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Bogdanovic and Zannier continue talks on problems of Serbs

KosovoCompromise Staff

Serbian Minister for Kosovo Goran Bogdanovic and UNMIK Chief Lamberto Zannier in Belgrade on Friday continued the technical negotiations on the judiciary, the police, the usurped property of Serbs in Kosovo, as well as the problem of kidnapped and missing persons.

Bogdanovic and Zannier also conferred on the problem of humanitarian aid transports, including the distribution of medicines in Kosovo.

The two sides presented their stands and views on the life, work and problems which the Serb population in Kosovo-Metohija are facing, said a statement released by the Ministry for Kosovo following the meeting.

At the meeting, agreement was reached to continue the talks at technical level and the pace of future meetings was established. The objective of the talks is to reach agreement on and find comprehensive solutions for the problems of the Serb population in Kosovo, the statement said.

The meeting was attended by representatives of Kosovo Serbs, representatives of the Serbian Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Justice and the Interior Ministry.

Prior to the meeting, State Secretary with the Ministry for Kosovo Oliver Ivanovic said that at the meeting, they would try to find modalities according to which the Serbs would be part of the police and judiciary in Kosovo, but not of those police and judicial bodies that would be linked to the temporary institutions in Pristina and the EULEX Mission, but rather and only of the bodies that had to do with UNMIK.

"By being related to UNMIK, we respect UN Security Council Resolution 1244, which has acknowledged and recognised the territorial integrity of Serbia," Ivanovic added.

He underlined that the Serbs' participation in the police would ensure a protection of the Serb community in the province, since, as he explained, the Serb policemen in scope of the Kosovo Police Service (KPS) would be in a position to protect the people in Kosovo.

"The present situation in which there is no rule of law and in which the Serb nation is not protected, and this especially refers to central Kosovo and small enclaves, is not good for anyone and we have to resolve it," Ivanovic said.