THE TROIKA CHART

Comparative interests of the three big players moderating the negotiations

	USA	RUSSIA	EU
RELIABLE PARTNERS	ALB	SRB	ALB+SRB
STRATEGIC MOTIVATION	Justify 1999 military intervention, present Kosovo as 'success story'	Demystify US interventionism, back to multipolar world	Assert stability in Balkans with aim of EU integration
GEOPOLITICAL MOTIVE	Confirm US supremacy & interventionism	Reemerge as world power	Assure EU's unity, CFSP credibility and proactive role
BASIS FOR ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION	Ad hoc criteria / Pax Americana	Universal principles / International Law	Anything via UNSC
SUGGESTED SOLUTION	Independence, one way or another	Everything on which both sides agree	Agreement desired, if not
IF UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE	Unilateral recognition	No UN approval / Unilateral reaction in other crisis regions	Internal division; pulling out from joint mission
PRECEDENT	Not a precedent	Precedent indeed	Precedent, but not a precedent
TACTICAL MISTAKE	Underestimated Russia	Late involvement in status process	Premature alignment with US
WISHFUL THINKING	 Close "the Albanian question" Kosovo is "successful state-building project", an example for Iraq and Afghanistan. Disengage US troops Demonstrate good will towards "good Muslims" 	Force US to step back from publicly stated commitment to Kosovo's independence. Use Kosovo as model for solving ex-USSR Russian-minority issues 'Savior of international law' image	 Form common EU policy; "constructive abstentions of dissident members" Remain neutral in US-Russian geopolitical wrestling. Keep good relations with Serbs & Albanians at the same time
PRESSURE TOOLS	Unilateral action	Ossetia, Abkhasia, Transdniestria. Energy policy.	Blocking European integration, cutting aid funds
CATALYST FOR COMPROMISE	Pressure on Albanians	No hot stirring in ex-USSR	Conditioning EU perspective with Serb-Albanian agreement
CONSCIENCE PROBLEM	Post-war failures in Iraq, Afghanistan	Stood aside during 1999 bombing of Serbia	Chronic lack of determination
CONSISTENCY PROBLEMS	Pro-autonomy in Georgia, Western Sahara, Moldova	Pro-independence in Russian minority areas outside Russia	Pro-autonomy for Catalonia, Basque Country, Georgia
SECONDARY AGENDA	Tactical military presence	Energy pathways	Readmission of Kosovo refugees and organized crime members