

November 13, 2008

US analyst: Kosovo within a package of negotiations between Washington and Moscow

KosovoCompromise Staff

Robert Pranger, an official in former U.S. President Richard Nixon's administration, says that Kosovo could be looked at within a package of negotiations between Washington and Moscow on key global issues.

"Kosovo is part of the wider problems in U.S.-Russia relations that also include the missile shield in Europe, then the questions of Georgia, Ukraine and the Balkan region," Pranger said.

He said that Kosovo was being tied to the military intervention in Georgia, "since the United States were warned that recognition of Kosovo would cause problems for regional stability in other parts of the world, as happened in Georgia."

"The stance of the U.S. and Russia towards Kosovo is at two levels. One is the American recognition of Kosovo independence, and the other is the question of Kosovo's status, whose sovereignty has not been recognized by the United Nations Security Council. As a result of this situation, Russia and Serbia support the resumption of negotiations on Kosovo's status," Pranger said.

"These talks, first between the United States and Russia, then later within the Contact Group and bilateral talks between Belgrade and Pristina, could be held in the context of other large and unresolved problems, such as the missile shield in Europe, Georgia, Ukraine, etc. So, the question of Kosovo could be looked at within this package of negotiations," he said.