

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 54

Expressing the sense of the Congress relating to diplomatic recognition of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 3, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON (for himself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. ZIMMER, and Mrs. MALONEY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress relating to diplomatic recognition of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Whereas the United States has strong and enduring economic, political, and strategic ties with the Hellenic Republic of Greece;

Whereas Greece has been a strategic ally of the United States in the Eastern Mediterranean during every major conflict in the 20th century;

Whereas historical and archaeological evidence demonstrates that the ancient Macedonians were Greek;

Whereas Macedonia is a Greek name that has designated the northern area of Greece for over 2,000 years;

Whereas in 1944, the United States opposed the changing of the name of the Skopje region of Yugoslavia by Marshall Tito from Vardar Banovina to Macedonia as part of a campaign to gain control of the Greek province of Macedonia and the major port city of Salonika;

Whereas the regime in Skopje has persisted in inflaming tensions between it and Greece through a sustained propaganda campaign and the continued use of ancient Greek symbols, including the Star of Vergina, in its flag;

Whereas the Skopje regime has refused to remove paragraph (49) from its constitution, a reference to the 1944 declaration by the then communist regime calling for the “unification” of neighboring territories in Greece and Bulgaria with the “Macedonian Republic”;

Whereas Greece has no claim on the territory of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and has repeatedly reaffirmed the inviolability of all borders in the area in general and among the two countries in particular; and

Whereas it is in the best interest of the United States to oppose any expansionist or irredentist policies in order to promote peace and stability in the area: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*

2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that the

3 President—

4 (1) should not have granted diplomatic recogni-

5 tion to the Skopje regime that insists on using the

6 Greek name “Macedonia” in the name of its coun-

1 try, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia;
2 and

3 (2) should reconsider this decision and with-
4 draw diplomatic recognition and any consideration of
5 financial assistance to the Skopje regime until such
6 time as the Skopje regime—

7 (A) renounces its use of the name “Mac-
8 edonia” in the name of its country;

9 (B) removes objectionable language in
10 paragraph (49) of its constitution;

11 (C) removes symbols which imply terri-
12 torial expansion, such as the Star of Vergina in
13 its flag;

14 (D) ceases propaganda against Greece; and

15 (E) adheres fully to the norms and prin-
16 ciples of the Conference on Security and Co-
17 operation in Europe.

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