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Russia: Common stance with EU on Kosovo is possible

KosovoCompromise Staff

Russia urged the Western countries not to rush with the final decision on future status of Kosovo, underlining that Moscow and the European Union could be very well capable of reaching common grounds on that issue.

Russian president's special envoy for relations with EU, Sergei Yastrzhembsky said that there is a potential for mutual understanding regarding the Kosovo issue.

"We are closely watching the EU countries, and we see that there is no full agreement on Pristina and Kosovo inside the EU. A number of European countries rightly fear a totally dramatic and unpredictable turn of events in case Kosovo unilaterally proclaims independence and is subsequently recognized. We believe that the trio of mediators should work its full term," Yastrzhembsky said.

"There is potential for closing the gap in our views. There is an understanding that the decision must be based on the principles of international law, that things should not be rushed, and the trio (Russia, the EU, and the U.S.) should be allowed to fulfill its mandate," he said.

Yastrzhembsky was speaking to journalists ahead of the Friday EU-Russia summit in Portugal.