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**Country/entity** Bosnia and Herzegovina

Yugoslavia (former)

**Region** Europe and Eurasia

**Agreement name** Further Agreed Basic Principles (additional to those issued 8 September 1995, in Geneva)

**Date** 26 Sep 1995

Agreement status Multiparty signed/agreed

**Interim** Yes

arrangement

## 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 H.E. Mr. Muhamed Sacirbey, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

(Bosnia and Herzegovina); H.E. Mr. Mate Granic, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Croatia (Croatia); and H.E. Mr. Milan Milutinovic, Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic

of Yugoslavia (Yugoslavia)

**Third parties** Witnessed by: the Permanent Representatives of France, Germany, Italy, the Russian

Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United

States of America to the United Nations

**Description** This short agreement contains further principles additional to those agreed on 8

September 1995 at Geneva, as basis for talks on ending the war in Bosnia, which includes principles on a future settlement, the division of the state into two entities, establishing

institutions, and holding elections.

Agreement document

BA\_950926\_FurtherAgreedPrinciples.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** Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical

persons Page 1, 5.1

Both Governments will immediately pledge their full support, starting immediately, for...

(b) the right of displaced persons to repossess their property or to receive just

compensation

**Social class** No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and

No specific mention.

gender

Men and boys No specific mention.

**LGBTI** No specific mention.

**Family** No specific mention.

# **State definition**

Nature of state

No specific mention.

(general)

**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/

No specific mention.

unification

**Border delimitation** No specific mention.

**Cross-border** 

No specific mention.

provision

# Governance

**Political** 

Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→New political institutions

institutions (new or (indefinite)

reformed)

Page 1, 6.

Following the elections, the affairs and prerogatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be vested in the following institutions, in accordance with all of the Agreed Basic Principles.

## Page 1, 6.1

A parliament or assembly, two thirds of which will be elected from the territory of the Federation, and one third from the territory of the Republika Srpska. All parliamentary actions will be by majority vote provided that the majority includes at least one third of the votes from each entity.

#### Page 1-2, 6.2

A presidency, two thirds of which will be elected from the territory of the Federation, and one third from the territory of the Republika Srpska. All presidency decisions will be taken by majority vote, provided, however, that if one third or more of the members disagree with a decision taken by the other members and declare that decision to be destructive of a vital interest of the entity or entities from which the dissenting members were elected, the matter will be referred immediately to the appropriate entity's/entities' parliament. If any such parliament confirms the dissenting position by a two-thirds vote, then the challenged decision will not take effect.

## Page 2, 6.3

A cabinet of such ministers as may be appropriate.

## Page 2, 6.6

The foregoing institutions will have responsibility for the foreign policy of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The parties will negotiate further to determine the extent to which these institutions will also have responsibility for other matters consistent with all of the Agreed Basic Principles.

### **Elections**

Page 1, 5.

It is the goal that free democratic elections be held in both entities as soon as social conditions permit. In order to maximize the democratic effectiveness of such elections, the following steps will be taken by both entities.

#### Page 1, 5.1

Both Governments will immediately pledge their full support, starting immediately, for (a) freedom of movement; (b) the right of displaced persons to repossess their property or to receive just compensation; (c) freedom of speech and of the press; and (d) protection of all other internationally recognized human rights in order to enhance and empower the democratic election process.

#### Page 1, 5.2

As soon as possible the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) (or other international organization) will station representatives in all principal towns throughout the Federation and the Republika Srpska in Bosnia and Herzegovina and publish monthly reports as to the degree to which (a) the obligations listed in all of the Agreed Basic Principles have been fulfilled, and (b) social conditions are being restored to a level at which the election process may be effective.

## Page 1, 5.3

Within 30 days after the OSCE delegations have concluded that free and democratic elections can be properly held in both entities, the Governments of the two entities will conduct free and democratic elections and will fully cooperate with an international monitoring programme.

# 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, 6.4

A constitutional court with jurisdiction to decide all questions arising under the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina as it will be revised in accordance with all of the Agreed Basic Principles.

## **Power sharing**

# Political power sharing

Power sharing→Political power sharing→Executive coalition

State level

Page 1-2, 6.2

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Power sharing→Political power sharing→Proportionality in legislature

State level

Page 1, 6.1

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Power sharing→Political power sharing→Form of 'veto' or communal majority State level

Page 1, 6.1

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Territorial power sharing

No specific mention.

Economic power sharing

No specific mention.

Military power sharing

#### **Human rights and equality**

# Human rights/RoL Page 1, 5.1

general

Both Governments will immediately pledge their full support, starting immediately, for.. (d) protection of all other internationally recognized human rights in order to enhance and empower the democratic election process.

## Bill of rights/similar Page 1,

5.1 Both Governments will immediately pledge their full support, starting immediately, for (a) freedom of movement; (b) the right of displaced persons to repossess their property or to receive just compensation; (c) freedom of speech and of the press; and (d) protection of all other internationally recognized human rights in order to enhance and empower the democratic election process.

# **Treaty** incorporation

Page 1, 4.

Each of the two entities will honour the international obligations of Bosnia and

Herzegovina, as long as the obligation is not a financial obligation incurred by one entity

without the consent of the other.

Page 1, 5.1

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# Civil and political rights

Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Thought, opinion, conscience and

religion

Page 1, 5.1

Both Governments will immediately pledge their full support, starting immediately, for...

(c) freedom of speech and of the press;

# Socio-economic

rights

No specific mention.

#### **Rights related issues**

## Citizenship

No specific mention.

# **Democracy**

Page 1, 5.

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Page 1, 5.1

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# **Detention** procedures

**Media and** 

Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles

communication

Page 1, 5.1

Both Governments will immediately pledge their full support, starting immediately, for...

(c) freedom of speech and of the press;

**Mobility/access** 

Page 1, 5.1

Both Governments will immediately pledge their full support, starting immediately, for

(a) freedom of movement;

Protection

measures

No specific mention.

Other

No specific mention.

# **Rights institutions**

NHRI

No specific mention.

No specific mention.

**Regional or** 

international human rights

institutions

## **Justice sector reform**

Criminal justice and No specific mention.

emergency law

**State of emergency** No specific mention.

provisions

**Judiciary and** 

Page 2, 6.4

courts

A constitutional court with jurisdiction to decide all questions arising under the

Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina as it will be revised in accordance with all of the

Agreed Basic Principles.

**Prisons and** 

detention

No specific mention.

**Traditional Laws** 

# **Socio-economic reconstruction**

**Development or** 

No specific mention.

socio-economic reconstruction

National economic No specific mention.

plan

**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

No specific mention.

**Police** 

No specific mention.

**Armed forces** 

**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

No specific mention.

crime

**Drugs** No specific mention.

**Terrorism** No specific mention.

# **Transitional justice**

**Transitional justice** No specific mention.

general

**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** No specific mention.

signatory

Referendum for agreement

No specific mention.

International

ernationat Pag

mission/force/ similar Page 1, 5.2

5.2 As soon as possible the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) (or other international organization) will station representatives in all principal towns throughout the Federation and the Republika Srpska in Bosnia and Herzegovina and publish monthly reports as to the degree to which (a) the obligations listed in all of the Agreed Basic Principles have been fulfilled, and (b) social conditions are being restored

to a level at which the election process may be effective.

Enforcement . . .

Page 1, 5.2

**mechanism** 5.2 As soon as possible the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

(or other international organization) will station representatives in all principal towns throughout the Federation and the Republika Srpska in Bosnia and Herzegovina and publish monthly reports as to the degree to which (a) the obligations listed in all of the Agreed Basic Principles have been fulfilled and (b) social conditions are being restored to

a level at which the election process may be effective.

**Related cases** No specific mention.

**Source** Letter dated 95/10/31 from the Permanent Representatives of France, Germany, Italy, the

Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/

50/718, S/1995/920), Annex I, pp. 2-3

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