence of Kosovo from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY – then Serbia and Montenegro). The subsequent war lasted until the NATO intervention, which undertook bombing campaigns of Belgrade and other places in Serbia during spring 1999. The main agreements solving the conflict were internationally driven and, finally, a UNSC resolution imposed a post-conflict arrangement in the wake of what was essentially a NATO military victory. In February 2008, Kosovo's parliament declared independence, but independence is still internationally disputed.

Close

Balkan Conflicts (1991 - 1995) (1998 - 2001)

Stage

Pre-negotiation/process

Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Bosnia peace process
Parties	This was convened by Great Britain, which held the presidency of the EC at the time. The Participants were: The SFRY republics, the EC countries, the USA, China, Russia, Japan, Canada, The Republic of Czechoslovakia (as a state which held the presidency of CSCE – Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe) and the neighboring countries: Austria, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania
Third parties	-
Description	This short agreement contains principles for a political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including: cessation of hostilities; recognition of independence; rights for national minorities; assistance for return of those forcibly expelled; and grouping of all heavy weaponry under Bosnian Serb control.

Agreement document	BA_920827_Statement on Bosnia.pdf (opens in new tab) Download PDF
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Groups

Children/youth	No specific mention.
Disabled persons	No specific mention.
Elderly/age	No specific mention.
Migrant workers	No specific mention.

Racial/ethnic/ national group	<p>Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical</p> <p>Page 1, Untitled preamble</p> <p>The participants in the London Conference on the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia condemn the continuing violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the attempts to gain territory by the use of force. They reject as inhuman and illegal the expulsion of civilian communities from their homes in order to alter the ethnic character of any area.</p> <p>Page 1,</p> <p>A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions: ...d) implementation of guarantees for the rights of persons belonging to all national communities and minorities in accordance with the UN Charter and CSCE provisions;</p> <p>Page 1-2,</p> <p>A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions: ...f) democratic and legal structures which properly protect the rights of all in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including national communities and minorities;</p>
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	<p>Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical</p> <p>Page 1,</p> <p>A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions: ...e) just and adequate arrangements for people who have been forcibly expelled from their homes including the right to return and compensation for their losses;</p> <p>Page 2,</p> <p>The negotiations will also need to cover the following arrangements:...e) the establishment of refugee and relief centres for those citizens of Bosnia-Herzegovina who have lost or been expelled from their homes, pending their return;</p>
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession Page 1,
A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions:
...b) recognition of Bosnia-Herzegovina by all the former Yugoslav Republics;

Accession/unification Page 2,
The negotiations will also need to cover the following arrangements:
a) a genuine and lasting end to the conflict throughout the Republic, and return of territory taken by force;

Border delimitation Page 1,
A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions:
...c) respect for the integrity of present frontiers, unless changed by mutual agreement;

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making
Page 2,
Further urgent steps are now required to achieve a settlement. The participants in the London Conference urge all parties immediately and without preconditions to resume negotiations on future constitutional arrangements within the framework of the Conference. All parties involved must participate in these negotiations with a genuine will to secure peace and a respect for the interest of the other parties.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general Page 1, Untitled preamble
...They welcome the adoption by the United Nations Security Council of Resolution 771 and other Security Council Resolutions, and the Resolution of the UN Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

Page 1-2,
A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions:
...f) democratic and legal structures which properly protect the rights of all in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including national communities and minorities;

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation Page 1, Untitled preamble
...They undertake to collate substantiated information on violations of international humanitarian law and to make this information available to the United Nations. They reaffirm that persons who commit or order the commission of grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions are individually responsible in respect of such breaches.

Page 1,
A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions:
...d) implementation of guarantees for the rights of persons belonging to all national communities and minorities in accordance with the UN Charter and CSCE provisions;

Page 2,
A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions:
...h) respect for all international Treaties and Agreements;

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizen, general
Page 2,
The negotiations will also need to cover the following arrangements:...e) the establishment of refugee and relief centres for those citizens of Bosnia-Herzegovina who have lost or been expelled from their homes, pending their return;

Democracy Page 1-2,
A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions:
...f) democratic and legal structures which properly protect the rights of all in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including national communities and minorities;

Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	No specific mention.
Mobility/access	No specific mention.
Protection measures	No specific mention.
Other	No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law	No specific mention.
State of emergency provisions	No specific mention.
Judiciary and courts	No specific mention.
Prisons and detention	No specific mention.
Traditional Laws	No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance
Page 2,
The negotiations will also need to cover the following arrangements:...f) the extension of humanitarian relief to all areas of Bosnia-Herzegovina where supplies are needed, with the cooperation of local parties;

Page 2,
As and when parties are ready to reach a settlement on the above basis, the International Community will join with them in a major reconstruction programme to cope with humanitarian needs and to restore economic activity.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds Page 2,
As and when parties are ready to reach a settlement on the above basis, the International Community will join with them in a major reconstruction programme to cope with humanitarian needs and to restore economic activity.

Business Page 2,
A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions:
...i) restoration of trade and other links with neighbouring countries.

Taxation No specific mention.

Banks No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

Pastoralist/nomadism rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage No specific mention.

Environment No specific mention.

Water or riparian rights or access No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees

No specific mention.

Ceasefire

Security sector→Ceasefire→General commitments

Page 1,

A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions:

a) a full and permanent cessation of hostilities and an end of all violence and repression, including the expulsion of populations;

Page 2,

The negotiations will also need to cover the following arrangements:...g) an international peacekeeping force under UN auspices may be created by the UN Security Council to maintain the ceasefire, control military movements, and undertake other confidence building measures.

Police

No specific mention.

Armed forces

Page 2,

A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions:

...g) assurances of non-intervention by outside military forces whether formed units or irregulars, except as provided for in relevant UN Security Council Resolutions;

Page 2,

The negotiations will also need to cover the following arrangements:...g) an international peacekeeping force under UN auspices may be created by the UN Security Council to maintain the ceasefire, control military movements, and undertake other confidence building measures.

DDR

Security sector→DDR→Demilitarisation provisions

Page 2,

The negotiations will also need to cover the following arrangements:...c) the grouping of heavy weaponry under international control; d) the demilitarisation of major towns and the monitoring of them by international observers;

Page 2-3,

At a meeting with FCO Minister of State Douglas Hoqq, Drs Karadzic and Koljevic representing the Bosnian Serbs signified their agreement to the following: i. That the Bosnian Serb side would notify to the UN within 96 hours the positions of all heavy weaponry to be grouped around the 4 towns of Sarajevo, Bihac, Goradze and Jajce, this grouping to be completed within a period of 7 days. The weaponry once grouped would be put under the continuous supervision of permanent UN observers. The Bosnian Serb side would expect the Bosnian Government to take reciprocal action, but would not impose this as a precondition for their own action, which would be unilateral. The Bosnian Serb side further undertook with immediate effect not to initiate fire from any of this heavy weaponry.

Intelligence services

No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	<p>Page 2, A political settlement in Bosnia and Herzegovina must include the following provisions: ...g) assurances of non-intervention by outside military forces whether formed units or irregulars, except as provided for in relevant UN Security Council Resolutions;</p> <p>Page 2-3, At a meeting with FCO Minister of State Douglas Hoqq, Drs Karadzic and Koljevic representing the Bosnian Serbs signified their agreement to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. That the Bosnian Serb side would notify to the UN within 96 hours the positions of all heavy weaponry to be grouped around the 4 towns of Sarajevo, Bihac, Goradze and Jajce, this grouping to be completed within a period of 7 days. The weaponry once grouped would be put under the continuous supervision of permanent UN observers. The Bosnian Serb side would expect the Bosnian Government to take reciprocal action, but would not impose this as a precondition for their own action, which would be unilateral. The Bosnian Serb side further undertook with immediate effect not to initiate fire from any of this heavy weaponry. ii. That the Bosnian Serb side recognised that in negotiations between the three Bosnian parties, they would agree to withdraw from a substantial portion of the territory now under control of their forces.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	<p>Page 2, ...The negotiations will also need to cover the following arrangements:...b) the cessation of all outside interference, in terms of personnel or material support, in the present conflict;</p>
Corruption	No specific mention.
Crime/organised crime	No specific mention.
Drugs	No specific mention.
Terrorism	No specific mention.

Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	No specific mention.
Amnesty/pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.

Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory	UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali was the co-chairman of the International Conference on Former Yugoslavia
Other international signatory	This was convened by Great Britain, which held the presidency of the EC at the time. The Participants were: The SFRY republics, the EC countries, the USA, China, Russia, Japan, Canada, The Republic of Czechoslovakia (as a state which held the presidency of CSCE – Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe) and the neighboring countries: Austria, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Albania
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/ similar	<p>Page 2,</p> <p>The negotiations will also need to cover the following arrangements:...c) the grouping of heavy weaponry under international control; d) the demilitarisation of major towns and the monitoring of them by international observers;...g) an international peacekeeping force under UN auspices may be created by the UN Security Council to maintain the ceasefire, control military movements, and undertake other confidence building measures.</p> <p>Page 2-3,</p> <p>At a meeting with FCO Minister of State Douglas Hogg, Drs Karadzic and Koljevic representing the Bosnian Serbs signified their agreement to the following: i. That the Bosnian Serb side would notify to the UN within 96 hours the positions of all heavy weaponry to be grouped around the 4 towns of Sarajevo, Bihac, Goradze and Jajce, this grouping to be completed within a period of 7 days. The weaponry once grouped would be put under the continuous supervision of permanent UN observers. The Bosnian Serb side would expect the Bosnian Government to take reciprocal action, but would not impose this as a precondition for their own action, which would be unilateral. The Bosnian Serb side further undertook with immediate effect not to initiate fire from any of this heavy weaponry.</p>
Enforcement mechanism	No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source 'International Conference the Former Yugoslavia: Documents Adopted at the London Conference, International Legal Materials, Vol. 31, No. 6 (NOVEMBER 1992), pp. 1537-39
