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Titov: Moscow against any solution unacceptable to Belgrade

KosovoCompromise Staff

Russia is firmly opposed to an imposed solution for the Serbian province of Kosovo and will not support any resolution which is not acceptable to Belgrade, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Titov said in Belgrade.

Titov and Serbian Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica underlined the common policy of Serbia and Russia in the process of solving the status of Kosovo, on the basis of the UN Charter. The two countries' policy is based on the inviolability of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of internationally-recognized countries, they said.

The Russian deputy foreign minister said that Russia would "accept only an agreed-upon solution and was opposed to any solution that is imposed." Titov stressed that "if a particular solution is not acceptable to Serbia, then it will not be acceptable to Russia either."

Kostunica and Titov assessed that the "Resolution 1244 of the U.N. Security Council represents the basis for finding a compromise solution" for the future arrangement of Kosovo and that only the UN Security Council has a mandate to bring a decision on the future status of the province.

They also stressed d that Serbia and Russia "are constructively engaged in the negotiating process and that they are firmly determined to finding a compromise solution in accordance with international law and Resolution 1244."

Titov also met with Serbian Foreign Minister Vuk Jeremic, who pointed out that Belgrade is arguing in favor of a compromise solution, acceptable for both sides, one which will represent a guarantor of lasting peace and stability in the Balkans.