

**Treaty on the State Border between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina,
30 July 1999**

The Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (later: “the Parties”),

Starting from the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina;

Respecting the immutability of their mutually recognized borders,

Beginning with the provisions of the General Framework Peace Accords for Bosnia and Herzegovina, signed on December 14, 1995 in Paris and the Opinion No. 3 of the Arbitration Committee of the Conference on the former Yugoslavia;

Guided by a desire to regulate together all the issues pertaining to the identification, marking, maintenance and ensuring the visibility of the common state border;

In accordance with the decision of the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Central Commission for the Identification and Marking of the State Border of Bosnia and Herzegovina, acting with the authorization of the Council of the Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, regarding the identification, marking, maintenance and ensuring the visibility of the common state border, and based on the work of the Committee;

Have agreed to the following:

Article 1

The state border between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (later: “the state border”) is a plane which transverses vertically the border line on the surface of the Earth and divides the land, the sea and interior bodies of water, as well as the air space and underground space of the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Article 2

- (1) The state border between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina is determined on the basis of the state of the borders at the time of the end of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in 1991 and the mutual recognition of the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1992, identified on the topographic map 1:25,000 and, in practice, on the basis of the borders between border land-registry municipalities, on the basis of the border towns and villages at the time of the 1991 Census and on the basis of the dividing line which divided the authorities of the Socialist Republic of Croatia and Socialist Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (2) The state border between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina stretches from the Croatian-Bosnian and Herzegovinian-Yugoslav three-border point in the North-East to the Croatian-Bosnian and Herzegovinian-Yugoslav three-border point in the South-East.
- (3) The data on the identification and marking of the border line, as well as on the shape, size and location of the border markings are to be found in the following documents on the border issues:
 - (a) The description of the border line on the state border between the Parties presented graphically in TK 25 (topographical map 25);
 - (b) The list and technical background (the situational plan, the list of surfaces, the list of coordinates) of the modifications of the stretch of the state line between the Parties;
 - (c) The list of the coordinates of the marked and determined break points on the state border between the Parties;
 - (d) The border plan on the state border between the Parties.
- (4) The Interstate Diplomatic Committee for the Identification, Marking and Maintenance of the state border between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina shall appoint expert panels authorized to produce a document

- mentioned in Paragraph 3 of this Article, as well as set deadlines to finalize their tasks and submit a report to be approved by the Interstate Diplomatic Committee.
- (5) After the border documents are produced in accordance with Paragraph 2 of this Article and approved in accordance with the legislatures of the Parties, they shall be considered an integral part of this Treaty.

Article 3

- (1) The Parties can agree to change the state border in order to facilitate and improve the living conditions of people living close to the border, as well as for other reasons. Any changes of the state border shall be included in the documents on border issues mentioned in Paragraph 3, Article 2 of this Treaty.
- (2) The documents on border issues mentioned in Paragraph 1 of the Article shall come into effect as stipulated in Paragraph 5, Article 2 of this Treaty.

Article 4

- (1) The Parties have agreed that the state border remains within the mutually defined coordinates, regardless of the man-made or natural changes in the terrain.
- (2) The state border on international navigable rivers with the regulated navigation course stretches along the kinet of the navigation course. Any changes to the kinet of the navigation course shall be approved by authorized agencies of the Parties.
- (3) The state border on the sea stretches along the central line of the sea between the territories of the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina in accordance with the 1982 UN Convention on Sea Rights. The border line on the sea is represented in the topographical map 1:25,000 as well as on sea charts and plans.

Article 5

- (1) The border line on the Croatian-Bosnian and Herzegovinian border is marked by:
- border pyramids on the three-state Croatian-Bosnian and Herzegovinian-Yugoslav border point;
 - border posts which directly or indirectly (by the roads, rivers, streams, canals and other characteristic locations) mark the break points in the border line;
 - border boards placed on bridge railings and other appropriate objects.
- (2) The coordinates of the marked and determined break points in the border line are to be found in the documents on border issues listed in Paragraph 3, Article 2 of this Treaty.

Article 6

The Parties shall maintain the border line in a good visible condition and undertake necessary steps to prevent damaging, destruction or unauthorized change of location of border markings.

Article 7

- (1) The Parties shall provide for the visibility of the state border and border markings in accordance with the Instructions on the Maintenance of the State Border and the Border Zone.
- (2) The Parties shall not authorize any construction within 2 meters on the both sides of the land border line. This ban does not include existing objects and facilities, as well as object and facilities the construction of which is authorized by the relevant agencies of the Parties.
- (3) The Parties can conduct activities defined in the Instruction mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this Article on their own territory at any time, but must inform the other Party at least ten days prior to the beginning of work.

Article 8

- (1) The obligations with respect to measuring the common state border, identification and marking of the border line, and maintenance, renovation and control of border markings (later: border work), as well as all costs resulting from honoring the above obligations, shall be divided between the Parties on an equal basis.
- (2) Installation, maintenance, renovation and control of three-state border markings on the three-state Croatian-Bosnian and Herzegovinian-Yugoslav border point shall be carried out on the basis of an understanding of the relevant authorities, in the presence of representatives of the Parties and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.
- (3) Repairs and renovations of border markings on the territory of one of the Parties, which were damaged or destroyed through unauthorized destructive activities from the territory of the other Party, shall be paid for by the Party from the territory of which the unauthorized destructive activity was carried out.

Article 9

The Parties shall every five years after the completion of border work, defined in the Instruction on the maintenance of the border line and border zone, conduct a joint inspection of the border line, renovate and fill in the gaps in border markings and, if needed, install additional markings on the border line.

Article 10

- (1) Owners of real estate and other persons or entities with power of attorney regarding real estate close to the state border must allow border work, defined in the Instruction on the maintenance of the border line and border zone, to be carried out on the state border.
- (2) The Parties shall in a timely manner inform owners of real estate and other persons or entities with power of attorney regarding real estate close to the border of the work to be carried out on their real estate. The Parties shall carry out border work respecting the interests of owners of real estate and other persons or entities with power of attorney regarding real estate close to the border, on whose real estate the work is being carried out.
- (3) Damage claims regarding real estate close to the border and related to border work shall be settled according to the regulations of the Party on the territory of which the real estate in question is situated.

Article 11

- (1) To implement the provisions of this Treaty, the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Central Commission on the Identification and Marking of the Border of Bosnia and Herzegovina, acting with the authorization of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia-Herzegovina, have founded the Interstate Diplomatic Committee for the Identification, Marking and Maintenance of the State Border between the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (later: the Interstate Diplomatic Committee). The Interstate Diplomatic Committee consists of a delegation of the Republic of Croatia and a delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Each delegation has a chairman and five members.
- (2) The functioning and composition of the Interstate Diplomatic Committee are regulated by the Regulations for the Conduct of Work of the Interstate Diplomatic Committee, composed in accordance with the provisions of this Treaty.

Article 12

- (1) The tasks of the Interstate Diplomatic Committee are the following:
 - conduct a measuring of the Croatian-Bosnian and Herzegovinian state border;

- produce new or supplemental documents on border issues in accordance with Paragraph 3, Article 2 of this Treaty;
 - carry out other work jointly assigned to it by relevant authorities of the Parties.
- (2) For the direct work on the stated tasks the Interstate Diplomatic Committee creates: the Joint Expert Work Group for the Documentation and Identification of the Border Line and the Joint Expert Work Group for the Marking and Maintenance of the Border Line. The Interstate Diplomatic Committee can also, if needed, create other work groups.
 - (3) The functioning and composition of the Joint Expert Work Groups shall be regulated by the Instructions on the Functioning of Joint Expert Work Groups formulated by the Joint Expert Work Groups and approved by the Interstate Diplomatic Committee in accordance with this Treaty.

Article 13

- (1) The Interstate Diplomatic Committee shall conduct its work in sessions, in the field and by exchanging letters.
- (2) The Interstate Diplomatic Committee shall meet according to the agreement between the leaders of the delegations of the two Parties. The meetings shall be held alternately on the territory of one and then the other of the Parties.
- (3) The leader of each delegation can call for an emergency meeting or a field trip of the Interstate Diplomatic Committee or a Joint Expert Work Group.

Article 14

- (1) The Parties shall inform one another in writing and through diplomatic channels of the appointment and acquittal of duty of the delegations in the Interstate Diplomatic Committee.
- (2) The leaders of the delegations of the Parties shall inform one another of the appointment and acquittal of duty of other members of the delegations in the Interstate Diplomatic Committee.

Article 15

- (1) The Interstate Diplomatic Committee shall reach its decisions and conclusions by agreement. If there are differences between the two delegations, their points of view shall be recorded in the proceedings.
- (2) Issues that cannot be resolved by reaching an agreement shall, with prior agreement of the chairmen of the two delegations, be submitted for resolution to the relevant authorities of the Parties.

Article 16

The Interstate Diplomatic Committee shall conduct negotiations and produce documents in the official languages of the Parties.

Article 17

The delegation of each of the Parties in the Interstate Diplomatic Committee can use the official seal with the state coat-of-arms of its country and the name of the delegation.

Article 18

Each Party shall bear the costs of the participation of its delegation in the Interstate Diplomatic Committee, in joint expert work groups and all other work groups, as well as the costs of participating in auxiliary work forces and other personnel employed to perform duties outlined in the Instructions on the Maintenance of the Border Line and the Border Zone.

Article 19

- (1) Members of the Interstate Diplomatic Committee, joint expert work groups and all other work groups, as well as

- auxiliary personnel can, during their duties duly announced to the other Party, in accordance with Paragraph 3, Article 7 of this Treaty, and with adequate identification, cross the state border at any point.
- (2) Identification mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be issued by the adequate authorities of the Republic of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina at the suggestion of the Interstate Diplomatic Committee.

Article 20

- (1) Members of the Interstate Diplomatic Committee, joint expert work groups and all other work groups, as well as auxiliary personnel of one of the Parties cannot, while carrying out their duties on the territory of the other Party, be detained and deprived of their personal belongings, personal identification, technical data carriers, materials, tools and vehicles. All the mentioned articles are exempt from customs and other fees, but the authorized personnel must declare them to customs officers and, with the exception of the articles used up on duty, return all of them to the territory of their country.
- (2) The Parties shall provide all the necessary help with respect to the transportation, lodging and access to communications equipment to the members of the Interstate Diplomatic Committee, joint expert work groups and all other work groups, as well as auxiliary personnel in order to facilitate their work.
- (3) Members of the Interstate Diplomatic Committee, joint expert work groups and all other work groups, as well as auxiliary personnel can during their duties on the border wear official uniform, but cannot be armed.

Article 21

- (1) All disputes regarding the interpretation and implementation of this Treaty shall be resolved by the Interstate Diplomatic Committee.
- (2) If the Interstate Diplomatic Committee is not able to resolve a dispute from Paragraph 1 of this Article through settlement, the said disputes shall be referred to the adequate authorities of the Parties.

Article 22

- (1) This Treaty shall be temporarily implemented as of its signing date.
- (2) This Treaty shall be in effect indefinitely.
- (3) Each Party can cancel this Treaty at any time with prior written notice to the other Party sent through diplomatic channels. In that case, the Treaty shall become void six months after the date of receipt of the notice on the cancellation of the Treaty by the other Party.

Article 23

- (1) This Treaty comes into effect on the day of the receipt of the last written notice sent through diplomatic channels by which the Parties inform each other that all the conditions set forth by their legislatures regarding the coming into effect of this Treaty have been met.

Written in Sarajevo, on July 30, 1999 in two originals, both in the official languages of the Parties. Both texts are equally valid.

For the Republic of Croatia
(signed)

For Bosnia and Herzegovina
(signed)