



## CANADA'S RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Canada participates fully in international efforts to promote a peaceful settlement to the conflict in the former Yugoslavia and to provide relief to its victims. In September 1991, Canada led the call for the United Nations (UN) Security Council to deal with this issue. Canada is an active participant in the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, co-chaired by the UN and the European Union (EU), and strongly supports its efforts to achieve a negotiated settlement to the crisis.

### Peacekeeping

Canada has contributed one of the largest contingents to the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR): approximately 2000 Canadian troops now monitor UN-protected zones in Croatia, provide protection for relief convoys and refugees in Bosnia, and monitor ceasefire agreements in both countries. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) is providing 45 monitors to UNPROFOR. Canada also contributed a number of observers to the European Union Monitoring Mission throughout the former Yugoslavia under the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE).

Canadians have undertaken some of the most difficult UN assignments. In June 1992, some 750 Canadian troops were deployed to Sarajevo to reopen and secure the airport so that the airlift of relief supplies could begin. In January and February 1993, 180 Canadian troops were deployed temporarily to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) to monitor developments in the border areas with Serbia. In April 1993, another 220 troops were sent to Srebrenica in eastern Bosnia to ensure the presence of UNPROFOR in the besieged city. In June 1994, approximately 60 Canadian troops were deployed in Gorazde to help monitor the 3-kilometre exclusion zone around the eastern Bosnian town.

### Humanitarian Assistance

Canada's total contribution in humanitarian assistance for the victims of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia since the autumn of 1991 now approaches \$60 million. These contributions have been used for the purchase and delivery of food, medical supplies, clothing and shelter; to assist refugees and displaced persons; and to support victims of sexual violence.

The funds have been distributed to several humanitarian agencies, including the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization, the World Food Program, the International Organization for Migration, the Red Cross Movement and to Canadian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that have initiated relief programs in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Canadian partners have included: CARE Canada, Canadian Feed the Children, Médecins sans frontières Canada, the Canadian Red Cross Society, the International Institute for the Advancement of Community-Based Rehabilitation and Queen's University.

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