

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 356

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) should stop the utilization of materials that violate provisions of the United Nations-brokered Interim Agreement between the FYROM and Greece regarding “hostile activities or propaganda” and should work with the United Nations and Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals of finding a mutually-acceptable official name for the FYROM.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 1, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. GALLEGLY, and Mr. BILIRAKIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) should stop the utilization of materials that violate provisions of the United Nations-brokered Interim Agreement between the FYROM and Greece regarding “hostile activities or propaganda” and should work with the United Nations and Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals of finding a mutually-acceptable official name for the FYROM.

Whereas on April 8, 1993, the United Nations General Assembly admitted as a member the Former Yugoslav Re-

public of Macedonia (FYROM), under the name the “Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”;

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 817 (1993) states that the dispute over the name must be resolved to maintain peaceful relations between Greece and the FYROM;

Whereas on September 13, 1995, Greece and the FYROM signed a United Nations-brokered Interim Accord that, among other things, commits them to not “support claims to any part of the territory of the other party or claims for a change of their existing frontiers”;

Whereas a pre-eminent goal of the United Nations Interim Accord was to stop the FYROM from utilizing, since its admittance to the United Nations in 1993, what the Accord calls, “propaganda”, including in school textbooks;

Whereas a television report in recent years showed students in a state-run school in the FYROM still being taught that parts of Greece, including Greek Macedonia, are rightfully part of the FYROM;

Whereas some textbooks, including the Military Academy textbook published in 2004 by the Military Academy “General Mihailo Apostolski” in the FYROM capital city, contain maps showing that a “Greater Macedonia” extends many miles south into Greece to Mount Olympus and miles east to Mount Pirin in Bulgaria;

Whereas in direct contradiction of the spirit of the United Nations Interim Accord’s section “A”, entitled “Friendly Relations and Confidence Building Measures”, which attempts to eliminate challenges regarding “historic and cultural patrimony”, the Government of FYROM recently

renamed the capital city's international airport "Alexander the Great";

Whereas the aforementioned acts constitute a breach of the FYROM's international obligations deriving from the spirit of the United Nations Interim Accord, which provides that FYROM should abstain from any form of "propaganda" against Greece's historical or cultural heritage;

Whereas such acts are not compatible with the Article 10 of the United Nations Interim Accord regarding "improving understanding and good neighbourly relations", as well as with European standards and values endorsed by European Union member-states; and

Whereas this information, like that exposed in the media report and elsewhere, being used contrary to the United Nations Interim Accord instills hostility and a rationale for irredentism in portions of the population of the FYROM toward Greece and the history of Greece: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) urges the Former Yugoslav Republic of
3 Macedonia (FYROM) to observe its obligations
4 under Article 7 of the 1995 United Nations-brokered
5 Interim Accord which directs the parties to "promptly
6 take effective measures to prohibit hostile activities
7 or propaganda by state-controlled agencies and
8 to discourage acts by private entities likely to incite
9 violence, hatred or hostility" and review the contents

1 of textbooks, maps, and teaching aids to ensure that
2 such tools are stating accurate information; and

3 (2) urges the FYROM to work within the
4 framework of the United Nations process with
5 Greece to achieve longstanding United States and
6 United Nations policy goals by reaching a mutually-
7 acceptable official name for the FYROM.

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