

# Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association RESOLUTION

## GENOCIDE IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

1995

Whereas Serbian ultra-nationalist forces have been carrying out a campaign of genocide against the Bosnian people for three years;

Whereas over 200,000 Bosnian civilians have been killed, tens of thousands of Bosnian women have been systematically raped and well over 1 million Bosnians have been forced to flee their homes;

Whereas the United Nations and NATO have failed to honor their pledge to protect the citizens of the U.N.-designated "safe havens", and to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid in Bosnia;

Whereas the United Nations continues to maintain a U.N., arms embargo against Bosnia;

Whereas the United States continues to maintain a U.S. arms embargo against Bosnia, by executive order of the President of the United States;

Whereas these arms embargoes have made it impossible for the government of Bosnia-Herzegovina to defend its people against the genocide carried out by heavily-armed Serbian forces;

Whereas both our religious tradition and the recent history of our people during the Holocaust make us feel compelled to speak out against genocide;

Therefore we condemn the genocide being carried out by Serbian forces against the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the complicity of the U.N. and of world powers in this genocide;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association write the Secretary General of the United Nations,

1. calling upon him to acknowledge and condemn the genocide against the Bosnian people, and
2. calling for enforcement of the U.N., resolutions on protection of the safe havens and on ensuring delivery of humanitarian aid, and
3. urging that the U.N. arms embargo against the State of Bosnia-Herzegovina be immediately lifted so that the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina can defend themselves, and
4. urging full support and funding for the International War Crimes Tribunal;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association write the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada,

1. urging them to acknowledge and condemn the genocide against the Bosnian people, and
2. calling for the use of NATO or U.S. and Canadian air power to protect the lives of Bosnian civilians and to ensure delivery of humanitarian aid, and
3. urging that the arms embargoes against the State of Bosnia-Herzegovina be immediately lifted so that the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina can defend themselves, and
4. calling for full support for the work of the International War Crimes Tribunal;

Therefore, we call upon members of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association to write the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada, and to write their representatives in the U.S. Congress and the Parliament of Canada,

1. urging them to acknowledge and condemn the genocide against the Bosnian people, and
2. calling for the use of NATO or U.S. and Canadian air power to protect the lives of Bosnian civilians and the ensure delivery of humanitarian aid, and
3. urging that the arms embargoes against the State of Bosnia-Herzegovina be immediately lifted so that the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina can defend themselves, and
4. calling for full support for the work of the International War Crimes Tribunal.