



PETITION TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH FOR A NEW AND FAIR TRIAL FOR FIKRET ABDIC

We, the undersigned, express our awareness of the following facts:

1. Fikret Abdic was the winner of the first free and democratic Presidential elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) held in 1990. He defeated all candidates, including eventual President Alija Izetbegovic, by a margin of 300,000 votes.
2. Fikret Abdic was blocked from taking over official responsibilities as the first President of Bosnia and Herzegovina. As the winner of the BiH's first free and democratic elections, he was entitled to become the first President. But the Party of Democratic Action (SDA) and its leader, the radical Islamic fundamentalist Alija Izetbegovic, engineered Izetbegovic's ascension to the Presidency.
3. During the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Fikret Abdic, as a member of the Presidency of BiH, used his dedication and all his strength to stop the war and preserve Bosnia and Herzegovina as a united and multiethnic country with all three constitutive nations: those of the Bosniaks, Croats, and Serbs. With his contributions he managed to save hundreds of thousand lives and preserve from useless destruction vast material goods in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
4. Fikret Abdic resolutely raised his voice against the creation of an Islamic state on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as it was imagined and attempted by Alija Izetbegovic and his Party of Democratic Action (SDA).
5. Fikret Abdic openly opposed the import of the Islamic fundamentalist and related terrorist groups to Bosnia and Herzegovina. In accordance with this goal, he warned the world about the potential consequences of these terrorist-permissive policies in BiH.
6. Fikret Abdic was correct when he dutifully warned international actors and organizations involved in diplomatic events during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including the U.S. Ambassador to Republic of Croatia Peter Galbraith, about the danger that such policies would eventually pose to the world. This was proven true on September 11th, 2001, with the brazen terrorist attacks on the United States of America that fully announced to the world the new era of global terrorism.

7. The Islamic religious authorities in Bihac region issued a Fatwa against Fikret Abdic and all his followers in 1993 in which it is stated that Mr. Abdic and his followers are being excommunicated and as such being denied all their human, political and religious rights. Unquestionably, this was one of the reasons why tens of thousands of Abdic's followers had to flee to United States and Canada, as well as to many other European countries.
8. Fikret Abdic was targeted for assassination in the Republic of Croatia in 1996. The planning for the Abdic Assassination was in Bosnia and Herzegovina and was prepared by official elements of the Bosnian government at that time and the members of the ruling Party of Democratic Action led by Alija Izetbegovic. In regard to the Abdic Assassination plan, its perpetrators were charged and later convicted during legal proceedings in Republic of Croatia.
9. Fikret Abdic, as a Bosnian Muslim, was subsequently indicted on the basis of fabricated "war crimes" and "crimes against humanity" committed against the Muslim population in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This indictment was created under the political eye and influence of then BiH President Alija Izetbegovic and the influence of his radical Party of Democratic Action. The indictment had a major goal and this was the eventual removal of Fikret Abdic from the political, economic, and public life of Bosnia and Herzegovina. These events can be described as pure political persecution.
10. Fikret Abdic was indicted and prosecuted in a politically motivated judicial process where even the minimal legal rights to a proper defense were not satisfied. The process was conducted in the Republic of Croatia on the basis of an unjustified, inappropriate and illegal indictment announced from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Fikret Abdic was eventually unjustifiably sentenced to 15 years in prison.
11. Fikret Abdic never committed war crimes or any crimes against humanity. He is a political prisoner currently being held in prison in the Republic of Croatia.
12. Fikret Abdic is a proponent of democracy, human rights, and free market economy. Mr. Abdic is a proven opponent of international terrorism. He is a friend to the United States of America and to all people of good will.

We, the signatories of this Petition, because of abovementioned facts, give our support to AMERICAN BOSNIAN ASSOCIATION in its attempts to appeal to the U.S. Congress and to U.S. President George W. Bush to use their authorities and influence with the government of Republic of Croatia to require a new trial with a fully satisfactory defense rights granted to Mr. Fikret Abdic. This trial must be internationally observed. It must abide by all applicable legal rules in accordance with appropriate and relevant international laws and those of the Republic of Croatia.

CHICAGO, July 20, 2005.

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