

1998/272. Situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 30 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/79 of 22 April 1998:³⁹

(a) Endorsed the decision of the Commission to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur for one year, and welcomed the appointment of a new Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

(b) Approved the request of the Commission to the new Special Rapporteur, in addition to the activities mandated in Commission resolutions 1994/72 of 9 March 1994,⁵² 1996/71 of 23 April 1996⁵³ and 1997/57 of 15 April 1997:⁴⁸

- (i) To work with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on behalf of the

United Nations in dealing with the question of missing persons, including by participation in the International Commission on Missing Persons advisory group and other groups involved in missing persons issues, such as those chaired by the Office of the High Representative and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and to include in his report to the Commission on Human Rights information about activities concerning missing persons in the former Yugoslavia;

- (ii) To pay particular attention to the situation of persons belonging to ethnic minorities, displaced persons, refugees and returnees who fall within his mandate;

- (iii) To address human rights issues that transcend the borders between the States covered by his mandate and that could be addressed only through concerted action in more than one country;

(c) Also approved the requests of the Commission that the Special Rapporteur carry out missions to:

- (i) Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- (ii) The Republic of Croatia, including Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium;
- (iii) The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including to Kosovo, as well as to Sandjak and Vojvodina;

(d) Endorsed the decisions of the Commission:

- (i) To request the Special Rapporteur to report to the Commission, at its fifty-fifth session, on the work carried out in fulfilment of his mandate, and to submit interim reports to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session;
- (ii) To request the Secretary-General to continue to make the reports of the Special Rapporteur available to the Security Council and to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;
- (iii) To urge the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to make all necessary resources available for the Special Rapporteur to carry out his mandate successfully, in particular to provide him with adequate staff based in the countries of the mandate to ensure effective continuous monitoring of the human rights situation in those countries and coordination with other international organizations involved.

⁵² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

⁵³ *Ibid.*, 1996, *Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1996/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

⁵¹ General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.