

# The General Framework Agreement

## The General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (the "Parties"),

**Recognizing** the need for a comprehensive settlement to bring an end to the tragic conflict in the region,

**Desiring** to contribute toward that end and to promote an enduring peace and stability,

**Affirming** their commitment to the Agreed Basic Principles issued on September 8, 1995, the Further Agreed Basic Principles issued on September 26, 1995, and the cease-fire agreements of September 14 and October 5, 1995,

**Noting** the agreement of August 29, 1995, which authorized the delegation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to sign, on behalf of the Republika Srpska, the parts of the peace plan concerning it, with the obligation to implement the agreement that is reached strictly and consequently,

Have agreed as follows:

### Article I

The Parties shall conduct their relations in accordance with the principles set forth in the [United Nations Charter](#), as well as the Helsinki Final Act and other documents of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. In

particular, the Parties shall fully respect the sovereign equality of one another, shall settle disputes by peaceful means, and shall refrain from any action, by threat or use of force or otherwise, against the territorial integrity or political independence of Bosnia and Herzegovina or any other State.

## **Article II**

The Parties welcome and endorse the arrangements that have been made concerning the military aspects of the peace settlement and aspects of regional stabilization, as set forth in the Agreements at [Annex 1-A](#) and [Annex 1-B](#). The Parties shall fully respect and promote fulfillment of the commitments made in Annex 1-A, and shall comply fully with their commitments as set forth in Annex 1-B.

## **Article III**

The Parties welcome and endorse the arrangements that have been made concerning the boundary demarcation between the two Entities, the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska, as set forth in the Agreement at [Annex 2](#). The Parties shall fully respect and promote fulfillment of the commitments made therein.

## **Article IV**

The Parties welcome and endorse the elections program for Bosnia and Herzegovina as set forth in [Annex 3](#). The Parties shall fully respect and promote fulfillment of that program.

## **Article V**

The Parties welcome and endorse the arrangements that have been made concerning the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as set forth in [Annex 4](#). The Parties shall fully respect and promote fulfillment of the commitments made therein.

## Article VI

The Parties welcome and endorse the arrangements that have been made concerning the establishment of an arbitration tribunal, a Commission on Human Rights, a Commission on Refugees and Displaced Persons, a Commission to Preserve National Monuments, and Bosnia and Herzegovina Public Corporations, as set forth in the Agreements at [Annexes 5-9](#). The Parties shall fully respect and promote fulfillment of the commitments made therein.

## Article VII

Recognizing that the observance of human rights and the protection of refugees and displaced persons are of vital importance in achieving a lasting peace, the Parties agree to and shall comply fully with the provisions concerning human rights set forth in Chapter One of the Agreement at [Annex 6](#), as well as the provisions concerning refugees and displaced persons set forth in Chapter One of the Agreement at [Annex 7](#).

## Article VIII

The Parties welcome and endorse the arrangements that have been made concerning the implementation of this peace settlement, including in particular those pertaining to the civilian (non-military) implementation, as set forth in the Agreement at [Annex 10](#), and the international police task force, as set forth in the Agreement at [Annex 11](#). The Parties shall fully respect and promote fulfillment of the commitments made therein.

## Article IX

The Parties shall cooperate fully with all entities involved in implementation of this peace settlement, as described in the Annexes to this Agreement, or which are otherwise authorized by the United Nations Security Council, pursuant to the obligation of all Parties to cooperate in the investigation and prosecution of war crimes and other violations of international humanitarian law.

## Article X

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina recognize each other as sovereign independent States within their international borders. Further aspects of their mutual recognition will be subject to subsequent discussions.

## Article XI

This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature.

DONE at Paris, this 14 day of December, 1995, in the Bosnian, Croatian, English and Serbian languages, each text being equally authentic.

For the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

For the Republic of Croatia

For the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

### **Witnessed by:**

European Union Special Negotiator

For the French Republic

For the Federal Republic of Germany

For the Russian Federation

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

For the United States of America

## Annexes

[Annex 1-A:](#) Agreement on Military Aspects of the Peace Settlement

[Annex 1-B:](#) Agreement on Regional Stabilization

[Annex 2:](#) Agreement on Inter-Entity Boundary Line and Related Issues

[Annex 3:](#) Agreement on Elections

[Annex 4:](#) Constitution

[Annex 5:](#) Agreement on Arbitration

[Annex 6:](#) Agreement on Human Rights

[Annex 7:](#) Agreement on Refugees and Displaced Persons

[Annex 8:](#) Agreement on the Commission to Preserve National Monuments

[Annex 9:](#) Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina Public Corporations

[Annex 10:](#) Agreement on Civilian Implementation

[Annex 11:](#) Agreement on International Police Task Force

**Office of the High Representative**