

### **3. U.S. Recognition of Former Soviet Republics**

#### **CONCERNING LITHUANIA 12 MARCH 1990**

U.S. practice has been to establish formal relations with the lawful government of a state once that government is in effective control of its territory and capable of entering into and fulfilling international obligations.

When we are satisfied that the Lithuanian government can meet these requirements, we will establish formal diplomatic relations.

#### **BASIC PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE U.S. APPROACH 4 SEPTEMBER 1991**

- a) support internationally accepted principles, including democratic values and practices and the principles of the Helsinki Final Act;
- b) respect existing borders, both internal and external, with change through peaceful and consensual means consistent with the principles of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE);
- c) support the rule of law and democratic processes;
- d) safeguard human rights, including minority rights; and
- e) respect international law and obligations, especially the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of Paris.

#### **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS CONCERNING THE UKRAINE 2 DECEMBER 1991**

- a) take steps to ensure safe, responsible, and reliable control of nuclear weapons; to prevent proliferation of dangerous military-related technology; and to support implementation of the relevant international agreements, including the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START), the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) Treaty, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), and the Biological Weapons Convention;
  - b) demonstrate a commitment to economic policies aimed at facilitating free markets and free and fair trade, both with other republics and with the international community more generally; and
  - c) take responsibility for a fair share of the Soviet Union's external debt.
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