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New Serbian government supports the creation of the Kosovo Serb assembly

KosovoCompromise Staff

The new Serbian government supported at its Thursday session the creation of the assembly of Kosovo Serb municipalities and reiterated that Kosovo is an integral part of Serbia in keeping with the law and the Constitution.

"All state institutions must therefore represent and protect Serbia's state interests in Kosovo", a release issued after the session says.

"Following the illegal declaration of Kosovo independence, the government concluded that Serbs in the province should be institutionally organized and that the creation of the assembly of Kosovo municipalities provides security for Serbs and all other residents of the southern province", the government added.

Serbian Prime Minister Mirko Cvetkovic also stated that the Serbian government had forwarded a request to the parliament to hold an extraordinary sitting at which a draft resolution on continuity of the state policy for Kosovo will be the first item on the agenda.

After the first regular session of the new cabinet, Cvetkovic told a news conference that it is important that the new government maintains a continuity of the state policy in regards to Kosovo.

Serbia's new minister for Kosovo, Goran Bogdanovic, said the substance of the proposal is that the international civilian presence in the province cannot have the goal of implementing the Ahtisaari plan.

"The draft resolution states that all acts based on the Constitution of Kosovo are null. It states that the Assembly confirms the current unified state policy on Kosovo", Bogdanovic said.