

June 16, 2008

Belgrade: Kosovo constitution is null and void

KosovoCompromise Staff

Belgrade has declared the constitution of an "independent" Kosovo null and void immediately after it entered in force on Sunday

"This is a political event with damaging consequences and it is null and void for Serbia. Serbia sees Kosovo as its southern province and continues to defend the integrity and sovereignty of the country in Kosovo by peaceful means, the use of diplomacy and non-violence", Serbian President Boris Tadic said.

He said Serbia would urge a return to a negotiating table.

"This will be our strategy and our response to the proclamation of the constitution of an illegal, so-called state of Kosovo", Tadic said.

Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica argued that the illegal decision taken in Pristina must be annulled by the Serbian parliament, as Serbia refuses to accept the creation of a new Albanian state on its territory.

"Serbia must inform the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon and the UN Security Council that we are against the legalisation of the illegal Eulex mission and that the Serbian parliament has annuled the act of declaration of the Kosovo constitution", Kostunica said.

The session of the parliament must be held before the session of the UN Security Council – likely planned for June 20 – Kostunica said.