

ECOSOC Decision 2001/219

The situation of human rights in parts of South-Eastern Europe

At its 9th plenary meeting, on 4 June 2001, the Economic and Social Council, having taken note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/12 of 18 April 2001, approved the decision of the Commission:

(a) To request the Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights to appoint for one year a special representative of the Commission with a mandate to examine the situation of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; in reporting on the human rights situation in Kosovo, the Special representative should:

(i) Consult closely with the international civilian presence, particularly representatives of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

(ii) Closely monitor the situation, paying particular attention to those areas that remain a source of concern, including cooperation with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, the release of unjustly detained prisoners, including Kosovar Albanians, the identification of persons missing as a result of conflict, the protection of minorities, trafficking in persons and the right of return of refugees and internally displaced persons;

(iii) Cooperate closely with the offices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Belgrade and Sarajevo and with her Special Envoy on persons deprived of liberty in connection with the Kosovo crisis in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia so as to avoid duplication of effort;

(b) To request the Special Representative to submit an interim report on her/his findings to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session and a report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-eighth session.