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| Country/entity | Bosnia and Herzegovina Yugoslavia (former) |
| Region | Europe and Eurasia |
| Agreement name | Decisions on Mostar of 12 February 1997 |
| Date | 12 Feb 1997 |
| Agreement status | Multiparty signed/agreed |
| Interim arrangement | Yes |

Agreement/conflict level Intrastate/local 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/territory |
| Peace process | Bosnia peace process |
| Parties | President Izetbegovic, President Zubak, Co-Chairman Silajdzic, Vice-Chairman Tomic, Foreign Minister Prlic, Croatian Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina (HDZ) President Rajic, Democratic Action Party (SDA) Vice-President and Prime Minister Bicakcic, Mostar Mayor Prskalo and Deputy Mayor Orucevic |
| Third parties | The meeting was chaired by the Principal Deputy High Representative, Mr. Michael Steiner. Also present were the Commander of the Stabilization Force (SFOR), General Crouch, Acting Police Commissioner Wasserman and Head of the Office of the High Representative South, Sir Martin Garrod. |
| Description | This agreement aims to fully implement existing Federation agreements, and to address recent tensions, violence and displacement in Mostar. It provides for the International Police Task Force (IPTF) to investigate and cooperate with the Stabilization Force (SFOR) to provide security and guarantee freedom of movement for residents. |

Agreement document [BA_970912_Decisions on Mostar.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Local agreement properties

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Process type | Formal structured process |
| Rationale | Although the talks were related to an isolated issue of violence in Mostar, the talks were held under the auspices of the Office of the High Representative, with parties who had previously engaged in formal signed agreements and talks. |
| Is there a documented link to a national peace process? | Yes |
| Link to national process: articulated rationale | The agreement makes reference to ongoing national processes to implement the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including the the Mostar provisions of the Agreed Measures of the Federation Forum of 3 February. |
| Name of Locale | Mostar |
| Nature of Locale | City |
| GPS Lat/Long (DD) | 43.344127, 17.810621 |

Participant type Central state actor
Local state actor
International or transnational actor
Regional state actor

Mediator, facilitator or similar Mediator or similar referred to

Mediator (references) The meeting was chaired by the Principal Deputy High Representative, Mr. Michael Steiner.

Type of mediator/facilitator/similar International or transnational actor

Local issues

Ritual/prayer and process (including use of scripture) No specific mention.

Grievance List Page 1, Untitled preamble
The participants condemned in strongest terms the violent acts committed in Mostar and all provocative acts preceding the present crisis. They equally condemned the evictions of Mostar citizens and the harassments on the road to and from Mostar which followed the events of Monday. They deeply deplored the bloodshed and the loss of life of Mostar citizens. They expressed their condolences to the bereaved and sympathy to those who were injured.

Cattle rustling/ banditry No specific mention.

Social cover Page 1, 2. The participants committed themselves personally to ensure that IPTF will receive all available evidence and that police forces will cooperate fully and in good faith in the conduct of the investigation. Local police shall comply with all demands by the investigation team and will assist IPTF in all stages of the investigations, including by making all persons immediately available for interviews by the investigators. The operational responsibility for the provision of the evidence to IPTF lies with the Mayor and his Deputy.

Page 1-2, 3. The participants agreed that they would accept and endorse the report by IPTF in full and that they would draw the necessary conclusions from it, in particular the following:
(a) Perpetrators will be arrested and brought to trial;
(b) Office holders, including police, found responsible of instigating or participating in violent acts will be dismissed from their offices.
