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# NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.-Kans.)  
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## DOLE URGES RECOGNITION OF CAPTIVE NATIONS AT BELGRADE, AND BY PRESIDENT CARTER

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole today introduced a resolution calling on the United States delegation to this fall's Belgrade Conference to "reaffirm the universal significance of respect for and effective exercise of equal rights and self determination of all people for the development of friendly relations among ourselves as among all States."

Public Law 86-90 authorizes and requests the President of the United States to issue an annual proclamation during the third week of July "until such time as freedom and independence shall have been achieved for all the captive nations of the world." Dole pointed out that "President Carter has not, as yet, issued a captive nations proclamation recognizing the desires of the enslaved peoples of the world for freedom and independence. Given Mr. Carter's well-known commitment to human rights and the fact that since 1959 every American President has issued an annual captive nations proclamation, this oversight, if not corrected, will take on overtones which could seriously undermine the President's credibility in the human rights arena." In a telegram sent yesterday, Dole reminded Carter of the captive nations tradition and urged him to follow the lead of his distinguished predecessors.

Senator Charles Percy (R-Ill) cosponsored Dole's resolution.

Following is the text of Senator Dole's introductory statement:

Mr. President, I rise to introduce a Sense of the Senate resolution on behalf of myself and Mr. Percy, my distinguished colleague from Illinois.

This being Captive Nations Week, our resolution addresses the all important question of self-determination and its relationship to the Belgrade Conference which will convene this fall to discuss implementation of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

With all the attention that has recently been paid to the human rights provisions of Basket III, there has been a tendency to overlook the equally important humanitarian ideals articulated in Basket I. This is especially true of Principle VII which succinctly states that "all peoples always have the right, in full freedom, to determine, when and as they wish, their internal and external political status, without external interference, and to pursue as they wish their political, economic, social and cultural development."

### CAPTIVE NATIONS STILL CAPTIVE

It is during Captive Nations Week that we are reminded of the plight of certain nations in Europe who, because of external interference, are not in a position to determine, in full freedom, their own future development or to exercise their right of self-determination.

As the Final Act makes clear, friendly relations among the participating States can come about only when there is a recognition of the "universal significance of respect for and exercise of equal rights and self-determination..."

The Dole-Percy resolution recognizes the wisdom of this Final Act language and calls upon the U.S. delegation to this fall's Belgrade Conference to reaffirm the principle of self-determination and the right of all peoples to exercise it freely.