

almost nobody has a job, and where 80-90% of industrial production has been shut down!

Under these circumstances, the newly produced Bosnian-language bulletin of the Schiller Institute, which contains a reconstruction program for the country, as well as for the whole region, in the context of the Eurasian development corridors, was greeted enthusiastically in Sarajevo. It is very clear that railways, communication lines, highways, water systems, and energy production will be the real backbone for

any integration of the country.

Bosnia-Herzegovina is now clearly at a point in which everything will depend on the commitment of the United States government to break free of French-British manipulations and establish a real peace for the country, based on economic development—and not a “fast food” solution, as Reis Uleima Cerić put it. Only such an approach can prevent the renewed outbreak of hostilities and a threat to world peace in the immediate future.

Declaration on Bosnia-Herzegovina

The following statement was issued from Washington, D.C. on Sept. 1.

Having been in Sarajevo during April of this year as participants in an international delegation of the Schiller Institute and the Committee to Save the Children in Bosnia-Herzegovina, we are very concerned with present developments in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We are especially concerned about the non-fulfillment of the Dayton preconditions for holding of fair, free, and democratic elections on Sept. 14. Freedom of movement and return of refugees has not been ensured, as envisioned by the Dayton Agreement.

According to our information, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which is responsible for the preparation and execution of election proceedings, did not fulfill its task. Not only did it fail in registering voters abroad, but it allowed the P-2 formula, which was supposed to be the exception for people who moved since 1991 (i.e., before the war) for personal reasons to other areas of the country, to become the rule. More than 220,000 Serbians have registered to vote on this basis in “ethnically cleansed areas.” This completely cements the war results, as most shockingly seen in areas such as Srebrenica and the Brčko corridor.

By accepting the registration of these voters as legitimate, the outcome of elections is clear already, particularly in the so-called “Republika Srpska.” Thus, the division of Bosnia-Herzegovina is de facto legalized. It has been stated by Serbian leaders that they intend to use the overwhelming majority in the parliament of “Republika Srpska” to organize a referendum to split from Bosnia-Herzegovina. International forces sympathetic to a division, such as Great Britain and France, are already preparing a conference in France in the event of such a *fait accompli*.

This is a continuation of war by means of politics,

rewarding genocide and ethnic cleansing. With that, the stated aim of Dayton, to preserve Bosnia-Herzegovina as one country, is in effect destroyed.

We also reaffirm our call for an immediate Marshall Plan type of approach for big infrastructure development, which must be started right away. According to our information, promised money is coming in very slowly or not at all, and lags far behind actual needs. In particular, the World Bank plays the leading role in sabotaging such infrastructure plans. Real help must come quickly, now.

At this point, Bosnians are being told that “after the elections, help will come.” In using this argument, undue pressure is being created to accept elections under any circumstances, while at the same time, the stated policies of the World Bank do not aim for a coherent development plan.

We therefore urgently call on the U.S. government to:

1. Ensure early elections as soon as possible under the conditions set by Dayton, above all by preventing P-2 to be used as an instrument of manipulation of the elections;
2. Go for a crash plan of infrastructural development, without the monetaristic grip of the World Bank conditionalities, which in effect mean the killing of more people.

Only with such a change in approach can there be a perspective for *durable* peace, which will also attract the Serbian population, to really integrate into the state of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and thus achieve the stated aim of Dayton.

Signed:

Benjamin Swan, state representative, Massachusetts
James Mann, former U.S. congressman, South Carolina
Theo W. Mitchell, former state senator, South Carolina
Dr. Jozef Miklosko, president of the Committee to Save the Children in Bosnia-Herzegovina, former vice prime minister of post-communist Czechoslovakia
Nihad E. Dzinovic, chairman of the Bosnia Relief Organization in California; member, National Advisory Board for Humanitarian Aid
Umberto Pascali, secretary of the International Parliamentarians Against Genocide in Bosnia; member, Schiller Institute