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Berlin and Moscow for a solution acceptable to Belgrade and Pristina

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Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and his German counterpart Frank-Walter Steinmeier voiced on Monday support for the mediating troika's efforts toward creating a model for the status of Kosovo under the auspices of the UN Security Council, "which will satisfy both Belgrade and Pristina."

In the meantime, on the final day of their two-day summit in Wiesbaden, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Russian president Vladimir Putin said that the two countries are moving closer together on a range of issues and share many common goals. The upbeat assessment follows two days of inter-governmental talks at the annual Petersburg Dialogue.

Merkel called for "a close partnership built on mutual understanding" between Russia and Europe.

"We can only solve the big global problems together. At the current time, we are talking a lot about Iran and the nuclear issue and about Kosovo," Merkel said.

"We are trying to work in an intelligent way towards constructive solutions. We can not resolve conflicts if we work against each other," she added.

"We can disagree with each other and still get on well with each other. We should not try to sweep our disagreements under the carpet, we should put them on the table", the German chancellor said.