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Country/ Bosnia and Herzegovina entity Yugoslavia (former)

Region Europe and Eurasia

Europe and Eurasia

Agreement

name

Agreement on the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo

Date 30 Mar 1996

Agreement

Multiparty signed/agreed

status

Interim Yes arrangement

Agreement/

Intrastate/intrastate conflict (Balkan Conflicts (1991 - 1995) (1998 - 2001))

conflict level

Stage Implementation/renegotiation

Conflict

Government/territory

nature

Peace Bosnia peace process

process

Parties Kresimir ZUBAK, President of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Izudin KAPETANOVIC, Prime Minister of the Federation of Bosnia and

Herzegovina;

Hasan MURATOVIC, Prime Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Ejup GANIC, Vice President of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina Drago BILANDZIJA, Federation Finance Minister and Deputy Prime Minister of

the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Jadranko PRLIC, Foreign Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Third Witnessed by: Ambassador Michael STEINER Principal Deputy High

parties Representative

Description This agreement provides for the further establishment of Federation

institutions, the transfer of governmental structures, specific obligations regarding the composition and structure of institutions, and consequences of

non-implementation.

Agreement document

BA_960330_Agreement on the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.pdf 🗖 | 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

No specific mention.

Other

people

No specific mention.

groups

Refugees/ Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical displaced Page 5, Consequences of Non-Implementation: 10.

persons

Assistance for reconstruction and housing beyond basic humanitarian requirements will not be channeled to communities that fail to permit the

return of displaced people and refugees.

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender

Men and

No specific mention.

boys

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of

No specific mention.

state (general)

State No specific mention.

configuration

Self No specific mention.

determination

Referendum No specific mention.

State Page 1, Basic Commitments, 3.

symbols We have decided to recommend to the Federation Parliament to consider, at

its next session, the annexed specimens as the future Federation flag and

coat of arms.

Independence/ No specific mention.

secession

Accession/

No specific mention.

unification

Border

No specific mention.

delimitation

Cross-

No specific mention.

border provision

Governance

Political institutions

reformed)

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

institutions (indefinite)

(new or Page 1-2, Transfer of Governmental Structures, 6.

Prime Minister Muratovic and Prime Minister Kapetanovic will take immediate steps to ensure that the Federation Government has the facilities and resources necessary to fulfil the role envisaged for it under the Constitutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina and of the Federation. This will involve refinement and further reduction of role and staffing and other facilities of existing ministries of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Furthermore, the most responsible from the Croat community will take immediate steps to ensure the transfer of personnel and other resources from existing civilian authorities and organs in the areas of the Federation controlled by the HVO and the subsequent dissolution of these authorities and organs. The transfer of these resources to the Federation shall start immediately and shall be completed by 10 April.

Page 3, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions, 7.g. The elected Canton Governors and their Deputies in Cantons number 6, 7, 8 and 10 are responsible for insuring the formation of the respective Canton Government by 9 April. They shall also be responsible for the subsequent establishing of functioning administrative and judicial structures;

Page 3-4, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions, 7.h. The constituting sessions of the Interim Municipal Assembly (IMA) and the election of officials shall take place in Stolac, Capljina, Vares and Bugojno by 9 April. The highest representative of the present Municipal authorities, together with the highest local representative of the two parties having received most votes at the elections on 1990 in the Municipalities of Bugojno, Vares, Stolac and Capljina shall be responsible for the successful convening of the IMA and the election of municipal officials;

Page 5, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions, 8. The laws called for in this agreement shall be submitted to the Federation Assembly convened by 11 April. The Assembly shall remain in session until all necessary legislative action required under this Agreement is completed.

Elections

Page 3-4, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions, 7.h. The constituting sessions of the Interim Municipal Assembly (IMA) and the election of officials shall take place in Stolac, Capljina, Vares and Bugojno by 9 April. The highest representative of the present Municipal authorities, together with the highest local representative of the two parties having received most votes at the elections on 1990 in the Municipalities of Bugojno, Vares, Stolac and Capljina shall be responsible for the successful convening of the IMA and the election of municipal officials;

Electoral commission

No specific mention.

Political

No specific mention.

parties reform

Civil society No specific mention.

Traditional/

No specific mention.

religious leaders

Public No specific mention.

administration

Constitution Governance→Constitution→Constitution affirmation/renewal

Page 1-2, Transfer of Governmental Structures, 6.

Prime Minister Muratovic and Prime Minister Kapetanovic will take immediate steps to ensure that the Federation Government has the facilities and resources necessary to fulfil the role envisaged for it under the Constitutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina and of the Federation. This will involve refinement and further reduction of role and staffing and other facilities of existing ministries of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Furthermore, the most responsible from the Croat community will take immediate steps to ensure the transfer of personnel and other resources from existing civilian authorities and organs in the areas of the Federation controlled by the HVO and the subsequent dissolution of these authorities and organs. The transfer of these resources to the Federation shall start immediately and shall be completed by 10 April.

Governance→Constitution→Constitutional reform/making
Page 3, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions, 7.a.
Furthermore, we agree upon the following specific obligations: Federation
Minister of Justice Tadic and his Deputy Hasic will submit the constitutional
amendments necessary to harmonize the Federation Constitution of Bosnia
and Herzegovina to the Federation Assembly at its next session;

Power sharing

Political

No specific mention.

power sharing

Territorial power sharing

Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Federal or similar sub-divided government

Page 1, Untitled Preamble

We, the undersigned, met in Sarajevo on 29 March 1996 at the invitation of the Principal Deputy High Representative Ambassador Michael Steiner to evaluate the present state of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to decide upon concrete measures to implement the Federation.

Page 1, Basic Commitments, 3.

We have decided to recommend to the Federation Parliament to consider, at its next session, the annexed specimens as the future Federation flag and coat of arms.

Page 1-2, Transfer of Governmental Structures, 6.

Prime Minister Muratovic and Prime Minister Kapetanovic will take immediate steps to ensure that the Federation Government has the facilities and resources necessary to fulfil the role envisaged for it under the Constitutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina and of the Federation. This will involve refinement and further reduction of role and staffing and other facilities of existing ministries of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Furthermore, the most responsible from the Croat community will take immediate steps to ensure the transfer of personnel and other resources from existing civilian authorities and organs in the areas of the Federation controlled by the HVO and the subsequent dissolution of these authorities and organs. The transfer of these resources to the Federation shall start immediately and shall be completed by 10 April.

Page 2, Transfer of Governmental Structures, 6.a.

In particular: in the area of finance, this will involve the transfer from the level of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Federation level of all the staffing, office space and other facilities necessary for the policy and operational responsibilities of the Federation Ministry of Finance. The same applies to the transfer of personnel and resources from the finance administration in the areas of the Federation controlled by the HVO. The resources remaining at the level of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be only those corresponding to its limited functions;

Page 3, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions: 7.d. Furthermore, we agree upon the following specific obligations: Federation Minister of Justice Tadic and his Deputy Hasic will submit the Law on Federal Units to the Federation Assembly for consideration at its next session;

Page 4, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions: 7.i. Furthermore, we agree upon the following specific obligations: Federal Customs Director Bagaric and Deputy Director Bijedic will ensure that the joint customs system is functionally operational (by unifying the services, appointing the directors of customs houses and transferring all revenues to Federation accounts) by 1 April. The Ministers of Trade, Agriculture and Health and their Deputies will, in their fields of competence, ensure proper monitoring and control on all border crossings throughout the Federation, as specified in the conclusions of the Federation Government. The implementation of the system will be assisted by international observers, as soon as the Memorand Bage Aderstanding with the European Union is signed. All other existing customs regulations shall be nonapplicable by 1

Economic

Power sharing→Economic power sharing→Sharing of resources

power

Page 2, Transfer of Governmental Structures, 6.a.

sharing

In particular: in the area of finance, this will involve the transfer from the level of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the Federation level of all the staffing, office space and other facilities necessary for the policy and operational responsibilities of the Federation Ministry of Finance. The same

applies to the transfer of personnel and resources from the finance administration in the areas of the Federation controlled by the HVO. The resources remaining at the level of the Government of Bosnia and

Herzegovina will be only those corresponding to its limited functions;

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

Page 5, Consequences of Non-Implementation: 11.

incorporation Recalling paragraph 8 of the Geneva Declaration, which stated that only

those officials who are truly committed to the fundamental principles of the Federation and to the implementation of agreed measures should serve in public offices in Federation institutions, President Zubak and Vice President

Ganic commit themselves, in cases where specific deadlines are not respected, to have removed from office all those that are mentioned in this

Agreement as being responsible for the specific task and deadline.

Civil and

political

rights

No specific mention.

Socio-

economic rights

Rights related issues

Citizenship	No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and No specific mention.

communication

Mobility/ access

Page 1, Basic Commitments, 2.

We reiterate our commitment to freedom of movement throughout the territory of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, without any exception for all roads and means of transportation, and express our gratitude for IFOR's efforts, in co-operation with the UN International Police Force, to assist in ensuring this. In particular, we reiterate the importance of action by IFOR to eliminate all illegal internal customs, military and other checkpoints. This is especially important in connection with the elimination of internal customs checkpoints and the deployment of international monitors at the external

borders on 1 April.

Protection

No specific mention.

measures

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or

No specific mention.

international human

rights

institutions

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and

emergency

law

No specific mention.

State of

emergency provisions

No specific mention.

Judiciary

and courts

Page 3, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions, 7.g. The elected Canton Governors and their Deputies in Cantons number 6, 7, 8 and 10 are responsible for insuring the formation of the respective Canton Government by 9 April. They shall also be responsible for the subsequent establishing of functioning administrative and judicial structures;

Prisons and detention

No specific mention.

Traditional

No specific mention.

Laws

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic

or socio-

reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance

economic

Page 5, Consequences of Non-Implementation: 10.

reconstruction Assistance for reconstruction and housing beyond basic humanitarian requirements will not be channeled to communities that fail to permit the

return of displaced people and refugees.

Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic

reconstruction→Infrastructure and reconstruction Page 5, Consequences of Non-Implementation: 10.

Assistance for reconstruction and housing beyond basic humanitarian requirements will not be channeled to communities that fail to permit the

return of displaced people and refugees.

National

economic plan

Natural

No specific mention.

resources

International Page 5, Consequences of Non-Implementation: 9.

funds

Cantons will not receive any financial resources from shared taxes and transfers until they have elected a Government and have established adequate operative structures. The same will hold for municipalities that have not properly formed their Interim Municipal Assembly and not elected their officials. This applies to resources from the international community as well as from the central and the Federal Government and from existing civilian authorities and organs in the areas of the Federation controlled by the HVO.

Business

Page 1, Basic Commitments, 4

We call upon IFOR, the EU Commission, the World Bank and IMG to continue their close co-operation in surveying the military, physical, and economic feasibility of opening additional commercial routes into Federation territory

from various directions.

Taxation

Socio-economic reconstruction→Taxation→Power to tax Page 4. Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions: 7.i. Furthermore, we agree upon the following specific obligations: Federal Customs Director Bagaric and Deputy Director Bijedic will ensure that the joint customs system is functionally operational (by unifying the services, appointing the directors of customs houses and transferring all revenues to Federation accounts) by 1 April. The Ministers of Trade, Agriculture and Health and their Deputies will, in their fields of competence, ensure proper monitoring and control on all border crossings throughout the Federation, as specified in the conclusions of the Federation Government. The implementation of the system will be assisted by international observers, as soon as the Memorandum of Understanding with the European Union is signed. All other existing customs regulations shall be nonapplicable by 1 April. Federation Finance Minister Bilandzija and his Deputy Curcic-Selimovic have the right to have two observers present at all times at each international customs border crossing point of the Federation observing the customs procedures exercised at those points. As far as police tasks at the international border crossings of the Federation are concerned, the Federation Law on Internal Affairs of 1 February 1996 will apply...

Socio-economic reconstruction→Taxation→Reform of taxation Page 1, Basic Commitments, 2.

We reiterate our commitment to freedom of movement throughout the territory of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, without any exception for all roads and means of transportation, and express our gratitude for IFOR's efforts, in co-operation with the UN International Police Force, to assist in ensuring this. In particular, we reiterate the importance of action by IFOR to eliminate all illegal internal customs, military and other checkpoints. This is especially important in connection with the elimination of internal customs checkpoints and the deployment of international monitors at the external borders on 1 April.

Page 4, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions: 7.j. Furthermore, we agree upon the following specific obligations: Federation Tax Director Huseinbegovic and His Deputy Pandza will appoint senior staff by 31 March. The Federation Law on Tax Administration will be enacted and a Federation Tax Board established by 30 April;

Page 4, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions: 7.k. Furthermore, we agree upon the following specific obligations: General Director of the Federal Office of the Federation Payments System Burnazovic and his Deputy Musa will make the unique payment system operational by 30 April. The payment system will, through the Federal Office for Payment Operation (ZAP), use the DM as the unit of account (other currencies already circulating in the Federation will continue to circulate through the channels of the commercial banks);

Page 5, Consequences of Non-Implementation: 9.

Cantons will not receive any financial resources from shared taxes and transfers until they have elected a Government and have established adequate operative structures. The same will hold for municipalities that have not properly formed their Interim Municipal Assembly and not elected their officials. This applies to resources from the international community as

Banks

Socio-economic reconstruction→Banks→Central bank

Page 4-5, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions: 7.n. The Federation Finance Minister and his Deputy will submit to the Federation Government at its next session the draft law on the Federation Bank Agency monitoring the operation of banks, as well as the changes on the Federation Law on Banks, and the Federation Government will submit them to the

Federal Assembly for consideration at its next session.

Land, property and environment

Land

No specific mention.

reform/ rights

Pastoralist/

No specific mention.

nomadism rights

Cultural

No specific mention.

heritage

Environment No specific mention.

Water or

No specific mention.

riparian rights or

access

Security sector

Security

Page 1, Basic Commitments, 2.

Guarantees

We reiterate our commitment to freedom of movement throughout the territory of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, without any exception for all roads and means of transportation, and express our gratitude for IFOR's efforts, in co-operation with the UN International Police Force, to assist in ensuring this. In particular, we reiterate the importance of action by IFOR to eliminate all illegal internal customs, military and other checkpoints. This is especially important in connection with the elimination of internal customs checkpoints and the deployment of international monitors at the external borders on 1 April.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police Page 1, Basic Commitments, 2.

We reiterate our commitment to freedom of movement throughout the territory of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, without any exception for all roads and means of transportation, and express our gratitude for IFOR's efforts, in co-operation with the UN International Police Force, to assist in ensuring this. In particular, we reiterate the importance of action by IFOR to eliminate all illegal internal customs, military and other checkpoints. This is especially important in connection with the elimination of internal customs checkpoints and the deployment of international monitors at the external borders on 1 April.

Page 3, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions: 7.f. Furthermore, we agree upon the following specific obligations: Federation Minister of the Interior Hebib and his Deputy Leutar will provide theinformation and data on all current police structures and strength on the whole Federation territory as stipulated in Article IV of Annex 11 of the Peace Agreement to the UN International Police by 5 April. Furthermore, Federation Minister of the Interior Hebib and his Deputy Leutar ensure that samples of the new dark grey uniforms for the police forces the of Federation territory will be manufactured so that they can be present to the public by 8 April;

Page 4, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions: 7.i. Furthermore, we agree upon the following specific obligations: Federal Customs Director Bagaric and Deputy Director Bijedic will ensure that the joint customs system is functionally operational (by unifying the services, appointing the directors of customs houses and transferring all revenues to Federation accounts) by 1 April. The Ministers of Trade, Agriculture and Health and their Deputies will, in their fields of competence, ensure proper monitoring and control on all border crossings throughout the Federation, as specified in the conclusions of the Federation Government. The implementation of the system will be assisted by international observers, as soon as the Memorandum of Understanding with the European Union is signed. All other existing customs regulations shall be nonapplicable by 1 April. Federation Finance Minister Bilandzija and his Deputy Curcic-Selimovic have the right to have two observers present at all times at each international customs border crossing point of the Federation observing the customs procedures exercised at those points. As far as police tasks at the international border crossings of the Federation are concerned, the Federation Law on Internal Affairs of 1 February 1996 will apply;

Armed forces

Page 2, Transfer of Governmental Structures, 6.c.

In particular: in the area of defense, the Federation Ministry shall become operational on the basis of a Federation Defense Law, without awaiting a Defense Law at the level of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina,

which should be enacted after the national elections.

Page 3, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions: 7.b. Furthermore, we agree upon the following specific obligations: Federation Minister of Defence Soljic and his Deputy Cengic will submit the Basic Defense Law to the Federation Assembly at its next session;

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

Transitional justice

Transitional No specific mention.

justice general

Amnesty/ No specific mention.

pardon

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner No specific mention.

release

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims No specific mention.

Missing No specific mention.

persons

Reparations No specific mention.

Reconciliation No specific mention.

Implementation

UN No specific mention.

signatory

Other Witnessed by: Ambassador Michael STEINER Principal Deputy High

international Representative

signatory

Referendum No specific mention. for agreement

International Page 1, Basic Commitments, 2.

mission/

We reiterate our commitment to freedom of movement throughout the force/similar territory of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, without any exception for all roads and means of transportation, and express our gratitude for IFOR's efforts, in co-operation with the UN International Police Force, to assist in ensuring this. In particular, we reiterate the importance of action by IFOR to eliminate all illegal internal customs, military and other checkpoints. This is especially important in connection with the elimination of internal customs checkpoints and the deployment of international monitors at the external borders on 1 April.

Page 1, Basic Commitments, 4

We call upon IFOR, the EU Commission, the World Bank and IMG to continue their close co-operation in surveying the military, physical, and economic feasibility of opening additional commercial routes into Federation territory from various directions.

Page 4, Specific Steps in the Implementation of Federation Institutions: 7.i. Furthermore, we agree upon the following specific obligations: Federal Customs Director Bagaric and Deputy Director Bijedic will ensure that the joint customs system is functionally operational (by unifying the services, appointing the directors of customs houses and transferring all revenues to Federation accounts) by 1 April. The Ministers of Trade, Agriculture and Health and their Deputies will, in their fields of competence, ensure proper monitoring and control on all border crossings throughout the Federation, as specified in the conclusions of the Federation Government. The implementation of the system will be assisted by international observers, as soon as the Memorandum of Understanding with the European Union is signed. All other existing customs regulations shall be nonapplicable by 1 April. Federation Finance Minister Bilandzija and his Deputy Curcic-Selimovic have the right to have two observers present at all times at each international customs border crossing point of the Federation observing the customs procedures exercised at those points. As far as police tasks at the international border crossings of the Federation are concerned, the Federation Law on Internal Affairs of 1 February 1996 will apply;

mechanism

Enforcement Page 1, Basic Commitments, 5.

We agree that each specific obligation mentioned in this Agreement shall have to be carried out irrespectively of the implementation of other obligations mentioned in this Agreement. Linkages and conditionalities between the implementation of different obligations shall not be allowed.

Related cases

Source

Snezana Trifunovska (ed.) Former Yugoslavia Through Documents: From its dissolution to the peace settlement (The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff 1999) pp. 559-564