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On 14 December 1995, the Peace Agreement was signed in Paris by the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as well as the other parties thereto.

The agreement covered a broad range of issues including military aspects of the peace settlement; regional stabilization; an International Police Task Force; delineation of an Inter-entity Boundary Line between the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska; holding of democratic elections; human rights and assistance to refugees.

UNMIBH began its operations under inauspicious conditions. As a result of the conflict, over 200,000 people had died, 20,000 were missing and 1.2 million were internally displaced. The country was divided along ethnic lines. The fratricidal war, in which civilians were the principal target and victims, had left a legacy of hatred and widespread fear of retribution.

UNMIBH has some core programmers:

Police reform: the main aims were to ensure that individual police officers met international standards of professional and personal integrity to gain the respect and confidence of the general public and to raise the professional skills of the police to internationally accepted standards. Police restructuring sought to ensure that every police administration had adequate resources and an efficient organizational structure, including external and internal redress mechanisms, was insulated from political interference and had appropriate multi-ethnic representation and gender balance.

Police/criminal justice system: policing is only one component of the rule of law. If a police force is to be fully effective, it must operate within a coherent legal framework, and with an independent and accountable prosecutorial service and judiciary.

Inter-police force cooperation: without effective State law enforcement institutions and inter-police cooperation mechanisms, the ability to combat national, regional and transnational crime is severely limited.

Public awareness: to create public trust and confidence in the police force, emphasizing the core principles of democratic policing: police protection, accountability and impartiality.

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