

# *Fordham International Law Journal*

---

*Volume 19, Issue 2*

1995

*Article 2*

---

## The Use of Force in a United Nations Peace-Keeping Operation: Lessons Learnt from the Safe Areas Mandate

Yasushi Akashi\*

\*

Copyright ©1995 by the authors. *Fordham International Law Journal* is produced by The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress). <http://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/ilj>

# The Use of Force in a United Nations Peace-Keeping Operation: Lessons Learnt from the Safe Areas Mandate

Yasushi Akashi

## **Abstract**

The United Nations Protection Force for the former Yugoslavia ("UNPROFOR" or "Force") was established to deter attacks on the safe areas with the use of force, to promote the withdrawal of non-Government forces from the area, and to safeguard the delivery of humanitarian aid. UNPROFOR's experience in Bosnia, particularly in the safe areas, provides a cautionary lesson on the limits of the use of force when sustained political will to back such force, and a willingness to accept the responsibilities and consequences arising from such action, do not exist.

## ESSAYS

### THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA: IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW AND POLICY

The Board of Editors of Volume 19 of the *Fordham International Law Journal* is honored to present this collection of essays exploring issues of international law and policy that surround the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. Each contributing author has played an integral role in shaping the international community's policies toward the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. These essays cover a wide range of subjects, including: the changing face of United Nations peace-keeping, the effectiveness of the peace-keeping mission in Bosnia, the international war crimes tribunal as a tool for reconciliation, the dissolution of the former Yugoslavia, and the new constitutional framework for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Board of Editors presents this collection of essays in the hope that it will provide a modest but noteworthy contribution to the understanding of the complex and incipient issues characteristic of the early post-Cold War era. While the Board of Editors does not endorse any of the views expressed in these essays, it does hope that the insight contained therein is constructive and advances the prospects of peace. Indeed, the *Journal* remains committed to providing a forum for the presentation of disparate views and promoting the development of international law.

The Board of Editors would like to extend its appreciation to Dr. Kevin Cahill and Mr. Denis Cahill for their generous support of this project.

*Board of Editors*  
*Volume 19*