

**Peace Agreement Access Tool PA-X** <https://pax.peaceagreements.org/>

<b>Country/ entity</b>	Bosnia and Herzegovina Yugoslavia (former)
<b>Region</b>	Europe and Eurasia Europe and Eurasia
<b>Agreement name</b>	Petersberg Declaration on the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
<b>Date</b>	25 Apr 1996
<b>Agreement status</b>	Multiparty signed/agreed
<b>Interim arrangement</b>	Yes
<b>Agreement/ conflict level</b>	Intrastate/intrastate conflict ( Balkan Conflicts (1991 - 1995) (1998 - 2001) )
<b>Stage</b>	Implementation/renegotiation
<b>Conflict nature</b>	Government/territory
<b>Peace process</b>	Bosnia peace process
<b>Parties</b>	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; Ejub 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
<b>Third parties</b>	As witnesses: Mate GRANIC, Foreign Minister, Republic of Croatia; Peter TARNOFF, Under Secretary of State, United States of America; Wolfgang ISCHINGER, Political Director, Federal Republic of Germany; Ambassador Michael, STEINER Principal Deputy High Representative
<b>Description</b>	This agreement to implement unfulfilled provisions of the Sarajevo Agreement, and is divided into key areas: federation implementation, human rights institutions, media issues, police issues, and economic issues.

---

**Agreement  
document** [BA\\_960425\\_Peterberg Declaration on the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bonn.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	Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Anti-discrimination Page 2, Federation implementation, 9. We reaffirm the commitment under the Rome Statement on Sarajevo of 18 February 1996 that there will be equal treatment and non-discrimination for Bosniacs, Croats, Serbs and Others in Sarajevo...
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.

Refugees/ displaced persons	<p>Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical Page 2, 7. We reiterate our commitment with regard to the provisions of the Peace Agreement that all refugees and displaced persons have the right to return to their homes in the whole territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina with full protection of their human and other rights.</p> <p>Page 2, Federation implementation, 9. We reaffirm the commitment under the Rome Statement on Sarajevo of 18 February 1996 that there will be equal treatment and non-discrimination for Bosniacs, Croats, Serbs and Others in Sarajevo. This includes, in line with paragraph 7 above, the right of return for refugees and displaced persons of all peoples that left Sarajevo and the full protection of their human and other rights. It also means that all these peoples will have the opportunity to participate fully in the governance of the city. The Joint Civilian Commission Sarajevo will continue to function, as stipulated in the Rome Statement, as a consultative and coordinating body for this purpose.</p> <p>Page 3, Human rights issues, 13. We acknowledge the full realization of human rights throughout the Federation as a precondition for durable political and social stabilization and a return of refugees to their homes.</p>
-----------------------------------	--

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 Page 2-3, Federation implementation, 10.  
We stress the importance of an agreed solution for the future organizational structure of Sarajevo which takes account not only of the interests of all of the peoples concerned, but also of the role of Sarajevo as the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina and of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Independence/ secession No specific mention.

Accession/ unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

---

## Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)	<p>Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references</p> <p>Page 1, 4.</p> <p>We reiterate our strong commitment to the speedy implementation and full functioning of the Federation and all its institutions. We reaffirm our commitment to the Dayton Agreement on Implementing the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina of 10 November 1995 and to the obligations of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina of 14 December 1995. We confirm our support for the Rome Statement of 18 February 1996, the Geneva Statement of 18 March 1996 and the Sarajevo Agreement on the Federation of 30 March 1996. We commit ourselves to the full and rapid implementation of those provisions of the Sarajevo Agreement that have not yet been fulfilled.</p> <p>Page 2, Federation implementation, 8.</p> <p>While welcoming recent progress in the constitution of the Cantons of the Federation, we stress the necessity to establish in full the legislative and executive structures of all Cantons and Municipalities throughout the Federation, by the time of the Federation Forum in Washington on 14 May 1996, and with reference to the provisions in Article 5 above.</p>
Elections	<p>Page 2, 6.</p> <p>Acknowledging the key role the city of Mostar plays for the Federation, we reiterate our support for the European Union Administrator of Mostar and the early holding of elections in the city in May.</p>
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

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

Page 1, 4.

We reiterate our strong commitment to the speedy implementation and full functioning of the Federation and all its institutions. We reaffirm our commitment to the Dayton Agreement on Implementing the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina of 10 November 1995 and to the obligations of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina of 14 December 1995. We confirm our support for the Rome Statement of 18 February 1996, the Geneva Statement of 18 March 1996 and the Sarajevo Agreement on the Federation of 30 March 1996. We commit ourselves to the full and rapid implementation of those provisions of the Sarajevo Agreement that have not yet been fulfilled.

Page 2, 5.

We take note with appreciation of the reports of the Federation Mediator and the Federation Arbitrator on their work concerning the resolution of disputes within the Federation. We continue to support the Federation Mediator and the Federation Arbitrator in their efforts to review contentious issues regarding the implementation of the Federation and call upon all those concerned to respect fully and implement the letter and spirit of their decisions.

Page 2-3, Federation implementation, 10.

We stress the importance of an agreed solution for the future organizational structure of Sarajevo which takes account not only of the interests of all of the peoples concerned, but also of the role of Sarajevo as the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina and of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Page 4, Police issues, 19.

We support the Agreement on restructuring the police of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina concluded in Bonn-Petersberg today; we also welcome that the inaugural session of the Police Commission responsible for the implementation of the Agreement took place here today.

Page 4, Police issues, 20.

We reaffirm that a united policing structure designed to contribute to support the functioning of democratic institutions is one of the essentials to the success of the Federation. It will support the democratic system and protect internationally accepted human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Page 4, Police issues, 21.

We welcome the presentation of the newly designed grey Federation police uniforms today in Bonn-Petersberg that will be used by all uniformed police operating throughout the Federation, as has been decided by the Federation Government. This uniform is an important symbol of our commitment to the restructuring of policing in the Federation.

Page 4-5, Economic issues, 23.

The Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of the Federation, according to their respective responsibilities, have to adopt all decisions about spending and distribution of international support to the State, especially in so far as bilateral assistance is concerned.

Economic  
power  
sharing

Power sharing→Economic power sharing→Sharing of resources

Page 4-5, Economic:

23. The Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of the Federation, according to their respective responsibilities, have to adopt all decisions about spending and distribution of international support to the State, especially in so far as bilateral assistance is concerned.

Page 5, Economic issues, 26.

We note that the World Bank supports the building up of key economic institutions of the Federation, as agreed in paragraph 7 of the Sarajevo Agreement on the Federation, i.e.:

- the Federation customs administration is fully operational (all Federation revenue accounts are open, and uninterrupted transfer of customs revenue into these accounts takes place and proper monitoring and control of all international border crossing is assured, in accordance with the Sarajevo Agreement);

- the Federation Payments Bureau is fully integrated and operates as a unique system;

- the Federation Assembly adopts a Federation Law on the Federation Banking Agency and its Director and Deputy Director are appointed.

We agree that these steps are essential for commercial development and economic reconstruction. We furthermore agree that the Federal Law on Tax Administration will be enacted.

Page 5, Economic issues, 27.

We note the intention of the Federation Government to present a Law on the Federation Privatization Agency to the Federation Assembly.

Military  
power  
sharing

Power sharing→Military power sharing→Proportionality

Page 4, Policing Issues

19. We support the Agreement on restructuring the police of the Federation of Bosnia and

Herzegovina concluded in Bonn-Petersberg today; we also welcome that the inaugural session of the

Police Commission responsible for the implementation of the Agreement took place here today.

20. We reaffirm that a united policing structure designed to contribute to support the functioning of democratic institutions is one of the essentials to the success of the Federation. It will support the democratic system and protect internationally accepted human rights and fundamental freedoms.

21. We welcome the presentation of the newly designed grey Federation police uniforms today in Bonn-Petersberg that will be used by all uniformed police operating throughout the Federation, as has been decided by the Federation Government. This uniform is an important symbol of our commitment to the restructuring of policing in the Federation



## Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general	<p>Page 2, 7. We reiterate our commitment with regard to the provisions of the Peace Agreement that all refugees and displaced persons have the right to return to their homes in the whole territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina with full protection of their human and other rights.</p> <p>Page 2, Federation implementation, 9. We reaffirm the commitment under the Rome Statement on Sarajevo of 18 February 1996 that there will be equal treatment and non-discrimination for Bosniacs, Croats, Serbs and Others in Sarajevo. This includes, in line with paragraph 7 above, the right of return for refugees and displaced persons of all peoples that left Sarajevo and the full protection of their human and other rights. It also means that all these peoples will have the opportunity to participate fully in the governance of the city. The Joint Civilian Commission Sarajevo will continue to function, as stipulated in the Rome Statement, as a consultative and coordinating body for this purpose.</p> <p>Page 3, Human rights issues, 13. We acknowledge the full realization of human rights throughout the Federation as a precondition for durable political and social stabilization and a return of refugees to their homes.</p>
Bill of rights/similar	<p>No specific mention.</p>
Treaty incorporation	<p>Page 4, Police issues, 20. We reaffirm that a united policing structure designed to contribute to support the functioning of democratic institutions is one of the essentials to the success of the Federation. It will support the democratic system and protect internationally accepted human rights and fundamental freedoms.</p>

Civil and political rights	<p>Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Equality Page 2, Federation implementation, 9. We reaffirm the commitment under the Rome Statement on Sarajevo of 18 February 1996 that there will be equal treatment and non-discrimination for Bosniacs, Croats, Serbs and Others in Sarajevo. This includes, in line with paragraph 7 above, the right of return for refugees and displaced persons of all peoples that left Sarajevo and the full protection of their human and other rights. It also means that all these peoples will have the opportunity to participate fully in the governance of the city. The Joint Civilian Commission Sarajevo will continue to function, as stipulated in the Rome Statement, as a consultative and coordinating body for this purpose.</p> <p>Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Freedom of movement Page 3, Human rights, 15. These Human Rights Officers will report through the Federation Liaison Officers on the human rights situation in their respective Cantons, with a special emphasis on the fields of freedom of movement, freedom of religion, freedom of media and of political expression and freedom of association. These Human Rights Officers shall have no executive functions in exercising their mandate.</p> <p>Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Thought, opinion, conscience and religion Page 3, Human rights, 15. These Human Rights Officers will report through the Federation Liaison Officers on the human rights situation in their respective Cantons, with a special emphasis on the fields of freedom of movement, freedom of religion, freedom of media and of political expression and freedom of association. These Human Rights Officers shall have no executive functions in exercising their mandate.</p>
Socio-economic rights	No specific mention.

---

## Rights related issues

Citizenship	<p>Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizen, general Page 4, Media issues, 18. After consideration of the implementation of previous agreements on the Federation, we stress the importance of realizing the provisions on media contained in the Petersberg Agreement of 10 March 1995. With this in mind, the President and the Vice President of the Federation will submit this issue to the Federation Assembly, with a view to ensuring free access of all citizens and peoples to the public media.</p>
-------------	---

Democracy	<p>Page 4, Police issues, 20.</p> <p>We reaffirm that a united policing structure designed to contribute to support the functioning of democratic institutions is one of the essentials to the success of the Federation. It will support the democratic system and protect internationally accepted human rights and fundamental freedoms.</p>
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	<p>Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles</p> <p>Page 4, Media issues, 18.</p> <p>After consideration of the implementation of previous agreements on the Federation, we stress the importance of realizing the provisions on media contained in the Petersberg Agreement of 10 March 1995. With this in mind, the President and the Vice President of the Federation will submit this issue to the Federation Assembly, with a view to ensuring free access of all citizens and peoples to the public media.</p> <p>Rights related issues→Media and communication→Other</p> <p>Page 3, Human rights, 15.</p> <p>These Human Rights Officers will report through the Federation Liaison Officers on the human rights situation in their respective Cantons, with a special emphasis on the fields of freedom of movement, freedom of religion, freedom of media and of political expression and freedom of association. These Human Rights Officers shall have no executive functions in exercising their mandate.</p>
Mobility/ access	No specific mention.
Protection measures	<p>Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of groups</p> <p>Page 2</p> <p>7. We reiterate our commitment with regard to the provisions of the Peace Agreement that all refugees and displaced persons have the right to return to their homes in the whole territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina with full protection of their human and other rights.</p> <p>9. We reaffirm the commitment under the Rome Statement on Sarajevo of 18 February 1996 that there will be equal treatment and non-discrimination for Bosniacs, Croats, Serbs and Others in Sarajevo. This includes, in line with paragraph 7 above, the right of return for refugees and displaced persons of all peoples that left Sarajevo and the full protection of their human and other rights</p>

Other No specific mention.

---

## Rights institutions

NHRI Rights institutions→NHRI→New or fundamentally revised NHRI

Page 3, Human rights, 14.  
To enhance efforts in the field of human rights, the Federation President and Vice President, respectively, shall each have the authority to appoint an official of high moral standing in each Cantonal Administration to serve as Human Rights Officer for this Canton.

Page 3, Human rights, 15.  
These Human Rights Officers will report through the Federation Liaison Officers on the human rights situation in their respective Cantons, with a special emphasis on the fields of freedom of movement, freedom of religion, freedom of media and of political expression and freedom of association. These Human Rights Officers shall have no executive functions in exercising their mandate.

Page 3, Human rights, 16.  
Amalgamated reports will be forwarded by the Federation Liaison Officers and be promptly forwarded to the Federation President, the Federation Vice President, the Federation Ombudsmen and the Office of the High Representative for consideration and action as appropriate.

Page 3, Human rights, 17.  
The Office of the High Representative will provide appropriate assistance to facilitate their work.

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 Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Socio-economic development  
Page 4, Economic issues, 22.  
Economic reconstruction is of key importance for reconciliation, reintegration and for a durable peace. The international community, at its Donors Conference in Brussels on 12/13 April 1996, pledged to provide an additional \$1.23 billion in new commitments to meet the external financing needs for economic reconstruction and recovery. A large share of these funds is earmarked for the Federation.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds Page 4, Economic issues, 22.  
Economic reconstruction is of key importance for reconciliation, reintegration and for a durable peace. The international community, at its Donors Conference in Brussels on 12/13 April 1996, pledged to provide an additional \$1.23 billion in new commitments to meet the external financing needs for economic reconstruction and recovery. A large share of these funds is earmarked for the Federation.

Page 4-5, Economic issues, 23.

The Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Government of the Federation, according to their respective responsibilities, have to adopt all decisions about spending and distribution of international support to the State, especially in so far as bilateral assistance is concerned.

Page 5, Economic issues, 24.

We acknowledge that the international community will only be in a position to translate the pledges of assistance which were made at the Brussels Donor Conference and were pledged to the Federation into concrete projects and financial flows, when the administrative, economic and executive structures of the receiving side are properly established on the levels of the Federation Government, the Cantons and Municipalities.

Page 5, Economic issues, 25.

We welcome the proposal of the World Bank for a Structural Adjustment Credit of at least \$ 110 million (IDA credit plus donor co-financing) to Bosnia and Herzegovina, proposed to be considered by its Board of Directors by the end of June 1996.

Business No specific mention.

Taxation Socio-economic reconstruction→Taxation→Reform of taxation

Page 5, Economic issues, 26.

We note that the World Bank supports the building up of key economic institutions of the Federation, as agreed in paragraph 7 of the Sarajevo Agreement on the Federation, i.e.:

- the Federation customs administration is fully operational (all Federation revenue accounts are open, and uninterrupted transfer of customs revenue into these accounts takes place and proper monitoring and control of all international border crossing is assured, in accordance with the Sarajevo Agreement);... We furthermore agree that the Federal Law on Tax Administration will be enacted.

Banks	<p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Banks→Personal or commercial banking Page 5, Economic issues, 26.</p> <p>We note that the World Bank supports the building up of key economic institutions of the Federation, as agreed in paragraph 7 of the Sarajevo Agreement on the Federation, i.e.:</p> <p>...- the Federation Assembly adopts a Federation Law on the Federation Banking Agency and its Director and Deputy Director are appointed.</p> <p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Banks→International finance Page 5, Economic issues, 25.</p> <p>We welcome the proposal of the World Bank for a Structural Adjustment Credit of at least \$ 110 million (IDA credit plus donor co-financing) to Bosnia and Herzegovina, proposed to be considered by its Board of Directors by the end of June 1996.</p>
-------	---

---

## 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	<p>Page 4, Police issues, 19.  We support the Agreement on restructuring the police of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina concluded in Bonn-Petersberg today; we also welcome that the inaugural session of the Police Commission responsible for the implementation of the Agreement took place here today.</p> <p>Page 4, Police issues, 20.  We reaffirm that a united policing structure designed to contribute to support the functioning of democratic institutions is one of the essentials to the success of the Federation. It will support the democratic system and protect internationally accepted human rights and fundamental freedoms.</p> <p>Page 4, Police issues, 21.  We welcome the presentation of the newly designed grey Federation police uniforms today in Bonn-Petersberg that will be used by all uniformed police operating throughout the Federation, as has been decided by the Federation Government. This uniform is an important symbol of our commitment to the restructuring of policing in the Federation.</p>
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 As witnesses: Mate GRANIC, Foreign Minister, Republic of Croatia; Peter TARNOFF, Under Secretary of State, United States of America; Wolfgang ISCHINGER, Political Director, Federal Republic of Germany; Ambassador Michael, STEINER Principal Deputy High Representative

Referendum  
for  
agreement No specific mention.

International  
mission/  
force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement  
mechanism Page 5, Economic issues, 28.  
We reconfirm our commitment and obligations with respect to consequences of non-implementation as stipulated in paragraphs 9 to 13 of the Sarajevo Agreement.

Related  
cases No specific mention.

Source Snezana Trifunovska (ed.) Former Yugoslavia Through Documents: From its dissolution to the peace settlement (The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff 1999) pp. 564-568

---