

Country/entity	Bosnia and Herzegovina Yugoslavia (former)
Region	Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Agreement (ICRC Humanitarian Principles)
Date	6 Jun 1992
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate conflict

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	<p>Mr. K. Trnko, Representative of Mr Alija IZETBEGOVIC, President of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p>Mr. D. Kalinic, Representative of Mr. Radovan KARADZIC, President of the Serbian Democratic Party</p> <p>Mr. S. Sito Coric, Representative of Mr. Miljenko BRKIC, President of the Croatian Democratic Union</p> <p>Mr. I. Sarac, Liaison Officer of the Croatian Democratic Union</p> <p>Mr. A. KURJAK, Representative of the President of the Party of Democratic Action, who could not attend the meeting, has been invited to ratify the present agreement, and has done so on ... [page in English, with signatures]</p>
Third parties	<p>At a meeting opened by Mr. Cornelio Sommaruga, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and chaired by Mr. Thierry Germond, the General Delegate of the ICRC for Europe. The following attended the meeting as observers:</p> <p>On behalf of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, His Excellency, Mr. Naste Calovski, Ambassador, Colonel General V. Vojvodic</p> <p>On behalf of the Republic of Croatia: Dr. I. Simonovic</p> <p>On behalf of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees: Mrs. A. M. Demmer, Director, Regional Office for Europe and America, Mr. J. M. Mendiluce, High Commission Special Envoy.</p>
Description	In this humanitarian principles agreement the parties commit to respecting International Humanitarian law, and acting in accordance with the ICRC's action plan for providing humanitarian assistance. This includes freedom of movement for delivering aid, and access of ICRC delegates to prisons and places of detention.

Agreement document [BA_920606_Agreement Number 3 \(ICRC\).pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

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	No specific mention.

Religious groups No specific mention.

Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive
Page 3, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid
The ICRC will assist victims of war, such as displaced persons or persons separated by war, especially the most vulnerable groups.

Page 3, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 1.

Displaced persons: Each month one food parcel for five persons, contents as follows: 4.5 kg of oil, 1.0 kg of cheese, 3.0 kg of beans, 2.0 kg of canned beef, 3.0 kg of sugar, 0.5 kg of soap, 1.0 kg of detergent.

Page 6, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 5. Other ICRC activities
...The nature of the conflict, which has resulted in the displacement of a large number of persons within the Republic and outside its borders, explains the need for the services of the ICRC Tracing Service, whose work consists of restoring contact between family members who have been separated, and prisoners and their families by means of Red Cross messages, and tracing persons who have been reported missing in the conflict.

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender No specific mention.

Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family Page 6, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 5. Other ICRC activities
...ICRC officials will have free access to all persons imprisoned or detained; ICRC officials will be allowed to interview these persons without witnesses, register them and inform their families of their medical condition and place of detention, and repeat these visits whenever necessary;...The nature of the conflict, which has resulted in the displacement of a large number of persons within the Republic and outside its borders, explains the need for the services of the ICRC Tracing Service, whose work consists of restoring contact between family members who have been separated, and prisoners and their families by means of Red Cross messages, and tracing persons who have been reported missing in the conflict.

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 No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

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

[Summary: The agreement in its entirety provides for the parties cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross to deliver humanitarian assistance.]

Page 2, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, 1.

Present to the ICRC the complete results of the investigation into the attack on the ICRC convoy in Sarajevo on 18 May 1992;

Page 3, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, 5.

Inform all units of ICRC activities and ensure that central and regional military districts of all the interested parties issue written permits allowing ICRC officials to carry out their humanitarian obligations;

Page 3, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, [6].

Ensure regular meetings of the Commission [with?] the Liaison Officer under the auspices of the ICRC, with the objective of coordinating activities throughout the territory.

Page 3, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, 7.

Ensure that the emblem of the Red Cross is respected in keeping with Article 3 of Agreement no. 1 signed on 22 May 1992 in Geneva.

Page 3, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, 9.

Ensure that ICRC personnel, local ICRC staff and the staff of other humanitarian organisations involved in implementing the present plan are respected.

Page 3, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid

The ICRC will assist victims of war, such as displaced persons or persons separated by war, especially the most vulnerable groups...

Page 6, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 4. Observation, supervision and organisation of participants

The ICRC will coordinate the entire aid programme, supervise its implementation, assess its effectiveness and make all the necessary adjustments as needed. The ICRC will cooperate with local humanitarian organisations.

Page 6, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 5. Other ICRC activities

ICRC believes that security conditions need to be improved as soon as possible to enable the reopening of all ICRC offices, which have been temporarily closed down. This precondition must be fulfilled before the ICRC can resume its normal activities...

Page 7, III. ICRC Aid Programme, V General Provisions

The ICRC will immediately dispatch its representatives who will meet with the aforementioned authorities in order to assess the situation and determine how to proceed. The ICRC and the parties may publish the contents of this plan of action after a successful start of implementation of the present Agreement.

**Traditional/
religious leaders** No specific mention.

**Public
administration** No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

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** No specific mention.

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

**Treaty
incorporation** Page 3, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, 10.
Do your utmost to ensure that the principles and regulations of international humanitarian law, especially Agreement no. 1 of 22 May 1992, are known to all the soldiers and the civilian population.

Page 6, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 5. Other ICRC activities ...The ICRC wishes to remind the parties that item 2.4 of Agreement no. 1 signed on 22 May 1992 in Geneva stipulates the following: "Imprisoned soldiers will receive the treatment envisaged by the Third Geneva Convention. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) will have free access to all imprisoned soldiers in order to fulfil its humanitarian mandate pursuant to the Third Geneva Convention adopted on 12 August 1949."...

**Civil and political
rights** No specific mention.

**Socio-economic
rights** No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles
Page 2, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, 2.
Negotiate, organise and observe cease-fire agreements in areas where humanitarian activities are taking place, and announce them to the population through the media;

Page 6, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 5. Other ICRC activities
...The ICRC, therefore, believes it is necessary to launch a major media campaign without delay to ensure that all combat units are aware of the humanitarian principles to be observed in time of war...

Mobility/access

Page 4, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 2. Medical programme, b) Evacuations

Measures will be taken to enable the evacuation of the wounded, the sick and other vulnerable persons in keeping with the relevant provisions set forth in Agreement no.1 of 22 May 1992.

Page 3, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, 3.

Inform all units [on/of?] the planned routes of the convoys, which will be announced by the ICRC in due time. The parties must send permission for unimpeded passage to the ICRC as soon as possible, and at the latest within 36 hours of receipt of the announcement by the ICRC of the intended passage of the convoy.

Page 3, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, 4.

Permit "cross-line" operations.

Page 4, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 3. Logistical and operational structure

Approach: Pursuant to Article 2(6) of Agreement no. 1 signed on 22 May 1992 in Geneva, the parties will allow unimpeded passage of all shipments of medicine and medical supplies, necessary foodstuffs and clothing intended exclusively for the civilian population. For this purpose, ICRC will receive guarantees that convoys will be allowed access to areas where the presence of victims has been established and cross the lines between the warring parties.

[Summary: Page 5, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 3. Logistical and operational structure, lists the possible routes for aid convoys.]

Page 5, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 3. Logistical and operational structure

...As for the proposal about the use of Sarajevo airport submitted by the parties to the ICRC on 23 May; the participants were informed that the issue is currently being discussed under the auspices of others...Any other route would have to be negotiated in order to achieve the agreement of all parties.

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 Page 6, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 5. Other ICRC activities ...Access to prisoners and visits to places of detention represent the basis of the ICRC mandate. It is imperative that the ICRC gain access to all places of detention under the control of parties to the conflict. The objective of these visits is to assess the overall conditions of detention and report them to the relevant authorities in a confidential manner. The ICRC wishes to remind the parties that item 2.4 of Agreement no. 1 signed on 22 May 1992 in Geneva stipulates the following: "Imprisoned soldiers will receive the treatment envisaged by the Third Geneva Convention. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) will have free access to all imprisoned soldiers in order to fulfil its humanitarian mandate pursuant to the Third Geneva Convention adopted on 12 August 1949."...

Page 6, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 5. Other ICRC activities ...And in particular, the parties will report to the ICRC on the identity of all persons imprisoned or detained; ICRC officials will have free access to all persons imprisoned or detained; ICRC officials will be allowed to interview these persons without witnesses, register them and inform their families of their medical condition and place of detention, and repeat these visits whenever necessary;...The nature of the conflict, which has resulted in the displacement of a large number of persons within the Republic and outside its borders, explains the need for the services of the ICRC Tracing Service, whose work consists of restoring contact between family members who have been separated, and prisoners and their families by means of Red Cross messages, and tracing persons who have been reported missing in the conflict.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction

Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance

Page 3, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, 3.

Inform all units [on/of?] the planned routes of the convoys, which will be announced by the ICRC in due time. The parties must send permission for unimpeded passage to the ICRC as soon as possible, and at the latest within 36 hours of receipt of the announcement by the ICRC of the intended passage of the convoy.

Page 3, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 1.

Displaced persons: Each month one food parcel for five persons, contents as follows: 4.5 kg of oil, 1.0 kg of cheese, 3.0 kg of beans, 2.0 kg of canned beef, 3.0 kg of sugar, 0.5 kg of soap, 1.0 kg of detergent.

Page 3, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 1. b)

Groups separated by war: Each month one food parcel for five persons, contents as described above, plus additional aid, as follows: 6.0 kg of grain per person each month, 2.0 kg of canned protein food per person each month, 0.5 kg of soap per person each month, 0.5 kg of detergent per person each month.

Page 3-4, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 1. c)

Vulnerable groups, that is persons in medical and/or welfare institutions: one full ration per person each month, contents as follows: 12.0 kg grain, 4.0 kg of canned protein food, 1.5 kg of oil, 2.0 kg of sugar, 0.2 kg soap, 1.0 kg of detergent.

Page 4, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 2. Medical programme

On 21 April 1992, on the basis of a comprehensive list of items of surgical equipment needed by 19 hospitals throughout the territory, ICRC drafted a medical program intended at maintaining the level of primary surgical activity at the hospitals that would enable them to accept and treat the wounded. A limited quantity of surgical aid has already been distributed to some of the 19 hospitals. In the attack on the ICRC convoy in Sarajevo on 19 May an ICRC truck carrying surgical supplies for the Sarajevo hospital was also destroyed. Taking into consideration the worsening of the situation in the Republic, the ICRC is looking into the possibility of extending its medical programme to other types of medical resources.

Page 4, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 3. Logistical and operational structure

For every period of one month, the proposed ICRC aid program would total 2,500 tonnes, that is approximately 125 trucks. The shipments would be equally distributed among all the beneficiaries throughout BH. The ICRC Aid Program will have the following operational and logistical structure: - main logistical bases outside BH: Belgrade, Kotor, Split, Zagreb;

- possible logistical bases and/or distribution centres within BH: Banja Luka, Bihac, Bijeljina, Brcko, Dobo, Foca, Gorazde, Grude, Kiseljak, Konjic, Milici, Mostar, Nevesinje, Odzak, Pale, Prozor, Sarajevo, Stolac, Tomislavgrad (also known as Duvno), Trebinje, Tuzla, Velika Kladuza, Visoko, Zenica.

Page 4, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 3. Logistical and operational structure

Approach: Pursuant to Article 2(6) of Agreement no. 1 signed on 22 May 1992 in Geneva, the parties will allow unimpeded passage of all shipments of medicine and medical supplies, necessary foodstuffs and clothing intended exclusively for the civilian population. For this purpose, ICRC will receive guarantees that convoys will be allowed access to areas where the presence of victims has been established and cross the lines

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business No specific mention.

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→Ceasefire provision
Page 2, II. Security requirements related to implementation of the ICRC plan of activities, 2.
Negotiate, organise and observe cease-fire agreements in areas where humanitarian activities are taking place, and announce them to the population through the media;

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces No specific mention.

DDR	No specific mention.
Intelligence services	No specific mention.
Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
Withdrawal of foreign forces	No specific mention.
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	Page 6, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 5. Other ICRC activities ...And in particular,...ICRC officials will offer their services in facilitating the making of agreements on the release of such prisoners.
Vetting	No specific mention.

Victims

Page 4, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 2. Medical programme, a) Aid for medical institutions

On 21 April 1992, on the basis of a comprehensive list of items of surgical equipment needed by 19 hospitals throughout the territory, ICRC drafted a medical program intended at maintaining the level of primary surgical activity at the hospitals that would enable them to accept and treat the wounded...

Page 4, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 2. Medical programme, b) Evacuations

Measures will be taken to enable the evacuation of the wounded, the sick and other vulnerable persons in keeping with the relevant provisions set forth in Agreement no.1 of 22 May 1992.

Page 4, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 3. Logistical and operational structure

Approach: Pursuant to Article 2(6) of Agreement no. 1 signed on 22 May 1992 in Geneva, the parties will allow unimpeded passage of all shipments of medicine and medical supplies, necessary foodstuffs and clothing intended exclusively for the civilian population. For this purpose, ICRC will receive guarantees that convoys will be allowed access to areas where the presence of victims has been established and cross the lines between the warring parties.

Page 6, III. ICRC Aid Programme, I. Beneficiaries and types of aid, 5. Other ICRC activities ...ICRC activities aimed at assisting all the victims of war have been rendered temporarily impossible by the lack of respect for the ICRC mandate...

Missing persons

No specific mention.

Reparations

No specific mention.

Reconciliation

No specific mention.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

