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Slovakia Worried About Possible Unilateral Recognition of Kosovo

KosovoCompromise Staff

Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico has voiced concern over hints that some EU members may recognize a potential unilateral declaration of independence of Kosovo, and warned that Kosovo must not divide Europe.

"We refuse that kind of approach, because it increases tension in the region. That is why we will insist, if the EU is to have a stand on Kosovo, to make it a common one, even if we have a problem with it. In that case we will stand by it," Fico said.

"It is not possible for Europe to keep dividing itself that way (over Kosovo) and we cannot allow such a division," the Slovak prime minister said.

The U.S., which is the main advocate of Kosovo's independence, according to Fico are a standard partner for Slovakia, with Bratislava respecting the fact that the U.S. is a superpower.

"We want to have normal relations with the U.S., but we simply refuse a single-minded orientation toward the U.S., such as the one implemented by the previous government of Prime Minister Mikulas Dzurinda," Fico said.