



Resolution
Policy of the European Youth Forum
towards
Bosnia-Herzegovina

Adopted by the Executive Committee,
3-5 April 1998, Vilnius, Lithuania

The European Youth Forum expects that the current situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina will further develop towards peace and stability, thereby facilitating the development of youth initiatives and co-operation within and with Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Therefore the European Youth Forum welcomes:

- a number of co-operation projects and contacts between its member organisations and youth organisations in Bosnia-Herzegovina;**
- the priority given by the Youth Directorate and the Council of Europe as a whole to the development of youth work and its structures within the state of Bosnia-Herzegovina;**
- the inclusion of the State of Bosnia-Herzegovina among eligible countries for the Youth for Europe programme.**

The European Youth Forum and its member organisations are willing to co-operate with youth organisations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Youth organisations in this region are already a part of the European youth movement through their membership in international non-governmental youth organisations. The establishment of a national youth structure representing all youth organisations from Bosnia-Herzegovina, regardless their interest, ideological and political orientation is needed.

The European Youth Forum is looking forward to grant membership status to a representative and democratic structure composed of youth organisations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The European Youth Forum believes that such a body should emerge as a result of a dialogue among youth organisations in the State of Bosnia-Herzegovina and facilitate direct participation of all youth organisations, including those acting only at the level of one entity of Bosnia-Herzegovina as well as those whose membership extend beyond one of both entities.

The European Youth Forum is willing to support and encourage, in co-operation with its institutional partners in the European Union and the Council of Europe, a dialogue between youth organisations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The European Youth Forum is aware that such a dialogue could be affected by the consequences of the war but strongly believes that this is an important step towards the full participation of young people in the reconstruction of the State of Bosnia-Herzegovina and in the development of individuals and society.

The European Youth Forum recommends to its member organisations:

- **to increase co-operation with youth organisations in Bosnia-Herzegovina;**
- **in the case of co-operation with one or more organisations from one entity, it is recommended to extend the co-operation, whenever possible, to organisations from the other entity.**

The European Youth Forum expects:

- **the Governing Board to establish a long term policy of support from the Youth Directorate to the development of non-governmental youth work in Bosnia-Herzegovina, based on continuity, on the needs of youth organisations and young people in Bosnia-Herzegovina and on the principles of trust and co-operation;**
- **The CDEJ will develop a clear strategy aimed at supporting the establishment and development of governmental structures in the field of youth at all levels of administrative organisation of the State in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The European Youth Forum believes that the development of a transparent and non-partisan system for the support of youth work in Bosnia-Herzegovina should be one of priorities for those structures in order to achieve sustainable and long-term development of youth work in Bosnia-Herzegovina;**
- **The European Commission should include Bosnia-Herzegovina as a priority in the Youth Programmes as well as encourage the co-operation with other European organisations as a tool to develop youth work and youth organisations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.**