

Canada's position with regard to the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia is that its people have a legitimate claim to recognition. Canada plans no action, however, that could contribute to further destabilization of the region. We are hopeful that a mutually acceptable solution can be found on the contentious issue of the name of the republic.

While the two remaining republics, Serbia and Montenegro, have proclaimed a new union, Canada believes that the succession issues of Yugoslavia must be negotiated among the parties that made up the former Yugoslav republic.

Canada, along with other Western countries, has condemned Serb aggression in Bosnia-Herzegovina and has urged Serbia and Croatia to stop interference in that country. On September 22, 1992, together with several other nations, Canada co-sponsored the resolution that suspended Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) from the proceedings of the UN General Assembly and called on Belgrade to submit a new application for UN membership. Canada also supported the temporary suspension of Yugoslavia from the CSCE.

In December 1992, four Canadians were dispatched to Serbia and Montenegro as election monitors. Mrs. McDougall later indicated that the conditions in which the elections were held were seriously flawed and that numerous and grave irregularities were found during the campaign and during the vote.

Trade sanctions are in place, and Canada supports international efforts in seeking a more effective implementation of these measures. In September, a Canadian vessel, HMCS Gatineau, participated in the NATO naval force that patrols the Adriatic Sea to monitor compliance with the UN embargo against Serbia and Montenegro. Canada is leading a multinational sanctions assistance mission, made up of customs experts, to the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia. The purpose of the mission is to assist the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia in ensuring that it is not used as a gateway to violate the sanctions. Demarches have also been made to the authorities of Russia, Ukraine and Greece about possible violations of the trade embargo against Serbia and Montenegro. Canada also led a multinational fact-finding mission about sanctions monitoring in Albania in February 1993.

As part of the international efforts to promote peace in the former Yugoslavia, Canada is participating in a conflict prevention mission of the CSCE in Kosovo, Sanjak and Vojvodina. For three months, ending in December 1992, Canada was also represented on a similar mission to the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia. In June, Canada led a CSCE fact-finding mission that looked into the military situation in Kosovo. Canada's financial contribution to various preventive diplomacy missions to date amounts to more than one million dollars.

Canada also participated in the CSCE mission that investigated human rights abuses in detention camps in Bosnia-Herzegovina.