

# SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

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## STATEMENT

by

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AFFAIRS OF  
SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

New York, 15 September 2005

Mr. President,  
Excellencies,

Exhausted by the horrors of World War Two, mankind welcomed the birth of the United Nations with great joy and hope sixty years ago. Our planet believed in the achievement of the ideals of peace, solidarity and brotherhood among people and nations.

Today, from various quarters, accusations are leveled that this hope has, perhaps, been betrayed. For six decades already, the world has practically known of no day of peace. Local wars have taken the lives of millions of people and the gulf between the rich and the starving has caused us to doubt the moral foundations of the present-day world.

These facts are incontestable, but what would have happened had the United Nations not been there? There would have been, no doubt, much less good and much more evil.

It is also undeniable, however, that the future cannot be shaped either by treading the old path or in the old way. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has rightfully called for a new course of the United Nations, for swift reform and for words to be translated into action.

Disagreements over the enlargement of the Security Council must not prevent or slow down the changes that are necessary and possible now.

The agreement reached that terrorism has to be equally condemned wherever and by whomever and for whatever purposes it was committed, is encouraging. I believe that this will put an end to the policy of double standards so that the killers of children and civilians in Beslan, in Kosovo and elsewhere cannot be called or treated otherwise but as terrorists.

The fact that the decision of the United Nations to have the richest nations allocate 0.7 per cent of their GNP as assistance to poor developing countries has not been implemented already for thirty years is hard to comprehend. This accounts for an enormous concentration of might on the one side and the lack of it on the other. The gulf is also the cause of many civil and inter-State wars, ideological and religious fanaticism, as well as of solidarity that boils down to trade in the suffering of millions of people.

It is a grim world in which, instead of bread and medicine, instead of development and social funds, weapons are offered as a road to happiness. In which humanitarian aid packages follow weapons and death.

Serbia and Montenegro fully support the concept of a new collective security, ban on WMD proliferation, production, trade and use and the

establishment of a Peace-building Commission, Human Rights Council and Natural Disaster Relief and Environment Protection Funds. Short of the realization of these and other commitments from the Outcome Document of this Summit, with extensive solidarity assistance to poor and developing countries, it will not be possible to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, either.

Mr. President,

As the largest State in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, Serbia and Montenegro is committed to maintaining best relations with all those with whom we lived together until very recently, as well as with our other neighbors. The United Europe to which we belong is our goal and our future. Unfortunately, in one part of Serbia, in Kosovo and Metohija, political extremism, often hand in glove with terrorism, demanding, in a form of an ultimatum, the creation of another Albanian State, is a serious obstacle to stability in the entire Balkans.

There is no people in Europe today whose rights are so brutally trampled upon as are the rights of the Serbian people in Kosovo, the Province administered by the United Nations since 1999. We demand that the Serbs, Montenegrins and other non-Albanians in Kosovo enjoy the rights guaranteed to them by the Charter of the United Nations and to have the United Nations respect, in accordance with its Charter and international law, the principle that borders of States can neither be changed by force nor renamed. The respect of these principles will open the doors to an agreement on the future human and European status of Kosovo.

Thank you.