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Country/ entity	Bosnia and Herzegovina Yugoslavia (former)
Region	Europe and Eurasia Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Joint Statement, Split, Croatia
Date	6 Aug 1997
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Intrastate/intrastate conflict (Balkan Conflicts (1991 - 1995) (1998 - 2001))
Stage	Implementation/renegotiation
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Bosnia peace process
Parties	The delegation of the Republic of Croatia, led by President Franjo Tudjman; the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, led by the President of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina Alija Izetbegovic; and the highest officials of the Federation Bosnia and Herzegovina, led by Vladimir Soljic
Third parties	-
Description	This agreement reaffirms the parties' commitment to implementation of existing peace agreements, and provides for measures to support cross-border cooperation between Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia. It also addresses cooperation with criminal tribunals, refugee return and the role of the media in promoting reconciliation.

Agreement
document

[BA_970806_Joint Statement at Split.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	<p>Groups→Racial/ethnic/national group→Rhetorical Page 1, ...The parties have confirmed their joint commitment to the preservation and strengthening of the integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, structured constitutionally as a State of three equal constituent nations and two multi-ethnic entities,...</p> <p>Page 1, ...The implementation of the Washington agreement on the strengthening of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina considered by all a particularly important contribution to the peace process and an irreplaceable framework for the attainment of equal national, political and other interests of the Croat and Bosniac peoples...</p> <p>Page 1-2, ...An important role in the implementation of the Dayton and Washington agreements is played by the Council for Cooperation between the Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which has had a positive effect on promoting the relations between the two States and strengthening cooperation between the Croat and Bosniac peoples, especially in affirming the policy of mutual confidence and reconciliation based on equality and mutual respect of national identity and other values. All the political, social, media and other institutions, communities and associations in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina are called upon to continue affirming the values of coexistence.</p>
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.

Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/ displaced persons	Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive Page 3, ...The parties reaffirmed the right to an organized, voluntary and safe return of refugees to their homes along with protection from intimidation and the adoption of the required legislation. The Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina will prepare, in coordination with the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and within the shortest time, an integral programme of return. The Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Government of the Federation will agree on the necessary steps for assistance in reconstruction and development in order to promote return. Particular emphasis was placed on the requirement to intensify overall activity in the discovery of persons missing during the war...
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.
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State configuration Page 1, ...The parties have confirmed their joint commitment to the preservation and strengthening of the integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, structured constitutionally as a State of three equal constituent nations and two multi-ethnic entities, which will strengthen reciprocal relations within Bosnia and Herzegovina and cooperate with neighbouring States in accordance with the Dayton agreements and the Political Declaration of the Peace Implementation Council in Sintra.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/ secession No specific mention.

Accession/ unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-
border
provision

Page 1,

...The delegation of the Republic of Croatia, led by President Franjo Tudjman, the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, led by the President of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina Alija Izetbegovic, and the highest officials of the Federation Bosnia and Herzegovina, led by Vladimir Soljic, held a meeting in Split on 6 August 1997, at which they comprehensively examined the implementation of the Dayton and Washington agreements, the development of cooperation between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and in particular the strengthening of relations in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its cooperation with the Republic of Croatia...

Page 1-2,

...An important role in the implementation of the Dayton and Washington agreements is played by the Council for Cooperation between the Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which has had a positive effect on promoting the relations between the two States and strengthening cooperation between the Croat and Bosniac peoples, especially in affirming the policy of mutual confidence and reconciliation based on equality and mutual respect of national identity and other values. All the political, social, media and other institutions, communities and associations in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina are called upon to continue affirming the values of coexistence.

Page 2,

...In order to promote cooperation on the basis of existing agreements, it has been agreed to exchange, by 1 September 1997, the draft agreement intended to regulate the relations between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina and to establish the council for cooperation between the two countries, and also the draft agreement on the establishment of the council for cooperation between the Republic of Croatia and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which will define special contractual relations between Croatia and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in accordance with the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Dayton and Washington agreements, the Sintra Declaration and the conclusions of the Office of the High Representative...

Page 2,

...In the spirit of this mutual political commitment, it has been agreed that a special mixed legal-political group will, within three months, harmonize the signed bilateral agreements and prepare other agreements of mutual interest. In this process particular consideration will be given to the termination of negotiations on a permanent solution for the use of the port of Ploce and passage through the municipality of Neum, as well as to the agreement on property-legal relations, protection of investments, dual citizenship and so on...

Page 2,

...The parties have confirmed the particular interest of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in strengthening economic cooperation. It has been agreed that an expert group will immediately prepare a programme of measures for promoting economic cooperation, balancing Page 5, 15
...ending the custom-free trade regime, in particular the trade in energy sources, and other issues related to the implementation of the Agreement on Economic Co-operation and Trade

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references Page 1, ...The parties have jointly confirmed their readiness for consistent, comprehensive and accelerated implementation of the peace agreements in order to strengthen peace and establish functional democratic institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and overall normalization of relations in this part of Europe...

Elections No specific mention.

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 No specific mention.

Economic
power
sharing No specific mention.

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
incorporation No specific mention.

Civil and
political
rights No specific mention.

Socio-
economic
rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

- Citizenship Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizen, general
Page 2,
...In the spirit of this mutual political commitment, it has been agreed that a special mixed legal-political group will, within three months, harmonize the signed bilateral agreements and prepare other agreements of mutual interest. In this process particular consideration will be given to the termination of negotiations on a permanent solution for the use of the port of Ploce and passage through the municipality of Neum, as well as to the agreement on property-legal relations, protection of investments, dual citizenship and so on...
- Democracy Page 1,
...The parties have jointly confirmed their readiness for consistent, comprehensive and accelerated implementation of the peace agreements in order to strengthen peace and establish functional democratic institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and overall normalization of relations in this part of Europe...
- Detention No specific mention.
procedures
- Media and Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles
communication Page 1-2,
...An important role in the implementation of the Dayton and Washington agreements is played by the Council for Cooperation between the Republic of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which has had a positive effect on promoting the relations between the two States and strengthening cooperation between the Croat and Bosniac peoples, especially in affirming the policy of mutual confidence and reconciliation based on equality and mutual respect of national identity and other values. All the political, social, media and other institutions, communities and associations in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina are called upon to continue affirming the values of coexistence...
- Page 3,
...It was considered by all that the media play a particularly important role in developing a positive relationship towards the strengthening of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and overall implementation of the peace agreements. In this regard, the media are called upon to contribute to reaffirmation of confidence and reconciliation in the spirit of this statement and in accordance with the freedom and independence of the media.

Mobility/ access	Page 2-3, ...It has been agreed, through a special annex to the Agreement on Border Crossings, to allow immediately for the opening of new border crossings along the entire frontier. A joint border and customs post will be established at the border crossing Brcko-Gunla in accordance with the decisions of the Arbitration Commission. The preparation of the proposal for the arrangement and construction of joint border crossings will start immediately and international institutions will be invited to participate in the financing of specific projects...
Protection measures	Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of groups Page 3, ... return of refugees to their homes along with protection from intimidation and the adoption of the required legislation. Rights related issues→Protection measures→Other Page 2, In this process particular consideration will be given to the termination of negotiations on a permanent solution for the use of the port of Ploce and passage through the municipality of Neum, as well as to the agreement on property-legal relations, protection of investments, dual citizenship and so on.
Other	No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
Regional or international human rights institutions	No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law	No specific mention.
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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 No specific mention.

National economic plan No specific mention.

Natural resources No specific mention.

International funds Page 2-3,
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Business	Page 2, ...The parties have confirmed the particular interest of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in strengthening economic cooperation. It has been agreed that an expert group will immediately prepare a programme of measures for promoting economic cooperation, balancing trade, amending the custom-free trade regime, in particular the trade in energy sources, and other issues related to the implementation of the Agreement on Economic Cooperation and Trade...
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	Page 2, ...In the spirit of this mutual political commitment, it has been agreed that a special mixed legal-political group will, within three months, harmonize the signed bilateral agreements and prepare other agreements of mutual interest. In this process particular consideration will be given to the termination of negotiations on a permanent solution for the use of the port of Ploce and passage through the municipality of Neum, as well as to the agreement on property-legal relations, protection of investments, dual citizenship and so on...

Security sector

Security Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

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	Transitional justice→Courts→International courts Page 3, ...Cooperation with the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague will continue. It is the joint conviction that the process of law and the trials should reflect an objective attitude towards the level of involvement of sides and individuals...
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	Page 3, ...The parties reaffirmed the right to an organized, voluntary and safe return of refugees to their homes along with protection from intimidation and the adoption of the required legislation. The Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina will prepare, in coordination with the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and within the shortest time, an integral programme of return. The Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Government of the Federation will agree on the necessary steps for assistance in reconstruction and development in order to promote return. Particular emphasis was placed on the requirement to intensify overall activity in the discovery of persons missing during the war...
Reparations	No specific mention.

Reconciliation Page 1-2,

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Page 3,

...It was considered by all that the media play a particularly important role in developing a positive relationship towards the strengthening of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and overall implementation of the peace agreements. In this regard, the media are called upon to contribute to reaffirmation of confidence and reconciliation in the spirit of this statement and in accordance with the freedom and independence of the media.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory No specific mention.

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

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.
629-630
