

September 9, 2008

OSCE: Kosovo is not a multiethnic society

KosovoCompromise Staff

Kosovo cannot be called a multiethnic society, the chief of the OSCE mission to Kosovo Tim Guldiman said on Monday.

"Kosovo cannot be called a multiethnic society today. Different communities live in Kosovo, but a multiethnic society means there must be integration, understanding tolerance and coexistence. We're not seeing this", Guldiman said.

Meanwhile, seventeen Serb families have moved out of Partes village in the Kosovsko Pomoravlje region(eastern Kosovo) in the past three months, emigrating abroad, and there are 50 students less in the local elementary school than in the previous school year.

Vesna Jovanovic, a political representative of the local Serbs and deputy in the Municipality of Gnjilane, said that many Serbs of Kosovsko Pomoravlje have left for Norway or Luxembourg in the past three months in search of a better life.

"It is characteristic that people from Pasjan and Partes leave without selling their property, while, on the other hand, almost everything around Gnjilane has been sold. People decide to make such moves because of the poor security and the bad economic position," Jovanovic said.

Displaced persons are not returning, she said, since only houses are built for those who do return, but not schools as well, which makes parents with children find themselves in an unfavorable position.