Decision-making by the Security Council:
The case of former Yugoslavia

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Introduction

The Security Council plays a key role in the involvement of the international community with the situation in the former Yugoslavia. Since September 1991 the Council has adopted more than forty resolutions which increasingly have confused an already complicated decision making process. In this publication I have made an effort to present the decisions of the Council by sub-dividing them into a number of categories. They are summarized in two parts. In the first part a review of the resolutions is given according to some main issues, such as: sanctions (arms embargo and economic measures); international humanitarian law/human rights/international tribunal; decisions on Bosnia and Herzegovina and humanitarian assistance; the ban on military flights; 'safe areas'; the international status of the former republics; and the use of force. The second part contains a review of the gradual extension of the mandate of the UN peace-keeping force UNPROFOR, in terms of its area of operation, its strength and its tasks. Where references were made, I have added to the text of the resolutions citations from the relevant documents, usually reports from the Secretary-General to the Security Council which provided the basis for discussion in the Council.

I am grateful to Mary-Honor Kloeg for her assistance. I hope the publication can serve as a useful working document for all those who are interested or feel involved, professionally or personally, in the situation in former Yugoslavia. While I am responsible for the content of this review, I would be grateful to receive comments and criticism, taking into account my intention to follow-up this publication, should the need arise.

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