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Moscow: Kosovo's constitution – a new obstacle for right solution

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The coming into force of the Kosovo constitution on June 15 cannot contribute to the legitimacy of that province's status as an independent state, and it additionally makes difficult the search for a right solution, which is possible only on the basis of negotiations and with the respect of Belgrade's views, the chairman of the Russian Duma's International Affairs Committee, Konstantin Kosachev, said on Friday.

Kosachev expressed belief that this attempt to grant legitimacy to the self-declared state would also fail, just like all the previous ones, and reiterated that the wishes for the speedy recognition of independence were not realized, because the majority of countries refuse to recognize an independent Kosovo which, as he said, "is an important psychological and political moment".

The Russian parliamentarian and senior official of the ruling United Russia Party described the intention of the EU to deploy its civilian mission Eulex in Kosovo as absolutely illegal, as long as it has no approval from the UN Security Council.

Meanwhile, Russia's standing representative in NATO, Dmitri Rogozin, on Friday expressed disappointment over the role of the United Nations in the resolution of the "Kosovo issue", pointing out that there are political forces in Europe which use international law only "as a mat for wiping their feet."

"The UN mission was only seeking an excuse to flee Kosovo and to hand over all its powers to the EU mission, which will no longer act in keeping with UN Security Council 1244", Rogozin said, commenting a report by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon who proposed the transfer of the bulk of powers from the UN mission in Kosovo to the EU mission.

"We have long since warned our UN colleagues about the existence of the obligation, honour and the corresponding UN decision that must be respected, but judging by everything, unfortunately in Europe currently prevailing are those political forces which prefer to wipe their feet on international law as if on a doormat," Rogozin stated.