

Letter written by Deputy Tarcisio Navarrete, MP (Mexico) to Foreign Minister Luis Ernesto Derbez, urging Mexico to oppose both BIAs and the renewal of UNSC 1422.

Legislative Palace; April 24, 2003

H.E. Mr.  
Luis Ernesto Derbez Bautista  
Secretary of Foreign Relations  
Tlatelolco, D.F.

Dear Sir:

This past April 22nd, I was in New York to participate in a meeting of the organization Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), which dealt with developments relating to the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Two particular issues raised serious concerns among the participants:

- 1) The bilateral "non-surrender" agreements (which are de facto impunity agreements) sought after by the United States from numerous countries with the objective of exempting Americans - including, foreigners contracted by the government of that country - of any eventual criminal responsibility regarding the Rome Statute crimes - that is, genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, and
- 2) The adoption of Security Council resolution 1422 in July 2002, which extended the mandate of peacekeeping operations in Bosnia and provides personnel on similar peacekeeping missions from countries that have not ratified the Rome Statute with a one-year suspension from investigation or prosecution by the ICC.

PGA urged the legislators in attendance to utilize their political voice in their respective countries and on their respective Foreign Ministries to denounce both actions above. In my own case, I responded to the call because of my commitment to the ICC and my firm opposition of the United States' policy on this matter.

For this reason, with the knowledge that Mexico has not signed any such bilateral agreement with the United States, I extend to you my solidarity and support. And with respect to the renewal of resolution 1422, I express to you my opposition and call on our government, by way of its representative before the Security Council, to reject the renewal of any such resolution.

Sincerely,

Tarcisio  
Navarrete Montes de Oca  
Chamber of  
Deputies  
Hon. Congress of  
Mexico