

KALMUN'24

***HISTORICAL UNITED NATIONS SECURITY
COUNCIL***

Agenda Item I: Yugoslav Wars

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2. Letter From Secretariat

Dear Esteemed Delegates and Honorable Advisors,

It is with immense pleasure and great honor that we extend a heartfelt welcome to all participants of the 10th session of KALMUN.

Our team, with unwavering dedication and passion, has once again devoted countless hours to curate an unparalleled Model United Nations experience. As acknowledged by the United Nations Secretariat, our mission at KALMUN is clear: to equip each and every one of you with the knowledge necessary to shape a future characterized by solidarity, prosperity, and lasting peace.

Model United Nations conferences offer an unparalleled opportunity for students to delve into the complexities of global affairs, to share their ideas, and to engage in constructive dialogue with their peers. At KALMUN, we recognize the transformative power of this experience, and we are committed to providing a platform where students can refine their diplomatic skills, articulate their perspectives, and collaborate effectively towards innovative solutions.

In preparation for this year's conference, the academic team at KALMUN has studied international history and politics to identify agenda items that are not only relevant and distinctive but also aligned with the principles of the UN Charter and fundamental human rights. Our theme, "UN|foreseen consequences," underscores the importance of addressing the unforeseen challenges that confront our world today, and we are confident that our agenda items will inspire fruitful debate and meaningful dialogue.

Furthermore, our academic team has developed comprehensive study guides and provided the chairboard with the necessary tools to facilitate engaging and productive discussions. We are committed to ensuring that each delegate has the support and resources they need to make the most of their KALMUN experience.

As we embark on this journey together, let us embrace the spirit of collaboration, empathy, and understanding that lies at the heart of the MUN community. Together, we have the power to effect positive change and build a brighter future for generations to come.

Once again, welcome to KALMUN'24. We are excited to embark on this journey with you and look forward to the inspiring discussions and meaningful connections that lie ahead. We hope that you are as excited as we are.

Sincerely,

KALMUN'24 Secretariat

2. INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) was established as a principal organ under the United Nations to promote international security and peace.

The primary responsibility of UNSC is identifying global threats or acts of aggression and taking necessary actions to both prevent the potential threats and resolve ongoing conflicts through diplomatic means and peacekeeping operations.



The UNSC includes 15 member states, 5 permanent members (P5) and 10 non-permanent members elected by The General Assembly for two years period as we see detailed in [Article 23. paragraph 2 of UN Charter.](#)

“The non-permanent members of the Security Council shall be elected for a term of two years. In the first election of the non-permanent members after the increase of the membership of the Security Council from eleven to fifteen, two of the four additional members shall be chosen for a term of one year. A retiring member shall not be eligible for immediate re-election.”

The P5 countries are France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, China and the United States. P5 has the veto power which gives them the authority to restrain a resolution by not being in favor of it. It means an against vote from a P5 country is enough to make a resolution paper nonaccepted by the council.

Observer states may participate in a session of the Council by invitation. Broadening the perspectives or the country's involvement in the conflict may be the main reasons for an observer country's attendance. Even though observer countries are able to submit clauses, they do not have voting rights on resolution papers.

In KALMUN'24, the delegates of UNSC will be gathered to entertain the Yugoslav Wars in different perspectives and form an alternative history by starting from the date of **1994 June**. This session of UNSC will include **5+10 member states and two observer states**.

3. INTRODUCTION TO THE AGENDA ITEM

a. Key Words

Confederation: A political union of sovereign states united for purposes of common action.

Yugoslav People's Army(JNA): It was the military force of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia since 1945.

UNPA(United Nations Protected Areas): Demilitarized areas for the civilians affected by the conflict. It was established by the UNSC to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid during the Yugoslav War and to prevent further damage to civilians.

Bosnian Serbs: Ethnic Serbs who live in Bosnia and Herzegovina. They were hugely involved in the conflict and their presence had essential results in the area. Mainly they were up against the threat of ethnic cleansing. During the war they were allies with the Serbian Government, with the goal of having a Serb-dominated state.

Fikret Abdić: He is a Bosnian businessman and politician who gained fame during the war after being the founder of the Autonomous Province of Western Bosnia. He was aligned with Bosnian Serbs troops and declared autonomy from the government in Sarajevo.

Contact Group: A group includes USA, Russia, France, Britain, and Germany in it, constituted in order to find a way to negotiate about the conflict in Bosnia.

Ethnic Cleansing: Systematic elimination of an ethnic, religious groups from a society -massacare or genocide-.

b. Timeline

May 1980: The death of Josip Broz Tito who served as prime minister(1944–1963), president (1953–1980) led to increased problems between ethnic groups as it spread to politics too. The Yugoslav economy starts to collapse, resulting in increased unemployment and inflation. They caused the beginning of the dissolution of the Yugoslav.

1985: Beginning of the Soviet Union dissolution, makes the threats disappear in Yugoslavia, like the other European countries. Afterwards Yugoslav states did not have a reason to stay together for a possible impact from the threats anymore. A block for independence is removed.

1990: After the election of nationalist parties in all regions but Bosnia and Herzegovina, governments as well as the local people supported the idea of declaration of independence except Serbia and Montenegro. Rise of nationalism creates multiple rebellions and protests around the whole region.

January 1991: Several unsuccessful negotiations were held between the republics. Croatia's and Slovenia's constitutions are being amended to contain the right of independence from Yugoslav.

25 June 1991: Slovenia and Croatia declare independence.

27 June 1991: JNA invades Sloven territory. Ten-day-war erupts and is concluded as Sloven forces victory, however both Slovenia and Croatia postponed their independence for three months.

September 1991: Croatian War of Independence breaks out between JNA and Croatian forces. Croatia calls for support from the UN. The UN decides to impose an arms embargo on Yugoslavia.

December 1991: The Serbs in Croatia proclaims the invaded area as the Republic of Serbian Krajina, but remains unrecognized by any country except Serbia.

January 1992: Macedonia declares independence peacefully. No war erupts in this area. Vance Peace Plan signed. 4 UNPA zones created in Serb-claimed territories.

April 1992: Bosnia and Herzegovina holds a referendum upon independence. With almost an absolute majority, civilians choose to be independent. Bosnia declared independence and the Bosnian War began with the firing on Sarajevo caused by forces of Bosnian Serbs and following attacks by the JNA.

May 1992: After the request of UNSC the Yugoslav army retreated from Bosnia and Herzegovina, leaving a significant part of its military equipment to Bosnian Serb forces. The United Nations decides to implement sanctions on Serbia and recognizes Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina as member states.

Summer of 1992: Bosnian Serbs succeed their attempt and they have nearly the %70 of the region under their control. Huge refugee problem occurs as the outcome of this event.

January 1993: Because of the votes of Bosnian Serbs, Serbia withdraws with their signature from the previously signed Vance-Owen Peace Plan.

March 1993: War between Bosniaks and Croats shows up due to disagreements in ethnic and political differences as well as territorial disputes.

September 1993: People who follow Fikret Abdić starts fighting against Bosnian Government in the Bihać region.

March 1994: The Bosniaks and Croats signed a peace treaty, Washington Agreement, which was mediated by the United States.

February-October 1994: Contact Group works continually to achieve a negotiated settlement, despite their efforts they are unable to finalize their agreement.



4. Details of the War

a. Ten-Day-War

The war erupted between Slovenian Territorial Defense with the support of Slovene Police and JNA. As it took the name from, the war only lasted 10 days and concluded with Brioni Accords on behalf of Slovenia.

b. Croatian War of Independence

After the declaration of independence, JNA tried to keep Croatia in Yugoslavia borders by occupying all territory however failed. Serb troops in Croatia established the self-proclaimed proto-state Republic of Serbian Krajina (RSK). Since 1994 they have been enlarging their occupied areas, now they have almost a quarter of all Croatia under their regime. While SFR Yugoslavia has roughly eight and a half thousands casualties Croatia has more than 15.000 losses. The total number of displaced people is close to 300.000.



c. Bosnian War of Independence

As well as in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina hosted several Serb Autonomous Regions in their borders. VRS backed by JNA, launched operations to declare Serb territories and caused widespread violence in the whole country. Bosnian military forces along with various paramilitary groups, launched counter attacks and the war lasted for years- has begun. In the following years the UNSC imposed embargoes on Serbia and the UN declared 'safe areas' which were intended to be protected in Bosnia by UN troops. Several peace plans were proposed but mainly rejected. Despite these attempts to bring an end to the violence, the conflict continued to escalate.

5. Background of Breakup of Yugoslavia

a. Bosnia's Population Affects

According to the nationwide census in 1991, the numbers of ethnicities in Bosnia and Herzegovina are; %44 of Muslim Bosniaks, %32 of Serbs, %17 of Croats and %7 of the rest of the minorities. This multi-ethnicity in Bosnia increased the tensions that existed before, as the result of nationalist aspirations, historical disputes upon the request of rights and manipulation of society, between different groups. Presence of several ethnic groups made it easier to develop ethnic cleansing campaigns by nationalist forces and opened a clear way to create an uproar by making variant ethnic groups be against each other and work for opposed blocks in the same region.

b. Political Unsteadiness



The death of the long-time president of Yugoslavia reappeared the problems between six republics in the federation and even caused more political instability. Selection of a new manipulative and nationalist leader in Serbia, made the idea of creating a “Greater Serbia” return. The representatives of Vojvodina, Kosovo and Montenegro were replaced with the

loyalists of the President of Serbia. As a result Serbia gained half of the votes in the federal presidency which means a significant influence in decision-making progress. This companion allowed Serbia under the leadership of Milošević, to advocate centralized federation which is dominated by Serbia. After that Serbia and Montenegro defended to maintain the existing governance system however Bosnia, Croatia, Slovenia and Macedonia supported the idea of confederalism. Also replacement was one of the non-acceptable situations for the other republics and was an essential reason for the war.

c. Economical Disputes

The economic crisis breaks out in the whole region. While the northern side of the country-Slovenia and Croatia- had a more developed economy rather than the southern block. Both countries were putting efforts to increase the welfare level of the country and the republics in the south believed they could overcome this crisis. The economic difference became clearer and it resulted in multiple disagreements. Even the debts requested from the International Money Fund(IMF) weren't enough to solve the crisis.

d. External Factors

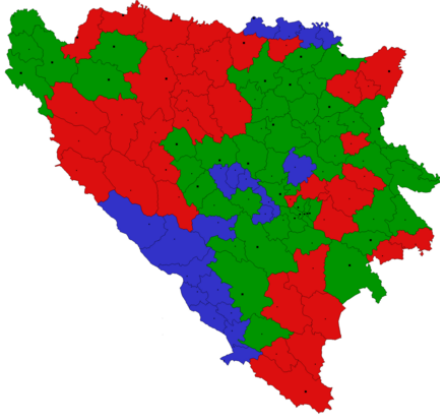
Communism and the Cold War were huge possible threats to Yugoslavia like they are to the other European countries. Any Yugoslavian state had the power to be able to fight alone or even the courage to attempt that. That is why some republics were delaying the decision of independence. However, the fall of communism and the end of the Cold War made these threats disappear as well as their common reason to stay together.

6. Previously Offered/Accepted Peace Plans

a. Vance Plan(November, 1991)

The Vance Plan was designed by United States Secretary of State Cyrus Vance aimed to resolve the conflict in Croatia and create a platform allowing negotiations. Creating demilitarized zones, UNPA's, and deployment of UNPROFOR(United Nations Protection Force) to monitor compliance with the ceasefire were offered . However this agreement did not include any political settlement in it. JNA retreated after 8 months which is actually required to do so immediately after the signing, leaving their equipment to RSK forces. Due to violations of previous ceasefire agreements, UNPROFOR couldn't begin until March. UNPROFOR successfully placed most of the RSK's heavy weapons, jointly controlled by the UN and RSK. However, peacekeeping troops failed to facilitate the return of the refugees because of the inadequate security conditions and establishment of an ethnically mixed police force. Also they failed to remove RSK forces from areas outside the designated UNPAs. In 1993 Croatia conducted several small-scale military operations against the RSK to attract

international attention. In response, the RSK military retrieved their weapons from storage sites.



b. Carrington-Cutileiro Plan(February, 1992)

Offered after the European Community Peace Conference held back before the Bosnian War of Independence started. Main goal of it was to prevent any war in Bosnia. According to the plan all Bosnia's territories would be divided and classified as Croat(blue), Serb(red) or Bosniak(green). It also proposed power-sharing at all administrative levels.

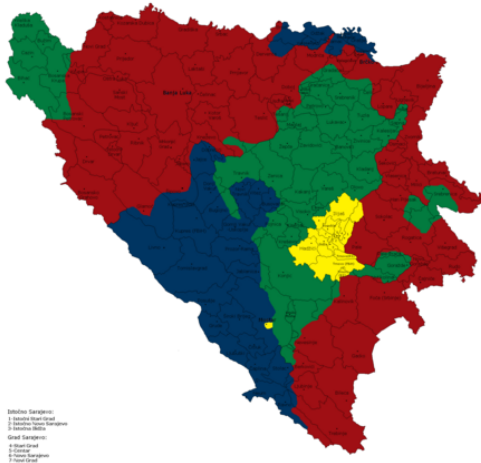
However RSK unanimously rejected the original peace plan and presented their own maps giving control over half of the country to Serbs but it got denied quickly. A revised draft of the original peace plan was created again and signed by all three parties with Alija Izetbegović representing the Bosniaks, Radovan Karadžić representing the Bosnian Serbs, and Mate Boban representing the Bosnian Croats. However after 10 days Izetbegović withdrew his signature and opposed any partition of Bosnia.

c. Vance-Owen Peace Plan(January, 1993)

Another peace plan with the goal of resolving the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina proposed by Cyrus Vance and EC representative Lord Owen. The plan outlined the division of Bosnia into 10 semi-autonomous regions and received the support of the UN. In April the president of the RSK, signed the plan however, in the following months it was denied by the National Assembly of Republika Srpska. After that a referendum was held with the %96 of voters who rejected the plan. Even though mediators criticized the referendum as a 'sham'. Due to the rapid pace of territorial division, fragmentation and ethnic cleansing, the plan was already outdated. Lord Owen declared the plan 'dead' on June 18.

d. Owen-Stoltenberg Plan(July, 1993)

The UN mediators David Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg prepared a map revealing the partition of Bosnia into 3 ethnic republics. According to the proposal Muslim Bosniaks would receive 30 percent, Bosnian Serbs would control 53 percent and Bosnian Croats would be allocated 17 percent. In August Bosniak side declined the plan.



red: Bosnian Serbs

green: Bosniaks

blue: Bosnian Croats

7. Major Parties Involved

a. P5 Countries

The United Kingdom, United States and France were the countries who mostly participated in diplomatic initiatives aimed at resolving the conflict and providing support for peace agreements as well as humanitarian aid and troops to the area. Unlike other countries the US clearly criticized Serbian aggression and supported Bosnia's integrity. All three countries advocated measures related to stability in the region and the end of the ethnic cleansing. However China wasn't that involved in the conflict. Despite its abstention, China emphasized respect for territorial integrity. Russia was more likely to support Serbia's position during the wars because of the historical ties between two countries. However Russia kept participating in diplomatic efforts including contact group.

b. Spain

Spain was one of the several countries who was involved in diplomatic efforts. Spain highly advocated measures to prevent further bloodshed and promote stability in the region.

c. Hungary

As one of the Neighboring countries, Hungary was a country which got affected mostly from the refugee problem. Refugees, particularly from Croatia, accommodated in Hungary or crossed into on their way to other European Countries. Hungary also provided humanitarian aid and focused on the rights of Hungarian minorities living in the borders of the conflict zone.

d. Macedonia(Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)

Even though Macedonia is a part of Yugoslavia, they pursued a non-intervention policy mainly in order to protect its territorial integrity and maintain stability within its borders. Like Bosnia, Macedonia had multi-ethnic population and the government aimed to balance its internal tensions and external relations especially with neighboring countries involved in the conflict such as Serbia and Croatia. Additionally Nato and the UN applied pressure on Macedonia to provide aid to refugees fleeing the conflict. Also as a newly independent state, Macedonia had several disputes with Greece over its name and identity. In spite of these, Macedonia didn't change the stance of neutrality and focused on internal stability.

d. Other Countries

Generally most of the countries were likely to support diplomacy while solving this issue. Addressing the humanitarian crisis, promoting stability were their priority. Most of the Middle Eastern countries and the countries with Muslim-majority populations expressed their unity with Bosniaks during the conflict. Islamic Charities provided aid to the refugees and supported relief efforts. Other than that African countries often agreed on diplomatic efforts through their participation in the UN Security Council and other international forums.

8. United Nations Protection Force

The first peacekeeping organization established in February, 1992 with the mission of ensuring stable conditions for diplomacy and security of civilians as well as UNPAs. The UNPROFOR mandate is divided into several phrases;

1. **Aid Delivery:** UNPROFOR was tasked with facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid to conflict-affected areas. This includes creating humanitarian corridors and protection of it and its personnel.
2. **Protection of UNPAs(safe areas):** One of UNPROFOR's responsibility was establishing and maintaining 'safe areas' where civilians can take shelter, escape from armed attacks and hostile acts. UNSC designated several towns such as Bihać, Sarajevo, Sreberinca*.
3. **Protection of Human Rights:** UNPROFOR was mandated to protect civilians from further violence, ethnic cleansing, massacres. This involved deploying peacekeepers to areas at risk of violence and assisting the return of displaced people to their homelands.
4. **Monitoring Ceasefires and Weapons Exclusion Zones:** UNPROFOR played a role in monitoring ceasefires and weapons exclusion zones established as a part of peace agreements or negotiations. This included monitoring the withdrawal of combatants, preventing the unauthorized movement of weapons and military personnel and supervising the demilitarization of certain areas.

However UNPROFOR was not able to succeed completely due to some challenges such as limited resources and lack of cooperation.

9. Legacy of the Yugoslav Wars

The legacy of the Yugoslav Wars continues to shape the region in various ways with profound impacts on both countries and peoples of the region. Some of the different aspects of this legacy include political, social and economic effects that continue to influence the territory to this day.

1. **Ethnic Division:** The war triggered existing tensions and deepened divisions within the region. These divisions persist to this day and continue to have an impact on politics, society and relations in the Balkans.
2. **Displacement and Refugee Crisis:** This crisis during the Yugoslav Wars was one of the most severe humanitarian emergencies in Europe since World War II. This crisis engaged forced displacement of millions of people from their homes, both internally within Yugoslavia and across international borders. Civilians fled away from the areas of fighting demanding safety and security. Fear generated by the violence and the destruction of villages left many people with no choice but to leave their home then seek refuge elsewhere. This displacement also included professionals and educated youth with talent and expertise which we call brain drain and it highly influenced the countries' economy as well
3. **War Crimes and Human Rights Violations:** Throughout the conflict, various ethnic groups participated in systematic campaigns to kill or intimidate the other ethnic groups members from their territories. This led to mass displacement and the creation of ethnically homogeneous areas. There were innumerable samples of massacres and atrocity which had rape, sexual violence and torture as a weapon in it too. Thousands of people went missing during the conflicts and their destiny still remains unknown. Moreover numerous cultural and religious sites including churches, mosques and historical monuments were targeted and destroyed resulting in irreversible loss of cultural heritage.
4. **Economic Devastation:** The economic devastation caused by previous wars continues to affect the countries of the region, hindering their efforts to recover from the conflicts. The wars resulted in extensive infrastructure damage and widespread destruction. Rebuilding process is expensive, human power and time consuming, slowing down economic recovery. Also the successor states of Yugoslavia have high

levels of debt, including international ones, which creates economic instability in the region.

10. Questions to be Pondered

1. How can UNSC support Croatia upon the retaking process of Serb-claimed territories? If it is with military operations, how should the operations proceed without spreading violence to civilians? What can be the next step to prevent further conflicts in the area?
2. How can UNSC protect the civil society from ethnic cleansing and inhuman wildness in Bosnia and Herzegovina until the end of the war?
3. What can be done by UNSC to increase the success rate of UNPROFOR in the region?
4. Can UNSC design a peace treaty between the blocks to finish the conflict completely? If it can, what should be the common point of it? How should the partition of the territories and borders be? What decisions can be proposed for the political issues, the economical freedom and the situation of military forces of the republics? Should it include the ways of replacement of the refugees? How can UNSC make both countries and self-claimed, newly independent states accept the plan?
5. What can be done to stabilize the economical and political affairs of the region?
6. Which steps can be taken to restrain further discrimination of different ethnic groups?
7. What is the possible outcome of an independent Islamic country in the middle of Europe?
8. Which raising-awareness campaigns can play a role in ending the ethnic divisions globally to prohibit possible future conflicts?
9. How can international cooperation help the progress of reconstruction of the conflict zone, supplying the humanitarian aid to the war-affected areas and return of the displaced people?
10. Where should UNSC receive support while defining war crimes?

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