

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 309

Expressing the sense of the Senate that Bosnia and Herzegovina should be congratulated on the 10th anniversary of its recognition by the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 26, 2002

Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, and Mr. SARBANES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

AUGUST 1, 2002

Reported by Mr. BIDEN, without amendment and with an amendment to the preamble

[Insert the part printed in *italic*]

SEPTEMBER 10, 2002

Considered, amended, and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that Bosnia and Herzegovina should be congratulated on the 10th anniversary of its recognition by the United States.

Whereas the United States reaffirms its support for the sovereignty, legal continuity, and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders and also reaffirms its support for the equality of the three constituent peoples and others in Bosnia and Herzegovina in a united multiethnic country, according to

the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Whereas, during the 10 years since its recognition, Bosnia and Herzegovina has made significant progress in overcoming the legacy of the internecine conflict of 1992–1995 instigated by ultranationalist forces hostile to a multiethnic society, and has persevered in building a multiethnic democracy based on the rule of law, respect for human rights, and a free market economy, as shown by the results of the elections held in November 2000;

Whereas most citizens and the national authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina share the democratic values of the international community and feel the responsibility to uphold them;

Whereas the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina is committed to international security and democratic stability and in that spirit has begun discussions to initiate the process of qualifying for membership in the Partnership for Peace; and

Whereas, after the attacks of September 11, 2001 on the United States, Bosnia and Herzegovina, as a reliable friend of the United States, immediately positioned itself within the anti-terrorism coalition of nations, sharing the common interests and values of the free and democratic world: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) commends Bosnia and Herzegovina for the
3 significant progress it has made during the past dec-
4 ade on the implementation of the Dayton Peace
5 Agreement and on the implementation of the Con-

1 stituent Peoples' Decision of the Constitutional
2 Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

3 (2) applauds the democratic orientation of Bos-
4 nia and Herzegovina and urges the further strength-
5 ening by its government and people of respect for
6 human rights, of the rule of law, and of its free mar-
7 ket economy;

8 (3) urges Bosnia and Herzegovina as rapidly as
9 possible to make fully operational all national insti-
10 tutions and state-level governmental bodies man-
11 dated by the Dayton Peace Agreement;

12 (4) welcomes and supports the aspiration of
13 Bosnia and Herzegovina to become a member of the
14 Partnership for Peace and, pursuant thereto, under-
15 scores the importance of creating a joint military
16 command as soon as possible;

17 (5) urges the Government of Bosnia and
18 Herzegovina to accelerate the return of refugees and
19 displaced persons and to intensify its cooperation
20 with the International Criminal Tribunal for the
21 former Yugoslavia at The Hague, in particular with
22 regard to surrendering to the Court individuals in-
23 dicted for war crimes;

24 (6) reaffirms the importance for the future of
25 Bosnia and Herzegovina of that country's participa-

1 tion in the European integration process and, in
2 that context, welcomes the notable improvement in
3 mutual cooperation among the successor states of
4 the former Yugoslavia and the strengthening of co-
5 operation within the region as a whole, developments
6 which are essential for long-lasting peace and sta-
7 bility in Southeastern Europe; and
8 (7) recognizes the important role of the Bos-
9 nian-Herzegovinian-American community in the fur-
10 ther improving of bilateral relations between the
11 United States and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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