

**P R E S S   R E L E A S E**

Brussels, 5 March 2001

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**Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union  
on the establishment of Special Parallel Relations between  
the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republika Srpska of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

The European Union notes the establishment today of a Special Parallel Relationship agreement between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republika Srpska of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in conformity with the Dayton/Paris Agreement.

The EU wishes to emphasise that all aspects of these special relations must be based on complete transparency as well as respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Union looks forward to strengthened and deepened relations between the FRY and the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The EU also expects the fullest support from the parties concerned for all aspects of the Dayton Peace Process in order to promote an enduring peace and stability in the whole region.

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6747/01 (Presse 88 - G)

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The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the EFTA countries, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.

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