

Country/entity	Bosnia and Herzegovina Yugoslavia (former)
Region	Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Joint Declaration (on normalisation of relations between Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Herzegovina)
Date	3 Oct 1996
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

Implementation/renegotiation

Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Bosnia peace process
Parties	Slobodan Milosevic, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Alija Izetbegovic, Bosnia Herzegovina
Third parties	-
Description	An agreement establishing normalised relations between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia Herzegovina

Agreement document [BA_961003_Joint Declaration.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** No specific mention.

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, IV
The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will respect the integrity of Bosnia and Hercegovina in accordance with the Dayton Agreement which affirmed the continuity of various forms of statal organization of Bosnia and Hercegovina that the peoples of Bosnia and Hercegovina had during their history. Bosnia and Hercegovina accepts the State continuity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Both sides agree to resolve issues of succession on the basis of the rules of international law on succession of States and by agreement.

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 No specific mention.

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 No specific mention.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship	<p>Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizens, specific rights</p> <p>Page 1, V</p> <p>Ensuring pre-conditions for resolving all outstanding issues in the spirit of peace and cooperation, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Hercegovina will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- establish mutual diplomatic relations at the level of ambassadors;- ensure that citizens can travel across the border without visas or any particular formalities;- remove all restrictions on free trade and business activities of both sides;- ensure, on the basis of reciprocity, equal treatment for business subjects from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Hercegovina in respect to the use of road, railway and other traffic and infrastructure facilities;- encourage the development of long-term economic cooperation and provide special facilities for the opening of economic representative offices and other institutions of importance to the development of economic, cultural, scientific, technical and other forms of cooperation.
Democracy	No specific mention.
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	No specific mention.
Mobility/access	<p>Page 1, V</p> <p>Ensuring pre-conditions for resolving all outstanding issues in the spirit of peace and cooperation, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Hercegovina will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- establish mutual diplomatic relations at the level of ambassadors;- ensure that citizens can travel across the border without visas or any particular formalities;- remove all restrictions on free trade and business activities of both sides;- ensure, on the basis of reciprocity, equal treatment for business subjects from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Hercegovina in respect to the use of road, railway and other traffic and infrastructure facilities;- encourage the development of long-term economic cooperation and provide special facilities for the opening of economic representative offices and other institutions of importance to the development of economic, cultural, scientific, technical and other forms of cooperation.
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 No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds No specific mention.

Business	<p>Page 1, V</p> <p>Ensuring pre-conditions for resolving all outstanding issues in the spirit of peace and cooperation, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Hercegovina will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establish mutual diplomatic relations at the level of ambassadors; - ensure that citizens can travel across the border without visas or any particular formalities; - remove all restrictions on free trade and business activities of both sides; - ensure, on the basis of reciprocity, equal treatment for business subjects from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Hercegovina in respect to the use of road, railway and other traffic and infrastructure facilities; - encourage the development of long-term economic cooperation and provide special facilities for the opening of economic representative offices and other institutions of importance to the development of economic, cultural, scientific, technical and other forms of cooperation.
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	<p>Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Promotion</p> <p>Page 1, V</p> <p>Ensuring pre-conditions for resolving all outstanding issues in the spirit of peace and cooperation, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Hercegovina will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establish mutual diplomatic relations at the level of ambassadors; - ensure that citizens can travel across the border without visas or any particular formalities; - remove all restrictions on free trade and business activities of both sides; - ensure, on the basis of reciprocity, equal treatment for business subjects from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Hercegovina in respect to the use of road, railway and other traffic and infrastructure facilities; - encourage the development of long-term economic cooperation and provide special facilities for the opening of economic representative offices and other institutions of importance to the development of economic, cultural, scientific, technical and other forms of cooperation.
Environment	No specific mention.
Water or riparian rights or access	No specific mention.

Security sector

Security Guarantees	No specific mention.
Ceasefire	No specific mention.
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	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	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.
Related cases	No specific mention.

Source	Letter dated 7 October 1996 from the Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, UN DOC A/51/46-S/1996/830
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