

Country/entity	Bosnia and Herzegovina Yugoslavia (former)
Region	Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Political agreement on principles for ensuring a functional Bosnia and Herzegovina that advances on the European path
Date	12 Jun 2022
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/intrastate conflict

Balkan Conflicts (1991 - 1995) (1998 - 2001)

Former Yugoslavia

The disintegration of former Yugoslavia post cold war saw conflicts which became mediated and produced peace agreements in Slovenia (where the brief independence conflict was mediated by the EC Troika in 1991), Croatia (between Croatian and Serb populations 1991-1995), in Bosnia (between Croatian, Serb and Bosniak populations 1992-1995), in Macedonia (where mediation played a key pre-emptive role in preventing large scale conflict in 2001), in Kosovo (between Kosovar Albanians and Serbian population and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), but also between FRY and NATO, 1998-1999), and a conflict in the Presevo Valley (between Albanians in South Serbia and FRY, 2000-2001). The continued fall-out of the disintegration of former Yugoslavia also saw mediated agreement and ultimate dissolution of the Union between Serbia and Montenegro.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

In 1991, after nationalist parties won the first multi-party elections in the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, a violent process of disintegration commenced. With its mixed population, Bosnia-Herzegovina became the centre of the following civil war that began in 1992 between the newly formed army of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina (mostly Muslim Bosniacs), and the parastatal forces of self-declared Bosnian Croat (Herzeg-Bosnia) and Bosnian Serb (Republika Srpska) entities within Bosnia-Herzegovina, supported by Croatia and Serbia, with various, often short-lived, coalitions. The General Framework Agreement (Dayton Peace Agreement), signed in 1995, split the country into two ethno-federal entities, the Bosniak-Croat Federation and the Republika Srpska, and included continued peacekeeping and institutional administration by international actors.

Kosovo

The conflict between Serbs and Kosovar Albanians has a long history and always involved territorial disputes as well as ethno-political, cultural and linguistic factors. The most recent phase of the conflict began in November 1997 when the Albanian Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA or UCK) began their campaign for the independence of Kosovo from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY – then Serbia and Montenegro). The subsequent war lasted until the NATO intervention, which undertook bombing campaigns of Belgrade and other places in Serbia during spring 1999. The main agreements solving the conflict were internationally driven and, finally, a UNSC resolution imposed a post-conflict arrangement in the wake of what was essentially a NATO military victory. In February 2008, Kosovo's parliament declared independence, but independence is still internationally disputed.

Close

Balkan Conflicts (1991 - 1995) (1998 - 2001)

Stage

Implementation/renegotiation

Conflict nature	Government
Peace process	Bosnia peace process
Parties	<p>Agreed by the following participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina:</p> <p>(in alphabetical order)</p> <p>Petar Djokić (SP) Milorad Dodik (SNSD, member of the Presidency) Šefik Džaferović (SDA, chair of the Presidency) Edin Forto, (NS) Bakir Izetbegović (SDA) Elmedin Konaković, (NiP) Željko Komšić (DF, member of the Presidency) Nermin Nikšić (SDP) Nermin Ogrišević, (NES) Elzina Pirić (PDA) Senad Šepić (NB) Nenad Stevandić (US)</p>
Third parties	Not signed, but agreement was made 'In the presence of the President of the European Council, Charles Michel, and the High Representative of the European Union, Josep Borrell'
Description	Political agreement between the heads of 12 political parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in which parties commit to political and legal steps to implement elections and stable institutions, tackle corruption, support reconciliation, extend the EUFOR peacekeeping mission and pursue EU accession. It also reaffirms support for the Dayton Peace Agreement.

Agreement document [BA_220612_Political agreement on principles for ensuring a functional Bosnia and Herzegovina that advances on the European path.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [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, Preamble
The leaders of political parties represented in the Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliamentary Assembly reiterate their commitment to:
- preserving and building a peaceful, stable, sovereign and independent functional European state of Bosnia and Herzegovina comprised of Bosniacs, Croats and Serbs as constituent peoples (along with Others), and citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which consists of two entities and Brčko District, established in line with the Constitution and the General Framework Agreement for Peace;...

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, Preamble
The leaders of political parties represented in the Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliamentary Assembly reiterate their commitment to:
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State configuration Page 1, Preamble
The leaders of political parties represented in the Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliamentary Assembly reiterate their commitment to:
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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 No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed)

Governance→Political institutions (new or reformed)→General references

Page 1, Preamble

The leaders of political parties represented in the Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliamentary Assembly reiterate their commitment to:

- upholding the principle of the rule of law and conduct free and democratic elections as well as develop democratic institutions at all levels of government/authority;

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

Page 2,

The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:

5. Shall cooperate constructively after the vote to ensure the swift formation of new legislative and executive authorities at all levels of government in line with the legally prescribed deadlines.

Page 2-3,

The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:

13. Furthermore, with the aim for Bosnia and Herzegovina to deliver on a critical mass of reforms and advance decisively on its EU path, agree to take steps:

14. to ensure fully functioning institutions at Bosnia and Herzegovina level and ensure that decisions in line with Bosnia and Herzegovina level competences are taken at that level, and to undertake constructive dialogue following the elections on fundamental issues concerning the functioning of the country, including adoption of country-wide strategies in areas of shared competences, in line with the key priority requiring to ensure legal certainty on the distribution of competences across levels of government;

Elections

Page 1, Preamble

The leaders of political parties represented in the Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliamentary Assembly reiterate their commitment to:

- upholding the principle of the rule of law and conduct free and democratic elections as well as develop democratic institutions at all levels of government/authority;

Page 2,

The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:

4. Shall take all necessary steps for the General Elections 2022 to be organised efficiently and conducted in an orderly manner, with necessary means. The parties shall conduct the election campaign fairly, constructively, and free from divisive and hateful rhetoric.

Page 2,

The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:

7. Shall in this context, aim to urgently and no later than within 6 months from the formation of all authorities adopt:

11. electoral reforms and those limited constitutional reforms needed to ensure full compliance with the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights and the Bosnia and Herzegovina Constitutional Court, Venice Commission recommendations and OSCE/ODIHR and GRECO recommendations;

Electoral commission

No specific mention.

Political parties reform	No specific mention.
Civil society	No specific mention.
Traditional/religious leaders	No specific mention.
Public administration	<p>Page 2, The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency: 7. Shall in this context, aim to urgently and no later than within 6 months from the formation of all authorities adopt: 9. Law on Prevention of Conflict of Interest; 10. Public Procurement law;</p> <p>Page 3, The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency: 13. Furthermore, with the aim for Bosnia and Herzegovina to deliver on a critical mass of reforms and advance decisively on its EU path, agree to take steps: 16. towards improving the overall functioning of the public administration by ensuring professional and depoliticised civil service.</p>
Constitution	No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing	No specific mention.
Territorial power sharing	<p>Power sharing→Territorial power sharing→Federal or similar sub-divided government Page 2-3, The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency: 13. Furthermore, with the aim for Bosnia and Herzegovina to deliver on a critical mass of reforms and advance decisively on its EU path, agree to take steps: 14. to ensure fully functioning institutions at Bosnia and Herzegovina level and ensure that decisions in line with Bosnia and Herzegovina level competences are taken at that level, and to undertake constructive dialogue following the elections on fundamental issues concerning the functioning of the country, including adoption of country-wide strategies in areas of shared competences, in line with the key priority requiring to ensure legal certainty on the distribution of competences across levels of government;</p>
Economic power sharing	No specific mention.
Military power sharing	No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general Page 1, Preamble
The leaders of political parties represented in the Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliamentary Assembly reiterate their commitment to:
- upholding the principle of the rule of law and conduct free and democratic elections as well as develop democratic institutions at all levels of government/authority;

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	No specific mention.
Democracy	<p>Page 1, Preamble</p> <p>The leaders of political parties represented in the Bosnia and Herzegovina Parliamentary Assembly reiterate their commitment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- upholding the principle of the rule of law and conduct free and democratic elections as well as develop democratic institutions at all levels of government/authority;- the principles and values underlying the European Union and democratic societies and to Bosnia and Herzegovina's future within the European Union; <p>Page 2,</p> <p>The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Are committed to the prosperity, democratic functioning, and security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and pledge to constructively undertake necessary reforms to safeguard and advance these objectives.
Detention procedures	No specific mention.
Media and communication	No specific mention.
Mobility/access	No specific mention.
Protection measures	No specific mention.
Other	No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI	No specific mention.
Regional or international human rights institutions	<p>Rights institutions→Regional or international human rights institutions→Other</p> <p>Page 2,</p> <p>The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Shall in this context, aim to urgently and no later than within 6 months from the formation of all authorities adopt:11. electoral reforms and those limited constitutional reforms needed to ensure full compliance with the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights and the Bosnia and Herzegovina Constitutional Court, Venice Commission recommendations and OSCE/ODIHR and GRECO recommendations;

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts

Page 2,
The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:
3. Are committed to full adherence to all final and binding international and domestic court decisions, and working constructively together towards their good faith implementation, with the objective of ensuring compliance with European standards.

Page 2,
The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:
7. Shall in this context, aim to urgently and no later than within 6 months from the formation of all authorities adopt:
8. Law on Bosnia and Herzegovina High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council (HJPC) and Law on Courts;
9. Law on Prevention of Conflict of Interest;
10. Public Procurement law;
11. electoral reforms and those limited constitutional reforms needed to ensure full compliance with the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights and the Bosnia and Herzegovina Constitutional Court, Venice Commission recommendations and OSCE/ODIHR and GRECO recommendations;

Page 3,
The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:
13. Furthermore, with the aim for Bosnia and Herzegovina to deliver on a critical mass of reforms and advance decisively on its EU path, agree to take steps:
15. to strengthen the prevention and fight against corruption and organised crime, including by ensuring that law enforcement and judiciary can operate independently and have all the necessary means to establish a track record of proactive investigations, confirmed indictments, prosecutions and final convictions, including at high-level.

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,

The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:

7. Shall in this context, aim to urgently and no later than within 6 months from the formation of all authorities adopt:

12. measures to fully restore regular policy dialogue with the EU, including through the SAA structures and take all necessary steps for the country to benefit from EU funds under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA III), including by timely ratifying the Financial Framework and Partnership Agreement

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 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	<p>Page 2, The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency: 7. Shall in this context, aim to urgently and no later than within 6 months from the formation of all authorities adopt: 11. electoral reforms and those limited constitutional reforms needed to ensure full compliance with the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights and the Bosnia and Herzegovina Constitutional Court, Venice Commission recommendations and OSCE/ODIHR and GRECO recommendations</p> <p>Page 3, The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency: 13. Furthermore, with the aim for Bosnia and Herzegovina to deliver on a critical mass of reforms and advance decisively on its EU path, agree to take steps: 15. to strengthen the prevention and fight against corruption and organised crime, including by ensuring that law enforcement and judiciary can operate independently and have all the necessary means to establish a track record of proactive investigations, confirmed indictments, prosecutions and final convictions, including at high-level.</p>
Crime/organised crime	<p>Page 3, The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency: 13. Furthermore, with the aim for Bosnia and Herzegovina to deliver on a critical mass of reforms and advance decisively on its EU path, agree to take steps: 15. to strengthen the prevention and fight against corruption and organised crime, including by ensuring that law enforcement and judiciary can operate independently and have all the necessary means to establish a track record of proactive investigations, confirmed indictments, prosecutions and final convictions, including at high-level.</p>
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 Page 3,
The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:
18. Are committed to take concrete steps to promote an environment conducive to reconciliation in order to overcome the legacies of the war, in line with key priorities and with the Joint statement of the members of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Dayton Peace Agreement.

Implementation

UN signatory No specific mention.

Other international signatory Not signed, but agreement was made 'In the presence of the President of the European Council, Charles Michel, and the High Representative of the European Union, Josep Borrell'

Referendum for agreement No specific mention.

International mission/force/similar Page 2,
The political party leaders and the members of the Presidency:
2. Underline the importance of the extension of the EUFOR Althea executive mandate and its continued presence in Bosnia and Herzegovina to maintain a safe and secure environment.

Enforcement mechanism No specific mention.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source European Council
<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/06/12/political-agreement-on-principles-for-ensuring-a-functional-bosnia-and-herzegovina-that-advances-on-the-european-path/>
