

AN UPDATE ON THE EMIGRATION LAWS AND POLICIES  
OF ALBANIA

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COMMUNICATION

FROM

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

TRANSMITTING

AN UPDATED REPORT CONCERNING THE EMIGRATION LAWS AND  
POLICIES OF ALBANIA, PURSUANT TO 19 U.S.C. 2432(b)



FEBRUARY 2, 1999.—Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and  
ordered to be printed

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U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am submitting an updated report to the Congress concerning the emigration laws and policies of Albania. The report indicates continued Albanian compliance with U.S. and international standards in the area of emigration. In fact, Albania has imposed no emigration restrictions, including exit visa requirements, on its population since 1991.

On December 5, 1997, I determined and reported to the Congress that Albania is not in violation of paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 402(a) of the Trade Act of 1974, or paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 409(a) of that act. That action allowed for the continuation of normal trade relations status for Albania and certain other activities without the requirement of an annual waiver. This semiannual report is submitted as required by law pursuant to the determination of December 5, 1997.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 2, 1999.*



REPORT TO CONGRESS CONCERNING EMIGRATION LAWS AND  
POLICIES OF ALBANIA

This report is submitted pursuant to sections 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("the Act"), following Presidential Determination Number 98-7 of December 5, 1997, and the accompanying report to Congress, that Albania is not in violation of paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of sections 402(a) and 409(a) of the Act.

All current information indicates that the emigration laws and practices of the Republic of Albania continue to satisfy the criteria set forth in sections 402(a) and 409(a) of the Act in respect of all matters covered in those subsections.

The right to emigrate is enshrined in Albanian law and has been reaffirmed in numerous European human rights conventions to which Albania is a signatory. Albania has had no emigration restrictions, including exit visa requirements, since 1991. Albanians have exercised this right in great numbers (several hundred thousand emigrants) since the collapse of the communist regime in 1991. We know of no reports of Albanians being denied the right to emigrate.

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