

4384/95 (Presse 23)  
P. 006/95

Brussels, 23 January 1995

STATEMENT BY THE EUROPEAN UNION ON THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

The European Union is seeking a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia and the recovery of the States of that region.

As regards Bosnia-Herzegovina, the European Union expects the period initiated by the agreement on the cessation of hostilities on 31 December 1994 to be turned to advantage by all concerned with a view to reviving the diplomatic process.

The European Union therefore calls upon all parties to implement in full the provisions of the agreement on the cessation of hostilities in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

It urges them to respond favourably to the efforts that have been made so as to achieve a peaceful outcome and to resume the political negotiations at the earliest opportunity on the basis of acceptance of the Peace Plan as a starting point.

The European Union is committed to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Croatia within its internationally recognised borders. As regards the areas under United Nations protection, the European Union is concerned at the implications which the Croatian Government's decision not to accept the renewal of UNPROFOR's mandate might have for the efforts of the international community and for the peace process in the former Yugoslavia; it calls on the Croatian Government to reconsider its position. In this connection, the European Union welcomes the signing of the economic agreements of 2 December. It is monitoring their implementation closely and hopes that they will set in motion a peace process which it is important to reinforce. It urges the parties to accept the draft international agreement concerning the areas protected by the United Nations, when it has been submitted to them and calls upon the authorities of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to support this process.

The European Union notes that the Croatian Government has given the European Union Administrator assurances of support as regards Mostar.

---