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Country/ entity	Croatia Yugoslavia (former)
Region	Europe and Eurasia Europe and Eurasia
Agreement name	Agreement on the Normalization of Relations
Date	23 Aug 1996
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/ conflict level	Interstate/intrastate conflict(s) (Balkan Conflicts (1991 - 1995) (1998 - 2001))
Stage	Framework/substantive - partial
Conflict nature	Government/territory
Peace process	Croatia negotiation process
Parties	For the federal Republic of Yugoslavia: Milan Milutinovic, Federal minister for Foreign Affairs For the Republic of Croatia: Dr. Mate Granic, Vice-President of the Government and Minister for Foreign Affairs
Third parties	-
Description	This agreement on normalization of relations provides for: basic principles of independence, sovereignty and equality of states; mutual recognition; provision for missing persons; repatriation of refugees and displaced persons; human rights guarantees; and cooperation in various other matters.

Agreement document [HR_RS_960823_AgreementNormalizationRelationsYugoslaviaCroatia.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→Substantive Page 3, Article 8 The Contracting Parties shall guarantee the Croats in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Serbs and Montenegrins in the Republic of Croatia all rights they are entitled to under international law.
Religious groups	No specific mention.
Indigenous people	No specific mention.
Other groups	No specific mention.
Refugees/displaced persons	Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive Page 2, Article 7 The Contracting Parties shall ensure conditions for a free and safe return of refugees and displaced persons to their places of residence or other places which they freely choose. The Contracting Parties shall ensure to these persons return into possession of their property or a just compensation. The Contracting Parties shall ensure full security to the refugees and displaced persons who return. The Contracting Parties shall assist these persons to ensure necessary conditions for normal and safe life...
Social class	No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender	No specific mention.
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Men and boys No specific mention.

LGBTI No specific mention.

Family No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) Page 1, Article 1
The Contracting Parties shall respect each other as independent, sovereign and equal States within their international borders.

Page 1, Article 2
Each Contracting Party shall respect, in accordance with international law, the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the other Contracting Party. The Contracting Parties confirm that they shall carry out the regulation of their borders and the delimitation through mutual agreement only, that they shall solve disputes by peaceful means and refrain from threat or use of force in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The Contracting Parties shall seek to foster mutual confidence, good will and tolerance and shall cooperate in promoting peace, stability and development in the region.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/ secession Page 2, Article 5
Proceeding from the historical fact that Serbia and Montenegro existed as independent States before the creation of Yugoslavia, and bearing in mind the fact that Yugoslavia has continued the international legal personality of these States, the Republic of Croatia notes the existence of the State continuity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Proceeding from the historical fact of the existence of the various forms of statal organization of Croatia in the past, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia notes the existence of the continuity of the Croatian statehood. The Contracting Parties are agreed to solve the issue of the succession of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the basis of the rules of international law on succession of States and through agreement.

Accession/ unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation Page 1, Article 2
Each Contracting Party shall respect, in accordance with international law, the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the other Contracting Party. The Contracting Parties confirm that they shall carry out the regulation of their borders and the delimitation through mutual agreement only, that they shall solve disputes by peaceful means and refrain from threat or use of force in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The Contracting Parties shall seek to foster mutual confidence, good will and tolerance and shall cooperate in promoting peace, stability and development in the region.

Page 1-2, Article 4
The Contracting Parties are agreed to solve the disputed issue of Prevlaka through mutual negotiations. Thereby a contribution shall be made to the full security of the part of the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the Boka Kotorska Bay and the part of the territory of the Republic of Croatia in the area of the Dubrovnik region. The two Parties shall solve this important disputed issue through mutual negotiations in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations and good-neighbourliness. Until mutual agreement on Prevlaka is reached, the Contracting Parties are agreed to respect the existing security regime established through United Nations monitoring.

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 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 Page 1, Article 2
Each Contracting Party shall respect, in accordance with international law, the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the other Contracting Party. The Contracting Parties confirm that they shall carry out the regulation of their borders and the delimitation through mutual agreement only, that they shall solve disputes by peaceful means and refrain from threat or use of force in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The Contracting Parties shall seek to foster mutual confidence, good will and tolerance and shall cooperate in promoting peace, stability and development in the region.

Page 2, Article 7
...The Contracting Parties shall declare general amnesty for all acts committed in connection with the armed conflicts, except for the gravest violations of humanitarian law having the nature of war crimes...

Page 3, Article 8
The Contracting Parties shall guarantee the Croats in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Serbs and Montenegrins in the Republic of Croatia all rights they are entitled to under international law.

Civil and political rights No specific mention.

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship Rights related issues→Citizenship→Citizens, specific rights
Page 3, Article 7
...Each Contracting Party shall guarantee the same legal protection to the property of physical persons and legal entities having the citizenship of the other Party, that is, being seated in the territory of the other Party, as the one enjoyed by its own citizens, that is, its legal entities.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication Rights related issues→Media and communication→Media roles
Page 3, Article 12
The Contracting Parties shall continue to promote post, telephone and other telecommunications.

Mobility/access Page 3, Article 10
The Contracting Parties shall continue to cooperate in normalizing road, railway, air and river traffic on the basis of the principle of reciprocity and good-neighbourliness.

Page 3, Article 11
Internal regulations in force concerning the stay and movement of foreigners shall be applied without discrimination to the entry, movement and stay of the citizens and vehicles of one Contracting Party in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

Protection measures No specific mention.

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 Land, property and environment→Land reform/rights→Property return and restitution
Page 2, Article 7
The Contracting Parties shall ensure conditions for a free and safe return of refugees and displaced persons to their places of residence or other places which they freely choose. The Contracting Parties shall ensure to these persons return into possession of their property or a just compensation...

Page 3, Article 7
...Each Contracting Party shall guarantee the same legal protection to the property of physical persons and legal entities having the citizenship of the other Party, that is, being seated in the territory of the other Party, as the one enjoyed by its own citizens, that is, its legal entities. Within six months from the date of the entry into force of this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall conclude an agreement on compensation for all destroyed, damaged or lost property. Such agreement shall define the procedures for the realization of the rights to fair compensation which shall not include court proceedings. For the purpose of implementing the obligations under this article, a joint commission, consisting of three representatives of each Contracting Party, shall be established within 30 days from the signing of this Agreement.

Pastoralist/ nomadism rights No specific mention.

Cultural heritage	Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Promotion Page 4, Article 13 ...The Contracting Parties shall immediately conclude an agreement on cultural cooperation which shall include the preservation and restoration of cultural heritage.
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Environment	No specific mention.
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Water or riparian rights or access	No specific mention.
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Security sector

Security Guarantees	No specific mention.
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Ceasefire	No specific mention.
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Police	No specific mention.
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Armed forces	No specific mention.
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DDR	No specific mention.
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Intelligence services	No specific mention.
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Parastatal/ rebel and opposition group forces	No specific mention.
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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 Transitional justice→Amnesty/pardon→Amnesty/pardon proper
Page 2, Article 7
...The Contracting Parties shall declare general amnesty for all acts committed in connection with the armed conflicts, except for the gravest violations of humanitarian law having the nature of war crimes...

Courts No specific mention.

Mechanism No specific mention.

Prisoner release No specific mention.

Vetting No specific mention.

Victims	No specific mention.
Missing persons	Page 2, Article 6 The Contracting Parties undertake to speed up forthwith the process of solving the questions of missing persons, and both Contracting Parties shall immediately exchange all available information about these persons.
Reparations	Transitional justice→Reparations→Material reparations Page 3, Article 7 ...Within six months from the date of the entry into force of this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall conclude an agreement on compensation for all destroyed, damaged or lost property. Such agreement shall define the procedures for the realization of the rights to fair compensation which shall not include court proceedings...
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 2, Article 4 ...Until mutual agreement on Prevlaka is reached, the Contracting Parties are agreed to respect the existing security regime established through United Nations monitoring.
Enforcement mechanism	Page 3, Article 7 ...For the purpose of implementing the obligations under this article, a joint commission, consisting of three representatives of each Contracting Party, shall be established within 30 days from the signing of this Agreement.

Related cases No specific mention.

Source UN Peacemaker
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