

## Position Statement: Resolution Condemning the Role of Psychiatrist Radovan Karadzic in Human Rights Abuses in the Former Yugoslavia

Approved by the Board of Trustees, March 1993  
Reaffirmed, 2007

"Policy documents are approved by the APA Assembly and Board of Trustees...These are...position statements that define APA official policy on specific subjects..." – *APA Operations Manual*.

**T**he American Psychiatric Association deplores and condemns Dr. Karadzic for his brutal and inhumane actions as the Bosnian Serb leader. Those actions deserve condemnation by all civilized persons, but psychiatrists issue that condemnation with particular offense, urgency and horror because, by education and training, Dr. Karadzic claims membership in our profession. In fact, his actions as a political leader constitute a profound betrayal of the deeply humane values of medicine and psychiatry. In condemning him, we affirm those values and join all persons of good will in defending the right to life and to freedom from oppression of all human beings anywhere in the world regardless of race, religion, national origin and ethnicity.

*Prepared by the Council on International Affairs, Committee on Human Rights.*