

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 225

Commemorating the 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the  
United States and Bulgaria.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2003

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LIEBERMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

SEPTEMBER 17, 2003

Committee discharged; considered and agreed to

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## RESOLUTION

Commemorating the 100th anniversary of diplomatic  
relations between the United States and Bulgaria.

Whereas the United States established diplomatic relations  
with the Republic of Bulgaria on September 19, 1903;

Whereas the United States acknowledges the courage of the  
Bulgarian people in deciding to pursue a free, democratic,  
and independent Bulgaria and the steadfast perseverance of the  
Bulgarian people in building a society based on democratic values,  
the rule of law, respect for human rights, and a free market economy;

Whereas the Bulgarian people, including Bulgarian civil and  
religious leaders, bravely protected 50,000 Bulgarian

Jews from deportation and extermination during the Holocaust;

Whereas Bulgaria has supported stability in the Balkans by rendering support to Operation Allied Force and Operation Joint Guardian led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and by providing peacekeeping troops to the Stabilisation Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina and to the Kosovo Force in Kosovo;

Whereas Bulgaria was among the very first countries to denounce terrorism and pledge active support to the United States in the fight against terrorism following the events of September 11, 2001;

Whereas Bulgaria provided overflight and basing rights at the town of Burgas for Operation Enduring Freedom and Bulgaria deployed a military unit to Afghanistan as part of the International Security Assistance Force;

Whereas Bulgaria has stood firmly by the United States in the cause of advancing freedom worldwide during its tenure as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council;

Whereas Bulgaria met each request of the United States relating to overflight and basing rights as well as transit of United States and coalition forces, and deployed a 500-man infantry battalion as part of a stabilization force in Iraq;

Whereas in November 2002, Bulgaria was invited to accession talks with NATO and has shown determination in enacting the continued reforms necessary to be a productive, contributing member of the Alliance;

Whereas Bulgaria strongly supports the strengthening of trans-Atlantic relations and considers the relations to be

a basis for NATO unity and cooperation in countering new threats to global security; and

Whereas in May 2003, the Senate gave its consent with 96 votes to 0 for the ratification of the accession protocols of Bulgaria and 6 other aspirant countries from Central and Eastern Europe to NATO, thereby welcoming their contribution to common trans-Atlantic security: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) recognizes the 100 years of diplomatic rela-  
3       tions between the United States and Bulgaria;

4               (2) commends the Republic of Bulgaria for de-  
5       veloping increasingly friendly and broadly based re-  
6       lations with the United States, which are now the  
7       most favorable in the history of United States-Bul-  
8       garia relations;

9               (3) recognizes Bulgaria's continued contribu-  
10      tions towards bringing peace, stability, and pros-  
11      perity to the region of southeastern Europe, includ-  
12      ing the contributions of Bulgaria to regional security  
13      and democratic stability;

14              (4) salutes Bulgaria's willing cooperation and  
15      increasingly vital role as a valuable ally in the war  
16      against international terrorism;

17              (5) highlights the importance of Bulgaria's ac-  
18      tive participation in regional initiatives such as the  
19      Stability Pact for Southeast Europe, the Southeast

1 Europe Cooperative Initiative, and the Southeast  
2 Europe Cooperation Process, and the various  
3 projects of those initiatives, which are focused on  
4 fighting crime and corruption, increasing trade, im-  
5 proving the investment climate, and generally pre-  
6 paring Bulgaria and Southeast Europe as a whole  
7 for eventual membership in the European Union;  
8 and

9 (6) encourages opportunities for greater co-  
10 operation between the United States and Bulgaria in  
11 the political, military, economic, and cultural  
12 spheres.

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