

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

Country/ entity	Kosovo Serbia Yugoslavia (former)
Region	Europe and Eurasia Europe and Eurasia Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Statement of the Contact Group
Date	29 Apr 1998
Agreement status	Unilateral document
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s) (Balkan Conflicts (1991 - 1995) (1998 - 2001))
Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Kosovo process
Parties	The Contact Group was comprised of France, Italy, Germany, Russia, United Kingdom and United States.
Third parties	-
Description	This statement by the Contact Group outlines principles for a framework of dialogue and stabilisation between Belgrade and Kosovo Albanian leadership. These include rejection of terrorism, respect for rights of individuals and ethnic groups, cooperation with the OSCE Gonzalez mission, and inter-communal confidence building measures, including implementing the education agreement.

Agreement document [KV_980429_Contact Group Statement.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→Rhetorical Page 1, 6.1 To begin the urgent process of dialogue, the Contact Group recommends, and urges both Belgrade and Kosovo Albanian leadership to adopt, a framework for dialogue and a stabilisation package: The framework should be based on fundamental principles that the parties must accept, such as rejection of violence for achieving political goals, no preconditions, mutual respect, accordance with standards and principles of the OSCE and of the UN Charter, mutually agreed modalities, and protection of all individuals and ethnic groups...
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/ displaced persons	No specific mention.
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) Page 1, 3.
The Contact Group...also calls on the countries of the region to confirm the respect for territorial integrity and for the inviolability of internationally recognised borders.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession Page 1, 2.
All members of the Contact Group are firmly opposed to independence for Kosovo and to a continuation of the unacceptable status quo. Immediate steps by the parties to reduce tension and to begin an unconditional dialogue are indispensable, and the only way to reverse the deterioration in the situation and bring about a political solution.

Accession/
unification No specific mention.

Border
delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-
border
provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political
institutions
(new or
reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral
commission No specific mention.

Political
parties
reform No specific mention.

Civil society Page 2, 6.2
The stabilisation package must include, as the minimum:...Concrete inter-communal confidence building measures, including implementation of the education agreement according to the agreed timetable. The Contact Group appreciates and encourages the work of Sant'Egidio Community in this field.

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	Page 1, 3. ...The Contact Group calls on political leaders in the FRY and in the countries of the region to exercise maximum restraint, full respect for human rights, to prevent the introduction of arms and of armed groups from outside, and to condemn terrorism...
Bill of rights/similar	No specific mention.
Treaty incorporation	Page 1, 6.1 To begin the urgent process of dialogue, the Contact Group recommends, and urges both Belgrade and Kosovo Albanian leadership to adopt, a framework for dialogue and a stabilisation package: The framework should be based on fundamental principles that the parties must accept, such as rejection of violence for achieving political goals, no preconditions, mutual respect, accordance with standards and principles of the OSCE and of the UN Charter, mutually agreed modalities, and protection of all individuals and ethnic groups...

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures Rights related issues→Protection measures→Protection of civilians
Page 1, 6.1
To begin the urgent process of dialogue, the Contact Group recommends, and urges both Belgrade and Kosovo Albanian leadership to adopt, a framework for dialogue and a stabilisation package: The framework should be based on fundamental principles that the parties must accept, such as rejection of violence for achieving political goals, no preconditions, mutual respect, accordance with standards and principles of the OSCE and of the UN Charter, mutually agreed modalities, and protection of all individuals and ethnic groups...

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.

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 No specific mention.

Business No specific mention.

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 No specific mention.

Security sector

Security
Guarantees No specific mention.

Ceasefire	No specific mention.
Police	No specific mention.
Armed forces	Page 1, 3. The Contact Group condemns the increase in violence in recent days in Kosovo, in particular the excessive use of force by the Yugoslav Army, and the proliferation of arms in the territory...
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 Page 1, 3.
...The Contact Group rejects absolutely terrorism as a means of bringing about political change as well as all other violence to suppress political dissent. The Contact Group calls on political leaders in the FRY and in the countries of the region to exercise maximum restraint, full respect for human rights, to prevent the introduction of arms and of armed groups from outside, and to condemn terrorism...

Page 1, 6.2
The stabilisation package must include, as the minimum: Cessation of repression by the Authorities in Belgrade, as specified in UNSCR 1160, and a strong condemnation of terrorism by the Kosovo Albanian leadership...

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 No specific mention.

Referendum
for
agreement No specific mention.

International
mission/
force/similar Page 1, 6.2
The stabilisation package must include, as the minimum:...Reopening of the
OSCE missions in the FRY, including Kosovo...

Page 2, 7.
The Contact Group attaches the highest priority to the immediate launching
of the Gonzalez
mission, which is essential for substantial progress in the relationship
between FRY and the international community. This mission is also meant to
reduce tension, restore confidence and improve general prospects for
dialogue. The top leadership in Belgrade should therefore immediately invite
the Gonzalez mission to start its work. The Contact Group fully supports the
OSCE Chairman-in-Office in his efforts to facilitate this mission.

Enforcement
mechanism No specific mention.

Related
cases No specific mention.

Source Office of the High Representative
http://www.ohr.int/?ohr_archive_taxonomy=contact-group
