

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 620

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding recent elections in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 10, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. HOYER, Mr. WOLF, Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. PITTS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. FORBES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding recent elections in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and for other purposes.

Whereas the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia held municipal, parliamentary, and presidential elections on September 24, 2000;

Whereas Slobodan Milosevic, President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, is an indicted war criminal;

Whereas Slobodan Milosevic is largely responsible for immeasurable bloodshed, human rights abuses, ethnic cleansing, refugees, property destruction, and environmental destruction that has devastated southeast Europe in recent years;

Whereas Slobodan Milosevic has arrested, intimidated, and harassed opposition figures;

Whereas Slobodan Milosevic has prevented the freedom of assembly;

Whereas Slobodan Milosevic has prevented the freedom and independence of the press through intimidation, arrests, fines, the destruction of property, and jamming;

Whereas Slobodan Milosevic and his supporters refused to allow independent international election monitors into the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia before the September 24, 2000 elections;

Whereas reliable reports indicate that Slobodan Milosevic and his supporters intentionally ignored internationally accepted standards for free and fair elections in order to control voting results and violated the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia's new election law in the tabulation of the vote;

Whereas reliable documented reports indicate that 74 percent of the eligible voters of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia participated in the September 24, 2000 elections;

Whereas reliable documented reports based on official voting records indicate that Vojislav Kostunica, President, Democratic Party of Serbia, defeated Slobodan Milosevic with more than 50 percent of the vote; and

Whereas the people of Serbia, Kosovo, Bosnia, and Croatia have been the victims of wars initiated by the Milosevic regime: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives
2 hereby—

1 (1) congratulates the people of the Federal Re-
2 public of Yugoslavia for the courage in participating
3 in the September 24, 2000 elections;

4 (2) applauds the clear decision of the people of
5 the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to embrace de-
6 mocracy, the rule of law, and integration into the
7 international community by rejecting dictatorship
8 and isolationism;

9 (3) reasserts its strong desire to reestablish the
10 historic friendship between the American and Ser-
11 bian people;

12 (4) expresses its intention to support a com-
13 prehensive assistance program for the Federal Re-
14 public of Yugoslavia to speed its economic recovery
15 and European integration once a democratic govern-
16 ment that respects the rule of law, human rights,
17 and a market economy is established; and

18 (5) expresses its support for full economic inte-
19 gration for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in-
20 cluding access to international financial institutions,
21 once a democratic government that respects the rule
22 of law, human rights, and a market economy is es-
23 tablished.

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