

ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Recommendation 1954 (2011)¹

Final version

Reconciliation and political dialogue between the countries of the former Yugoslavia

Parliamentary Assembly

1. Referring to its Resolution 1786 (2011) on reconciliation and political dialogue between the countries of the former Yugoslavia, the Parliamentary Assembly is of the view that the goal of full reconciliation between these countries is closely intertwined with the successful resolution of a number of pending issues which still jeopardise efforts for stabilisation in the region, notably missing persons, prosecution for war crimes, refugees and internally displaced persons, and border disputes.

2. The Assembly also believes that it is critical to promote and support a public discourse about the war that departs from nationalist rhetoric, in particular in the education of the younger generations.

3. The Assembly therefore recommends that the Committee of Ministers:

3.1. strongly urge all member states of the Council of Europe to continue to provide financial assistance to turn existing action plans aimed at finding a durable solution for refugees and internally displaced persons into concrete action;

3.2. provide all necessary assistance to and support for the work carried out by the Council of Europe schools of political studies, especially in Belgrade, Pristina and Sarajevo, in engaging political and other elites in dialogue and intensifying efforts in the region with a view to fostering co-operation on all outstanding issues and strengthening the multi-ethnic character of these circles;

3.3. foster cultural change by supporting the work carried out by local actors, researchers and NGOs aimed at developing a more pluralistic and shared view of past and recent events, and consider the possibility of organising a round table with recognised historians from the region around some key dates in history;

3.4. continue to support the relevant work done by the Council of Europe in conflict and post-conflict regions on the revision and development of textbooks and teacher manuals,

the organisation of teacher seminars and source material identification, and consider expanding such activities to other areas;

3.5. encourage the governments of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia to actively support the establishment of a regional truth and reconciliation commission;

3.6. ensure full and rapid execution of the judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the case of *Sejdić and Finci v. Bosnia and Herzegovina*;

3.7. maintain the issue of non-discrimination and protection of national minorities on the agenda, especially when it reviews the honouring of obligations and co-operation activities with the Council of Europe of all the countries of the former Yugoslavia concerned by the present report.

1. Assembly debate on 26 January 2011 (5th and 6th Sitings) (see [Doc. 12461](#), report of the Political Affairs Committee, rapporteur: Mr Marcenaro). Text adopted by the Assembly on 26 January 2011 (6th Sitting).