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## *Appendix: The American Priority System for Bosnian Refugees*

**Priority One:**

The following UNHCR-referred or U.S. embassy-identified cases: persons facing compelling security concerns in countries of first asylum; persons in need of legal protection because of the danger of *refoulement*; those in danger due to threats of armed attack in areas where they are located; persons who have experienced persecution because of their political, religious, or human rights activities; women-at-risk; victims of torture or violence; physically or mentally disabled persons; persons in urgent need of medical attention not available in the first asylum country; and persons for whom other durable solutions are not feasible and whose status in the place of asylum does not present a satisfactory long-term solution.

**Priority Two:** (P-2 eligibility for Bosnians ended February 1, 2001 for those in Germany and Austria and April 1, 2001 for Bosnians in other countries of first asylum.)

Former Bosnian detainees who were held on account of ethnicity, religion, or political opinion; persons in ethnically mixed marriages; victims of torture or systematic and significant acts of violence against members of targeted ethnic groups by governmental authorities or quasigovernmental authorities in areas under their control; surviving spouses of civilians who would have been eligible under these criteria if their spouses had not died in detention or been killed as a result of torture or violence.

**Priority Three:** (Closed on June 1, 2000)

Spouses, unmarried children of any age, and parents of persons lawfully admitted to the United States as permanent resident aliens, refugees, asylees, conditional residents, and certain parolees; unmarried children at least twenty-one years of age of U.S. citizens; parents of U.S. citizens under twenty-one years

of age. (Spouses and unmarried children under twenty-one years of age of U.S. citizens and the parents of U.S. citizens who have attained the age of twenty-one are required by regulation to be admitted as immigrants rather than refugees.)

**Priority Four:** (Registration for P-4 processing for Bosnians closed on November 1, 1999.)

Grandparents, grandchildren, married sons and daughters, and siblings of U.S. citizens and persons lawfully admitted to the United States as permanent resident aliens, refugees, asylees, conditional residents, and certain parolees.

**Priority Five:** (Registration for P-5 processing was open for Bosnian Muslims only in fiscal year 1997 and ended on March 31, 1997.)

Uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews, and first cousins of U.S. citizens and persons lawfully admitted to the United States as permanent resident aliens, refugees, asylees, conditional residents, and certain parolees.

*Source:* U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration; compiled by the U.S. Committee for Refugees: <http://www.refugees.org/world/articles/usrpp>.

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