

radicalisation of the sizeable ethnic Albanian minority in Macedonia by deliberately excluding ethnic Albanian political parties from power. International assistance should be predicated on the new government's commitment to improving inter-ethnic relations.

- At least half of the new parliament may be comprised of candidates who have no prior legislative experience. It is important that these new legislators receive adequate training. The international community should encourage European and US political parties and associations to initiate contacts with the newly-elected officials.

Skopje-Sarajevo, 9 October 1998

## II. EARLIER ELECTORAL EXPERIENCE

The 1990 parliamentary elections took place before Macedonia became an independent state and were held under the supervision of the UN Disarmament Commission. The 1990 elections were held in a multi-party system and were the first free and fair elections in the Balkans. The 1990 elections were held in a multi-party system and were the first free and fair elections in the Balkans. The 1990 elections were held in a multi-party system and were the first free and fair elections in the Balkans.