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Cyprus: Eulex can work only with Belgrade's agreement

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Serbian President Boris Tadic and Cypriot Foreign minister Marcos Kyprianou reaffirmed on Wednesday the two countries' common stand that the work of the Eulex mission in Kosovo had to be agreed with Belgrade, with a full observation of territorial integrity and sovereignty of Serbia, and confirmed at the UN Security Council.

Kyprianou said that Eulex must deploy "respecting Serbia's territorial integrity and sovereignty and in line with UN Resolution 1244, which in fact regulates the situation in Kosovo".

"The European Union can have its mission in Kosovo after it had gone through the UN Security Council procedure, but this mission cannot implement the Martti Ahtisaari plan," the Serbian president said.

Tadic told the Cypriot minister that Serbia's strategy was to request through the UN institutions the International Court of Justice's opinion on the illegality of recognition of the independence of Kosovo.

The Serbian president said that this would be a clear legal formulation to all countries which were still considering what to do, but also to those which had already made this illegal step by recognising the illegal, unilaterally declared independence of Kosovo.