

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 454

Recognizing the 10th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Croatia.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH (for himself and Mr. HINCHEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 10th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Croatia.

Whereas the United States recognized the Republic of Croatia on April 7, 1992, acknowledging the decision of the Croatian people to live in an independent, democratic, and sovereign country;

Whereas, during the 10 years since the recognition, the people of Croatia have persevered in building a democratic society, based on the rule of law, respect for human rights, and a free market economy;

Whereas the people and Government of Croatia share the democratic values of the international community and the responsibility to uphold them, actively promoting democratic values in international organizations;

Whereas Croatia has previously cooperated with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) by allowing NATO free access to its air space during NATO's 1999 military action against Serbia;

Whereas Croatia, cooperating on the basis of partnership and solidarity, participates in the Vilnius Group, which is committed to the common values of security and democratic stability through future North Atlantic Treaty Organization membership;

Whereas the United States has shown support for Croatia in many ways over the past 10 years, including by providing economic and military assistance that has contributed significantly to the continued success of Croatia, which is now a cornerstone democracy in South Central Europe;

Whereas Croatia is a reliable friend and ally of the United States, actively contributing to the stabilization of South Central Europe;

Whereas Croatia immediately positioned itself within the antiterrorism coalition of nations, having, among other things, assisted United States intelligence agencies in apprehending Al Qaeda members in Bosnia and Herzegovina; and

Whereas Croatia shares the common interest and values of the free and democratic world: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2            (1) commends the Republic of Croatia for the  
3        significant progress it has made during the past dec-  
4        ade, and encourages its democratic orientation and  
5        further strengthening of respect for human rights,  
6        the rule of law, and the free market;

1           (2) supports the aspirations of Croatia to be-  
2           come a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Orga-  
3           nization (NATO), welcomes its commitment to the  
4           reforms required for NATO membership, acknowl-  
5           edges the importance of its continued commitment  
6           to those reforms, and congratulates it on its accept-  
7           ance into the Membership Action Plan at the NATO  
8           Ministerial in Reykjavik, Iceland;

9           (3) encourages Croatia's continued contribu-  
10          tions in bringing peace, stability, and prosperity to  
11          the region of South Central Europe, including con-  
12          tinuing its cooperation with the International Crimi-  
13          nal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia; and

14          (4) recognizes the important role of the Cro-  
15          atian-American community in supporting the  
16          strengthening of bilateral relations between the  
17          United States and Croatia.

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