

# HISTORY OF *Yugoslavia*

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*June 28, 1948*

At a meeting of the Cominform in Bucharest, attended by the representatives of the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Romania, France, and Italy, the Yugoslav Communist Party was expelled from the Cominform because of "pursuing a policy of nationalism and Trotskyism," "deviation from Marxism and Leninism," "hostile attitude toward the Soviet Union," and failing to take any action against the rich peasants.

*June 29, 1948*

The Central Committee of the CPY decided to publish the full text of the Cominform resolution together with the Yugoslav reply, which refuted the charges and described them as lies and slanders.

*July 28, 1948*

The Cominform resolution was read at the Fifth Congress of the CPY, held between July 21 and 28, and was unanimously rejected. The press of the Soviet Union and satellite countries now began open attacks on the Yugoslav leadership. The Cominform Headquarters were transferred from Belgrade to Bucharest. Albania broke off economic relations with Yugoslavia. Provocateurs were infiltrated into Yugoslavia to incite dissatisfaction among the different nationalities. The Soviet Union started to apply an economic blockade against Yugoslavia.

*August 15, 1948*

The Conference on Freedom of Danubian Navigation was opened in Belgrade on July 29. Yugoslavia together with the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries presented a solid block against the British, French, and American delegations.

*May 11, 1949*

In Tirana, Koci Dzedze, the organizational secretary of the Communist Party of Albania, was sentenced to death as a Yugoslav spy.

*June 10, 1949*

The Chinese leader Liu Shao-chi published an article in *Pravda*, giving full support to Stalin's accusations against Yugoslavia.

*July 25, 1949*

The official leadership of the Greek Communist Party, headed by Nicolas Zahariades, under instructions from Moscow had been attacking the Yugoslav government as "traitors," although the Yugoslav government was extending substantial help to the Greek guerrillas. Because Zahariades persisted in his attacks

against Yugoslavia, the Yugoslav government decided to close its border with Greece.

*August 18, 1949*

Protesting the arrest of Soviet citizens in Yugoslavia (i.e., Russian émigrés who had fled to Yugoslavia after the 1917 revolution in Russia), who had been charged with espionage for the Soviet Union, Molotov delivered an ultimatum to Yugoslavia that all of them should be released at once, "otherwise other more effective means will be employed" against Yugoslavia. Tito ordered Yugoslav troops to the northern borders of the country, and Partisan detachments throughout Yugoslavia were alerted.

*September 16, 1949*

The former Hungarian minister of the interior, Laszlo Rajk and several other persons were brought to trial, where they stated that the Yugoslav leaders were agents of foreign intelligence services and that they were trying to organize a counterrevolution in Hungary.

*September 28, 1949*

The Soviet government broke off the treaty of friendship and mutual aid with Yugoslavia concluded on April 11, 1945, branding the Yugoslav government as "a foe and enemy of the Soviet Union." The Polish, Hungarian, Bulgarian, Romanian, and Czechoslovak governments took similar steps.

*October 5, 1949*

The Yugoslav government recognized the new government of the People's Republic of China, even though the Chinese Communist Party sided with Moscow against Yugoslavia.

*October 20, 1949*

Soviet troops were concentrating on the Hungarian and Romanian borders with Yugoslavia; over the past months Yugoslav borders had been violated by armed incursions from all the satellite countries. Under these conditions Yugoslavia took steps to be elected to the Security Council of the United Nations.

*November 29, 1949*

The Cominform published its second resolution on Yugoslavia, stating that the leadership of the CPY is "in the hands of assassins and imperialist spies" and called all the Communist and workers' parties in the world to join in the struggle against Tito and his men.

*December 23, 1949*

The government and the Trade Union issued *Instructions for the Establishment and Procedure of Workers' Councils in State Economic Enterprises*. Copies were sent to all the main trade union councils in the various republics and to the pilot enterprises selected for the establishment of workers' councils. At first they were to have a consultative role. The first pilot workers' council was elected in the cement factory near Split, Dalmatia.

*January 8, 1950*

The governments of the United States and Yugoslavia signed an agreement for the sale of surplus United States farm commodities.

*February 22, 1950*

Despite pressure from some Western governments, Yugoslavia recognized the government of the People's Republic of Vietnam.

*June 27, 1950*

The People's Assembly enacted the Basic Law on the Management of State Economic Enterprises and Higher Economic Associations by the Working Collectives. The law established the principles for the election and removal of delegates to the workers' councils of enterprises by the working collectives.

*September 28, 1950*

A heavy new concentration of troops on the Hungarian border with Yugoslavia was reported.

*August 23, 1951*

In a speech in Bucharest Soviet Marshal Kliment Voroshilov called upon the Yugoslav population to mutiny against the Yugoslav government.

*September 10, 1951*

The East German Communist leader Walter Ulbricht mentioned at a press conference the possibility of an armed invasion against Yugoslavia and a local war in the Balkans.

*November 14, 1951*

Having information that the Soviet Union with its satellites was preparing an armed invasion of Yugoslavia, Tito made a formal request for military equipment from the Western powers. A formal military assistance agreement was signed between the governments of the United States and Yugoslavia. Tanks, jet fighters, and other weapons soon arrived. Also several hundred Yugoslav officers were sent to the United States for training.

*November 27, 1951*

Because of the sharp increase in the number of border incidents initiated by Soviet satellites in 1951, the Yugoslav government decided to complain of the aggressive behavior of the Soviet Union and its satellites to the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Yugoslav complaint was accepted by fifty votes against five (the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Ukraine, and Byelorussia), while Iran and Afghanistan abstained.

*November 7, 1952*

The Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia was held in Zagreb between November 2 and 7. The name of the Party was changed to the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. Various measures were adopted for the increase of workers' control and for liberalization in the country in general.

*November 20, 1952*

The Czechoslovak Communist leaders Rudolf Slanski, Vladimir Klementis, and several others, went on trial in Prague as foreign spies.

*December 24, 1952*

Yugoslavia broke off diplomatic relations with the Vatican.

*January 13, 1953*

The Federal People's Assembly adopted various amendments to the 1946 Constitution on the structure of government and on the relations between the organs of state authority and the organs of state administration. A federal Executive Council, headed by the president of the republic and four vice presidents, was formed. Also a Council of Nationalities and a Council of Producers were introduced. Marshal Tito was elected president of Yugoslavia.

*February 28, 1953*

Yugoslavia, Greece, and Turkey signed a treaty of friendship and cooperation, on the basis of which regular consultation between the three states was envisaged.

*March 28, 1953*

Tito visited Great Britain between March 23 and 28.

*March 29, 1953*

By a decree of the government, members of peasant working cooperatives were permitted to withdraw from these farms and return to individual farming; in addition the cooperatives themselves could be disbanded by a majority vote of their members. The peasants also were permitted to create other forms of