

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 542

Concerning the implementation of the General Framework Agreement for
Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 1996

Mr. HOYER (for himself, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. KING, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. RICHARDSON, Mr. LANTOS, and Mr. CLEMENT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Concerning the implementation of the General Framework
Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Whereas relative peace has come to Bosnia and Herzegovina and tensions have been reduced throughout the region as a result of the implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and associated annexes (hereafter referred to as the “Peace Agreement”), negotiated in Dayton, Ohio, and signed in Paris, France, on December 14, 1995, and as a result of the work of the NATO-led Peace Implementation Forces (IFOR);

Whereas the Peace Agreement provides that Bosnia and Herzegovina continue as a single state, with full respect for its sovereignty by its neighbors, and the parties there-

to have agreed to a constitution for Bosnia and Herzegovina that creates federal institutions including a presidency, a bicameral legislature, a constitutional court and a central bank;

Whereas, the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina, under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and observed by international and domestic monitors participated in national elections on September 14, 1996 as required by the Peace Agreement and elected representatives charged with creating the democratic institutions of a unified Bosnian state;

Whereas the parties to the Peace Agreement accepted the obligation “to cooperate in the investigation and prosecution of war crimes and other violations of international humanitarian law”;

Whereas the apprehension and prosecution of indicted war criminals is essential for peace and reconciliation to be achieved and democracy to be established throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina; and

Whereas the parties to the Peace Agreement accept the need for a balance of armed forces and weapons and have entered into “The Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control” pursuant to which the parties are required to report their holdings and allow inspection of certain categories of weapons, and to undertake the destruction of those weapons above agreed ceilings, in order to contribute to regional stability: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 representatives that—

3 (1) the United States is committed to the goals
4 enunciated in the General Framework Agreement for

1 Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and associated
2 annexes (hereafter referred to as the “Peace Agree-
3 ment”), negotiated in Dayton, Ohio, and signed in
4 Paris, France, on December 14, 1995, and to the
5 unified state of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

6 (2) calls by certain political parties, organiza-
7 tions and individuals within Bosnia and Herzegovina
8 for secession by the Republika Srpska from the uni-
9 fied state of Bosnia and Herzegovina are inconsis-
10 tent with the provisions of the Peace Agreement and
11 should be condemned;

12 (3) the United States and the international
13 community should oppose any efforts to advocate se-
14 cession and should actively support the work of the
15 parties to the Peace Agreement to establish demo-
16 cratic institutions and the rule of law in Bosnia and
17 Herzegovina;

18 (4) the signatories to the Peace Agreement and
19 those nations and organizations participating in the
20 implementation of the Peace Agreement, in accord-
21 ance with the relevant mandates of the United Na-
22 tions and United Nations Security Council, should
23 make it an urgent priority to bring to justice per-
24 sons indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal
25 for the former Yugoslavia;

1 (5) the signatories to the Peace Agreement and
2 those nations and organizations participating in the
3 implementation of that Agreement should ensure full
4 and faithful implementation of the arms control and
5 confidence building agreements reached as part of
6 the Peace Agreement including “The Agreement on
7 Sub-Regional Arms Control” pursuant to which the
8 parties are required to report on and allow inspec-
9 tion of certain categories of weapons, and to under-
10 take the destruction of those weapons above agreed
11 ceilings; and

12 (6) the members of the NATO-led Peace Imple-
13 mentation Forces (IFOR) in Bosnia and
14 Herzegovina are to be commended for their hard
15 work, effectiveness and diligence in carrying out
16 their mandate and for the pivotal role which they
17 played in ensuring a calm and orderly election proc-
18 ess.

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