

World Court reaffirms April ruling vs. Serbia

On Sept. 13, the International Court of Justice in The Hague made public its decision on the urgent petition by the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina for conservatory measures under Article 9 of the Genocide Convention. Russia and Serbia dissented from the majority opinion. This is the first time in the court's history that it has met twice to consider a second petition in the same cause.

In order to avoid misunderstandings and excessive constructions being put on the court's order, we make the key passages of the order available to our readers. They read as follows:

"Since [our] Order of April 8th 1993, and despite that Order . . . great suffering and loss of life has been sustained by the population of Bosnia-Herzegovina in circumstances which shock the conscience of mankind and flagrantly conflict with moral law and the spirit and aims of the United Nations. . . . Since the Order of 8th April 1993 was made, the grave risk which the Court then apprehended of action being taken which may aggravate or extend the existing dispute over the prevention and punishment of the crime of

genocide, or render it more difficult of solution, has been deepened by the persistence of conflicts on the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the commission of heinous acts in the course of those conflicts. . . .

. . . "The Security Council in Resolution 819 (1993) of 16th April 1993, took note of the Court's Order of 8th April 1993, in which the Court indicated that the F.R. [Federal Republic] of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) should take all measures within its power to prevent the commission of the crime of genocide. . . . [T]he Security Council in Resolution 859 (1993) of 24th August 1993 which, *inter alia*, affirmed the continuing membership of Bosnia-Herzegovina in the U.N., reaffirmed the principle of the unacceptability of the acquisition of territory by force and recalled that of individual responsibility for the perpetration of war crimes. . . .

"The Court . . . is not satisfied that all that might have been done has been done to prevent commission of the crime of genocide in the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and to ensure that no action is taken which may aggravate or extend the existing dispute. . . .

. . . "The present perilous situation demands, not an indication of provisional measures additional to those indicated by the Court's Order of 8th April 1993 . . . but immediate and effective implementation of those measures. . . .

"For these reasons, the Court reaffirms the provisional measures indicated in paragraphs 52 A(1), 52 A(2) and 52 B which should be immediately and effectively implemented."

Bosnian activist thanks the Schiller Institute

This statement was made at the Schiller Institute-International Caucus of Labor Committees Labor Day conference in Virginia by Djenana Campara, of the Bosnian Information Center in Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Friends from the Schiller Institute:

I am very pleased to be able to meet with you in person, some of you for the second or third time. I wish to thank you for having invited me to participate in your gathering here in Washington.

While the activities of the Schiller Institute and its associates are of significant importance in these troubling times, it is the work on behalf of the most fundamental principles of democracy, justice, and human rights regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina that is particularly valuable to us.

The Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and its peo-

ple are fighting, literally, the rest of the world. In their fight they must be victorious — as a matter of principle. They are fighting for the rest of us who will follow their path, whether it leads all of humanity into a better future, or deep into the basement of civilization.

You have been of great help to us at the Bosnia-Herzegovina Information Center in Ottawa, and also to our elected and appointed representatives, and for that I wish to express our profound gratitude. I hope that a day will come soon when we will meet again in celebration — a day when Bosnia and Herzegovina will have been saved for all of us. But our work will not come to an end then, as there is injustice all over the world.

The need for your leadership in aspiring for justice for all the peoples of the world is now greater than ever before, however; the results of your work are also becoming increasingly obvious even to those who, until recently, haven't been able to face the truth — that in 1993, in the middle of the most powerful democracy on earth, a political prisoner, a prisoner of conscience, can indeed be a reality.

Thank you again for your work and your help.