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June 18, 2008

Pristina decorates Ruecker as he departs from Unmik

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Kosovo's President Fatmir Sejdiu has awarded the outgoing Unmik chief Joachim Ruecker the "Medal of Civil Service".

The decoration for the German diplomat by the ethnic Albanian leadership comes as no surprise as he was instrumental in preventing any serious move against Kosovo's unilateral secession.

Ruecker was also instrumental in coordinating with Brussels the "reconfiguration" of Unmik in order to allow for a deployment of Eulex without a UN Security Council resolution.

"President Sejdiu has highly appreciated the work done by Mr. Ruecker in Kosovo throughout his term," a statement about the award said.