



July 29, 2008

Serbian minister for Kosovo to meet with UNMIK chief

KosovoCompromise Staff

Serbian Minister for Kosovo Goran Bogdanovic said he will confer with UNMIK chief Lamberto Zannier on Wednesday in Pristina on the two main problems of the Serb community in the province - the police and the judiciary.

He rejected any imposition of the EU mission EULEX, noting that it would be welcome in Kosovo only with UN Security Council approval.

Any imposed solution could produce fresh violence, which is not in anyone's interests - Serbs, Albanians or the international community in Kosovo, he said.

A dialogue on technical issues between Serbia and UNMIK started last week when Zannier visited Belgrade.

Meanwhile, Bogdanovic's ministry announced it would very soon propose to the Serbian government to adopt a comprehensive strategy for the survival of Serbs in the province, the ministry's Coordination Center President Zvonimir Stevic said.

He underlined that the elementary strategic goal pertains to the strengthening of the Serbian state institutions in Kosovo.

"The key priority is the quality resolving of the living problems, such as the construction of infrastructure objects and the creating of conditions for the education and employment of young people," Stevic said in Gracanica in a talk with Serb representatives of this and other parts of Kosovo.

In order to implement the adopted strategy for the survival of Serbs as successfully as possible, the Coordination Center headquarters will be based in Gracanica, Stevic said.

In this way, the acute problem of employment will be resolved through concrete activities in the field and the realization of the development program and other programs, the Ministry for Kosovo said in a statement.

"This problem is particularly prominent in the central part of KosMet, where around 6,000 young people are waiting for jobs. That is why special attention will be dedicated to the founding of small and medium-sized companies, which will definitely motivate the young people to remain in the province, and induce their displaced fellow nationals to return to Kosovo," Stevic said.