



KOSOVO

COMPROMISE 2007

Your daily-updated analyses, charts and solution plug-ins for the Kosovo crisis.

December 19, 2008

Report: Most of the 2.3 billion euros invested in Kosovo disappeared without trace

KosovoCompromise Staff

Most of the 2.3 billion euros invested in the reconstruction of Kosovo has disappeared without a trace, but the United Nations still tolerates corruption and embezzlement in the region, the German daily Die Welt reported on Thursday.

The Berlin daily, quoting independent and confidential UN and EU reports, said that corruption and embezzlement in Kosovo happened on a daily basis.

The German daily recalled that warrants for the arrest of several UN officials suspected of corruption had been issued.

The United Nations tolerates embezzlement. Millions of euros have disappeared in Kosovo, but the culprits are still at large, said Inge Graessle, member of the European Parliament Committee on Budgetary Control, and added that Brussels could no longer let itself waste money in this way.

The most obvious frauds were committed during the distribution of funds in energy - more than 400 million euros since 1999. There was also abuse and manipulation with the tender for the construction of Pristina Airport, the German newspaper quoted an inquiry group as saying.