

Recommendation 1175 (1992)¹

Situation in Yugoslavia

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Assembly supports all efforts to re-establish peace on the territory of the former Federal Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia and deplores that thousands were killed and tens of thousands were wounded or became refugees in a senseless war.
2. It reiterates its call of 21 September 1991 ([Resolution 969](#)) to guarantee respect for the right to self-determination of the peoples of Yugoslavia through recognition.
3. The Assembly calls upon those states which still have reservations to follow the example of the European Community and establish diplomatic relations with the new sovereign republics of Croatia and Slovenia.
4. It appeals to the peoples of the former Yugoslavia not only to refrain from the use of armed force, but also to try to work together after the separation.
5. It expects from the Council of Europe member states that they increase their efforts in order to assist in establishing peace in this part of Europe.
6. It undertakes to clarify the relationship between the new states and the Council of Europe and to grant special guest status, as appropriate, to the parliaments of the various republics.
7. The Assembly expects from the newly-recognised republics, as well as those aspiring to recognition :
 - 7.1. that they establish a political order in the former Yugoslavia in which the principles of the European Convention on Human Rights will be constitutionally guaranteed ;
 - 7.2. that they base this order on the principle of parliamentary democracy, whose irreplaceable core is constituted by free elections with secret ballot and universal suffrage, held at reasonable intervals and contested by political parties with freedom to organise and express themselves ;
 - 7.3. that they guarantee to the minorities living on their territory the right to give free expression to their identity and be granted cultural and political autonomy ;
 - 7.4. that they agree to settle their differences exclusively by peaceful means and to accept existing borders in Europe as laid down in CSCE instruments ;
 - 7.5. that they accept the competence of a European body or the International Court of Justice to give rulings on possible border conflicts.
8. The Assembly therefore recommends that the Committee of Ministers :
 - 8.1. pay particular attention to the contested areas in Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia (Kosovo and Vojvodina) and inform the Assembly on developments there ;
 - 8.2. organise, together with the Assembly, a colloquy bringing together the parties to the conflict and neighbouring states, which could, by dealing among other things with the question of contested borders, contribute to the establishment of a stable basis for peace ;

1. Assembly debate on 5 February 1992 (22nd Sitting) (see [Doc. 6559](#), report of the Political Affairs Committee, Rapporteur : Mr Reddemann). Text adopted by the Assembly on 5 February 1992 (22nd Sitting).



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8.3. give all possible support to efforts to provide Europe with the means necessary to keep the peace, in accordance with the conclusions of the European Council held in Maastricht (9 and 10 December 1991).