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EU plays down idea of Kosovo conference

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A conference on Kosovo is just one of the ideas reflected upon in the pursuit of the talks under the aegis of the troika, and a story about it at this point of time is overblown and premature, EU sources said on Monday.

“The story about a conference should not be taken into account too seriously, although it cannot be excluded”, a EU official said, referring to the news reports which quote EU member in the troika Wolfgang Ischinger as suggesting a possible international conference on the Kosovo status.

“Ischinger said it would be just one of the possibilities and that it would make sense only if there were enough common points between the two states”, the official said, adding that an idea about a conference was “nothing new”.

He also underlined that in case of a conference, it would in fact only represent “an extended series of standard sessions which are already being held by the troika, Belgrade and Pristina”.

“This means that, instead of one afternoon, we would talk two to three days (...) anyhow, the more we come closer to December 10, the more intense the talks will be and the more the two sides will have to talk”, he said.